

Ums kerp

Selection
Spring / Summer 2025

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Ancient Apocalypse | S03

Throughout history, empires have risen to unimaginable heights, only to end in chaos and ruin. This series explores three powerful civilisations – the Roman Empire, the Carthaginian Empire, and the Old Kingdom of Egypt – uncovering the wars, diseases, climate shifts, and political turmoil that led to their respective downfall.

At the height of its power, the Roman Empire fractured due to internal discord, barbarian invasions, and deadly plagues. The Mediterranean superpower, Carthage, was annihilated by Rome, leaving little trace of its legacy,

while in Egypt’s Old Kingdom, environmental disasters and political fragmentation ended the era of the pyramids.

Using expert insights, archaeological evidence, and historical records, the series reveals the hidden fragility of even the mightiest of civilisations – and the unexpected forces that sealed their fate.

History & Biographies

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

NEW SEASON

History & Biographies

History of Love

Love, desire, and passion are as old as humanity itself, and have shaped the relationship between men and women throughout the ages. But how has the power of love influenced the course of history? This spectacular five-part mini-series explores this question in an erotic journey through time.

Each episode highlights a different historical era, from the biological survivalism of the Stone Age, the rise in philosophical and political considerations in antiquity, the impact of religious beliefs in the Middle Ages, and the expectation of romance and individualism in the modern era.

Using stunning imagery, evocative music, and authentic and sensual reenactments, alongside engaging interviews with global scholars and researchers, the series offers deep insights into the ever-changing history of love and how it has shaped human civilisation.

History & Biographies

5 x 50'
Produced by taglicht media Film- und Fernsehproduktion
and GREEN MOTION LABEL for ZDFinfo
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW





The Pirate's Treasure

When Olivier Levasseur, a French pirate nicknamed La Buse (The Buzzard), was executed in 1730, legend has it that he threw a cryptogram into the crowd and cried: "Find my treasure, he who can!" A cryptogram believed to be connected to La Buse was published in 1934. Since then, treasure hunters have tried in vain to solve the riddle.

Three centuries later, the Swiss historian, investigator, and crossword writer Daniel Krieg decodes the cryptogram, then travels to Réunion to work with Mauritian archaeologist

Dr Jayshee Mungur-Medhi. Connecting the cryptogram with a map from the 18th century, Daniel and Jayshee follow the clues to a small island in a remote lagoon off the coast of Mauritius. With a group of experts in metal detection, the two start digging – but will the team find the hidden treasure worth up to 2.4 billion euros today?

History & Biographies

1 x 50'

Produced by SPIEGEL TV
in association with GTV Docs
and ZDF Studios for ZDF

NEW



October 7th and its Aftermath

A three-part series that documents the events and aftermath of the massacre carried out by Hamas terrorists in Israel on October 7th, 2023. Each episode combines moving testimony from witnesses on both sides of the divide between Gaza and Israel with informative maps, archival material, and personal footage and photographs.

Featuring interviews with Israeli hostages and their families, testimonies of Gaza residents whose lives have been shattered by the war, and additional context from intelligence insiders, hostage negotiators, the head of an international aid organisation, an Israeli soldier, and a Hamas spokesperson. From the initial massacre and hostage crisis

to the Israeli bombardment and large-scale ground offensive against Hamas, the series documents the catastrophic consequences of the October 7th attack.

History & Biographies

3 x 45'

Produced by GTV DOCS for ZDF

NEW



How We Celebrate

Join us for a trip around the world’s most exciting celebrations, from the magic of Christmas to the thrill of New Year’s Eve, and the vibrant chaos of the biggest party on Earth – Carnival. Each episode reveals the fascinating history behind the holidays we love.

Why do we dress up at Halloween, or write romantic verses for Valentine’s Day? What ancient traditions inspired us to dye Easter eggs or set off fireworks to welcome the new year? Discover the origins and surprising rituals of Carnival,

Valentine’s Day, Easter, Halloween, Christmas, and New Year’s Eve. With stunning visuals and unexpected twists, this amusing series explores how ancient legends influence today’s festivities, revealing the sometimes curious ways people have found to celebrate. While traditions may differ across the globe, one thing unites us – we love to celebrate!

History & Biographies
6 x 50'
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with Nine Network Australia
and ZDF Studios

NEW



Rush!

Rush! is a gripping six-part documentary series that explores the history and impact of resource and commodity booms – from wood to gold, and diamonds to green energy. What made these resources valuable, and how has the quest to obtain them shaped human history? Each episode examines the unique qualities of a resource, its extraction

process, and the resulting environmental and social impact.

The series highlights the human stories of each boom, from those who got rich, to those left behind. Focusing on the intense desire of people obsessed with precious resources, the series reveals how the pursuit of wealth has brought devastation and prosperity to communities and individuals – from modern-day wildcatters to adventurous start-ups.

Rush! is a powerful and insightful series about the history, economics, and human behaviour of booms.

History & Biographies
6 x 50'
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with RTL, ZDF Studios,
Screen Canberra, CBR Canberra

NEW

OPEN
FOR CO-PRODUCTION

FATAL CONFLICTS

4 x 50'

INSIDE THE MINDS OF
XERXES, THEMISTOCLES,
SCIPIO AND HANNIBAL

Experience the ancient world's most pivotal battles through the eyes of their iconic leaders. This riveting four-part series chronicles legendary confrontations between Xerxes and Themistocles during the Second Greco-Persian War, and the fight between Hannibal and Scipio Africanus in the Second Punic War – highlighting the clashes between the established powers of Persia and Carthage and emerging forces of Greece and Rome, and illuminating the cultural and strategic dynamics that shaped history.

Produced by WildBear Entertainment in cooperation
with ZDF, Arte and ZDF Studios

Scheduled for end of 2025



The Roman Fleet

The naval forces of Ancient Rome played a crucial role in the conquest of the Mediterranean and beyond – but how did the Roman fleet operate? To find answers, experimental archaeologists from the University of Trier reconstructed a full-scale historical replica of a Roman ship, using ancient craftsmanship and based on excavation findings.

As the ship is put to the test for the first time, researchers ask key questions: Which routes did the fleet navigate, and what dangers did it face? Which technical achievements and maritime infrastructure contributed to its success?

