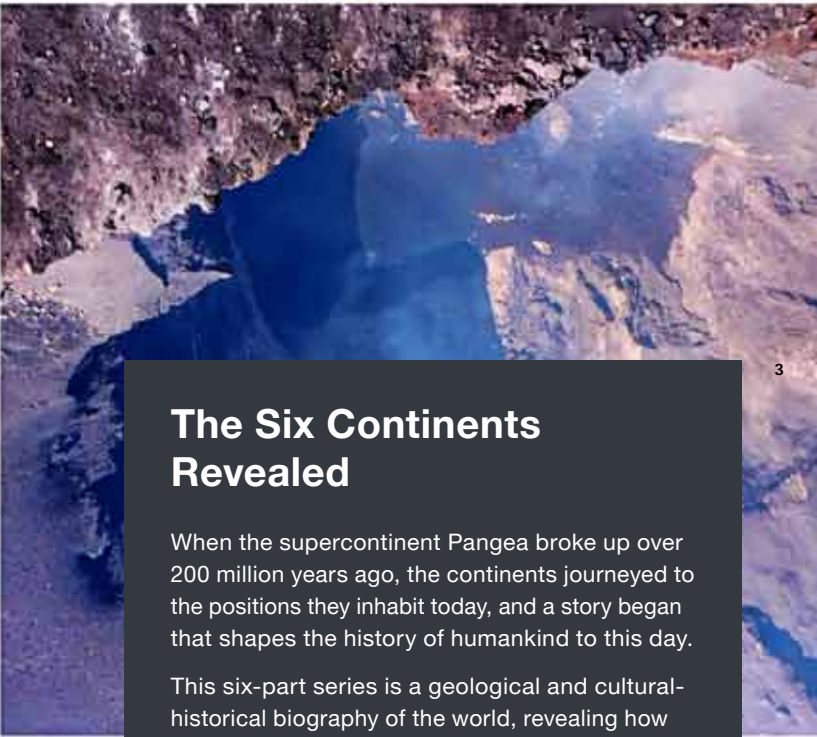




Selection
Spring/Summer 2023

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The Six Continents Revealed

When the supercontinent Pangea broke up over 200 million years ago, the continents journeyed to the positions they inhabit today, and a story began that shapes the history of humankind to this day.

This six-part series is a geological and cultural-historical biography of the world, revealing how nature shaped and influenced cultures. Find out how abundant natural resources affected the development of societies in Australia and the USA, how the mild climate and fertile soil made Europe a favourable continent, and how the sometimes inhospitable climate in Asia and Africa determined how people lived and thrived.

Realistic 3-D animations take viewers on a journey through time to experience drifting continental plates, sinking land masses, explosive volcanoes, and raging storms. From the air, we view spectacular landscapes, soaring mountains, and arid deserts.

History & Biographies
6 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Spring 2023
Produced by Story House Productions for ZDF
in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON

History & Biographies



Russia's Wars

When Russia takes up arms, the world holds its breath. Over centuries, the immense empire has been shaped by battles won – and lost – and those who led the forces that fought in them.

Peter the Great, founder of the magnificent St Petersburg, used guns and cannons to redraw the continent's maps. His descendants in the House of Romanov went from commanding the largest army in the world to defeat at the hands of the Bolsheviks. The newly-founded Soviet Union withstood Hitler's murderous machine, only to inflict cruelty and terror on its own people. After the demise of the Soviet Union, Putin wages a cunning yet camouflaged campaign to revitalise Russian imperialism – if necessary, by force.

With unseen archive footage, insights from international experts, and visually stunning maps, this series tells the compelling story of a nation's fight to achieve its goals.

History & Biographies
3 x 50'
Produced by Ecomedia for ZDF Studios
in association with ZDF

NEW

Ancient Apocalypse | S02

Every continent has its share of ruins. Places where crumbling stones tell the stories of fallen civilisations, whether they are buried under the earth, hidden in the shade of the jungle, or in the chaos of a lost city. They all raise the same questions – how could something so gigantic simply vanish? Why do civilisations collapse?

