

Summers to remember

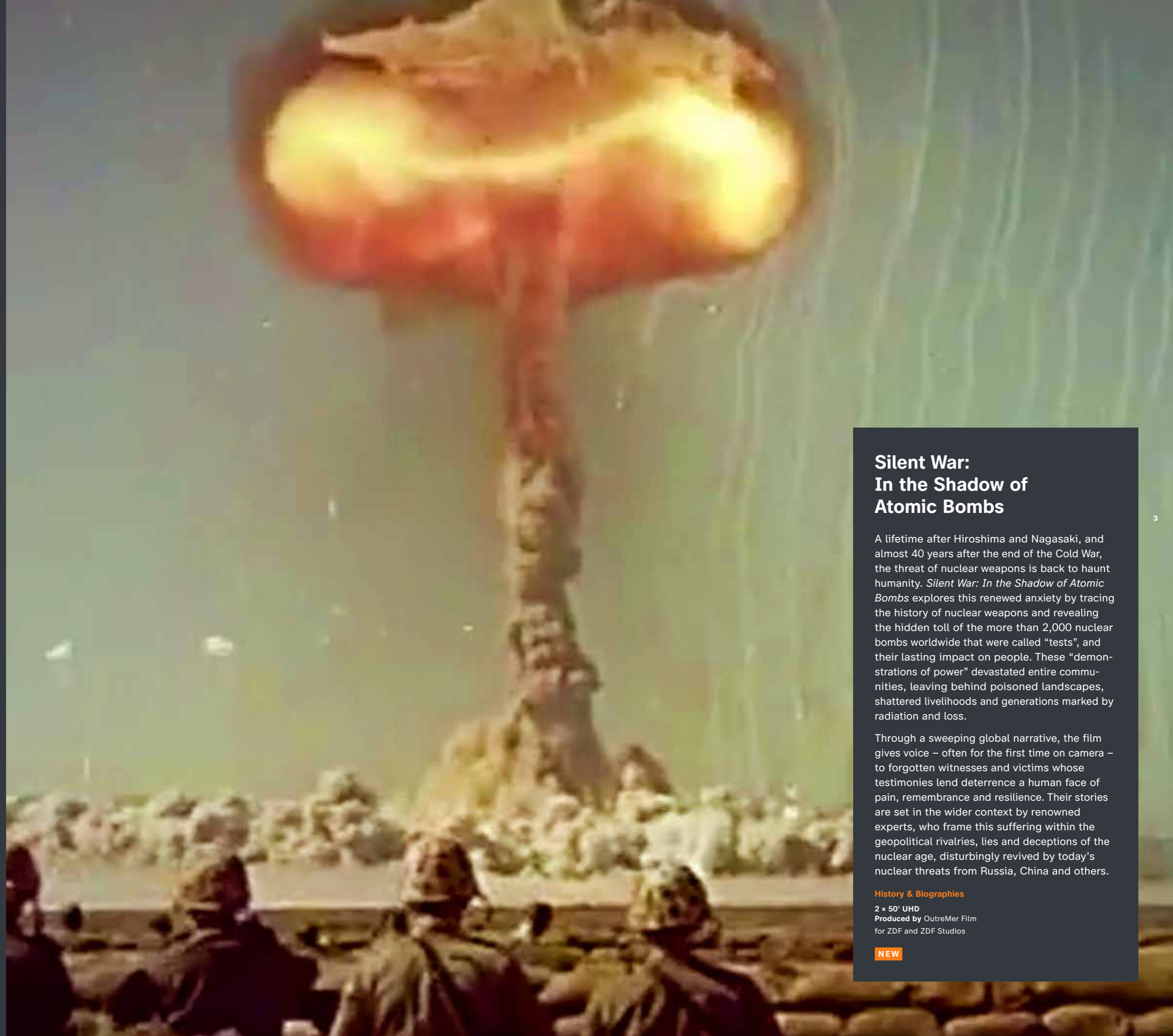
Selection
Spring / Summer 2026

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Silent War: In the Shadow of Atomic Bombs

A lifetime after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and almost 40 years after the end of the Cold War, the threat of nuclear weapons is back to haunt humanity. *Silent War: In the Shadow of Atomic Bombs* explores this renewed anxiety by tracing the history of nuclear weapons and revealing the hidden toll of the more than 2,000 nuclear bombs worldwide that were called “tests”, and their lasting impact on people. These “demonstrations of power” devastated entire communities, leaving behind poisoned landscapes, shattered livelihoods and generations marked by radiation and loss.

Through a sweeping global narrative, the film gives voice – often for the first time on camera – to forgotten witnesses and victims whose testimonies lend deterrence a human face of pain, remembrance and resilience. Their stories are set in the wider context by renowned experts, who frame this suffering within the geopolitical rivalries, lies and deceptions of the nuclear age, disturbingly revived by today’s nuclear threats from Russia, China and others.

History & Biographies

2 x 50' UHD
Produced by OutreMer Film
for ZDF and ZDF Studios

NEW

History & Biographies

4 Ancient Betrayals

Ancient Betrayals unveils the untold stories of conspiracies, murders and treachery that shaped ancient history.

Across centuries and civilizations, betrayal has been a powerful force – reshaping empires, ending dynasties and redrawing the lines of power. From the treachery that doomed the Spartans in Thermopylae to the court intrigue of Emperor Caligula, and King Herod, to the treason of princess La Malinche of their own people, each episode explores a gripping real-life narrative, revealing how deception and ambition collided in high-stakes moments that defined the ancient world.

Combining expert insights, cinematic storytelling, and rarely seen historical detail, the series brings to life the true stories behind history's most infamous betrayals – many of which have been overlooked, misunderstood, or rarely been documented on television.

History & Biographies

6 x 50'

Produced by KM Plus Media production
in association with ZDFinfo, ZDF Studios
and WildBear Entertainment

NEW



Titans of the Cold War

Titans of the Cold War is an eight-part documentary series that charts the epic geopolitical struggle between the United States of America and the Soviet Union as told through the eyes of the era's most commanding figures. From World War II to the dissolution of the USSR, it centres on two titans, leaders

whose choices, ideologies and rivalries shaped the fate of the world.

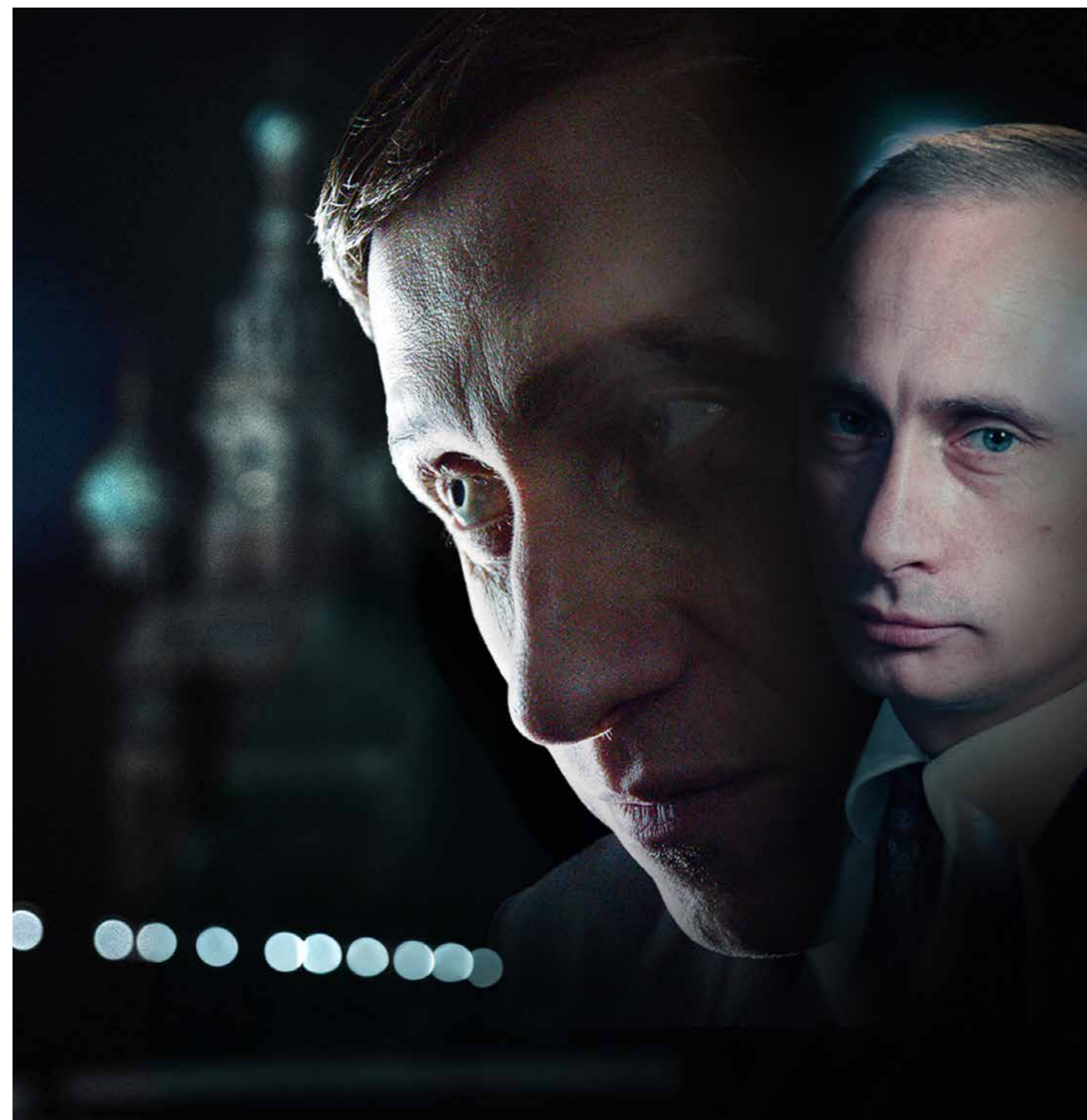
With unprecedented archival access and input from leading historians, it is a global chessboard of power: nuclear brinkmanship, ideological battles, covert operations and revolutionary movements. From Truman and Stalin's post-war standoff to Reagan and Gorbachev's cautious diplomacy, it reveals how ego,

