

Cinema and Climate Change

How do we tell the biggest story of our times?



EARTH IOI

Purpose of Earth101

On October 2nd and 3rd, selected documentary filmmakers meet in Reykjavik with some of the finest minds in climatology, sociology and cultural cognition.

The purpose of Earth101 is to provide a venue where experts in climate change and international filmmakers meet and engage with each other in a dynamic fashion in order to address the manifold problems inherent in the public mediation of the environmental crisis.

This is the greatest challenge the world is facing and the first step towards a solution is for mankind to acknowledge and understand the problem.

Films are a powerful medium that reaches across borders, and that is why the documentary can play a central role in communicating the dangers of a warming climate on a global scale.

Schedule

October 2nd

13.00–16.00: Panel in Hannesarholt

Guðni Elísson: “Earth101”

Stefan Rahmstorf: “The Climate Crisis”

Kari Norgaard: “Living in Denial: Climate Change, Emotions and Everyday Life”

Moderator: Guðni Elísson

18.15: Film Screening, *Vanishing Point*, the Nordic House

19.30: Q/A with Stephen Smith and Julia Szucs

Participants: Michael Mann, Stefan Rahmstorf, Kari Norgaard and Peter Sinclair

Moderator: Guðni Elísson

October 3rd

10.00–12.30: Panel in Hannesarholt

Michael Mann: “The Hockey Stick and the Climate Wars”

Peter Sinclair: “Communicating Climate Science in the Disinformation Era”

Moderator: Guðni Elísson

12.30–13.40: Lunch in Hannesarholt

13.40–16.00: Panel in Hannesarholt

Haldór Björnsson: “Climate Change in Iceland”

Óli Grétar Blöndal Sveinsson: “Opportunities in Renewable Energy in Iceland”

Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir: “A Green Economic Future?”

Moderator: Guðni Elísson

16.30–18.00: Panel at Hótel Borg

“Climate Change and Cinema – Reaching Out to the World”

A panel with climate change experts, documentary filmmakers and journalists

Participants: Michael Mann, Stefan Rahmstorf, Kari

Norgaard, Peter Sinclair, Stephen Smith, Julia

Szucs, Patrick Gambuti Jr. and John DeFore.

Moderator: Guðni Elísson

19.00: Film Screening: *Greedy Lying Bastards*, Háskólabíó #3

20.15: Q/A with Patrick Gambuti Jr.

Participants: Michael Mann, Stefan Rahmstorf, Kari Norgaard
and Peter Sinclair

Moderator: Guðni Elísson

October 4th

16.00: Film Screening: *My Neighbor My Killer*, Háskólatorg 105

17.20: Q/A with Anne Aghion

Moderator: Gunnþórunn Guðmundsdóttir

17.00: Film Screening: *Indian Summer*, Tjarnarbíó

18.20: Q/A with Simon Brook

A panel with Professor Magnús Karl Magnússon and other
experts in oncology.

October 5th

13.00–17.00: Public lectures in Háskólatorg 105

Guðni Elísson: “Earth101”

Stefan Rahmstorf: “The Climate Crisis”

Michael Mann: “The Hockey Stick and the Climate Wars”

Kari Norgaard: “Living in Denial: Climate Change, Emotions and
Everyday Life”

Peter Sinclair: “Communicating Climate Science in the
Disinformation Era”

Moderator: Halldór Björnsson

Participants

Anne Aghion is best known for a series of films that deal with the aftermath of Rwanda's genocide in 1994. She has received many honors for her work, among them, UNESCO Fellini Prize (2003), Emmy Award (2005), The Nestor Almendros Award for Courage in Filmmaking, Human Rights Watch International Film Festival (2009) and Best Feature Documentary, Festival International Du Film Black De Montréal (2009).



Heike Bachelier is a writer/director living and working in both Germany and the United Kingdom, active in story development, script writing and producing for German television. Bachelier made her debut feature in 2010, *Feindberührung*, for ZDF, the German television network. The film won the 2011 PRIX EUROPA for best feature documentary.



Haldór Björnsson is Head of the Atmospheric Research Group at the Icelandic Meteorological Office (IMO).



Simon Brook was born in London and grew up between France and England. He started out working for the Dave Brubeck Quartet and Pina Bausch before entering the film industry. He has written, directed and produced a number of films and documentaries such as *Minus One* (1991), based on the J.G. Ballard short story, and the Saki story *Alice* (1995). Other works include 20 short films about children in the Caucasus and a docudrama about the Karo tribe of Ethiopia.



Phil Coates is an accomplished remote location director, cameraman and professional expedition leader with an enviable record of working in extreme environments across seven continents. Clients include the BBC, Discovery International, ITV, Channel 4, Channel 5 and National Geographic.



Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir is a Professor of Environment and Natural Resources in the Department of Life and Environmental Sciences and the Department of Economics at the University of Iceland.