Sailing the same waters that once carried Roman soldiers, grain, and olives across the Roman Empire, this carefully reconstructed vessel offers fascinating insights into the maritime empire, naval trading routes, and the daily lives and tasks of Roman sailors.

History & Biographies

1 × 50'
Produced by Peter Prestel Film
Production for ZDF
in association with Arte
and ZDF Studios

NEW



A Day in... | S04

Our view of the past is dominated by the lives of kings and emperors, but could the daily lives of ordinary people provide a new and astonishing view of history? The fourth series of *A Day in...* uses diaries, letters, and other historical documents to tell the fascinating stories of everyday people on a specific day in their lives.

A Day in Nuremberg 1593 uses the diary transcripts of the city executioner Frantz Schmidt, who documented both his 45-year career enforcing death sentences and his dreams of a better life for his children. The second journey through time takes us to Italy in *A Day in Bologna 1752*, and the physicist Laura Bassi, the first woman to receive a doctorate in science. She asserted herself in a male-dominated world, persuading the dean to install the world's first lightning conductor.

History & Biographies

5 × 50' UHD/HD
S03 (3 EP UHD), S04 (2 EP HD)
Produced by Storyhouse
with the support of Latvijas Investīciju
un attīstības aģentūra,
Film Rīga and Riga City Council for ZDF
in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

NEW SEASON



How the Romans Conquered the Alps

In 15 BC, Roman Emperor Augustus aimed to conquer Germania, but first, he had to secure the direct route north through the Alps. Despite its importance, little was known about this campaign until researchers uncovered an ancient battlefield – and the highest military camp of the Roman Empire – in the Swiss canton of Grisons.

A team of archaeologists worked with forensic and ballistics experts to reconstruct the campaign, revealing for the first time the route and the weapons used. A surprising discovery was the usage of lead sling-bullets to neutralise the enemy from a distance. The findings reveal how Roman soldiers overcame harsh mountain conditions in battle and in daily life. In a single summer, the army annexed vast regions of the Alps that joined the new Raetia province, remaining part of the Roman Empire for 400 years.

History & Biographies

1 × 50'
Produced by Bilderfest
in association with ZDF, SRF,
ZDF Studios and Arte

NEW



The Ascent of Civilization | S01 – New Edition

In a refreshed and modernised edition, we have reimagined the first three episodes of our iconic series to offer a sharper, livelier perspective of the trailblazer cultures of the past.

The road to modern society has been shaped by the triumphs and failures of past generations and ancient peoples. From the ancient Greeks, Romans and Vikings – discover what drove these societies, how citizens lived, and how they laid the foundations for modern life. This light-hearted account of life in ancient times debunks myths and clichés and examines the impact of groundbreaking changes on ordinary people.

With gripping re-enactments, expert insights, comic-strip humour, and stylish graphics, the series provides an entertaining and frank guide to history's most influential cultures.

History & Biographies

3 × 50'
Produced by Gruppe 5 Filmproduktion for ZDF
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



The Lost Women Spies

In 2000, boxes containing top-secret files were found in a garden shed in Cornwall. They detailed the lives and code names of Britain's first female agents sent to the front line during the war. The British spymistress, Vera Atkins, had committed treason by keeping the papers, but she had a reason for doing so.

During the war, Prime Minister Churchill desperately needed foreign agents, and though women were not allowed to fight on the front line, they could be sent behind enemy lines as spies. Vera was put in charge of the female spies, and when many of them went missing during the war, never to return, she was determined to find out their fate – in defiance of the British authorities.

Vera's files were kept sealed until after she died, but the story of the female spies and the spymistress who led them, which has remained secret for over fifty years, can now be revealed.

History & Biographies
6 × 50'
Produced by World Media Rights
for ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Battlefield America

Battlefield America is an in-depth series that explores the pivotal battles of the American Civil War, from the chaotic Battle of Shiloh to the blood-soaked fields of Antietam, the critical siege of Vicksburg, and the decisive Battle of Gettysburg. Each episode examines the strategic decisions made by military leaders such as Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee.

Combining detailed historical analysis with personal narratives from soldiers and civilians, the series provides a comprehensive overview of the war's impact. Viewers experience the fear, determination, and resilience of the soldiers, and discover the influence of the war on the nation.

This engaging portrait skilfully blends historical analysis with storytelling, and is a must-watch to understand this transformative period of American history and its international impact.

History & Biographies
3 × 50'
Produced by Wide Awake Films
for MagellanTV

NEW



Maps of Power

Since the dawn of time, geography has shaped the fate of nations. This three-part documentary explores how mountains, rivers, seas, and deserts have influenced the decisions of governments, as well as the rise of civilisations. Geography remains a constant force in history, from determining a nation's location on the world map to its access to natural resources.

While the USA's ascent as a global power was driven by its unique position between two oceans, Russia's history has been defined by its relentless search for warm-water ports. China's geopolitical importance stems from its historical position as the hub of Eurasian trade, from the ancient Silk Road to its current maritime dominance in the Pacific. Today's global powers owe their status and significance to natural forces. Geography is the ultimate creator of nations.

History & Biographies
3 × 50'
Scheduled for Spring 2025
Produced by Storyhouse
in association with ZDF Studios for ZDF

COMING SOON

OPEN
FOR CO-PRODUCTION

ANCIENT

Step into the shadowy world of ancient conspiracies, murders, and treachery that changed history forever. From Caligula to Alexander the Great, from Hannibal to Genghis Khan, this gripping series explores a world where survival meant blurring the lines between loyalty and strategy. Each episode uncovers the hidden motivations behind history's most infamous betrayals, exposing for the first time the untold acts of conspiracy and deception that forever altered the course of ancient civilisations.

Produced by KM Plus Media production in association with ZDFinfo, ZDF Studios and WildBear Entertainment
Scheduled for end of 2025



BETRAYALS

Tales of treachery that changed the course of history

6 x 50'

Science & Knowledge

18 Dino Birds

How did birds become the most diverse group of vertebrates, thriving in nearly every habitat on Earth? For centuries, this question baffled palaeontologists. The discovery of the Jurassic Archaeopteryx fossil in the 19th century provided an early clue, but it wasn't until the late 20th century, when feathered dinosaurs were found in China, that their evolutionary story became clear – birds are the sole surviving descendants of dinosaurs.