ambition and paranoia collided, and how, time and again, the fate of nations rested in the hands of a selection of powerful and flawed men.

History & Biographies

8 x 50'
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



The Godfather of St. Petersburg

Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, has been in power for a quarter of a century. But how did he get there? *The Godfather of St. Petersburg* tells the story of Putin's rise in one of the world's most dangerous cities of the 1990s. As deputy mayor and power broker, he became the second most powerful man in the city. In a time of brutal feuds between rival criminal gangs, he forged a network of intelligence and

mafia connections: a foundation for Russia's future power elite, which left a clear trail of corruption and violence on its way to the top.

The two-part series is based on exclusive access and sources, eyewitness accounts, and previously unseen film footage.

It reveals how Vladimir Putin wove a dense web that was later able to permeate and control an entire state.

History & Biographies

2 x 50'
Produced by Story House Productions
for ZDF and ZDF Studios

NEW



America's Wars

For 250 years, wars and conflicts have shaped the United States of America. But the rise to the most powerful military nation has come at a cost.

From the revolution against the British Crown emerges a nation promising freedom and equality. But the bloody civil war nearly tears the United States apart. Reunited, it conquers the continent by force and rises to global power. World War II shaped the national self-image as defender of peace and freedom, while using the deadliest weapon on earth. In Vietnam, the self-appointed "world police" wages dirty wars, betraying its own ideals. From 9/11 and the hunt for terrorists, from Guantánamo to drone warfare, the USA are trapped in a cycle of violence and power politics. Under President Donald Trump, a new era of interest-driven foreign policy begins – old certainties are fading, new wars are flaring up.

History & Biographies

3 x 50'
Scheduled for Summer 2026
Produced by eco documentaries
for ZDFinfo and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



Fatal Conflicts: The Rise and Fall of Civilisations

Four ancient leaders. Two epic wars. Civilisations clash in a battle for supremacy – rewriting history forever.

Fatal Conflicts: the Rise and Fall of Civilisations is a two-part documentary exploring two defining ancient rivalries: Xerxes vs Themistocles in the Second Greco-Persian War, and Hannibal vs Scipio in the Second Punic War. In each, a dominant empire, Persia or Carthage, faces a rising force, Greece or Rome.

Episode one follows Xerxes's invasion of Greece and Themistocles's bold naval resistance. Episode two sees Hannibal's daring campaign in Italy and Scipio's rise to challenge him. Told through cinematic recreations, stylised graphics and expert insights, this series reveals how ambition and ideology shaped the ancient world. Through the eyes of four extraordinary leaders, *Fatal Conflicts* traces the razor's edge between triumph and ruin.

History & Biographies

4 x 50' or 2 x 90'
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in cooperation with ZDF,
Arte and ZDF Studios

NEW



Ancient Greece – The Dark Chronicles

Ancient Greece is known as the birthplace of democracy, science and architecture, but a darker reality hides beyond the shiny marble façade. This five-part series shows another side of Greek history, including menacing gods, oppressive laws and brutal wars.

Each episode throws light on an era of Greek history, from the seafaring traditions of the Bronze Age to the aggressive expansionism of the Archaic period, from the glorious Classical period to the Peloponnesian War that drives the Greek world to the brink of destruction. Finally, we delve

into the story behind Alexander the Great, and the chaos that results from his death.

The series uses a team of international experts to explain key events, breathtaking photography, and innovative graphics to open viewers' eyes to the sinister side of Greek history.

History & Biographies

5 x 50'
Produced by Gruppe 5 for ZDFInfo
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW





Constantine The Great

Ancient history knows few rulers as significant as him. He fundamentally changed the Roman world – Emperor Constantine, known as the Great. The empire he ruled stretched from Italy and France to Germany, modern-day Turkey and Jerusalem.

Europe is shaped by the emperor who created a new capital in Constantinople and established Christianity in the Roman Empire. Even today, magnificent buildings bear witness to his reign and his legacy.

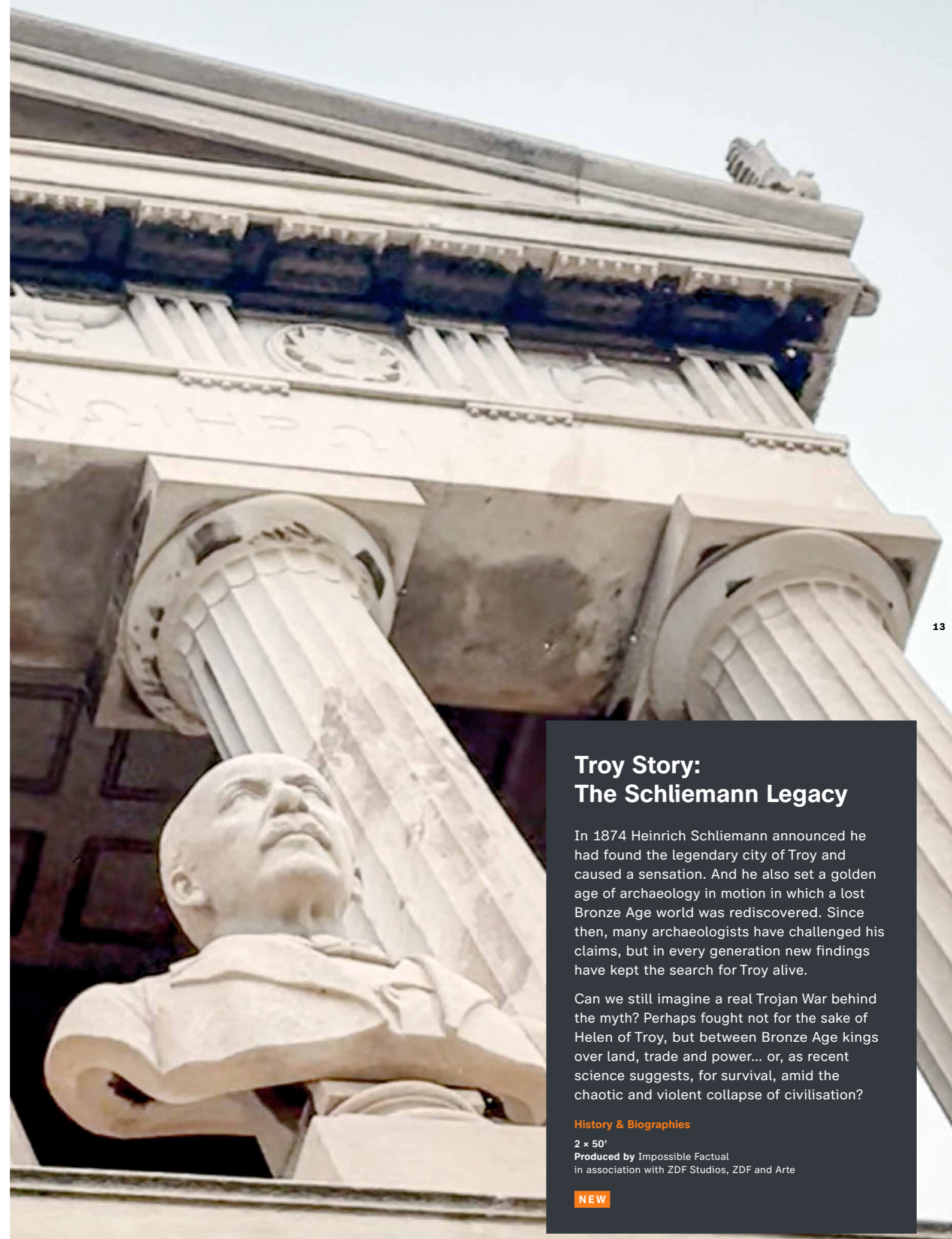
Archaeologists are searching for clues along the stages of his life. They are reconstructing the world of a ruler who

combined power and splendour – yet grew up far from Rome in the Serbian province as the illegitimate son of a capable military man and a prostitute.