In Season 02 we reveal the reasons behind the downfall of some of history's greatest empires. From the Mexican Aztecs, who succumbed to European invaders and the contagious diseases that accompanied them, to the ancient Minoans of Crete, who were fatally weakened by a volcanic eruption.

We take note of the warnings of history, as we explore the stories of the Vikings of Greenland, hit by a triple onslaught of plague, climate change, and the loss of the ivory trade, and the Moche of Peru, whose god-like rulers were undermined by unprecedented weather events.

History & Biographies

12 x 50'
S01 (6 EP), S02 (6 EP coming soon)
Scheduled for Autumn 2023
Produced by World Media Rights
for ZDF Studios and ZDFinfo

NEW SEASON COMING SOON



History's Greatest Myths

We accept the stories of pivotal moments in history as they are detailed in textbooks as facts, but what if our understanding of historical events isn't accurate? With the passing of time, and the fading of memories, incidents are sometimes blown out of proportion, and an altered version of the truth is established.

The series questions long-held beliefs about central figures and momentous

events in the modern and ancient world. Using archive material, evocative graphics, and engaging interviews with experts, *History's Greatest Myths* traces how historical facts were muddled, and modern mythologies were created.

From conspiracy theories and what we now know as 'fake news', from stories woven together from selected information to unsolved mysteries, this enlightening

series digs deep to uncover the blurred lines between fact and fiction.

History & Biographies

6 x 50'
Scheduled for Summer 2023
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



Giants of Art

A ground-breaking three-part documentary series that dedicates each episode to an extraordinary artist – Michelangelo, Rembrandt van Rijn, and Vincent van Gogh.

Discover the men behind the genius, and how their lives were shaped by their artistic talent. From the rebellious Michelangelo and his sometimes fraught relationship with

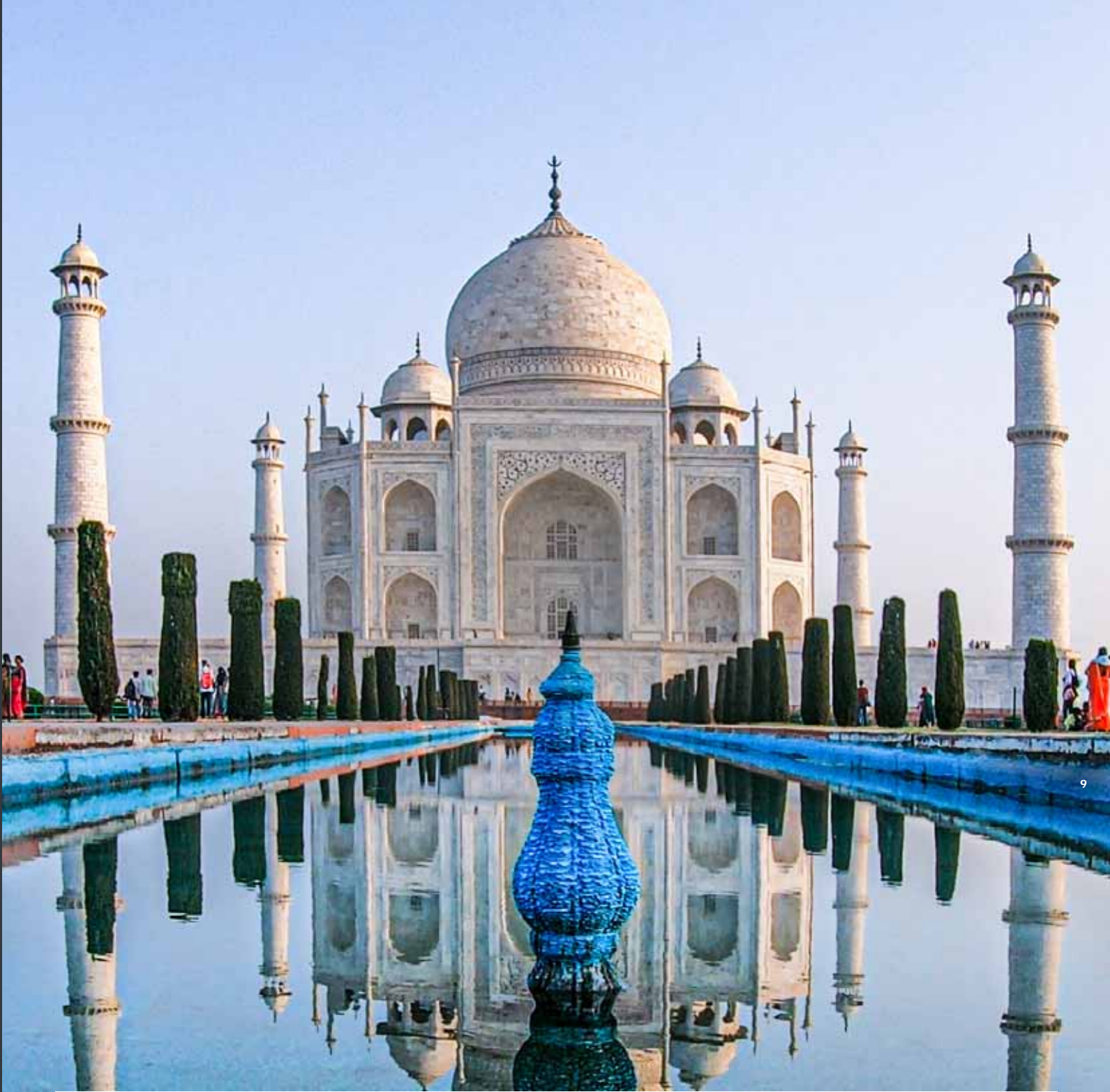
the popes, to the tragic life of Rembrandt, who died alone and impoverished, and the troubled genius van Gogh. Innovative technology shows Michelangelo's paintings in unprecedented detail, a 'new' Rembrandt is created with the help of AI, and x-ray analyses provide stunning insight into van Gogh's creative process.

