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FREERIDE FILM FESTIVAL – Media Release

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<https://freeride-filmfestival.com/en/>

Freeride Film Festival 2024: THE ART OF RE:CONNECTION

FFF Prime Tour: November 7–14, 2024, in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland

FFF Cinema Edition: starting November 10, 2024, in around 130 cinemas across Europe

The theme of the festival, with its five spectacular and experimental freeride films, is "THE ART OF RE:CONNECTION" – represented on many levels. It ranges from flow experiences in nature and environmental protection to the humorous relationship between a skier and a snowboarder, to the exploration of other cultures and their perspectives on the mountains. All of this is accompanied by top-level big mountain action, individual excellence in the backcountry, and the most brutal lines.

The Freeride Film Festival (FFF) is experiencing significant growth – both in the creativity and originality of its productions, as well as in the increasing demand for screenings across Europe. Alongside the PRIME TOUR in Germany, Austria, Switzerland from November 7 to 14, 2024, the CINEMA EDITION now includes 130 cinemas in ten countries: from Sweden and Denmark to Italy, from Belgium and the Netherlands to the Czech Republic.

"When selecting the films, we asked ourselves a very fundamental question this year: 'What is life really about?'" explains Harry Putz, co-organizer of the largest Freeride Film Festival in Europe. "And we realized how important strong connections are – to oneself and one's abilities; to origins and nature; to creativity and passion." This wide range of topics is exactly what the FFF 2024 program aims to cover, which is why the guiding theme "The Art of Re:Connection" was chosen.

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"With our original and individual line-up of independent productions, we are once again proving how important platforms like the FFF are," adds the second co-organizer, Volker Hölzl. "We offer a range that spans from an abstract-cinematic 16mm portrait of a US professional athlete to massive big mountain skiing on 6,000-meter peaks, as well as fun-driven and ironic productions." The goal is to provide space for the new and unusual, while always maintaining the highest standards in ski and snowboard action.

Volker Hölzl is particularly proud that, in addition to the established PRIME TOUR with live moderation, more and more cinemas in Europe are showing the CINEMA EDITION of the FFF. "After a successful start in 2023 with 50 cinemas, we have expanded the number to 130 this year. With our complete FFF program and on-screen moderation, we will be present from Malmö and Copenhagen to Bolzano, as well as from Brussels and Utrecht to Prague. Additionally, there are around 80 locations in Germany, 30 in Austria, and 7 in Switzerland."

How to Re:connect

"Already the opening film brings a vibe to the cinema halls that leaves me both jubilant and amazed as a filmmaker," says Harry Putz about the 8-minute film "Stasis" by director Griffin Glendinning. The short film is a short portrait of Svea Irving, who, as a member of the US Halfpipe National Team, discovers the inspiring expanses of the backcountry and repeatedly dives into nature as a source of energy. "Of course, I'm thrilled with such a freaky film, no question: completely bold, crazy, shot on 16mm, with no compromises," Harry Putz enthuses.

In a completely different way, "The Red Face Zone" by Marco Tribelhorn is also freaky. In this ironic psycho drama, the brothers Jakob and Matthias Weger tackle the steepest and narrowest couloirs right in their backyard in the Dolomites – all wrapped up in a bizarre fictional story that also requires the brothers to show off their acting skills.

The third film is a beautiful adventure in South America, artistically and athletically staged at a high level by Paul Schweller. In "Sariri," five protagonists from the Alps and the Andes set out to climb and ski 6,000-meter peaks in Peru and Bolivia. The film deliberately involves the local population, with two of the main characters coming from the Andes and sharing their connection to the mountains.

That fun should never be lacking is emphasized by skier Dino Flatz and snowboarder Timm Schröder in their film "SCUrrari." They constantly tease each other but are best friends at heart, showing in an entertaining way and with plenty of self-irony how they push each other to their limits while never taking themselves too seriously.

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Chris Rubens from Canada demonstrates how to really make "Re:Connection" happen in the film "Farming Turns." As a freeride star, he used to jet around the globe, always on the go with large production crews, heliskiing and chasing the big lines. After an expedition through Greenland, he begins reducing his carbon footprint – even at the risk of his career. He gives up flying, changes his diet, and eventually becomes an organic farmer to set an example for his son.