History & Biographies

2 x 50'
Produced by eco doc for ZDF
in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

NEW



Troy Story: The Schliemann Legacy

In 1874 Heinrich Schliemann announced he had found the legendary city of Troy and caused a sensation. And he also set a golden age of archaeology in motion in which a lost Bronze Age world was rediscovered. Since then, many archaeologists have challenged his claims, but in every generation new findings have kept the search for Troy alive.

Can we still imagine a real Trojan War behind the myth? Perhaps fought not for the sake of Helen of Troy, but between Bronze Age kings over land, trade and power... or, as recent science suggests, for survival, amid the chaotic and violent collapse of civilisation?

History & Biographies

2 x 50'
Produced by Impossible Factual
in association with ZDF Studios, ZDF and Arte

NEW

Black Death: Patient Zero

In *Black Death: Patient Zero*, we reveal the devastation inflicted on the Medieval Italian city of Siena, and across all of Europe by the 14th century outbreak of plague. Killing an estimated 200,000,000 people, the Black Death remains the deadliest pandemic in history.

With first-hand testimony and historical documents, we reveal what conditions were like for parts of the continent hit by the plague and discover how people in the Middle Ages attempted to prevent and treat the disease. We trace

the illness back over time to discover where it first entered Europe and how it was brought there. And with exclusive access, we follow the work of historian Prof Philip Slavin, and biologists Dr Johannes Krause and Dr Maria Spyrou, as they uncover Patient Zero: the earliest human victim of the Black Death.

History & Biographies

2 x 50' and 1 x 50'
Produced by Impossible Factual Production
in association with ZDF Studios, ZDF and Arte

NEW





Shadows and Dust

Gone but not forgotten. From the Peking Man to fugitive DB Cooper, from Columbus's sunken Santa Maria to Cambyses's vanished armies, history's missing pieces evade recapture. Ensnared in illicit dealings, cloaked in myth and rumour, hunted by the masses, phantom fragments inspire obsession

and theories of sabotage, miscalculation, and worlds undone without warning. How did we allow these precious relics to slip from our grasp? And what, if anything, is left to be found? Investigators follow trails through the past, sifting through desert sands for ancient armour, combing coral reefs for traces of first contact and parsing FBI profiles for new suspects. Amid cloak and dagger

rendezvous, forgotten testimonies, and new studies, are we on the verge of great rediscovery?

History & Biographies

8 x 50'
Scheduled by Summer 2026
Produced by Go Button Media in association with Super Channel and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



History for a Better Future

Forgotten Wisdom explores how ancient knowledge can inspire solutions for today's crises.

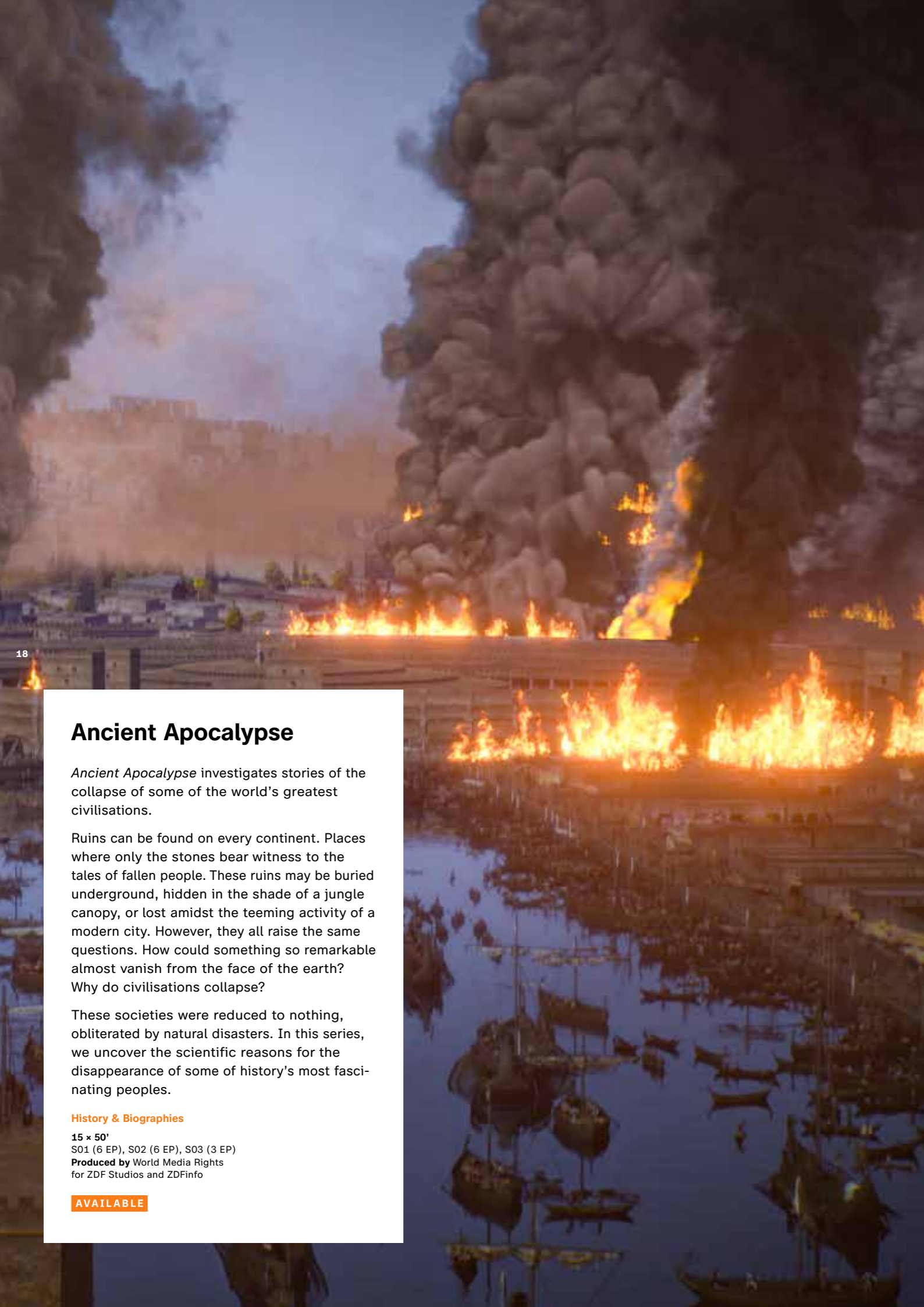
In *The Treasures of Nature*, the series travels from India to Norway, Germany, Sicily, Italy and France, uncovering traditional banana-leaf packaging, forgotten medicinal herbs, biblical manna, Viking seaweed use and regenerative farming methods. These practices show how natural materials and age-old techniques can reduce plastic, heal exhausted soils and support new medical approaches.

The Wisdom of the Ancestors leads to Spain, Japan, Lake Constance, Canada and Mexico. Cool cave houses, the almost zero-waste Edo society, medieval fishing quotas, Indigenous cultural burning and Aztec floating gardens reveal how people once lived climate-friendly with simple "low-tech" systems. Together, the episodes show that many answers to our future lie hidden in the wisdom of the past.

History & Biographies

4 x 50' or 2 x 90'
Scheduled by Summer 2026
Produced by Spiegel TV for ZDF and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



Ancient Apocalypse

Ancient Apocalypse investigates stories of the collapse of some of the world's greatest civilisations.

Ruins can be found on every continent. Places where only the stones bear witness to the tales of fallen people. These ruins may be buried underground, hidden in the shade of a jungle canopy, or lost amidst the teeming activity of a modern city. However, they all raise the same questions. How could something so remarkable almost vanish from the face of the earth? Why do civilisations collapse?

These societies were reduced to nothing, obliterated by natural disasters. In this series, we uncover the scientific reasons for the disappearance of some of history's most fascinating peoples.

History & Biographies

15 x 50'
S01 (6 EP), S02 (6 EP), S03 (3 EP)
Produced by World Media Rights
for ZDF Studios and ZDFinfo

AVAILABLE



Amerigo Vespucci – Forgotten Namesake of America

Everyone knows Columbus, but few know Vespucci. And yet, the continent of America was named after the banker and explorer Amerigo Vespucci. This film attempts to find the truth about the almost unknown Italian – was he a swindler, as was later claimed, or a daring navigator who first recognised the significance of Columbus's discovery?