Compelling cinematic reenactments bring these artists to life, showing pivotal events

and the creation of their masterpieces. International art historians and renowned scientists provide additional deep knowledge of these three giants of the art world.

History & Biographies
3 x 50'
Produced by Bilderfest for ZDF

NEW



Ancient Superstructures: Taj Mahal | S02

The Taj Mahal was built in the 17th century by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan, in memory of his late wife. The extraordinary marble mausoleum was built in the city of Agra in northern India, and is considered one of the seven wonders of the modern world. And yet, there are so many things we still need to learn about the Taj Mahal and the surrounding architectural complex.

How did the builders complete it in just 20 years – when the Notre Dame cathedral took more than a century? What gives it stability, built as it is on the unstable banks of the sacred river Yamuna?

Using satellite images and microscopic investigations, historians, researchers, and engineers uncover the answers to these questions and more. The latest technology finds evidence of deep foundations, intricate gemstones, and innovative brick manufacture, and reveals the secrets at the heart of the colossal construction.

History & Biographies
8 x 50' UHD
S01 (4 EP), S02 (4 EP)
Produced by Pernel Media
in association with RMC Découverte,
Histoire and ZDF Studios

NEW EPISODE



Hitler's Power

In one of the most consequential moments of the last century, on January 30, 1933, Adolf Hitler came to power in Germany. The three-part series *Hitler's Power* takes a closer look at the events leading up to this fateful day, and the terrible events that followed.

The series explores how an inconsequential 'nobody' gained such power so quickly, and why people followed his lead. It also asks why the Nazi leader was confident of the approval of most Germans, even when it was clear the war was lost. And what led the Germans to support the atrocious crime against humanity, the Holocaust?

Newly discovered photos provide an unusual perspective of Nazi society in times of war and peace. With historical film footage, photos, documents, personal testimonies, graphics, and analysis from renowned experts, the series explores the dictatorship, focusing on the relationship between the leader and the people.

History & Biographies

3 x 50'

Produced by Ecomedia,
History Media and ZDF Digital for ZDF
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



The Tank: Weapon of the 20th Century

Since their invention at the beginning of the 20th century, tanks have been wartime killing machines and the backbone of every land army, but they have also been exploited by authoritarian systems as symbols and tools of oppression.

