



THE SHOW MUST GO ON

WITH *FACE OF WINTER*, WARREN MILLER ENTERTAINMENT KEEPS A BELOVED TRADITION ALIVE AND CONTINUES TO SPREAD WARREN'S GOSPEL OF SKIING.

Cinematographer Jeff Wright films Marcus Caston (left) and Johan Jonsson during the Engelberg, Switzerland segment of *Face of Winter*.

THIS FALL Warren Miller Entertainment debuts its 69th annual ski film, continuing a tradition that the late godfather of action-sports films started decades ago. *Face of Winter* promises to deliver all that WME ski flicks have become known for: jaw-dropping scenery, adrenaline-pumping ski action, and above all, an intimate look at the people and places that make skiing so rad.

In the following pages, this year's WME athletes and crew pay tribute to Warren, the original face of winter, and the entertainment legacy he leaves behind. Since Warren would be the first to admit that he may have borrowed one (or many) of his famous, quirky one-liners, we thought it only right to borrow Warren's words in turn. After all, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.



MIKE WIEGELE

48

YEARS MWHS HAS BEEN IN OPERATION

21

AGE WHEN HE EMIGRATED FROM AUSTRIA TO CANADA

Like Warren, Mike Wiegele was a pioneer of the ski industry, being one of the first to explore heli-assisted backcountry skiing in B.C. and founding Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing. The Wiegele op has been featured in countless WME films over the years, and Mike himself also skied for Warren's camera back in the day.

"It's been a long, hard road, and some of the roads weren't paved." —WM

I actually came to Canada to explore the mountains for the potential of developing some kind of backcountry ski area. I ran a ski school

IN THIS YEAR'S FILM...

Mike Wiegele no longer appears in front of the WME camera but plays gracious host to the film crew and athletes while they shoot with Wiegele guides like Bob Sayer, featured in this year's film.

at Lake Louise, then made trips into the mountains to explore. The mountains were big, and all the valleys had creeks but no bridges. A backcountry trip could take ages. A big trip could turn into a week-long journey. It would take one day to hike into the valley, and at least one day to climb up the mountain. Then you ski a day or two when you're up there. But then you had to walk out again. I loved the mountains, and there's no question that I loved skiing, so I was easily motivated. But the trip back down through the valley took a while. One time I was up on top of the mountain in the Cariboo on a beautiful day after a strenuous trip up. I was looking around up there and dreaming away. And I thought, 'Gee, wouldn't it be nice if a helicopter flew you in.' I had taken a short flight in the Cariboo previously with my friend Hans Gmoser, and on that trip, I realized: that's the best way to ski in these mountains, with a helicopter.

"You can't get hurt skiing unless you fall." —WM

I first met Warren in 1963, I believe, when I was working at Sugar Bowl in California. He came up wanting to get some skiing shots. It was my first year at the ski school, so everyone said, 'Here, take this guy. He's a good skier.' And of course, I was very excited to be asked, it was an honor to ski for Warren. At the time, Warren was the filmmaker. There were others, like Dick Barrymore, but Warren was the person you wanted to ski for. When I first skied for him, the other skiers told me I would fall. I thought, no way, I'm one of the best skiers here. Sure enough, I crashed on the first run. I was often told I had more guts than brains. But when you survive a crash, and you realize you're fine, you just continue. And I didn't crash in front of Warren again ☺

CHAD CHOMLACK

COLIN WITHERILL

JONNY MOSELEY

For the past decade, Jonny Moseley has been the voice of WME's annual ski movies. He's a bonafide veteran, having appeared both in and behind the scenes of WME films since 1998. He remembers his debut in WME's *Freeriders*, ripping moguls in a white onesie, vividly.

"Always try everything at least twice." —WM

Trying to replace Warren as a narrator is ridiculous. I realized that from day one. It's like apples and oranges, there's just no way I could ever come close to doing what he did. This is the 10th WME film I've narrated, and I've been very fortunate that the audience has been willing to grow with me from my rookie season to now. One of the things I loved about Warren, and it's hard to fake, is that Warren really lived the segments he narrated. He went out there and shot most things himself, so when he talked about them, it was very genuine. He was just telling a story about what he did in the mountains. That genuine connection with skiing—that's the spirit that was so strong with Warren, and that's what I try to convey. I feel that's the best I can do to keep the Warren Miller spirit alive.