A banker from Florence, sent to Seville in 1491 by the Medici banking house, Vespucci met Columbus and helped finance an expedition to reach Asia on the western route. Until he died, Columbus remained convinced he'd landed in India, but Vespucci set out to see for himself. His report on his voyages, "Mundus Novus", was a bestseller, and he mapped a large part of the unknown coast. In 1507, the German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller noted a name on a map of this new continent: America. Vespucci may have been forgotten, but his name lives on.

History & Biographies

1 x 50'
Produced by Atlantis Film for ZDF
in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



The Abyss: Rise and Fall of the Nazis

Europe in the 1920s and 1930s – a continent licks its wounds after the devastation of World War I. In this fertile breeding ground for dissent, authoritarian regimes are on the rise.

The Abyss: Rise and Fall of the Nazis takes a fresh look at the Third Reich from a global and current perspective. It tells us how the Nazis first conquered Germany and then half of Europe within a few years. How could that be, with the horrors of World War I still so fresh? Why did it take so long before they were stopped? A combination of previously unpublished archive material, historical sources, and an international team of experts paint a new picture of Hitler's regime.

The series unpacks the complex sequence of events that enabled the new regime, and allowed violence and brutality to unfold on an unbelievable scale. A look at history with direct relevance to the world today.

History & Biographies

10 x 50'
Produced by ECO Media TV Produktion
in association with ZDF Studios for ZDFinfo

AVAILABLE



Mammals: Life before Dinosaurs

In 2023, palaeontologists Bruce Rubidge and Julien Benoit made a sensational discovery in South Africa's Karoo Basin. After 40 years of meticulous excavation, their team uncovered the oldest site of therapsids – the earliest known ancestors of mammals. In Pangaea, an unrecognisable world, where vast continents were joined as one, dinosaurs, mammals, birds, insects and flowers had yet to appear on Earth. How similar were these primeval animals to the diverse mammal family we know today? And how did they acquire the traits and behaviours that enabled mammals to conquer the world?

The palaeontological team meticulously reconstructs an ancient puzzle, unlocking the first chapter of the origins of complex life. Join them to explore the groundbreaking discovery that reshapes our understanding of how mammals began their story.

Science & Knowledge

2 x 50' UHD
Produced by Pernel Media
in association with France Télévision,
GBH/NOVA, Radio Canada, NHK
and ZDF Studios

NEW



Into the Universe

Since humans first raised questioning eyes to the stars, each scientific discovery has unveiled new mysteries about the cosmos. *Into the Universe* delves into these astronomical enigmas, exploring the cycles that shape the sky, from the birth of spiral galaxies to the dramatic deaths of massive stars.

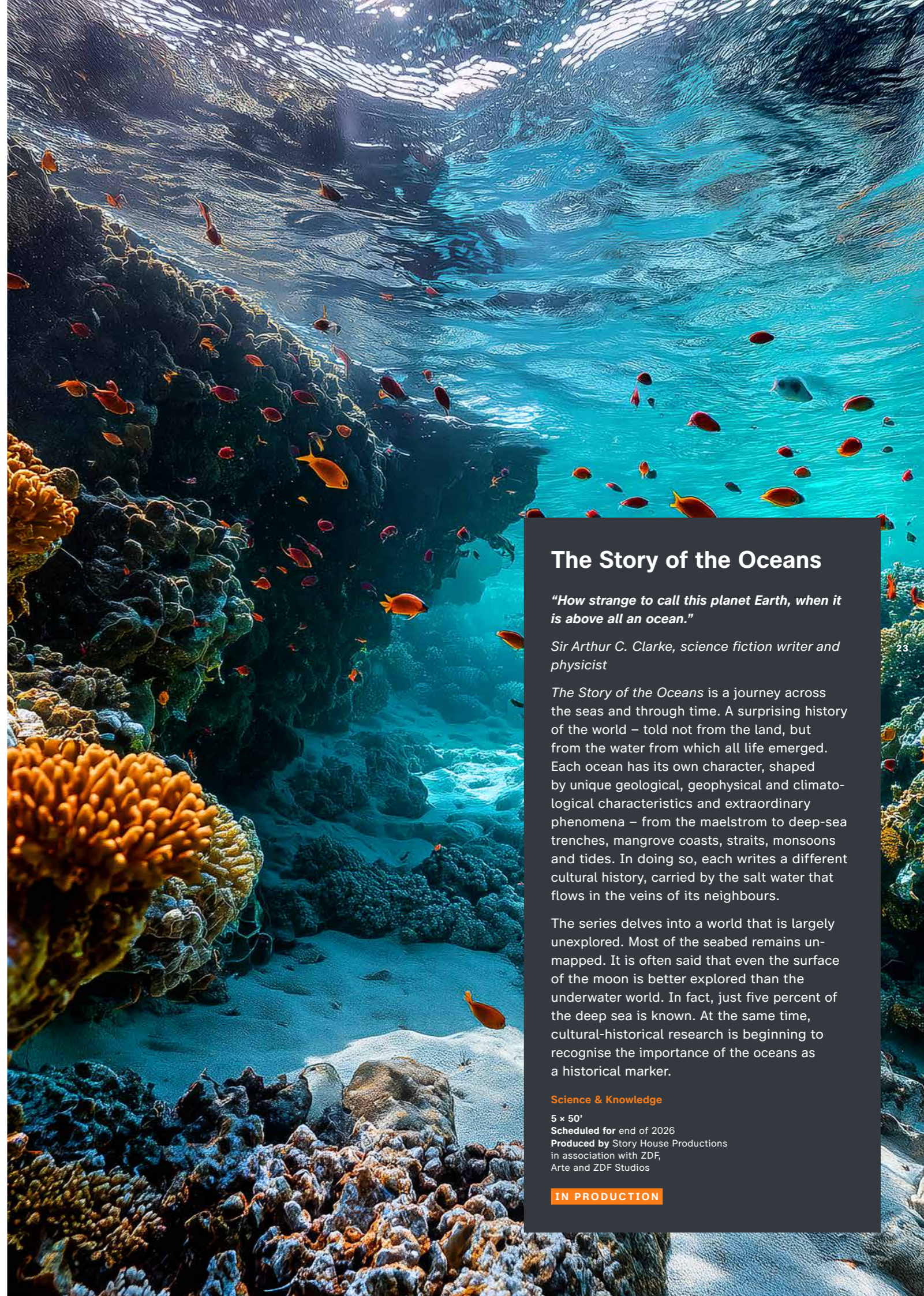
This series poses profound questions, such as whether the universe has a beginning and an end or if it is infinite. The answers may be found in the invisible forces that permeate 95% of space – dark energy and dark matter. Scientists use physics and quantum mechanics to solve these problems, but with phenomena such as black holes, their calculations don't always bring clarity. Closer to home, astronomers

investigate whether, in a universe brimming with galaxies, life is unique to Earth or if aliens might exist elsewhere.

Science & Knowledge

8 x 50'
Produced by Go Button Media
in association with Super Channel
and ZDF Studios

NEW



The Story of the Oceans

"How strange to call this planet Earth, when it is above all an ocean."

Sir Arthur C. Clarke, science fiction writer and physicist

The Story of the Oceans is a journey across the seas and through time. A surprising history of the world – told not from the land, but from the water from which all life emerged. Each ocean has its own character, shaped by unique geological, geophysical and climatological characteristics and extraordinary phenomena – from the maelstrom to deep-sea trenches, mangrove coasts, straits, monsoons and tides. In doing so, each writes a different cultural history, carried by the salt water that flows in the veins of its neighbours.

The series delves into a world that is largely unexplored. Most of the seabed remains unmapped. It is often said that even the surface of the moon is better explored than the underwater world. In fact, just five percent of the deep sea is known. At the same time, cultural-historical research is beginning to recognise the importance of the oceans as a historical marker.

Science & Knowledge

5 x 50'
Scheduled for end of 2026
Produced by Story House Productions
in association with ZDF,
Arte and ZDF Studios

IN PRODUCTION



Ballooning: The Sky Is the Limit

The invention of the balloon fulfilled humanity's greatest dream: to fly above the Earth. As soon as a balloon floats through the sky, people stop and marvel.

Whether powered by hot air or gas, balloons have fascinated people since their invention in 1783. Graphic novels tell the story of the historical milestones of ballooning beyond the film.

From Leonardo da Vinci's first thoughts on rising hot air to the competition between the Montgolfier brothers and

Jacques Charles in 1783, which gave rise to the two systems of hot air balloons and gas balloons. It also recounts the daring acrobatic feats of Napoleon's "imperial aeronaut" Sophie Blanchard, who set off fireworks over the skies of Paris from her balloon. The spectacle ended fatally for her, but her memorial still stands today in the famous Pere Lachaise cemetery.