This fascinating programme reviews the history of tanks, and their effect on technology, psychology, culture, and people. Historians and military experts take viewers from the first tank battle in 1918 through the Cold War to the role of tanks on today's battlefields.

History & Biographies

2 x 50'
Produced by Spiegel TV
in association with ZDF and Arte

AVAILABLE



Secret Bunkers

In the 19th century, huge stone fortresses protected leaders and their people against enemy cannons. As weapons technology and warfare changed, countries began to build steel and concrete bunkers to protect their troops in battle.

The first episode examines the bunkers built in Europe before and during World War II, from the Italian Franzensfeste to Churchill's War Room. In the second episode, we go underground in nuclear-era shelters, including the thousands built by a paranoid Romanian leader.

History & Biographies

2 x 50'
Produced by Doclights for ZDF.info
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Crime Scene: Antiquity

Crime is as old as humanity itself. And yet, some crimes continue to fascinate us to this day – often because they remain unsolved. From the mysterious death of a young Egyptian pharaoh to the murder of an infamous glacier mummy, the perpetrators of historical misdeeds have remained unknown. Until now.

Using modern forensics and experimental archaeological methods, a team of experts – profilers, weapons experts, geneticists, and historians – aims to solve these ancient cases and identify the criminals.

History & Biographies

5 x 50'
Produced by taglicht media Film- und Fernsehproduktion for ZDFInfo
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



The Mysteries of the Bible

Historians and religious scholars have puzzled over tales of prophets, miracles, sacred relics, and divine apparitions in the Bible for centuries. The number one best-selling book of all time continues to inspire millions of faithful believers – and yet the origins of its stories remained a mystery. Until now.

Researchers and scientists have long agreed that these tales are a collection of myths and oral histories. Now, technological advancements can provide historical and scientific evidence of the events on which these stories were based.

The Mysteries of the Bible explores the historical events behind the legends and phenomena. It takes the viewers on a journey from Jerusalem to Rome, Turin to the Sea of Galilee, accompanied by archaeologists, historians, and scientists, to ask what really happened to Jesus, how the Ark of the Covenant disappeared, where the Holy Grail is, and more.

History & Biographies

6 x 50'
Produced by Pernel Media
in association with C8 and ZDF Studios

NEW

Science & Knowledge

Naked — Sex and Gender

Naked – Sex and Gender is a six-part series that examines sex and gender and asks complex questions to provide honest answers and startling insights. (Also available as a 90' version).

We gain a balanced and nuanced view of how sex and gender influence every stage of life – from birth and childhood, through puberty, starting a family, and into old age. Criss-crossing the globe, we explore whether gender differences are innate or acquired, how puberty affects children's perception of their gender, gender roles in families, the history and future of the patriarchy, and whether aging reduces gender boundaries.

A wide variety of people open their doors and hearts and talk about what it's like to live as a man, a woman, a transgender person, or a non-binary person. In over 100 interviews, we listen to international experts, doctors, psychiatrists, parents, educators, and children from all walks of life in this ground-breaking series.

Science & Knowledge
6 x 50' and 1 x 90'
Produced by Spiegel TV
and Primitive Entertainment
in association with Crave/Bell Media,
ZDF, Arte and ZDF Studios

NEW





Restless Planet

The history of the planet we call home has been turbulent. The Earth has been affected by collisions in the solar system, asteroid strikes, devastating volcanic eruptions, and time and again by global climate crises. And some of these events have been particularly devastating.

Scientists have identified five periods of mass extinction in the past 500 million years, during which around three-quarters of species died out over a short geological time. And yet, after each of these events, the Earth has recovered, and is now covered in water and hospitable to life.

This five-part series chronicles the history of our planet from its dramatic birth through the cosmic and terrestrial forces that have shaped it. We explore the rise of humanity, reconstructing the major events that created our unique habitat, and showing how life rebounded after catastrophic events.