John DeFore is a film journalist from Austin, Texas. A regular contributor to the *Washington Post*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *the Austin American-Statesman* and *San Antonio Current*.



Daniel Dencik is a director, editor, scriptwriter and poet. His editing work includes *Nói albínói* (2001), *The Five Obstructions* (2003), and *Into Eternity* (2010). Dencik's directorial debut in the field of documentary was *Moon Rider* in 2012.



Noaz Deshe is a Berlin and Los Angeles-based artist/filmmaker. He composed the soundtrack for Iranian director Babak Jalali's debut feature film, *Frontier Blues* (2009). His graphic novel *In Case We Never Meet Again* is awaiting publication. *White Shadow* (2013) is his feature film debut.



Bert Ehgartner was born 1962 and lives near Vienna, Austria. He is a documentary filmmaker, science writer and author of several books; *Die Lebensformel* (Hoffmann & Campe 2004), *Lob der Krankheit* (Lübbe 2008), *Dirty Little Secret – Die Akte Aluminium* (Ennsthaler 2012).



Guðni Elísson is a Professor in Comparative Literature and Head of Faculty of Icelandic and Comparative Cultural Studies at the University of Iceland.



Helgi Felixson is educated in theatre and film in Sweden. Active as an actor, producer and director in different theatre groups before turning solely to film making and has for the last ten years been the main owner and director of Felix Film AB in Stockholm. Among Felixson's films are *Condor Man* (2002) and *God Bless Iceland* (2009).



Patrick Gambuti Jr. is the Producer/Co-writer of *Greedy Lying Bastards* (2012). He is an editor and writer whose work has earned two Emmy awards. Over the past 25 years his films have explored a number of topics relating to social transformation. Among them are *Hookers and Johns: Trick or Treat* (2000), *At the Edge of the World* (2008) and *After the Cup: Sons of Sakhnin United* (2009).

Vincent Grashaw is a film director and producer, born in the San Fernando Valley in 1981. His most recent endeavor was producing the critically acclaimed feature film *Bellflower*, which had its world premiere at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. In the summer of 2011 the film was released on over 100 screens across the US and foreign markets.



Gunnþórunn Guðmundsdóttir is an Associate Professor in Comparative Literature, Faculty of Icelandic and Comparative Cultural Studies at the University of Iceland.



Andy Heathcote is an independent filmmaker based in southern England. He studied photography and trained as an assistant film editor in London before concentrating on film direction at the Polish Film School. He is a visiting lecturer in filmmaking at various United Kingdom universities. His debut feature documentary, *The Lost World of Mr. Hardy*, was distributed widely in British cinemas in 2008.



Megan Herbert is an Australian writer and illustrator who has been based in Reykjavik since 2009. She worked as a storyliner, script writer and script editor for television in Australia and the UK for 10 years. She is currently the head of development for Pegasus Pictures.



Titti Johnson is born in Sweden in 1965. She studied at Gothenburg University Film School and has since 2000 collaborated with Felix Film Ltd, in production and development of several short- and feature length documentaries, such as *Beneath the Stars* (2005), both as director and scriptwriter.



Ari Alexander Ergis Magnússon was born in 1968 in Reykjavik. Magnússon studied at the Sorbonne University 1990-91 and earned a BFA in fine arts from Parsons Paris School of Art and Design, 1991-96. Magnússon has collaborated with Erró, Björk, Sígur Rós, Alain Robbe Grillet, Albert Maysles, David Lynch and Yoko Ono. Among his documentaries are *Home to Siberia* (1993), *Screaming Masterpiece* (2005), *At the Edge of the World* (2007) and *Imagine Peace, YokoOno* (2012).





Michael Mann is a physicist and climatologist, currently director of the Earth System Science Center at Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Mann is author of more than 140 peer-reviewed and edited publications, and has published two books, most recently *The Hockey Stick and the Climate Wars: Dispatches from the Front Lines*, published in early 2012. As a scientist who had contributed substantially to the preparation of IPCC reports, Mann received a personalized certificate from the IPCC for “contributing to the award of the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007 to the IPCC”.



Heather Millard is a producer and international sales agent. Beginning in documentary film production, she set up an in-house sales division for UK company Seventh Art before moving to Spier Films to set-up the London sales office for world cinema and documentary films. Most recently producing the feature-length documentaries *Trend Beacons* (due to be released 2013), *ASH* (2012) and *Future of Hope* (IDFA Competition 2010, EDDA nominated 2011) and co-producing OF GOOD REPORT, Heather now focuses on both producing and world sales for Spier Films’ titles.



Kari Norgaard is an Associate Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies at the University of Oregon. Over the past ten years she has published and taught in the areas of environmental sociology, gender and environment, race and environment, climate change, sociology of culture, social movements and sociology of emotions. Her book *Living in Denial: Climate Change, Emotions and Everyday Life* was published in 2011.