Science & Knowledge

1 x 50'
Produced by Ifage Filmproduktion for ZDF und ZDF Studios

NEW

Echoes from Below: Britain

Miles of caves snake beneath Great Britain's landscape, each with a unique story to tell. In *Echoes from Below: Britain*, the team heads inside the deepest shaft ever discovered in Britain: Titan. They hope that a comprehensive 3D scan will reveal the shaft's true size for the first time, as well as revealing secrets about how it formed millions of years ago. But will its vast size prove to be too much of a challenge for the scanning team? And it's not just Titan that has secrets to share.

Throughout the country, caves help unlock the secrets of our ancestors. From the discovery of the earliest human skeleton in Britain in Cheddar, to 17th century "Witches' Marks" at Creswell Crags, modern-day cave dwellers at Kinver Edge, and the very first cave divers at Wookey Hole, the team explore the importance of caves throughout British history.

Science & Knowledge

1 x 50'
Produced by Off The Fence for Curiosity Stream in co-production with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Caves of Wonder: Slovenia

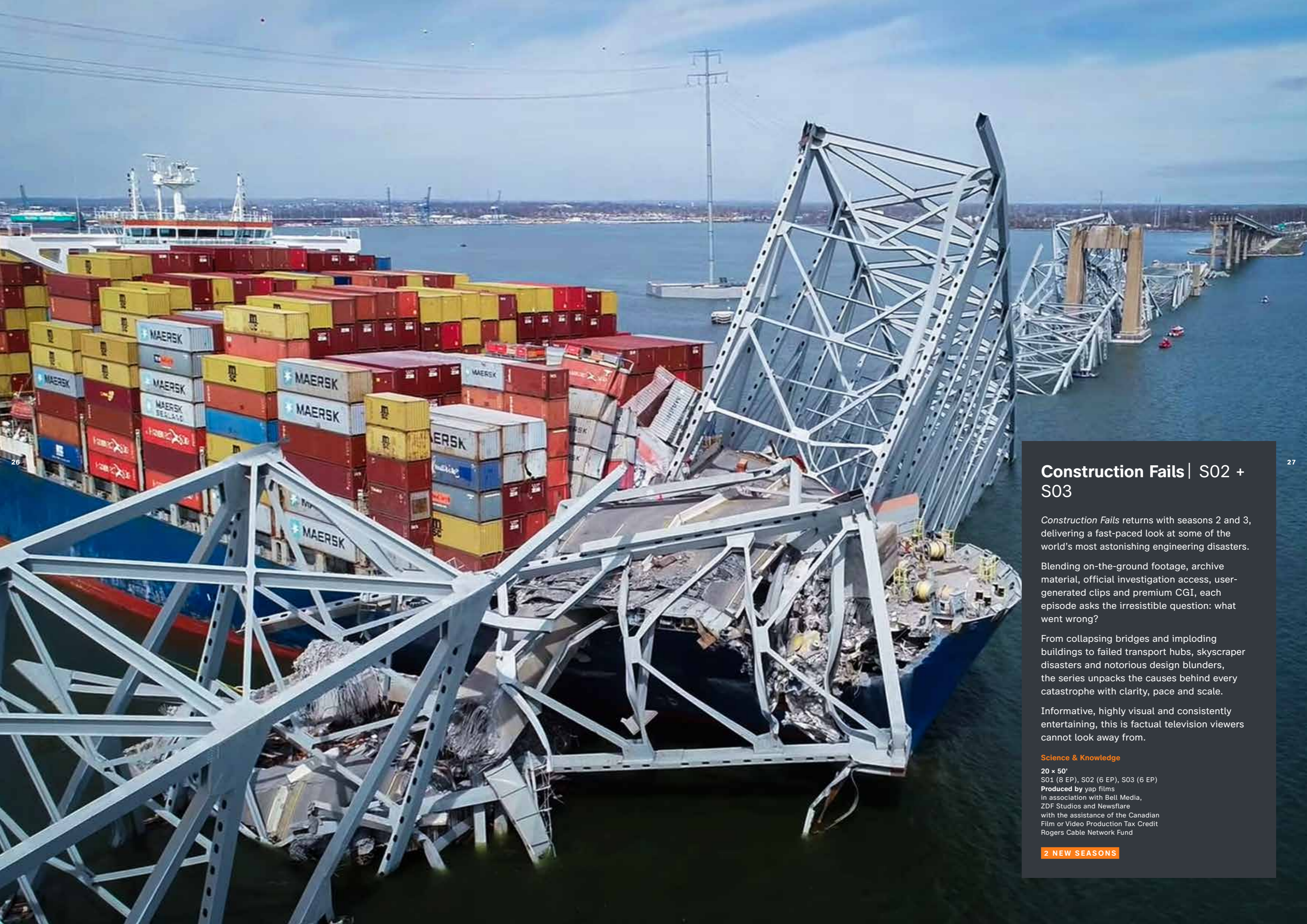
With over 12,000 known caves, Slovenia has a wealth of stories from the underworld. *Caves of Wonder: Slovenia* is a thrilling adventure into one of the most significant ice caves in Europe. A team of expert cavers descend into Paradana, Slovenia's largest ice cave. Using two different types of scanning technology, they measure the volume of ice, providing a baseline for scientists to measure the effects of climate change.

Alongside Paradana, the film explores Slovenia's other mysterious and varied caves. Postojnska Jama is home to a rare species of blind cave salamander. Križna Jama, a near-pristine underground system of unparalleled beauty, contains the perfectly preserved bones of cave bears – a now extinct giant that once roamed across Europe. Together, these remarkable underworlds secure Slovenia's position as a capital of caving.

Science & Knowledge

1 x 50'
Produced by Off The Fence for Curiosity Stream in co-production with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Construction Fails | S02 + S03

Construction Fails returns with seasons 2 and 3, delivering a fast-paced look at some of the world's most astonishing engineering disasters.

Blending on-the-ground footage, archive material, official investigation access, user-generated clips and premium CGI, each episode asks the irresistible question: what went wrong?

From collapsing bridges and imploding buildings to failed transport hubs, skyscraper disasters and notorious design blunders, the series unpacks the causes behind every catastrophe with clarity, pace and scale.

Informative, highly visual and consistently entertaining, this is factual television viewers cannot look away from.

Science & Knowledge

20 x 50'
S01 (8 EP), S02 (6 EP), S03 (6 EP)
Produced by yap films
in association with Bell Media,
ZDF Studios and Newflare
with the assistance of the Canadian
Film or Video Production Tax Credit
Rogers Cable Network Fund

2 NEW SEASONS



Going Circular

Going Circular is an award-winning 90-minute documentary exploring circularity – an economic model inspired by nature, where waste no longer exists. Through the stories of four globally recognised visionaries, the series reveals how circular thinking could redefine humanity's future and our relationship with resources.

From groundbreaking science and biology to design innovation and finance, each episode combines personal transformation with real-world solutions already being implemented around the globe. By examining food systems, cities, financial structures and the fashion industry, *Going Circular* delivers an ambitious yet accessible sustainability narrative.

A premium factual series with strong international relevance and high appeal for broadcasters seeking forward-looking content with long-term value.

Science & Knowledge

1 x 90' or 1 x 78' Festival Edition
Produced by Off the Fence for Curiosity Stream
 in association with ZDF Studios, ZDF and Arte



Awards

Honoured with GOLD at the
 2022 New York Festivals TV & Film Awards

AVAILABLE

Tepui – Descent into the House of Gods

A forgotten world, isolated for millions of years – the table-top mountains in southern Venezuela. The indigenous people revere these Tepui, which means “House of the Gods”. Scientists see them as “islands of time”, and an international and interdisciplinary research team, including a geologist, microbiologist, bioacoustician, and a biologist, set out to investigate life on one of the largest mountains.

The team explores whether the primaevial microbes that built elaborate rock foundations in an extensive cave system could be used for medical purposes, documents the diversity of plants and animals, and considers how the country could promote nature conservation.

As the steep walls of the Tepui can only be reached by helicopter and the pitch-dark caves harbour dangers, the team faces a thrilling adventure at one of the most spectacular places on Earth.

Science & Knowledge

1 x 50' UHD
Produced by Gruppe 5 for ZDF
 in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Megabuilding Collection

Across five new episodes of the *Megabuilding Collection*, we explore the marvels of engineering and history – from the fortified castles built to protect noble owners and their households, to the citadels of the 16th century that defended towns and citizens behind towering walls.

In the 20th century, defensive megastructures moved from land to air and sea. From the aerobatic demonstration unit Patrouille de France, which combines precision engineering with skilled pilots to create breathtaking displays, to the aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle, capable of launching 20 fighter jets into the air in 20 minutes, and the commercial airliners that criss-cross the skies, transporting us across continents – the series immerses viewers in engineering

and architectural genius, from fortified buildings to aviation and naval wonders.