Science & Knowledge

5 x 50'

Scheduled for Spring 2024

Produced by ZDF Digital Medienproduktion
for Curiosity Stream
in association with ZDF Studios and zdf.info

IN PRODUCTION



Mega Building Collection

What drives scientists, inventors, and engineers to push the limits of what is possible? These innovators continually strive to design and develop technology, machines, and buildings that help us defy the challenges of space and time.

In new episodes of this captivating collection, we discover incredible buildings, vehicles, and projects and provide viewers with fascinating insights into ground-breaking achievements in technology and engineering.

Each episode focuses on a specific technical achievement. Come with us on a journey across the Pont de Normandie, the largest cable-stayed bridge in Europe, across the vast tidal power station on the northern coast of Brittany, France, until we reach supersonic speed with the high-tech fighter aircraft, Dassault Rafale. Finally, dive silently with us into the ocean depths in the newest nuclear-powered submarine of the Barracuda class.

5 new episodes available: *Roads, Submarines, Warplanes, Dams II, Bridges II*

Science & Knowledge

10 x 50'
5 new Episodes
Produced by Pernel Media
in association with RMC Découverte
and ZDF Studios

NEW EPISODES



Forensics — The Science of Crime

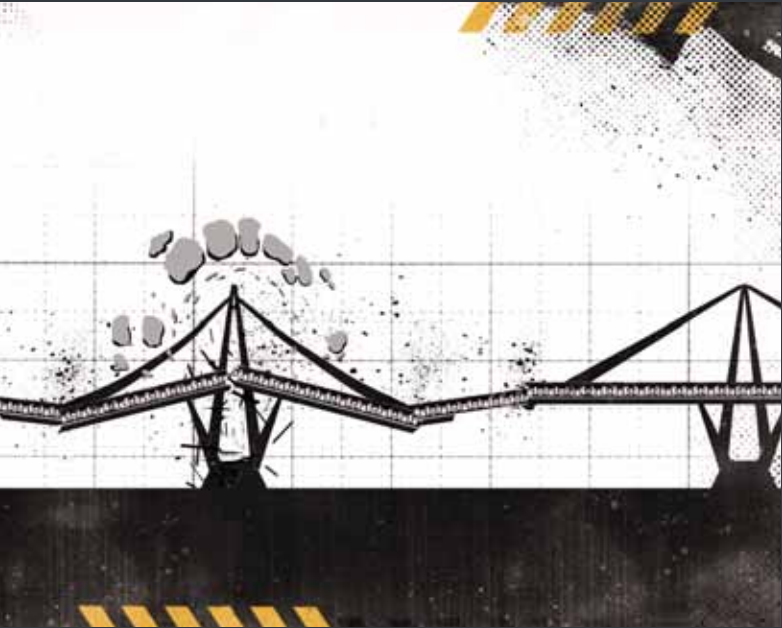
Go behind the laboratory doors of forensic institutes and universities to discover how scientists and experts uncover vital information to help identify and convict the perpetrators of unsolved crimes.

This three-part series follows entomologists, genetic finger-printing experts, and molecular biologists who examine the bugs and DNA found at the crime scene, and gunshot wounds in the victims. Their constantly evolving methods have made them heroes in the fight against the 'perfect crime'.

Science & Knowledge

3 x 50'
Produced by K22 for ZDF
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Construction Fails

Construction fails happen every day, but sometimes the damage is catastrophic. This factual, fast-paced show investigates the most spectacular mishaps, what went wrong, and how the disaster could have been averted.

Combining live footage with CGI animation, this show examines well-known disasters, such as the Notre Dame fire, and the collapse of the Georgia Dome, but also more minor incidents. Presented in a light-hearted and accessible manner, *Construction Fails* shows what happens when things go drastically wrong.

Science & Knowledge

8 x 50'
Produced by yap films
in association with Bell Media, ZDF Studios and Newsflare
with the assistance of The Canadian Film or Video Production
Tax Credit Rogers Cable Network Fund

AVAILABLE



Great Inventions

Humankind's extraordinary gift for invention has transformed our world to make it unrecognisable to our ancestors. Some inventions seem mundane but had wide-ranging effects on society, such as the first sewers or supermarkets. Others are more spectacular, like the invention of the jet engine or industrial robots.