"Bumps on the mountain are like heartbeats; you only have so many in your knees, and when they are gone, they are gone." —WM

My first opportunity to ski for WME came in 1998. It was a mogul skiing segment, of course, in Breckenridge, Colo. We were doing some rapid fire mogul skiing with basically the World Cup team back then. I remember the shoot because I wore a white

IN THIS YEAR'S FILM...

Moseley not only narrates but makes a cameo appearance in *Northern Iceland* to shred with Amie Engerbretson and Anna Segal. While there, the crew explored Iceland by air with Arctic Heli and soaked up some of the local culture.

one-piece ski suit while throwing a bunch of Cosacks and Iron-Cross Cosacks. And it was just generally pretty embarrassing, if I remember correctly. No, I'm kidding, it was a lot of fun and I loved it. I still love skiing bumps. Especially since I don't have to ski an icy rut-line at 7 a.m. and do two gnarly airs. It's made bump skiing much more enjoyable. Of course, I miss the competition aspect of it. But as far as just the pleasure of skiing bumps, I love it. You know, I think in some ways I'm a better bump-skier finesse-wise now. I'm lucky, I think I was born to ski moguls, my body was just set to do it. I still have a bunch more bumps left in me. ☺



2

ROTATIONS IN HIS SIGNATURE TRICK "THE DINNER ROLL"

22

AGE WHEN HE WON GOLD AT THE NAGANO OLYMPICS

THE HISTORY

A look at WME throughout the years, from humble beginnings to meteoric rise.

1936

WARREN DISCOVERS SKIING

Twelve-year-old Warren discovers skiing on a Scout trip to Big Pines. Afterwards, he takes a paperboy job to save up to buy his own skis.

1946

THE FIRST CAMERA

After being discharged from the Navy, Warren buys his first camera, a Bell & Howell 8mm for \$77. "I had no idea where the camera would take me."

1946

SKI BUMMING IN ALTA

Warren discovers pow skiing in Alta on a ski trip with friend Ward Baker. The two show their surfing movie to an audience at the Alta Lodge.

"The films were silent, so I put in a few ironic comments that came from my weird view of life."

1949

OPENING SEASON AT SQUAW

Warren gets an instructor job at the ski school headed by Émile Allais. He begins filming Allais and other instructors on their free runs.



IN THIS YEAR'S FILM...

McMillan joined Forrest Jillson and the WME crew in Denali National Park to explore the pristine beauty of the AK backcountry, the luxurious Tordrillo Mountain Lodge, and remote Ruth Glacier.

limits and summit one of the highest peaks in the world. So to go there and ski tour is just so special. There's no trace of people. It's just mother nature, huge peaks, and raw beauty. There's a true sense of wild.

"When it comes to skiing, there's a difference between what you think it's going to be like, what it's really like, and what you tell your friends it was like." —WM

When you're in a place like Denali, you can look at photos, but you never know what peak or snow conditions are going to be like. At night we would gather and say, 'OK, let's do this tomorrow.' We would plan and try to estimate our time, thinking a skin might take four hours. When we started skinning it just felt like the closer we got, the bigger the mountain got. We had to take a step back and realize that instead of four hours, this was going to take us eight hours. That's one of the biggest things I didn't realize when I first started skiing for the camera: how long the days are. It's not like you're out there for two hours and then hop in for a cocoa break. When you leave and move into the field, you're going to be there for 8 to 10 hours.

"There's no substitute for genuine lack of preparation." —WM

One year when I was competing on the Freeride World Tour, I didn't have anything set up as far as lodging between stops. This is kind of standard for me, just the way I roll. And this time I had my mom and husband with me. But I thought, no problem, we'll find a hostel or something along the way. When we stopped, it was late at night, everyone was tired, and the locals at the bar we stopped at told us there was no lodging anywhere nearby. We ended up taking the skis out of our ski bags and sleeping in the bags on the side of the road. My mom was not impressed. She booked us a very nice hotel for the next night. ☺

WARREN MILLER TOUR

"One of the biggest things Warren gave the ski and snowboarding communities is the film tour—a chance for our tribe to come together and celebrate sliding on snow." —Rob Kingwill

TOUR INFO: VISIT WARRENMILLER.COM FOR UPDATED TIMES AND VENUES.