New episodes:

- *Record-Breaking Castles*
- *The Patrouille de France Fighter Jets*
- *The Charles de Gaulle Aircraft Carrier*
- *Record-Breaking Airliners*
- *The Genius of Citadel Engineering*

Science & Knowledge

20 x 50'
Produced by Pernel Media
 in association with RMC Découverte
 and ZDF Studios

5 NEW EPISODES

Wildlife & Nature

Hawaii: Islands of Fire and Life

In the endless blue of the Pacific lies Hawai'i – one of the most isolated places on Earth, shaped by ancient volcanoes and home to species found nowhere else.

Hawaii: Islands of Fire and Life explores this fragile paradise in breathtaking imagery by Lars Pfeiffer and Florian Graner.

From singing humpback whales and gliding manta rays to rare forest birds and glowing plankton, the islands reveal their beauty. These ecosystems, formed in isolation, are delicately balanced – and increasingly under threat. Invasive species and plastic waste now reach even the most remote atolls. Yet there is hope. Across the islands, scientists and activists fight to save what is and try to restore what has been. They work to protect the future of this extraordinary place, guided by the principle of mālama 'āina – to care for the land.

Wildlife & Nature

2 x 50' UHD
Produced by Doclights, Vision Airways and Sealife Productions for NDR, in association with Arte, WDR, NHK and ORF Universum

NEW





Baby Animals Down Under

Baby Animals Down Under takes you on a spectacular trek around Australia to meet a wide variety of delightful youngsters that hop, climb, fly and swim through its wilds.

In forests, go piggybacking with koala joeys and enjoy the rare sight of a tree kangaroo joey popping its head out of the pouch. On the waterways, see baby saltwater crocodiles emerge from their eggs, and go for a paddle with fluffy baby black swans. In the outback, bound around with red kangaroo joeys and emu chicks. Visit the

islands to catch baby quokkas and Tasmanian devils at play. In the bush, be intrigued by baby echidnas, known as puggles, and go for a leisurely waddle with some wombat joeys. Plus, don't miss green sea turtles scramble for the waves, or the chance to tag along with humpback whale calves as they cruise the coast with their majestic mums.

Wildlife & Nature

6 x 50'

Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with Content Mint

NEW



Rescued Chimpanzees of the Congo with Jane Goodall

Filmed over years on location at Dr Jane Goodall's chimpanzee sanctuary in the Republic of the Congo, this is the moving story of one of the most ambitious and scientifically rigorous wilderness reintroduction programmes ever attempted. A group of orphaned chimpanzees is being prepared for reintroduction into the wilderness.

With unprecedented access to the sanctuary, we follow the chimps as they bond to become a strong, cohesive group. Their fascinating journey is interwoven with innovative scientific research, interviews with experts, including Dr Goodall, and set against the backdrop of everyday life at the sanctuary.

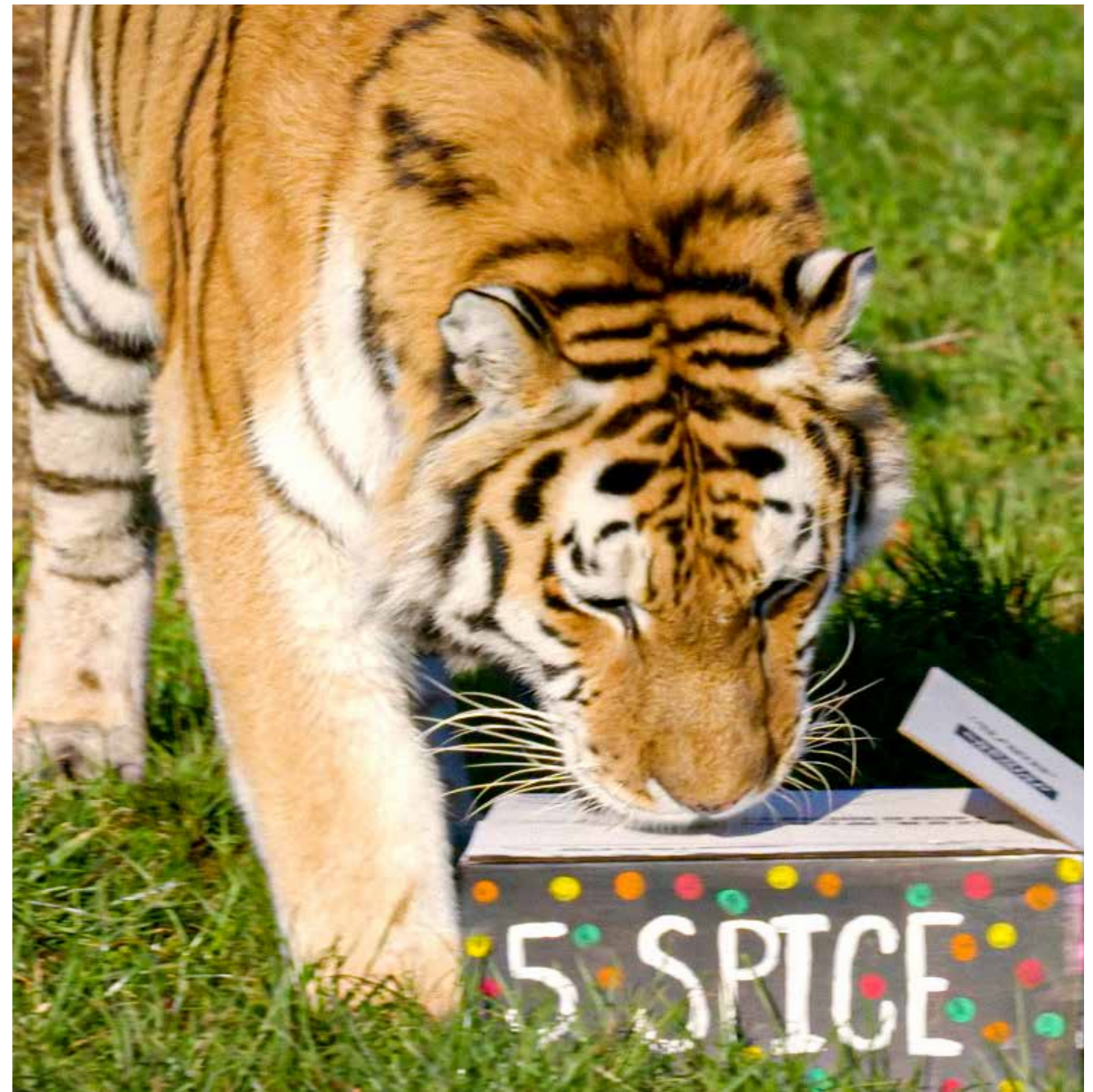
The second season of this popular show presents more heartwarming stories of

chimps, their animal friends, and the dedicated staff preparing them for their challenging new adventure.

Wildlife & Nature

11 x 50' and 1 x 50' special
Produced by Off the Fence Productions
with the support of the Jane Goodall Institute
for Curiosity Stream
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Wild Medics

What if animals know how to heal themselves better than we do?

Wild Medics explores the extraordinary science of animal wellbeing, revealing how creatures great and small stay healthy, happy and balanced – without a single doctor's appointment.

Across four mind-blowing episodes, discover how animals self-medicate with plants, seek out euphoric natural highs,

boost fertility with instinctive rituals, and relax in wild spa-like settings.