All these inventions have one thing in common: they have changed the way we live. In this series, we investigate the successes – and the failures – of inventive people throughout the ages.

Science & Knowledge

35 x 50'
Produced by Off the Fence,
doc.station, World Media Rights
and k22 for ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE

Wildlife & Nature

produced by **doclights**

20

Bison: An American Icon

Few things say 'Wild West' like the intimidating profile of a bison, an enduring icon of North American wilderness. Known locally as 'buffalo', bison played a key role in shaping the continent and the emerging United States of America. Yet, ironically, the powerful cattle were almost hunted out of existence by pioneers and settlers in the 19th century.

The Yellowstone National Park bison herd was down to just 23 of these shaggy beasts, but careful wildlife management has seen that number grow to around 5,000.

In *Bison: An American Icon*, we follow the life of a bison bull from the day of his birth, his endurance as a young calf, and his development into a strong bull who seeks victory in battle. In his story, we witness the indomitable spirit of a true survivor, and recognise the bison as a symbol that is inextricably linked to the American identity.

Wildlife & Nature

1 x 50'

Produced by Doclights

NEW

21





Extreme Namibia

Namibia is home to an abundance of Africa’s magnificent wildlife, but the animals must adapt to the most extreme conditions. Over thousands of years, savannah elephants became desert elephants, and lions underwent a similar transformation. Namibia boasts incredibly diverse landscapes that range from some of the world’s most arid deserts to lush bushlands and coastlines that are home to penguins and other seabirds.

In 2019, Namibia faced the most devastating drought ever recorded in recent history. The world must face the possibility that the country’s fragile wildlife could be one of the first major victims of climate change. This blue-chip production presents dramatic stories of fascinating wildlife alongside images that show the impact of climate change on one of the most magical places on Earth.

Wildlife & Nature
2 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Summer 2023
Produced by Doclights
in association with ORF and Arte

IN PRODUCTION



Ultimate Forest

Wildlife filmmakers have portrayed the European seasonal forests countless times, but this is the ultimate series. The programme uses innovative camera equipment to depict fauna and flora in unprecedented detail.

We explore deciduous and coniferous European forests, covering gentle, rolling hills and mountain peaks, surrounding towns and villages, along lakes and rivers, to discover their magical secrets and how climate change and our actions are causing dramatic – and perhaps irrevocable – change.

Wildlife & Nature
3 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for End of 2023
Produced by Doclights
in association with WDR
and Terra Mater

IN PRODUCTION



produced by **doclights**

Wildlife Unplugged

Forest animals, such as roe deer, red deer, foxes, and wild boar have become increasingly elusive due to generations of hunting. Occasionally, photographers or film-makers might capture them from a distance during the mating season, but we lack

insight into their behaviour when they are undisturbed. Innovative remote cameras provide an intriguing window into a new world.

This programme shows shy woodland animals in an intimacy that we know only from African wildlife shoots. Viewers will be entranced by the sight of dancing

bears and hunting wolves in this stunning yet intimate wildlife portrait.

Wildlife & Nature
2 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Autumn 2023
Produced by Doclights
in association with Arte

IN PRODUCTION



produced by **doclights**

Little Cats – Big Personalities

Often overlooked in favour of their ferocious cousins, the felines at the smaller end of the scale can be just as impressive as lions and tigers. Known by scientists as felinae, the diverse small cat family has over 40 species, from the long-legged serval that roam sub-Saharan countries, to the lynx or bobcats with their tufted ears, and even the domestic and seemingly harmless kitten curled up on the sofa.

Despite their diversity, these small cats are united by several feline features. Their claws are retractable to keep them sharp, they have padded feet that enable a silent approach, their

pupils can contract in bright light and expand to provide night vision, and their ears can rotate independently like radars to home in on prey.

All these features have one single purpose: the hunt. Despite their size, these cats are impressive predators that gracefully, yet mercilessly, stalk their prey.