Yet, one mystery remained – how did birds survive the asteroid that wiped out their giant cousins? In 2019, the discovery of a 67-million-year-old fossil in a Cambridge lab shed light on this mystery. Recent excavations, such as those in Las Hoyas in Spain, have added insights into the evolution of birds, revealing how they survived the catastrophe and rapidly diversified during the Cretaceous period.

Science & Knowledge
2 x 50'
Produced by Pernel Media
in association with France Télévision,
Ushuaia TV, WGBH/NOVA, Radio Canada,
NHK, CCTV9 and ZDF Studios

NEW





Mega Building Collection

In five new episodes of our *Mega Building Collection*, the structures are very different, but they all have one thing in common – their size and complexity.

First, we discover three incredible underground building projects, from a unique sewage system to the world's densest metro system, and subterranean quarries.

Next, we explore naval innovations in two episodes featuring high-tech warships, aircraft carriers, fighter jets, and submarines.

Water is the theme for the final two episodes. *Offshore Superstructures* displays the ingenuity of those who defied a hostile environment – the sea – to build luxurious residences off the coast of Monaco, a bridge over the Atlantic, and the famous French landmark Mont St. Michel. In *Waterparks*, we investigate the technology that created raging rivers, sensational slides, and an immense wave pool.

New episodes:

- *Offshore Superstructures*
- *Superships of the Future*
- *Superplanes above the Seas*
- *Paris Underground*
- *Waterparks*

Science & Knowledge

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

5 NEW EPISODES



War Machine: Modern Warfare

This five-part series takes viewers deep into the high-stakes world of innovative military technology. Each episode highlights the immense power and precision of modern warfare, exploring the strategic dominance of military aircraft, the stealth prowess of submarines, the protection provided by defence systems, the evolution of armoured vehicles, and the might of the world's most formidable weapons.

Blending the history of weaponry with modern advancements, alongside expert analysis and gripping footage, the series places viewers at the forefront of the global defence system. Each episode explores the evolution and impact of these systems on international security, showcasing the engineering marvels and operational requirements that have defined modern warfare and continue to shape the future of military conflict.

Science & Knowledge

5 x 50'
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with NTV/RTL
and ZDF Studios

NEW



Into the Universe

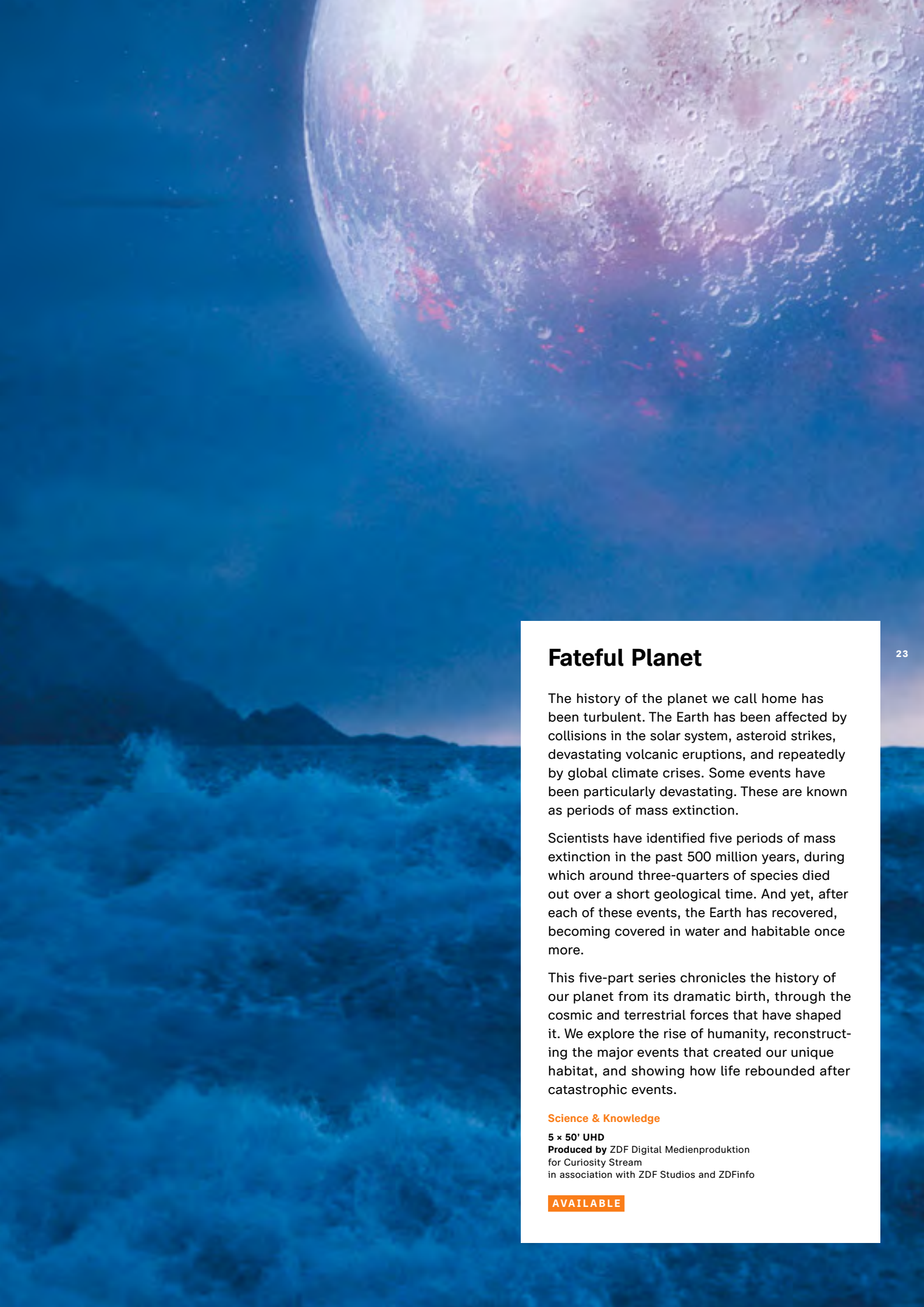
Since humans first raised questioning eyes to the stars, each scientific discovery has unveiled new mysteries about the cosmos. *Into the Universe* delves into these astronomical enigmas, exploring the cycles that shape the sky, from the birth of spiral galaxies to the dramatic deaths of massive stars.