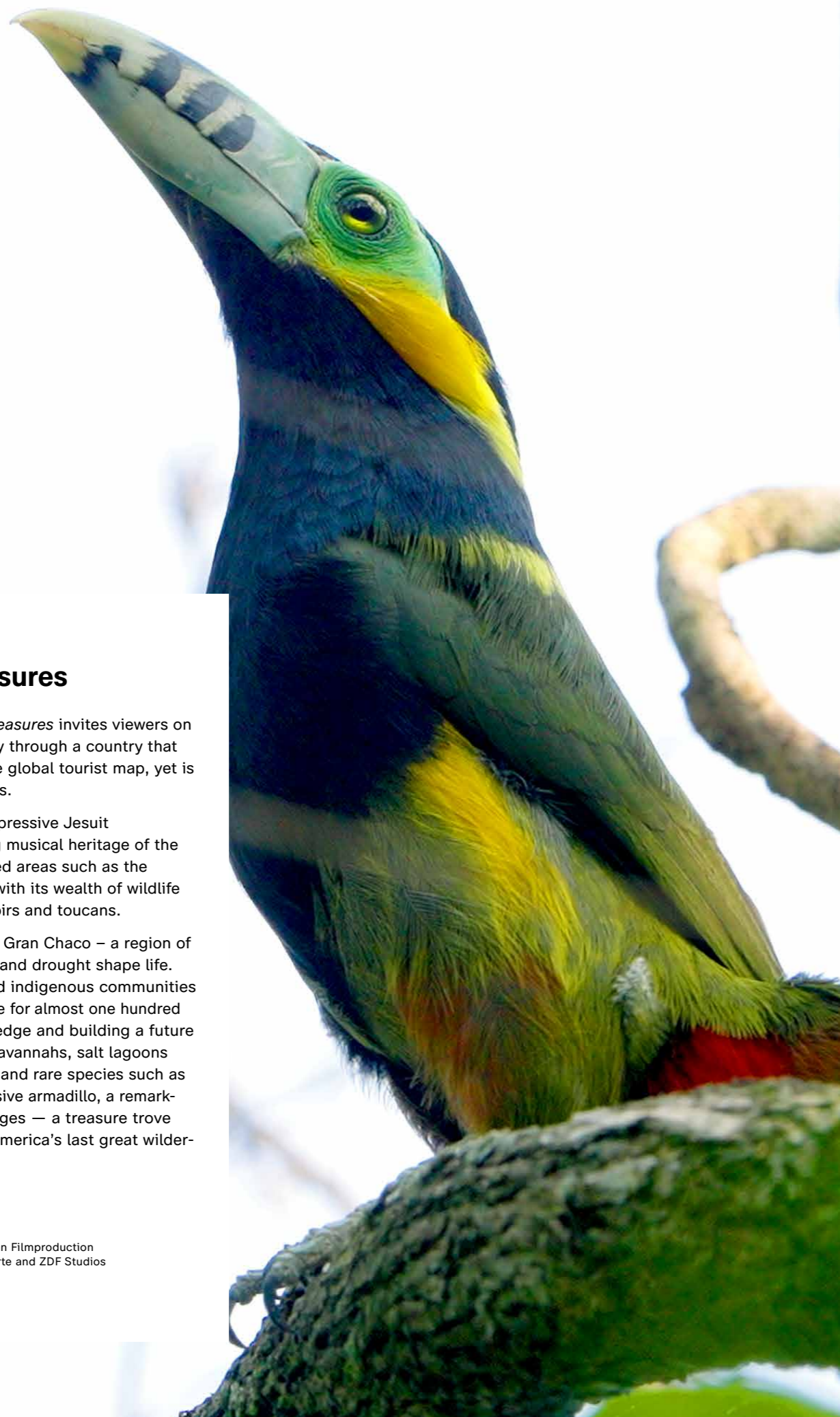
From acid-loving crows and dolphins dosing on pufferfish toxin, to perfume-blending orchid bees, and macaques soaking in mountain hot springs – “Wild Medics” uncovers nature's own medicine cabinet.

Backed by cutting-edge research, enlightened experts and unforgettable behaviour, this is the wild world of wellness, where instinct meets innovation and feeling good is key to survival.

Wildlife & Nature

4 x 50'
Produced by Off the Fence for ZDF Studios
in association with ZDF and Arte

NEW



Paraguay's Hidden Treasures

Paraguay's Hidden Treasures invites viewers on a journey of discovery through a country that barely features on the global tourist map, yet is full of natural wonders.

Part one visits the impressive Jesuit Reductions, the living musical heritage of the Guaraní, and protected areas such as the Mbaracayú Reserve, with its wealth of wildlife including jaguars, tapirs and toucans.

Part two explores the Gran Chaco – a region of extremes where heat and drought shape life. Here, Mennonites and indigenous communities have lived side by side for almost one hundred years, sharing knowledge and building a future together. Amid vast savannahs, salt lagoons filled with flamingos, and rare species such as anteaters and the elusive armadillo, a remarkable ecosystem emerges – a treasure trove within one of South America's last great wilderness regions.

Wildlife & Nature

2 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Summer 2026
Produced by Ilona Grundmann Filmproduction
for ZDF in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



The Margay and Me

The Margay and Me is a visually rich coming of age documentary set deep inside Guyana's untouched rainforest.

At its heart: an orphaned margay, one of nature's most elusive wild cats, released back into a world he does not know – and Falton, a young man returning to the jungle that raised him after a life-changing ordeal.

With no established knowledge of how margays survive in the wild, Falton becomes teacher, guardian and companion on a dangerous journey through the canopy realm of jaguars, piranhas and hidden threats. As science meets lived indigenous knowledge, man and animal rediscover instinct, resilience and belonging.

Presented through Falton's deeply personal perspective, this one-off film offers a distinctive blend of wildlife access and human-led storytelling.

History & Biographies

1 x 50' UHD
Produced by Blue Paw Artists
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Wild Workers

Each day as we head to work, another day in the office or wherever our business takes us, few of us ever give a single thought to the billions of wild workers who day after day toil to keep our planet in shape.

Yet without the vast herds who graze the open grasslands, the countless armies of ants and termites, the unseen and silent diggers that help to keep the soils fertile, our world would be a different place.

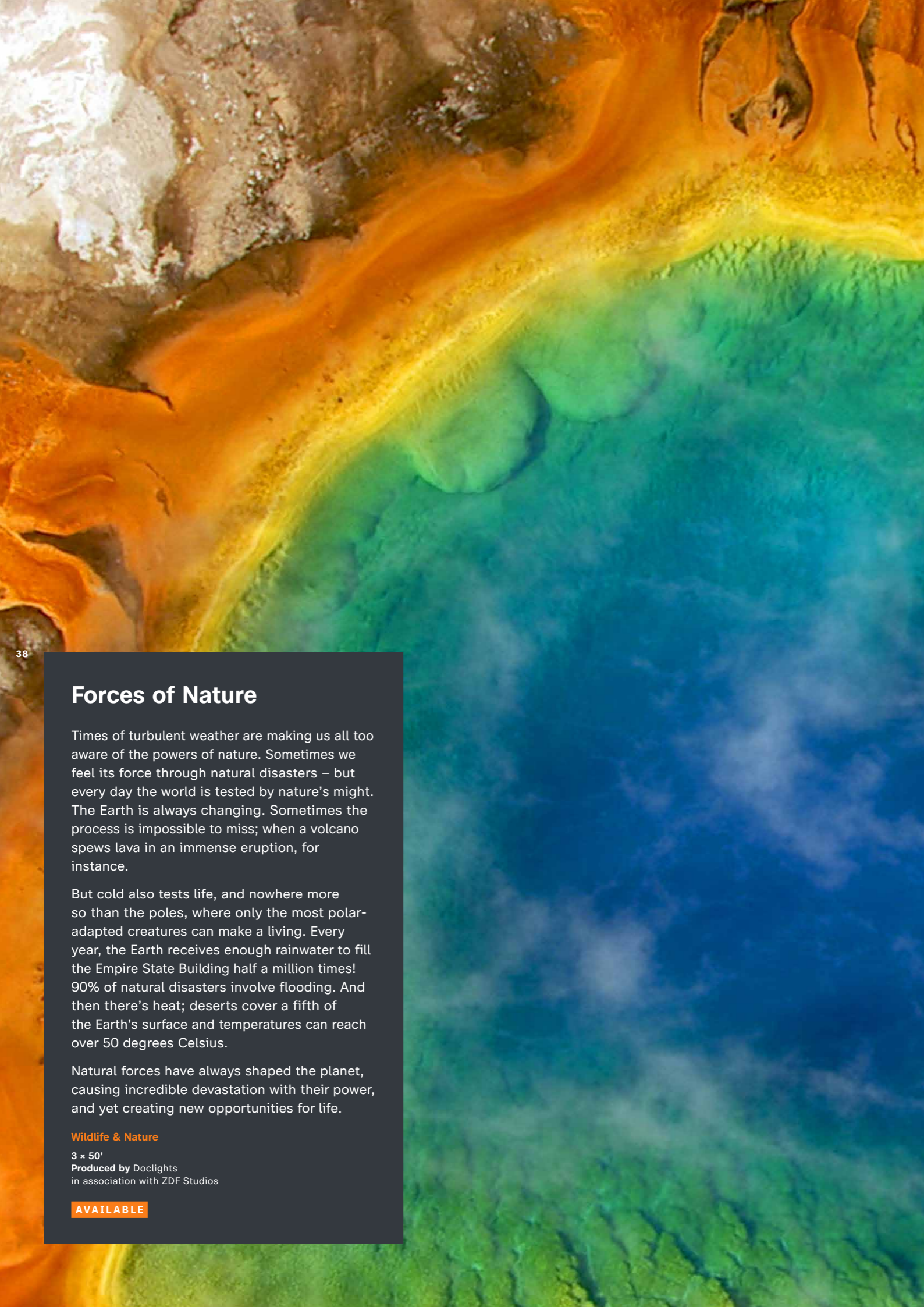
The wild workers are at work in the oceans, as well as the forests and plains – in fact everywhere. Some are at work to build the foundations that help to maintain the rhythms of life. Others craft carefully built and planned homes. While others are engineers who shape their worlds, and ours.