NORTHWEST

10/12 – 11/20
Oregon, Washington

UTAH

10/17 – 10/27
Salt Lake City, Ogden, Park City, Orem

MIDWEST

10/25 – 11/1
Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan

ROCKIES

10/16 – 11/30
Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado

CALIFORNIA

11/6 – 12/8
Greater Bay Area, Greater L.A. Area, Santa Barbara, and in between...

NORTHEAST

11/1 – 12/7
New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont

ARIZONA

12/4 – 12/8
Phoenix, Flagstaff, Tucson, Scottsdale, Tempe

TEXAS

10/19 – 10/21
Greater Dallas Area



CHAD CHOMLACK

JESS MCMILLAN

7

NUMBER OF WME FILMS MCMILLAN HAS APPEARED IN

24

AGE WHEN SHE STARTED COMPETING IN FREESKIING

If Jess McMillan weren't a professional skier, she really has no clue what else she would be. So it's a good thing the whole professional ski bum thing worked out. The Freeride World Tour Champion has won more freeskiing comps than any other skier, and has been a regular fixture in WME films since 2011.

"At least once a year, go someplace and do something you have never done before." —WM

This was my first time skiing Denali. We've all heard of Denali, and we think about it as a place to test your mountaineering skills, test your

1950

THE FIRST SKI MOVIE

Warren begins cutting and scripting his first feature-length ski film, *Deep and Light*, out of his new Chevy panel delivery truck.

"I had absolutely no training in motion-picture production. I edited the film by blundering along."

1953

THE BREAKTHROUGH

Skiing News Magazine gives Warren's *Ski Fantasy* a front-page review, and Warren's business starts picking up. He hires his first employee: his mother.

CAM MCLEOD

SKI SEASON PASS

ADVERTISEMENT



LIVE THE MOMENT

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MSRP \$900.00; DALBELLO.IT/EN

KIM SCHNEIDER

40

YEARS EDITING THE ANNUAL WME SKI MOVIE

2

NUMBER OF SONS ALSO ROPED INTO THE WME EDITING GIG

Since 1978, Kim Schneider has been the man behind the scenes of WME's annual film. For 10 years Schneider and Warren worked side by side during long, grueling editing days to deliver the next WME film to the masses. Here he reflects on the ups and downs of being part of the WME team.

"Not getting what you want can be a stroke of good luck." —WM
I first interviewed with Dick Barrymore for a job. He was doing the same thing as Warren—making ski movies and going on tour. I actually really wanted to work for Barrymore. They both had that weird

kind of humor, but Barrymore was more seriously ski-oriented. But Barrymore didn't have a job opening, Warren did. In the end it didn't matter to me as long as I was working on ski movies. And you have to understand, for the next 10 years working with Warren, I was in heaven. I had gotten my dream job.

"If you don't wake up excited a few minutes before your alarm goes off in the morning, perhaps you have the wrong job, the wrong home address, or both." —WM

