Rockies Repeat

Where Culture Meets Climate

EPK

Rockies Repeat

Run Time	19:59
Directed by	Caroline Hedin
Produced by	Transmission Media House
	Rundle Films
Executive Producers	Caroline Hedin
	Jamie Wensley
	Viktoria North
Director of Photography	Jamie Wensley

Log Line

A team of Indigenous and settler artists race to capture a disappearing landscape as climate change threatens the future of glacial environments in the Canadian Rockies.

Short Synopsis

Rockies Repeat grapples with the cultural impacts of climate change in the Canadian Rockies. The film follows a team of Indigenous and settler artists as they trek into the mountains to reinterpret the work of early Banff painter, Catharine Robb Whyte to see familiar places from new perspectives a century later.

Instead of the timeless vistas captured by Robb Whyte, the artists endure record-breaking temperatures, horizons obscured by wildfire smoke, and an unrecognizable glacial backdrop. They race to capture a disappearing landscape, as climate change threatens the future of the iconic glaciers of the Rockies. Their journey is a heartbreaking meditation on a shifting sense of place in a rapidly changing climate.

Long Synopsis

A team of artists (Ariel Hill, Kayla Eykelboom, Cheyenne Ozinja-Thiha, Sikapinakii Low Horn, Emily Beaudoin, and Kerry Langlois) treks into the heart of the Canadian Rockies laden with backpacks of paints and canvasses. They on are a journey to revisit the work of early Banff painter, Catharine Robb Whyte to repaint her iconic landscapes from new perspectives a century later.

The artists arrive in disbelief where Robb Whyte would have set up her canvas 100 years earlier. Where they expect to see timeless vistas of crystal lakes and icecapped mountains, they endure record-breaking temperatures, horizons obscured by wildfire smoke, and an unrecognizable glacial backdrop. In sweltering heat and under hazy skies, they race to capture a disappearing landscape for the next generation of artists in the Canadian Rockies.

"We hiked up from where Catharine had once stood all the way up to where the toe of the glacier is now, and we were all standing there with our art supplies facing the glacier, just taking the wind, and it felt like the dying breath of a beast" - Artist, Emily Beaudoin

Rockies Repeat is a meditation about human connections to disappearing landscapes told in chapters narrated by each artist. The seamless chapters explore Robb Whyte's enduring legacy, the importance of sustaining traditions on ancestral lands, and the impact of a changing climate on sense of place.

Director
Caroline Hedin

Caroline Hedin is a Canmore-based director and producer driven to explore the human dimensions of conservation. She recently directed an award-winning web series for Parks Canada about the return of bison to Banff National Park. Rockies Repeat is her first independent short film that explores the cultural impacts of climate change.

Her work has appeared on the National Geographic Blog, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, the Banff Park Museum, and the Toronto Zoo. She is currently a Jackson Wild Fellow.

Carolinehedin.com

Director's Statement

Rockies Repeat is a human-powered journey where culture meets conservation and the past and present intersect. The documentary takes a non-linear, circular approach to storytelling that is informed by connection to place. The narrative weaves interlacing stories over time to transport the viewer to a landscape that has inspired human creativity for thousands of years.

The film traces the parallel journeys of the artist team, Siksika and Stoney Nation ancestors, and early Banff artist, Catharine Robb Whyte as they travel "together" up the Bow River to the headwaters at the Columbia Icefield. While the artists are the primary voices of the documentary, the watershed is the undercurrent at the narrative core.

 Layering present on past is an approach we apply to all technical aspects of the film. We used vintage cinema prime lenses shot in 4K wide frame format. Vibrant images of the artists juxtapose archival footage and original photos and artwork of ancestors that came before.

Elevating Indigenous voices is a foundational component of the project. Our story is told from the perspective of young, Indigenous artists who are working in practices that connect them to their heritage and sustain traditions for future generations. We worked with knowledge keepers in community to help translate English narrations into Indigenous language subtitles in Stoney, Blackfoot (Siksika), and Odawa.

Wherever possible, we use traditional place names, and reframe colonial legacies that excluded Indigenous Peoples from the land and our cultural narratives.