In three gripping episodes, *Wild Workers* tells the stories of how our world is shaped and organized, often without our knowledge.

Wildlife & Nature

3 x 50'
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Forces of Nature

Times of turbulent weather are making us all too aware of the powers of nature. Sometimes we feel its force through natural disasters – but every day the world is tested by nature’s might. The Earth is always changing. Sometimes the process is impossible to miss; when a volcano spews lava in an immense eruption, for instance.

But cold also tests life, and nowhere more so than the poles, where only the most polar-adapted creatures can make a living. Every year, the Earth receives enough rainwater to fill the Empire State Building half a million times! 90% of natural disasters involve flooding. And then there’s heat; deserts cover a fifth of the Earth’s surface and temperatures can reach over 50 degrees Celsius.

Natural forces have always shaped the planet, causing incredible devastation with their power, and yet creating new opportunities for life.

Wildlife & Nature
3 x 50'
Produced by Doclights
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Cheetah: Fast and Wild

How do you transform inexperienced, captive-reared cheetahs into hunters? Experts say it’s impossible, that a cheetah cub must learn at its mother’s side. Captive-reared cheetahs do not know how to stalk prey or chase down fleet-footed antelope. Put them in the wild and they will certainly perish.

Enter Lilly and Iris, two sisters orphaned when their mother was killed by lions. Now, after two years in captivity, they have a shot at living wild. We follow these cats as they undergo the trials of learning to live as wild cheetahs.

This film also journeys into the wild, to feature three young cubs also learning to hunt. They have a formidable teacher, their mother. Through their experiences

we see just what Lilly and Iris have missed out on – and what they still have to learn.

Wildlife & Nature
1 x 50' UHD
Produced by Fast Cat Films

NEW



Citrus World

Citrus fruits have a long tradition in art and cuisine across the globe. This series, however, goes far beyond the familiar, focusing on the natural environments in which citrus trees thrive as settings for a wide variety of agricultural practices.

In each of the six episodes, one citrus fruit takes centre stage, guiding us through the unique stories that unfold behind the scenes of its places of origin. Each film explores the exotic origins, ecological interconnections and cultural riches associated with these fruits, while also serving as a plea to protect the unique ecosystems in which they grow.

Wildlife & Nature

6 x 50'

Produced by doc.station for ZDF
in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

NEW



Grimms' Forest: The Nature of Fairy Tales

The image of romantic forests filled with mystical creatures, in part influenced by the fairy tales and legends of the Brothers Grimm, still shapes our perception of nature. But where did these stories originate, and was there a kernel of truth on which they are based?

Grimms' Forest is a wildlife documentary with a twist. It explains the symbolism and meaning behind both well-known and more obscure stories, and combines these observations with insights into nature and animal behaviour. For instance, the big bad wolf in Little Red Riding Hood symbolises an intelligent but evil man, and the fairy tale likely influenced how wolves are perceived as dangerous loners. Yet, wolves are actually highly sociable animals who live in families and hunt in packs.

This wildlife documentary is particularly suited for a viewing slot over the festive period.

Wildlife & Nature

1 x 50'
Produced by Doclights for NDR
distributed by ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Realm of the Volga

The Volga is Russia's natural lifeline. Collecting its water over some 1.5 million square kilometres, incorporating most of European Russia. Its basin is larger than France, Spain and Portugal combined. Innumerable springs, lakes and rivers feed the main stream.

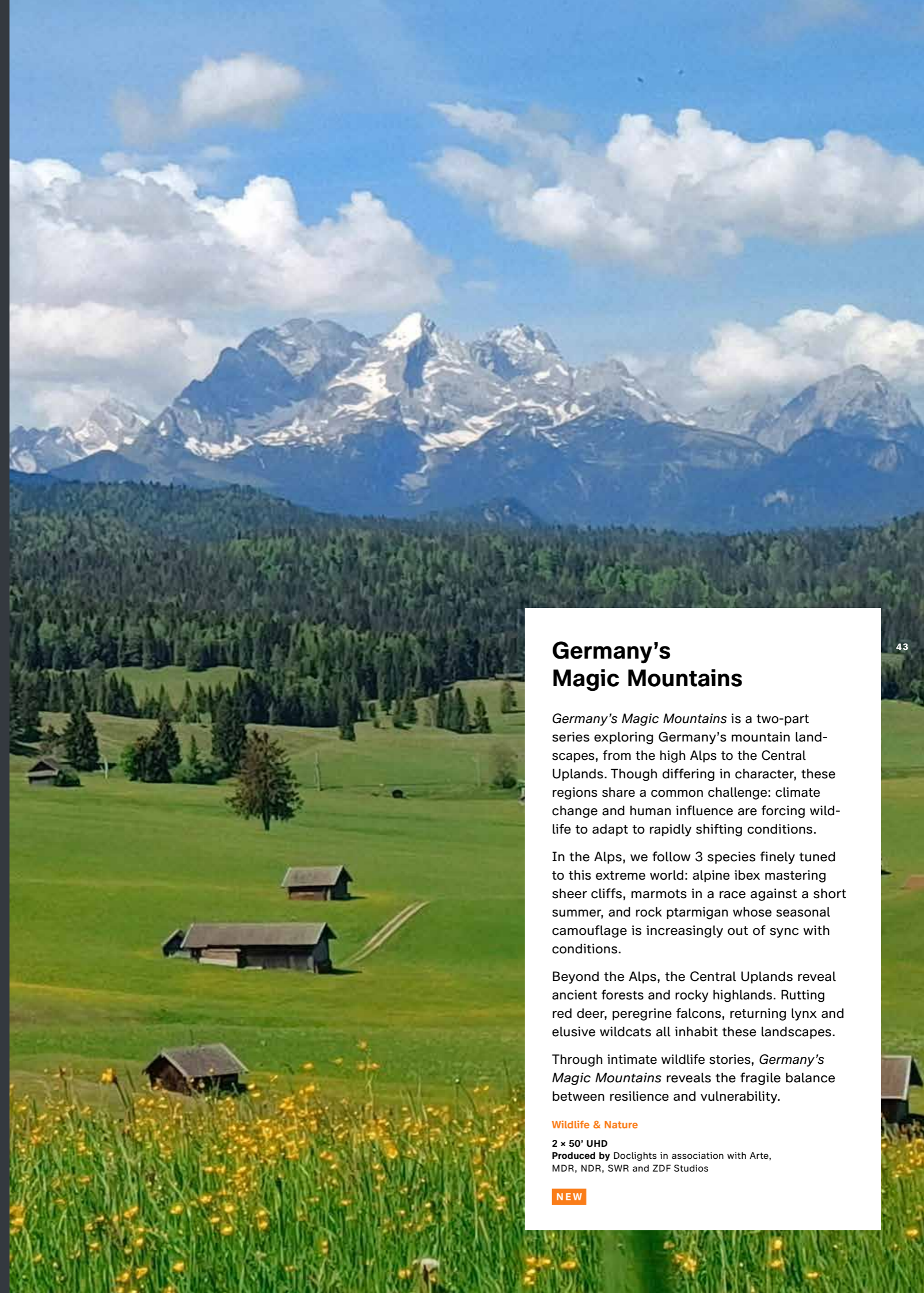
At over 3,500 kilometres, sometimes sluggish, sometimes wild, the Volga is Europe's largest river. During the epic journey towards the delta, the river skirts the edges of Siberia and central Asia. Globally there is no larger river that does not enter an ocean – this one makes its own – the Caspian Sea. For centuries, the river has been central to the development of this huge region as well as its people.

Opulent pictures, breathtaking aerial imagery and seldom-documented behaviour of rare animals – from the start, viewers will be captivated by *Realm of the Volga*.

Wildlife & Nature

2 x 50' UHD
Produced by Doclights
in co-production with ALTAYFILM
in association with NDR, MDR, WDR, Arte,
ORF, Channel One Russia, Curiosity Stream

AVAILABLE



Germany's Magic Mountains

Germany's Magic Mountains is a two-part series exploring Germany's mountain landscapes, from the high Alps to the Central Uplands. Though differing in character, these regions share a common challenge: climate change and human influence are forcing wildlife to adapt to rapidly shifting conditions.

In the Alps, we follow 3 species finely tuned to this extreme world: alpine ibex mastering sheer cliffs, marmots in a race against a short summer, and rock ptarmigan whose seasonal camouflage is increasingly out of sync with conditions.

Beyond the Alps, the Central Uplands reveal ancient forests and rocky highlands. Rutting red deer, peregrine falcons, returning lynx and elusive wildcats all inhabit these landscapes.

Through intimate wildlife stories, *Germany's Magic Mountains* reveals the fragile balance between resilience and vulnerability.

Wildlife & Nature

2 x 50' UHD
Produced by Doclights in association with Arte,
MDR, NDR, SWR and ZDF Studios

NEW