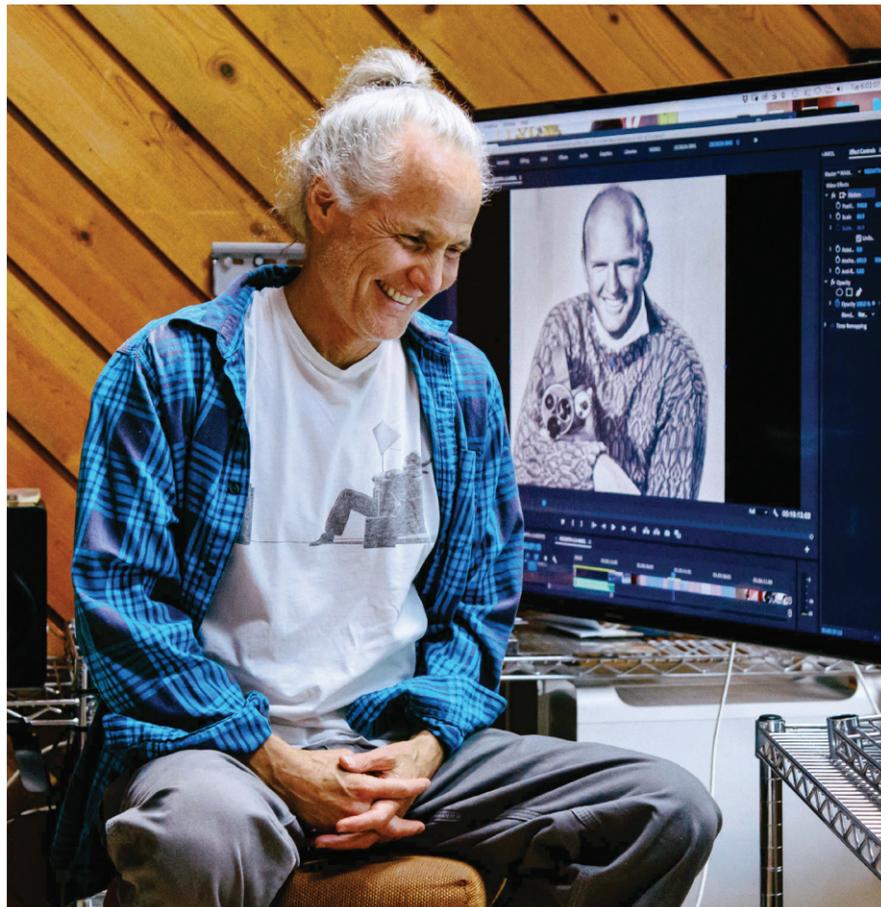
I actually quit [WME] after two films and moved back to Alaska. I just couldn't deal with L.A. It was nice living on the beach and all, and Warren was great about letting me plug in my motorhome right behind the office. It was just freakin' Los Angeles. It's just intense. So, after we finished the movie in the fall, I left and went up to Alaska. In November Warren came up to do the show in Anchorage like he did every year. We hung out and played some racquetball. He told me he wanted me back. I had ideas of things I wanted to change, I wanted to do some different stuff. And he said, 'We'll make it work.'

"Entertain the people who show up, and feel sorry for those who don't." —WM

There's nothing like a theater full of laughter, and Warren got that. From the first time someone laughed at one of his jokes, he knew: 'That's it, that's what I want to hear.' He could come up with funny one-liners on the spot while sitting there looking at a shot for the first time. Every year, we say, 'We've got to do something to make people laugh.' ●

IN THIS YEAR'S FILM...

With Warren having transitioned to the big ski resort in the sky, Schneider's mission was to pay tribute to Warren by communicating Warren's monumental and remarkable insights on his favorite season.



KYLE SCHNEIDER

1969

SPOTLIGHT ON HELI-SKIING

Warren sends cameraman Ron Allen to B.C. where Wiegele was pioneering heli-skiing. Hot-dogger Wayne Wong skis for the camera.

"The audiences went nuts when we showed them this kind of skiing."

1978

SKI HALL OF FAME

Warren is inducted into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum for his role in introducing skiing to the masses via the silver screen.



IN THIS YEAR'S FILM...

Jonsson played guide and host to fellow WME athlete Marcus Caston. While filming, the two skied legendary Engelberg pow and banged cowbells in Crans-Montana at the women's World Cup Super G race.

think I was on my way to the World Cup, but I really wasn't. It wasn't just lack of talent, but laziness on my part. After leaving the ski academy, I crashed my dad's car on a slippery road when I was out having fun. I figured he would obviously be pissed. My 20-year-old brain didn't want to deal with it, so I took a train down to Stockholm with a friend from the academy to book a ticket to the States and leave town before my dad got home from work that day. My friend and I had been talking about trying this whole freeskiing thing. So, we just went into a travel agency and asked for a cheap ticket to the States—we didn't know where, we just wanted to go somewhere on the west side of the country on a cheap ticket. We flew to San Francisco and bought a Volvo 240 from this shady pizza joint guy for \$2,000. We toured around the West Coast, up to Whistler, to Tahoe and Snowbird for about three months. That was the first time I went freeskiing. After that trip I figured I would not be getting into a speedsuit again. This was way more fun.