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'
Scheduled for Spring 2025
Produced by Go Button Media
in association with Super Channel
and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



Fateful 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 repeatedly by global climate crises. Some events have been particularly devastating. These are known as periods of mass extinction.

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, becoming covered in water and habitable once more.

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' UHD
Produced by ZDF Digital Medienproduktion
for Curiosity Stream
in association with ZDF Studios and ZDFinfo

AVAILABLE

Wildlife & Nature

24 Iconic Islands of the Indian Ocean

A three-part series that portrays the fragile nature and incredible beauty of the Maldives, Seychelles, Mauritius, and La Réunion. The team used innovative drone and underwater technology, frequently freediving underwater to unobtrusively capture incredible footage without heavy equipment or breathing noises. Viewers are introduced to rare animals that exhibit surprising behaviour never before captured on film, from a sperm whale nursery to sleepy sharks lurking in caves, from elegant manta rays to sooty terns.

The legendary diversity and beauty of the coral reefs, and the rare and protected double coconut, the Coco del Mar, are sadly under threat. Due to increasingly large amounts of refuse washing up on the beaches, the coral reefs are dying, and mangroves are disappearing. Can this delicate natural paradise be saved?

Wildlife & Nature

3 x 50'
Produced by Doclights and BLUEPLANETFILM
in association with NDR, WDR, Arte, Terra Mater,
NHK and ZDF Studios

NEW





Wild Dads – Father’s Day

Wild dads often get a bad reputation as absentee fathers, but many animal dads are protective, loving, and willing to risk their lives for their kids. From silverback gorillas, the gentle giants who teach the youngsters in their troop critical life skills, to male lumpfish who protect over a hundred thousand eggs from predators. In king penguin societies, fathers share parenting duties equally, keeping chicks warm and fed – and as penguin parents can be same-sex couples, some chicks get double dads.

Hyena fathers are at the bottom of the pecking order in female-dominated clans, whereas pipefish dads carry the babies in a tiny pouch outside their bodies until they are ready to swim free – defying traditional parenting roles entirely. Mother nature often takes centre stage, but it is time to celebrate the caring, daring *Wild Dads*.

Wildlife & Nature

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

NEW



Underlords – Elegant Hunters of the Sky

Eagles often steal the spotlight as hunters of the sky, but there are a number of equally impressive birds of prey just as deserving of admiration. From hovering kestrels, nest-building ospreys, and tactical hawks, these ‘underlords’ prove that bigger isn’t always better.

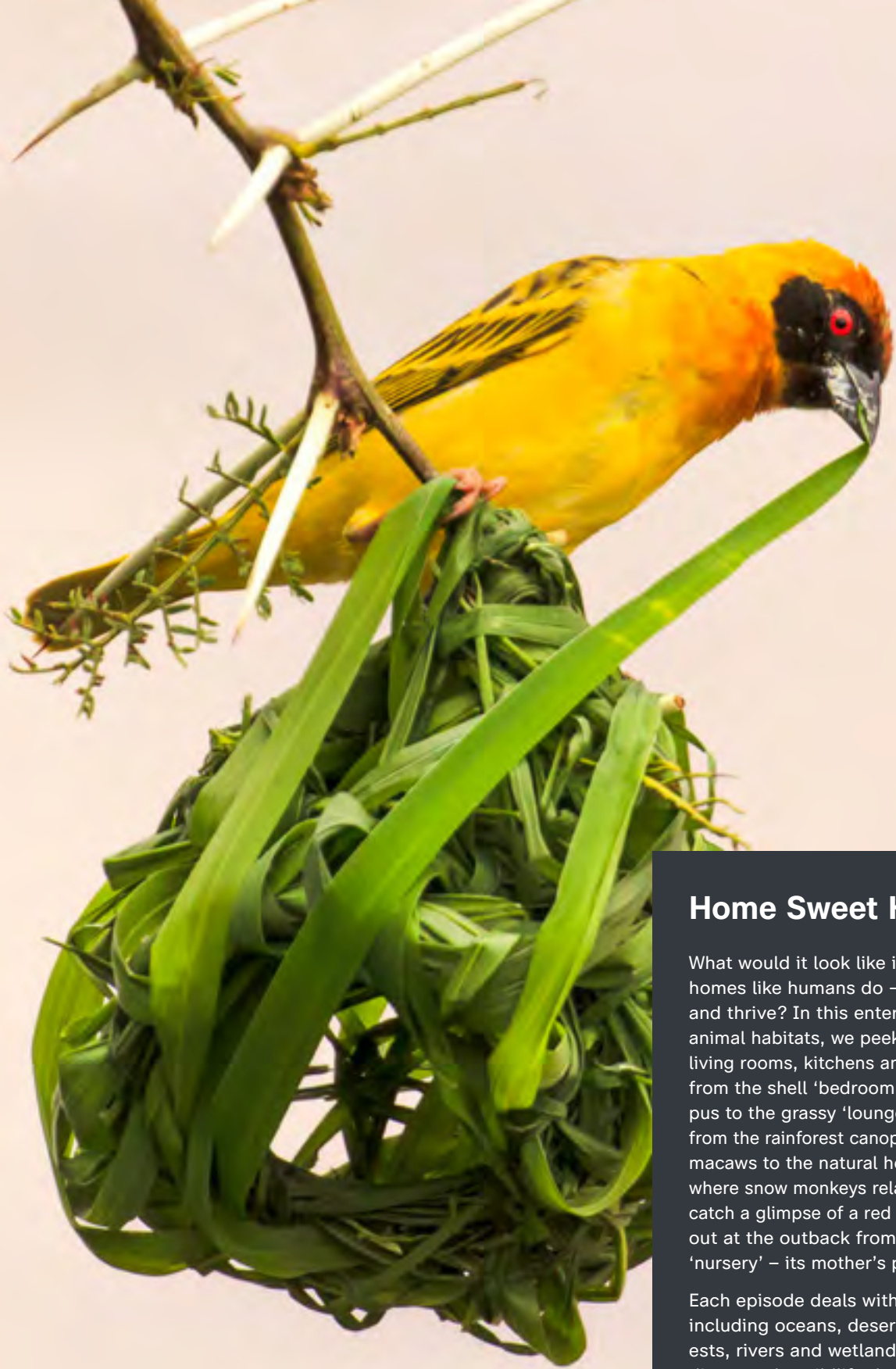
While kestrels are masters of stationary flight, as they scan the fields with ultraviolet vision to spot hidden prey, ospreys are master builders who construct immense and intricate nests made of branches and moss. Zone-tailed hawks, meanwhile, trick prey into thinking them harmless by imitating vultures only interested in cadavers.