Hilmar Oddsson, the Dean of the Icelandic Film School, completed his studies from the Munich Film University, HFF, in 1986. He has directed (and co-written) five films (including *Tears of Stone* and *Cold Light*, both of which have won a number of local and international prizes) and a host of telefilms and shorts, in addition to making a number of documentaries (*The Dieter Roth Puzzle*) and numerous films for television. Oddsson has also directed more than a hundred TV shows.

Stefan Rahmstorf is an oceanographer and climatologist. Since 2000, he has been a Professor of Physics of the Oceans at Potsdam University and is Department Head at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. He was one of the lead authors of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report and is a fellow of the American Geophysical Union. He is a co-founder of the blog *RealClimate*, and was portrayed as one of the world's 10 leading climate scientists by the *Financial Times* in 2009.



Steven Richer has worked with top organizations such as NBCUniversal, and Stanford University, and assisted in production and script writing for a MTV series. He founded an award winning non-governmental organization based in Silicon Valley California in 2007, and is currently developing a new, non-profit media company that focuses on a shift in world consciousness and global activism.



Hafsteinn Gunnar Sigurðsson is a graduate of the film program at Columbia University. Sigurdsson earned top Torino festival honors for his debut, character-driven comic drama *Á annan veg* (*Either Way*, 2011). The film is set in northern Iceland's barren wilderness, and was remade by David Gordon Green as *Prince Avalanche*, which won the Silver Bear for Best Director at the 63rd Berlin International Film Festival. Sigurdsson's is currently working on his next project, *Cold Spring*.



Peter Sinclair is the author of "Climate Denial Crock of the Week". He is a regular contributor to the prestigious Yale Forum on Climate Change and the Media, for which he produces a companion video series titled "This is Not Cool." There are now more than 100 videos in the two series, which are used around the world to better understand and explain the most important environmental issue of our time.



Stephen A. Smith is a biologist and filmmaker. He has spent his life exploring, studying and documenting the world's remote polar regions. In 2008, he co-directed (with Julia Szucs) the documentary *Arctic Cliffhangers*



(Best Wildlife Film: San Francisco Ocean Film Festival). Stephen and co-director Julia Szucs are owners of the Alberta-based independent film production company Meltwater Media, and their latest film is *Vanishing Point* (2012).



Herbert Sveinbjörnsson has worked in TV production in Esbjerg, Denmark and at RUV (The Icelandic National Broadcasting Service). Sveinbjörnsson co-founded the TV and film production company Edison's Moving Pictures in 2001. In 2013, Sveinbjörnsson won first prize at the documentary festival Skjaldborg for his film *Aska* (Ash), which portrays the aftermath of the volcano eruption in Eyjafjallajökull in 2010.



Óli Grétar Blöndal Sveinsson is the Executive Vice President in the Research and Development Division of Landsvirkjun, The National Power Company of Iceland.



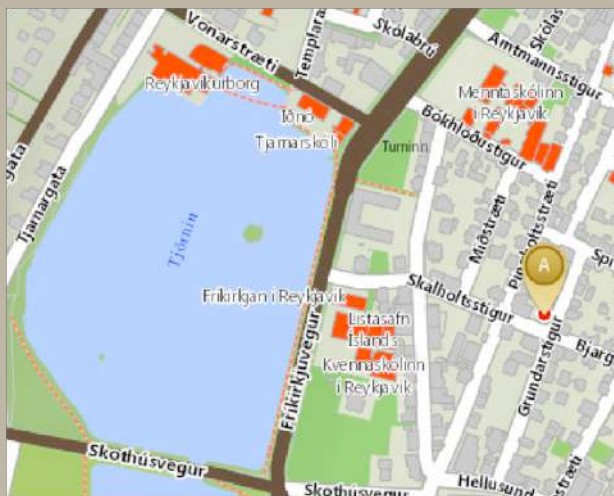
Julia Szucs has been involved in filmmaking since 2004, when she worked on the polar adventure feature documentary, *Abandoned in the Arctic*. Julia's formal film training includes the Gulf Islands Film and Television School, the Banff Adventure Filmmakers Seminar and the Emerging Producer's Program at Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. She is the director and writer of *Arctic Cliffhangers* (2009) and *Vanishing Point* (2012).



Björn Þór Vilhjálmsson teaches film and literature at the University of Iceland and has published widely, in Iceland and abroad, in the fields of film studies, comparative literature and cultural studies. Vilhjálmsson co-founded the TV and film production company Edison's Moving Pictures in 2001, where he has acted as producer and/or screenwriter on numerous projects.



The conference on October 2nd and 3rd will be held in Hannesarholt, Grundarstígur 10, only a few minutes walk from the city center:



<http://www.hannesarholt.is/english/> (see map).

If any questions arise please contact professor Guðni Elísson (gudnieli@hi.is).

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