Creative Team

Director of Photography + Exec. Pr
Jamie Wensley

Jamie leads Rundle Films. He has worked on a series of documentary projects including True West: The John Scott Story. His work for film includes Ghostbusters: Afterlife (2020) and The Revenant (2015).

rundlefilms.com

Executive Producer
Viktoria North

Viktoria is a visual artist, photographer and designer. She leads North Grove Creative, a commercial photography and digital content company.

northgrovegreative.com

Producer
Carrie Yap

Carrie is the owner and producer of Yap Sister Studio. She also the founder of Tea Parlour YYC.

yapsisterstudio.com

Artist Team

Ariel Kesike Hill

Ariel Hill of AKH Studios is an Indigenous artist hailing from the Six Nations and Wiikwemkoong First Nations. Ariel works primarily in glass blowing and her work is a reflection of the intersection between elements of the natural world and how it relates to human experience.
arielkhillstudios.wixsite.com/ akhglass

Emily Beaudoin

Emily is an ink and watercolour artist. The way she sees it, people will only fight to protect the wild places they have a connection to, and if her art inspires even just one person to go outside, she'll be a happy camper.
emilybeaudoin.com

Kerry Langlois

Kerry is a minimalist landscape and monochromatic painer. Working primarily in acrylic and resin on birch panel, she is inspired by the haunting beauty and mysterious nature of our Canadian Landscape.
kerrylanglois.com

Cheyenne Ozinja-Thiha

Cheyenne is an artist from the Stoney Nakoda Nation. They work in acrylic and watercolor and is inspired by the geometric shapes and vibrant colours of traditional Sioux designs that are heavily inspired by the powwow culture.

instagram.com/indigi_tattoo

Sikapinakii Low Horn

Sikapinakii is a two-spirited artist from the Siksika First Nation. They use a variety of mixed mediums to tell the stories of their identity, indigenous experiences, culture, language, and stories told.

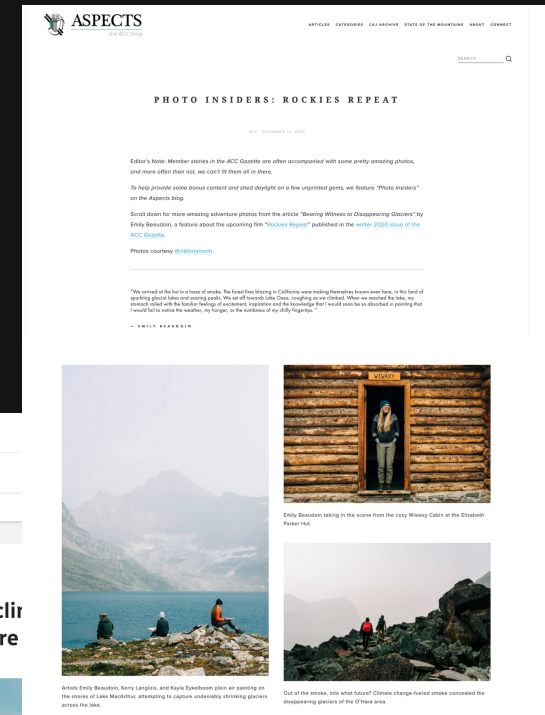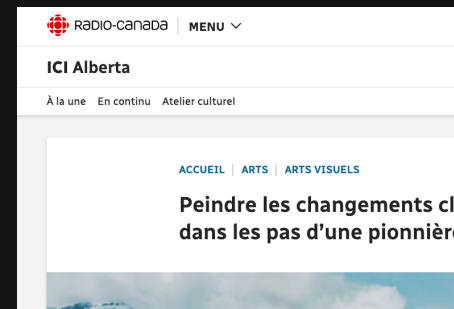**instagram.com/lowhorn.s**

Kayla Eykelboom

Kayla is a contemporary landscape artist. You can expect to see a vibrancy in her work that amplifies the natural beauty of landscapes in the Canadian Rocky Mountains.

kaylaeykelboom.com

Press

Our project has already been featured
features in local and national
editorials such as the CBC, Canadian
History Magazine, Alpine Club of
Canada's Aspects Magazine, and
Radio-Canada.

Credits

Director	Caroline Hedin
Produced by	Rundle Films
	Transmission Media House
Executive Producers	Caroline Hedin
	Jamie Wensley
	Viktoria North
Director of Photography	Jamie Wensley
Associate Producer	Carrie Yap
Editor	Jamie Wensley
Outfitting Coordinator	Viktoria North

1st AC	Dan Crittende
Sound Mixer	Valerie Siu
Boom Operator	Valerie Siu
Grip	Tara McConnery
Location Manager	Caroline Hedin
Stills Photographer	North Grove Creative
Production Assistant	Peter White
Post-Production Sound	Tyler Bragg
Score	Tyler Bragg
Vegetation Technician	Peter White
Catering	Heidi Widmer
	Joscelyn Weatherhog
	Carrie Yap
Animation	Louis Sobol
Graphic Design	Luke Sudermann
	Transmission Media House
Animal Handlers	Ginny White
	Donna White
Research Assistants	Lauren Markewicz
	Mia McBryde
	Halina ScottSmith

With support from:

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rockiesrepeatfilm.com