Yet, these elegant hunters face threats, mainly from humans. Conservation efforts are helping to protect habitats and encourage breeding, but we must all play a role in ensuring a future for these remarkable creatures.

Wildlife & Nature

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

NEW



Home Sweet Home

What would it look like if animals used their homes like humans do – to eat, sleep, survive, and thrive? In this entertaining series of animal habitats, we peek into their bedrooms, living rooms, kitchens and even bathrooms: from the shell ‘bedroom’ of the coconut octopus to the grassy ‘lounge’ of a pride of lions, from the rainforest canopy ‘pantry’ of the vibrant macaws to the natural hot springs ‘bathroom’ where snow monkeys relax and unwind. We even catch a glimpse of a red kangaroo joey looking out at the outback from its fur-lined and cosy ‘nursery’ – its mother’s pouch.

Each episode deals with a different theme, including oceans, deserts, grasslands, rainforests, rivers and wetlands. Travel the globe, discover the wildlife that lives there, and tour their fascinating residences through the lens of a human home.

Wildlife & Nature

6 x 50'
Produced by WildBear Entertainment Production
in association with SCREEN QUEENSLAND
and ZDF Studios

NEW



Wild Rush Hour

Travel through the countryside during the day and you might think the fields and forests are empty, but nature is alive with activity at dawn and dusk. Like humans, animals have a rush hour – where they take advantage of cooler temperatures, avoid humans, and hide from predators.

In the desert, animals forage at dawn before the unbearable heat of the day, while on African plains, herbivores use the twilight rush hour to eat before nocturnal predators emerge. Every day, a huge rush hour that we don't even notice takes place in the oceans, as billions of tiny creatures rise to feed, bringing cold water to the surface. When they return to the deep, they take warm water and carbon with them – unlike our rush hour, which causes global warming with carbon emissions, their rush hour helps fight climate change.

Wildlife & Nature

1 × 50'
Produced by Doclights
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



Fantastic Fish

For generations, we have only viewed fish as food, but perhaps it's time we revisit our aquatic ancestors and get to know them better. These stunning and diverse creatures are full of surprises, and like mammals, fish can be incredibly tender and complicated in their interactions.

Take the wolf eel, for instance, a fish with a fleshy face and massive jaws that mates for life and is known to be a highly attentive parent. Or the scalloped hammerhead shark that, contrary to popular belief, is a fascinating and gentle creature with a romantic courting ritual. The evolution of mudskippers provided them with modified gills that function like lungs, as long as they are kept damp, enabling them to breathe out of the water. As we explore these and other sea creatures, we find ways to protect them and keep our oceans full of fantastic fish.

Wildlife & Nature

1 × 50'
Produced by Doclights
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



The World's Rarest – The Missing Link

We all know species extinction is a danger, but the delayed effects can reduce the urgency to react. With species disappearing 1,000 times faster than natural extinction rates, biodiversity loss may pose a greater threat to humanity than climate change. Beyond poster animals, such as rhinos and tigers, the world's rarest, and most threatened, creatures need our help.

Bumblebees and hoverflies are essential for pollination. Without them, wildflowers decline, with a knock-on effect on the creatures that feed on these flowers. Parrots crack giant nuts, distributing seeds, and enabling forests to grow. Eliminating one species can have a ripple effect that is felt throughout the natural world. Protecting biodiversity means looking holistically at our environment to understand these connections – and acting now to prevent widespread extinction.

Wildlife & Nature

1 × 50'
Produced by Doclights
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



The World's Rarest – Wildlife Warriors

Amidst the horrific news of climate change and the biodiversity crisis, some brave individuals are putting their lives on the line to protect wildlife. The anti-poaching patrols of the Save the Rhino Trust often involve local people from low-income communities fighting to save their natural heritage. While facing danger from wild animals and armed rhino poachers, the dedicated teams work closely with local communities to balance their needs with wildlife protection.

In Indonesia, Dr Galdikas, co-founder of the Orangutan Foundation, persuaded the government to establish a wildlife reserve, planted 100,000 trees, and opened an orangutan care centre that has returned over 600 apes into the wild. We can't all open a wildlife sanctuary, but there are many things we can do to protect our planet, and be an everyday wildlife warrior.

Wildlife & Nature

1 × 50'
Produced by Doclights
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



The Story of Skin

When we think about organs, we often mean the heart or stomach, but the skin is the largest and most complex organ in our bodies. Across the animal kingdom, skin is incredibly versatile. It grows hair, feathers, or scales, and can provide camouflage, change colour, stretch, or even shed. While human skin is watertight, many animals rely on porous skin to breathe. Amphibians, like bullfrogs, are the master at this, doing 80% of their breathing through their skin, though the permeability leaves them vulnerable to toxins.

Skin is also packed with nerve receptors that send sensations to the brain, warning us of danger, pain, irritation, and temperature changes. Some animals, such as raccoons, have super senses due to long hairs or hypersensitive skin. From the largest mammal to the smallest invertebrate, skin is a wonder of nature.

Wildlife & Nature

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

NEW



Scandinavia Reloaded

The effects of climate change are already clearly visible in Greenland and Sweden. As glaciers melt and permafrost thaws, animals and humans face dramatic changes. While some animals benefit from these changing conditions, others are increasingly at risk. *In Scandinavia Reloaded*, we dive into the icy depths of

the pack ice with unique footage of rare narwhals with double tusks, and explore why the drop in lemming numbers nearly caused the Arctic fox to vanish.