"The best place in the world to ski is where you're skiing that day." —WM

When I first went to Engelberg in 2002, I was just supposed to stay for a week. But Switzerland and I clicked, and I ended up staying for the season. Then I went back the next year. After a few years, I thought I should probably try another place, but the more places I saw, the more I really liked Engelberg. It's a great place to work for professional skiers and photographers. The extremely good lift-accessed skiing, with big runs that are between 3,000 and 6,000 vertical feet, is what Engelberg is famous for. The ski touring is also amazing, but it ended up in the shadow of the lift-accessed skiing because the runs off the lift are so special in comparison to what's at other resorts. ☺

OSKAR ENANDER

JOHAN JONSSON

7

DAYS JONSSON PLANNED TO STAY IN ENGELBERG

17

YEARS HE HAS NOW CALLED ENGELBERG A SECOND HOME

Blizzard athlete Johan Jonsson is Swedish by summer, Swiss by winter. The pro freeskiier first fell in love with the lift-accessed extremes of Engelberg in 2002, and has returned from his home in Sweden for every winter season since.

"If you don't have any idea where you're going, you'll probably end up there." —WM

My dad was a coach for a ski club in Sweden, though he never raced himself. He's the one who got me into skiing. I raced until I was 19, but I wasn't very serious about skiing back then. My father would like to

1988

INTRODUCING SNOWBOARDING

Warren includes snowboarding in his 1988 film, *Escape to Ski*, giving the sport some of its earliest public exposure.

"The first year we put them in the film, I got an earful out of the resorts that wouldn't allow snowboarders."

1989

WARREN TAKES A STEP BACK

Warren sells WME to his son, Kurt, though he maintains his creative role as director and narrator of the films into the 1990s.

ANNA SEGAL

If there's one thing that professional freeskiier Anna Segal is always game for, it's adventure. So when the Ozzie native and former slopestyle Olympian was invited to join the WME crew in Iceland to shoot for this year's film, she ditched her day job and hopped on a plane.

"Adventure is the invitation for common people to become uncommon." —WM

I got the call to join WME three weeks before [the segment was set to shoot]. K2 sent me a message asking me if I was free in May. Even though I had a full-time job at the time, I said yes. I wanted to hear what the opportunity was first, then figure things out from there. When K2 asked if I wanted to go to Iceland with WME, I thought, oh my gosh, you can't ask for a better text message! I immediately said yes. Iceland has always been on my radar, I just never expected I would have the opportunity to ski there. Of course, a huge part of it was getting the chance to film with WME. It's funny, in Australia when I tell people I'm a professional skier, they go on and say, 'Oh, you compete in the Olympics?' I tell them I used to do that, but now I shoot videos and photos. And they say, 'Oh, with Warren Miller?' Everyone knows Warren Miller movies. I used to have to tell them no, I've never filmed with WME before, but hopefully someday. Now it's pretty cool to say, 'Yeah, I film with Warren Miller!' That's the pinnacle.

"Freedom is located somewhere outside the box." —WM

When I was 19 I decided I wanted to give freeskiing a try. I was watching Rachael Burks

and Kristi Leskinen religiously in all the ski films, and I just wanted to do what they were doing. And I was always playing around in the rail park and on the jumps. So I got into slopestyle. After placing fourth in slopestyle in the Olympics, I decided to retire. Slopestyle got more rigid when it became an Olympic sport. Back when I first started, there was a bit more freedom and creativity involved. With filming and big mountain skiing, there's more potential for creativity. In the past I remember always looking at the mountains and wanting to ski tour and ski pow, so I thought it was a good time to hang up the competition thing and learn something new. ☺

3

TIMES SHE PLACED TOP THREE IN THE X GAMES SLOPESTYLE

32.5

INSTA FOLLOWERS, BY THE THOUSANDS (AND COUNTING)



IN THIS YEAR'S FILM...

Segal joined fellow pros Amie Engerbretson and Jonny Moseley for a two-week adventure in Northern Iceland. The highlights? Stunning sunset skis and making friends with Iceland's puffins.

2005

WME ENTERS THE DIGITAL ERA

Higher Ground is the first WME production to use HD film technology. Since 2000 all WME movies are digitally projected.

2016

FREEDOM FOUND

Warren self-publishes his autobiography, *Freedom Found*. All Warren Miller quotes and sayings in these pages are taken from this autobiography.

2018

FAREWELL TO A LEGEND

At 93, the original ski bum and trailblazer of adventure sports filmmaking bids farewell, leaving behind a lasting ski legacy.