The films at a glance

Stasis

Svea Irving's life is turbulent: completing her bachelor's degree, competing as a halfpipe ski pro in the World Cup and X-Games, with her sights set on the 2026 Olympics. But she also loves spending time in the backcountry. One element connects all these things, and that is nature. "With this film, we want to show that amidst all the chaos of the different elements in her life, there is a beauty that meets at this point of 'stasis' – that moment of absolute stillness," explains director Griffin Glendinning.

The Red Face Zone

Truly mysterious things happen to the Weger brothers, Matthias and Jakob. Their faces are flushed bright red. Anger, conflict, and aggression fill the air. Panicking, they discover that they are suffering from the "Red Face Syndrome." The only cure lies in tackling the most brutal and narrow lines in the Dolomites. This short, shock-filled entertainment is brilliantly presented by mastermind Marco Tribelhorn. Fun fact: the idea for the film came about on the FFF 2023 tour bus.

Sariri

What drives people to go to the mountains? Five protagonists from Switzerland, Austria, Bolivia, and Peru push their limits as they ski various 6,000-meter-high steep walls in the Andes. With the first descent of the 6,074-meter-high "Chachacomani" in Bolivia, the mountaineers also take risks. A beautiful film at a gentle pace, with stunning imagery, strong portraits, and much food for thought. Directed by Paul Schweller, who, at just 23 years old, already has the award-winning film "metanoia" to his name.

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SCUrrari

Freeride World Tour snowboarder Timm Schröder (a.k.a. Timmy Shredder) and ski pro Dino Flatz, with a lot of winks, show why it's much more fun to tackle the mountains together, despite using different equipment. The film brings a sense of fun, powder, and friendship. A true fun movie set in Arlberg and Zillertal, it takes nothing seriously – except the alpine dangers of freeriding. Add to that a great hip-hop soundtrack with custom tracks by rapper "Doomaniac," created specifically for the film.

Farming Turns

Chris Rubens goes from freeride star to organic farmer. Not only does this allow him to live more sustainably, but it also strengthens his connection to his community and the mountains of his hometown, Revelstoke, Canada. As a new father, he continually optimizes his daily life so that his son Huxley can grow up in the best possible world. The authentic storytelling comes from internationally award-winning adventure documentary filmmaker Anthony Bonello, whose productions have garnered over 20 million views on platforms like Netflix.

FFF PRIME TOUR 2024 Dates

07.11. 19:00 - 22:00 INNSBRUCK I, Metropol Kino
08.11. 19:00 - 22:00 INNSBRUCK II, Metropol Kino
09.11. 20:00 - 23:00 ZELL AM SEE / KAPRUN, Burg Kaprun
10.11. 18:00 - 21:00 ZÜRICH, blue Cinema Abaton
11.11. 19:00 - 22:00 STUTTGART, Gloria Kino
12.11. 19:30 - 22:30 MÜNCHEN, Mathäser Filmpalast
13.11. 19:00 - 22:00 HALLEIN / SALZBURG, Stadtkino Hallein
14.11. 20:00 - 23:00 WIEN, Gartenbaukino

FFF CINEMA EDITION 2024

In 130 cinemas across Europe: Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Czech Republic, Liechtenstein, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium.

For more information on dates and locations, visit:

<https://freeride-filmfestival.com/en/freeride-filmfestival-tour-dates/>

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Details about individual films:

<https://freeride-filmfestival.com/en/films-2024/>

Photos: freeride-filmfestival.com/en/press/

Instagram: [instagram.com/freeridefilmfestival](https://www.instagram.com/freeridefilmfestival)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/freeridefilmfestival

Youtube: [youtube.com/freeridefilmfestival](https://www.youtube.com/freeridefilmfestival)

Vimeo: vimeo.com/offpisteontour

For any inquiries about the festival itself or for interview requests with athletes and filmmakers, please feel free to contact us. Additional press photos and film material are available upon request.

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