Despite the threat, conservation efforts and the adaptability of humans and animals is making a difference. Growing seal and cormorant colonies have increased the white-tailed eagle population, and the moose continues to find new food

sources. The resilience of Inuit shows that humans can be part of the solution – but time is running out to protect nature's fragile balance.

Wildlife & Nature

2 x 50'
Produced by Wild Tales Productions
for Doclights
in association with NDR, SVT
and Terra Mater Studios

NEW



Hidden Scandinavia

Scandinavia might seem a daunting region to explore, but intrepid nature lovers are rewarded with dramatic landscapes and stunning wildlife, in a place where magic dances across the skies. In this land of wonder, predators such as the wolf and brown bear roam the verdant forests, while the Sámi folk migrate with the reindeer between the summer pastures and the wintering ground.

Come with us to discover the Atlantic mixed forest in Denmark, where the majestic red deer stags battle at the end of each summer, the dramatic valleys of Norway, where white-tailed sea eagles cast awe-inspiring shadows over the deep, dark fjords, and the ice-covered waters of the Arctic, where mighty walruses use their huge tusks to defend the best sunbathing spots. This unique region of magic and mystery slowly reveals its wildlife secrets.

Wildlife & Nature

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

NEW



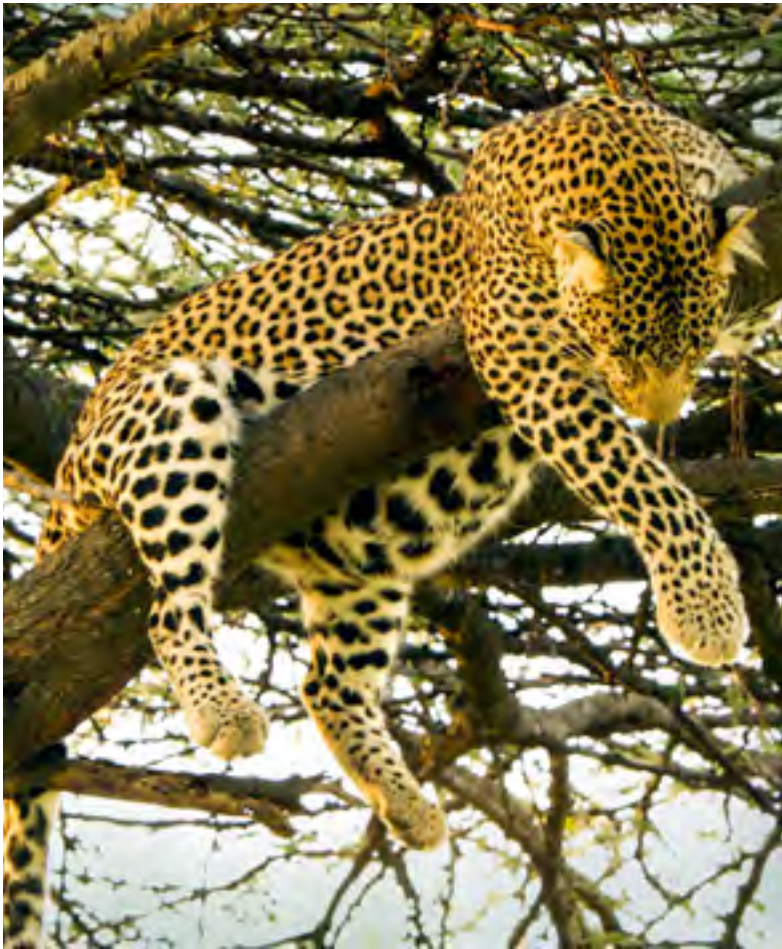
Dance of the Cranes

Cranes are known and revered in cultures around the world for their elegance and grace as well as their ancient love song and dance. These faithful lovers, dedicated parents, and brave fighters are enduring symbols of longevity, happiness, and love.

Though they are not naturally social birds, cranes seek safety in a crowd when they migrate to and from their breeding grounds. On arrival, the cranes act like love-struck teenagers, even though most are long-term couples, as they spread their wings in a graceful courtship dance. Sharing parenting duties, the cranes protect their nest, then feed and train their chicks until it is time to migrate to their winter quarters. Their staging grounds attract bird-watchers and photographers wishing to catch a glimpse of these graceful and iconic birds gathering in small flocks with their young.

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

NEW



The Dreamy World of Sleep

Birds do it, bees do it – probably even fleas do it. We all sleep, but why? This film peeks under the covers to reveal a secret, dreamy world and explores how and why sleep evolved – in humans and in other creatures. Sleep was previously thought to be brain-related, until scientists discovered that pre-brain organisms like jellyfish also power down during the night. Predators on high-protein diets sleep more than they are awake, while giraffes hardly sleep at all. Dolphins can send one side of their brain to sleep, and other creatures sleep their way through winter or drought.

What does sleep, or lack of it, mean to performance, intelligence, and success? Humans and animals alike need a good night's sleep – to heal injuries, strengthen our immune systems, keep us healthy, and avoid mistakes caused by tiredness and inattention.

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

NEW



The Wonder of Trees

The natural world is full of beauty, but we often overlook one of its most spectacular creations – trees. Silent guardians of life, they have existed for millions of years, providing oxygen, food, and shelter for countless creatures. Trees face challenges from the elements, predators, and humans, yet they remain steadfast, an essential part of our ecosystems.

In Madagascar, lemurs and monkeys dart through the canopy of over 3,000 different tree types, which have adapted to cope with intense heat and torrential rain – with tall trunks that reach for sunlight, and pointed leaves to shed rain. Evergreen pines and firs in the northern boreal forests shelter owls and foxes, proving that trees are more than just decorative. They hold hidden stories and endless wonder. By protecting forests, we ensure their vital role in sustaining life.