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

AVAILABLE



produced by **doclights**

Little Oceans: From the North to the Baltic Sea

With distinct ecological systems, the North and the Baltic Seas are very different from the other oceans of the world. First formed at the end of the ice age on shallow land, these little oceans later bore witness to dramatic historical events. And, despite their small size, they are teeming with marine life.

Between the shores of Scandinavia, Great Britain, the Baltic states, and Germany, we find basking sharks, Greenland sharks, killer whales, sperm whales, schools of cuttlefish and giant squid, and a whole range of other sea creatures, big and small.

In this captivating series, we go to the most extreme and dangerous depths of the oceans to discover the unknown

habits of familiar animals, and meet creatures that we have never seen before. These two little oceans – sadly overlooked by many blue-chip wildlife films – are revealed to be just as fascinating as the vast oceans of the Pacific and Atlantic.

Wildlife & Nature

4 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Spring 2024
Produced by Doclights for NDR and ARD
in association with Arte and Terra Mater

IN PRODUCTION



produced by **doclights**

Wild Australia

A diverse and sometimes contradictory continent, Australia is filled with natural wonders. This five-part series takes viewers from the desert around Uluru to the dramatic southern plains, from the impenetrable jungles in the northeast of the country to the eucalyptus forests in eastern Australia.

In each episode, we discover the wildlife that has adapted to thrive even in extreme conditions. The mighty kangaroos in the fiery heart of the country, the quirky wombats living underground, snappy crocodiles in the swamps – and we discover that the koalas aren't quite as cuddly as we've been led to believe.

Renowned wildlife filmmakers Thoralf Groschwitz and Jens Westphalen travelled endless kilometres through the outback,

using specialised macro and super slow motion HD cameras to portray the animal kingdom as you've never seen it before. This is a visually stunning portrait of wild Australia.

Wildlife & Nature

5 x 50'
Produced by Doclights
in association with NDR, Arte, Terra Mater,
Wild Fury and National Geographic Wild

AVAILABLE



The Chagos Islands – Hope for Coral Reefs ?

In the middle of the Indian Ocean, more than 1,500 km from the nearest landmass, lies an untouched mysterious archipelago – the Chagos Islands. This group of 60 islands is one of the last pristine wildernesses on Earth. As one of the world's biggest marine national parks, the Chagos Archipelago is strictly protected, but for the first time, a scientific expedition has been granted access to the politically disputed territory.

In times of climate change, as coral reef communities face a global crisis, the researchers seek to show how coral reefs fare in places of minimal human influence.

A group of filmmakers accompanies the expedition to document this lost world. A journey into the unknown, in the footsteps of internationally renowned scientists, to unlock the secrets of a lost world and gain astonishing insights into one of the last true wildernesses on Earth.

