

Ciné-ONU is proud to present

Last Days of the Arctic

About the film:

The world turns its gaze toward the Arctic. Nowhere are the signs of climate change more visible; here global warming already affects the day-to-day lives of the local people. Still the circumpolar Arctic is one of the most disputed territories on Earth, with many nations laying claim to the mining and oil rights of the area as the sea ice retreats. For thousands of years the Inuit have built their communities based upon a sensitive understanding of the land and the frozen ocean, but rapid social and environmental change threatens their traditional way of life. The hunters of the North are a dying breed. This is the twilight of their society. "Last Days of the Arctic" documents the evocative photographic journey of Ragnar Axelsson. The well known photographer has been travelling to the Arctic for almost three decades, drawn by a deep respect for the hunting communities of northern Greenland and Canada. His images have won him recognition as one of the most accomplished documentary photographers of our time. This remarkable body of work is finally brought together to present a unique record of the daily life and culture of some of the most remote communities in the world.



Our Speakers



Ragnar Axelsson — Freelance photographer

Ragnar Axelsson has been the photographer for Iceland's biggest newspaper since 1976. Axelsson's photos have been published in many well known magazines and newspapers including LIFE, National Geographic, Time and Le Figaro. His black and white photos are well known and have won many awards such as the Festival Photo de Mare, Vannes, Grand Prix and an honourable mention in the Oskar Barnack Awards. Axelsson won Photographer of the Year at the Annual Icelandic Photojournalists Award ceremony four times and was the winner of the documentary story award by the same organization on six occasions. Axelsson's photos have been exhibited at many photo exhibitions in the US as well as Europe. "Last Days of the Arctic" is the first documentary made of Axelsson's photo expeditions.



Damien Degeorges — Arctic Policy and Economic Forum

Damien Degeorges is an associate researcher at the University of Greenland and the author of 'The Role of Greenland in the Arctic'. Based in Brussels, he visited Greenland for the first time in 1998 and is a former free-lance foreign correspondent for the Greenlandic newspaper 'AG/Grønlandsposten'. Fluent in Danish, he has worked with Greenland and Arctic issues for 10 years, notably during the 2008 French EU presidency.



Lida Skifte Lennert — Minister Counselor and the Head of the Greenland Representation to the European Union

Lida Skifte Lennert, is the Minister Counselor and the head of the Greenland Representation to the European Union. She has two Masters degrees in Law; one from the University of Copenhagen and another, also in Law, from the Center for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law & Policy, University of Dundee, Scotland.

Comparative statistics

Greenland

- GNI per capita: US \$26,020 (2009)
- Population: 56,740 (2011)
- Area: 2,166,086 km² (410,450 km² ice free) (2010)
- Greenland is over 70 times the size of Belgium
- Status: Autonomous country within the Kingdom of Denmark



Iceland

- GNI per capita: US \$34,820 (2011)
- Population: 319,000 (2011)
- Area: 100,250 km² (2010)
- Iceland is almost 3 times the size of Belgium



European Union

- GNI per capita: US \$34,033 (2011)
- Population: 503.7 million (2011)
- Area: 4,324,782 km² (2010)



China

- GNI per capita: US \$4,940 (2011)
- Population: 1,344 billion (2011)
- Area: 9,327,480 km² (2010)

Source: World Bank



Future Cine-ONU screenings:
5 February: Ping Pong

Check out more short documentaries on our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/CineONU