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

NEW



Hearts and Hooves: The Horse Story

Few animals symbolise our bond with the wild as profoundly as horses. While they shaped human history, their wild ancestors are vanishing. Once abundant, with hundreds of species roaming the globe, only one wild species of horse endures today. Plain zebras in East Africa are master survivors, relying on power, speed, and a powerful kick to evade predators. Donkeys, or asses, also have their roots in the wild, but have been heavily hunted and have lost habitat to humans. From the extinction of the tarpan to the struggles of zebras and asses, the decline of horses reflects a broader loss of biodiversity.

A new movement called 'rewilding' brings hope, as primitive horse breeds are used to restore ecosystems. Horses once helped us conquer the globe, and their wild spirit remains untamed, ensuring their place in the natural world endures.

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

NEW



Batty for Bats

Shrouded in mystery and often misunderstood, bats are frequently portrayed as blood-thirsty monsters, but the truth is much more fascinating. Whether they roost in caves or buildings, they are vital to healthy ecosystems – pollinating plants, dispersing seeds, and controlling insects that spread disease.

There are around 1,400 bat species, divided into microbats and megabats. Insect-eating microbats use echolocation to navigate the dark, emitting high-pitched clicks and listening for echoes. Megabats, like the flying foxes, have a wingspan of up to two metres, and are found throughout the warmer parts of Africa, Asia, and Australia.

Ignore the myths – far from fearsome, bats are intelligent, social creatures. Whether replanting forests or controlling pests, they’re nature’s unsung heroes.

Wildlife & Nature

1 x 50'

Produced by Doclights
in association with NDR and ZDF Studios

NEW



The Real Winnie the Pooh: The Story of the American Black Bear

Few animals are as iconic as North America’s black bears – the real-life inspiration behind Winnie the Pooh. While they may appear funny and cute, these bears are powerful, intelligent, and adaptable predators, capable of thriving almost anywhere across the continent. We follow the lives of four little cubs, born tiny, blind, and helpless, as they grow and learn to fend for themselves.

In late spring, a black bear mother emerges from hibernation, in which she has performed a remarkable feat – giving birth and nursing her cubs without eating, drinking, or even going to the toilet. Now, ten times their 300g birth weight, the cubs are getting restless and ready to escape their alpine retreat. Expert mountaineers, they learn to use their sharp, curved claws to climb trees and avoid predators, while mama bear keeps a close watch.

Wildlife & Nature

1 x 50'

Produced by Doclights
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



Wild Talk

A new five-part wildlife and science series explores the latest exciting research on animal communication that decodes the complex languages of animals and discovers that they are just as talkative as humans. Each episode reveals how animals communicate, showcasing the scientists at the heart of this

research, and the technology they are using – from computer simulations to AI programme, and sophisticated recording devices, such as bat detectors.

We reveal how king penguins use a special call to locate their young, and how researchers are trying to decode the different barks of dogs. We also look at the waggle dance that honeybees use to communicate where food sources are

located, and how butterflies talk by using UV patterns on their wings.

At last, we can eavesdrop on the secret conversations going on all around us.

Wildlife & Nature

5 x 50'

Produced by Off the Fence for ZDF Studios
in association with ZDF and Arte

AVAILABLE



Loving Lagomorphs

You may not know the term 'lagomorphs', but you will recognise their most famous fictional representatives – Peter Rabbit, Bugs Bunny, and Thumper. Lagomorphs include rabbits, hares, and pikas and are some of the world's most resourceful and resilient creatures – from Arctic hares that endure temperatures as low as –50°C due to their rounder bodies and shorter ears, to the jackrabbits of the desert whose massive ears release heat to keep them cool, and the grumpy and solitary pikas who shelter in rocky crevices in the mountains of North America and Asia.

Their position at the base of the food chain makes them vulnerable, but also indispensable to ecosystems, as entire food chains can collapse without them. From the Arctic to the desert, these remarkable creatures prove their endurance and charm in every environment.

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

NEW



The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

The natural world sets the stage for dramatic stories, where heroes and villains emerge. Hyenas and African wild dogs are often cast as the bad guys, but don't let myths and appearances deceive you. Dig deeper, and you will find the traits usually associated with heroes – loyalty, survival skills, and family devotion.

Hyenas, long maligned as scavengers and assassins, are victims of a terrible miscarriage of justice. In their female-led clans, hyenas are fiercely loyal and devoted to their family. Even the youngest female outranks the oldest male – a system that fosters thriving communities.

Similarly, African wild dogs have a fearsome reputation, but these highly social animals form close-knit packs, led by an alpha couple. They are one of the few mammals to actively care for old, sick, or injured members of their pack.

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

NEW



Chickens Go Wild

Chickens may be the most common birds on the planet, but beyond the 26 billion that provide eggs and meat, the chicken family thrives on every continent but Antarctica. The Galliformes are feisty, flashy, and fiercely adaptable – from the Satyr Tragopan in Nepal that live in the forest of the Himalayas to the Ptarmigan of Alaska that change their colour with the season.

While females blend into the background to hide from predators while nesting, Galliform males flaunt bold colours, wattles, and combs to attract mates. Some males, such as the peacock, use ornate feathers to impress potential partners, while others, like Gambel's quail of Arizona, mate for life.

Life at the bottom of the food chain can be hard, but the Galliformes are highly intelligent and social creatures, capable of showing empathy and forming alliances.

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

NEW



Rescued Chimpanzees of the Congo with Jane Goodall | S01 + S02

Filmed over years 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.

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 × 50' and 1 × 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

AVAILABLE

OPEN
FOR CO-PRODUCTION

1x60'

LORD HOWE

RESET OF PARADISE

The restoration of an endangered ecosystem

Located about 600 miles from Australia's east coast, Lord Howe Island is a World Heritage-listed paradise teeming with endemic animal and plant species. It is the only place in the world where cold and tropical ocean currents meet, creating a unique ecosystem that is the last refuge for thousands of seabirds that gather there to breed. Despite threats from invasive species, the intruders have been successfully eradicated, allowing the island's native flora and fauna to recover and thrive.

Produced by Flowmotion in association with Arte and ZDF Studios
Scheduled for Fall 2025



Indonesia: World of Wonders

From the vacation paradise of Bali to the remote beauty of Sulawesi, the largest archipelago on Earth combines spectacular scenery with incredible biodiversity. Yet, due to logistical challenges and bureaucracy, no film crew – not even the BBC – has comprehensively documented Indonesia's wildlife. After years of preparation and with unprecedented access, this series offers a unique viewing experience.