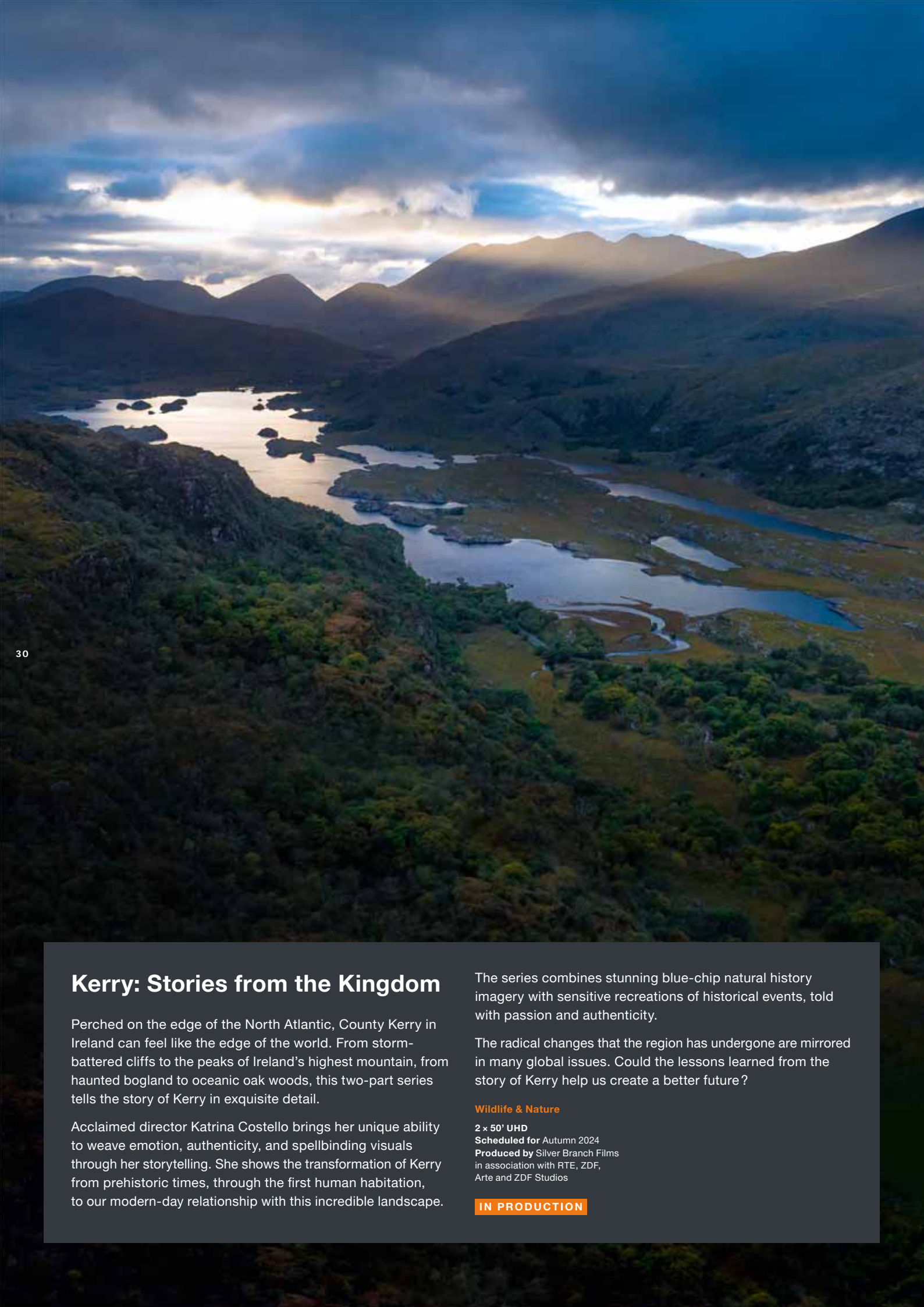
Wildlife & Nature

1 x 50'

Scheduled for Autumn 2023

Produced by Gruppe 5 Filmproduktion for ZDF
in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



Kerry: Stories from the Kingdom

Perched on the edge of the North Atlantic, County Kerry in Ireland can feel like the edge of the world. From storm-battered cliffs to the peaks of Ireland's highest mountain, from haunted bogland to oceanic oak woods, this two-part series tells the story of Kerry in exquisite detail.

Acclaimed director Katrina Costello brings her unique ability to weave emotion, authenticity, and spellbinding visuals through her storytelling. She shows the transformation of Kerry from prehistoric times, through the first human habitation, to our modern-day relationship with this incredible landscape.

The series combines stunning blue-chip natural history imagery with sensitive recreations of historical events, told with passion and authenticity.

The radical changes that the region has undergone are mirrored in many global issues. Could the lessons learned from the story of Kerry help us create a better future?

Wildlife & Nature

2 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Autumn 2024
Produced by Silver Branch Films
in association with RTE, ZDF,
Arte and ZDF Studios

IN PRODUCTION



Rescued Chimpanzees of the Congo with Jane Goodall | S02

Filmed over a year on location at Dr. Jane Goodall's chimpanzee sanctuary in the Republic of 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. It's a challenging prospect, as the chimps have no experience of living in the forest, and no perception of the dangers lurking there.

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
S01 (5 EP), S02 (6 EP)
Produced by Off the Fence Productions
with the support of the Jane Goodall
Institute for Curiosity Stream
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW SEASON