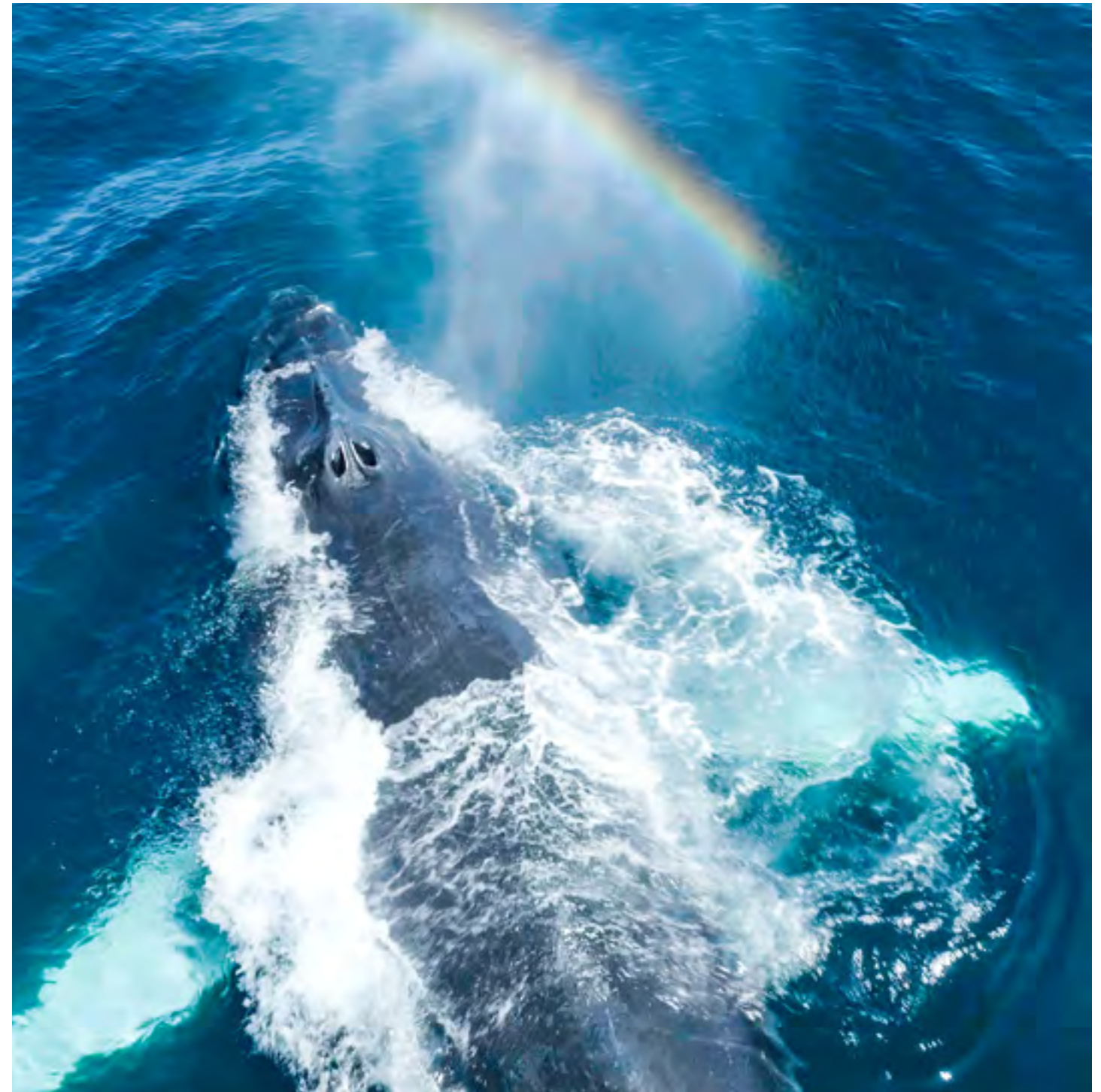
Highlights include the first footage of the endangered Sumatran rhinoceros, now under a complete filming ban,

an incredibly rare blue flame sulphur volcano, and insights into the lives of Bornean pygmy elephants. For the first time, a film crew captured stunning evidence that primates can combine the usage of a tool with medical knowledge when they filmed an orangutan using a stick to dig for healing clay, and applying it to its face.

Wildlife & Nature

4 x 50'
Scheduled for Early 2026
Produced by Doclights
in association with NDR, Arte,
Terra Mater and NHK

IN PRODUCTION



Canada's Wild Eastern Edge

The Northwest Atlantic is a harsh and unforgiving place, shaped by glaciers, waves, and wind. Yet, it is also a place of serene, natural beauty, and rich biodiversity. Explore Canada's wild Atlantic coast in this captivating four-part series – from the mountains of northern Quebec and Labrador to the sea cliffs of Newfoundland, from the shores of the St Lawrence River to the beaches of Nova Scotia.

Each episode brings to life the gripping tales of wildlife protagonists, using immersive and intimate storytelling to showcase prowling polar bears, leaping Arctic char, and mighty blue whales – and the challenges they face in this extraordinary and fragile ecosystem.

The region is also home to First Nations like the Mi'kmaq, whose deep respect for nature highlights the need to protect

these habitats, now under threat from climate change.

Wildlife & Nature

4 x 50'
Scheduled for 2027
Produced by Doclights
in association with NDR, ORF and Arte

IN PRODUCTION

GLOBAL
SLOW TV
COLLECTION

**NATURE'S THERAPY –
SOOTHING BACKGROUND
VIDEOS**

76 x 50'-250' UHD

Take a deep breath and immerse yourself in the beauty of nature with our extensive series of relaxing videos that quiet the mind for improved mental health and well-being. With up to eight hours of 4K or 8K scenes, each episode features long, mesmerising shots and the original sounds of wildlife, at times accompanied by soothing background music.

With a focus on the world's natural wonders, viewers virtually explore snow-covered mountains, verdant forests, tumbling waterfalls, and tranquil lakes.

Produced by Pro Art Inc.

