In this three-week series, Ann Hornaday, Washington Post film critic, and Deborah Sorensen, curatorial associate at the Museum, introduce films featuring unexpected and powerful encounters with the natural world.

S5 Members | S5 Students | $10 Public special rate for NBM Members: $10 for all 3 films! Prepaid registration required. Walk-in registration based on availability.

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January 28, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
A ROOM WITH A VIEW
Directed by James Ivory (1985, R, 117 min., color),
Starring Helena Bonham Carter and Daniel Day Lewis
A young Englishwoman tours Italy in the early 1900s and is transformed by its culture, the countryside, and her fellow travelers. Presented with a selection from Norway, the Country for Tourists (Lyder Selvig, Norway 1929).

February 4, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
SCHULTZE GETS THE BLUES
Directed by Michael Schorr (2003, PG, color, 114 min.,
German with English subtitles), Starring Horst Krause, Harald Warmbrunn, Karl-Fred Müller
Striking cinematography of the German lowlands and Louisiana bayous frame this bittersweet tale of a retired salt-miner who is awakened by the rhythm of zydeco. Presented with Across Besseggen on Motorcycle (Tiedemann’s Tobacco Co., Norway 1930).

February 11, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
LOOP
Directed by Sjur Paulsen (2005, NR, color, 78 min., Norwegian with English subtitles)
Offering spectacular views of Norway, this award-winning documentary follows individuals who go to extreme lengths to climb, BASE jump, or sail away from the everyday. Presented with a selection from Snowclearing on the Railroad to Bergen (Norway, 1930).

Special thanks to the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Brynjar Kulset at the Norwegian National Library, Bjørn Sørensen at the University of Trondheim NTNU, Norway, Goldcrest Films and Swank Motion Pictures, Inc. for their assistance with this series.

Detour: Architecture and Design Along 18 National Tourist Routes in Norway is presented at the National Building Museum in collaboration with the Royal Norwegian Embassy. Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects LLP is the exclusive corporate sponsor.
Detour: The Landscape of Travel on Film
January-February 2009
National Building Museum

As a complement to the DETOUR exhibition, this series includes three films that highlight complex human interactions with the natural world. They feature not only stunning landscapes but also reveal how travel changes who you are.

Whereas Norway’s National Tourist Routes Project encourages people to leave their cars and commune with nature, in film, we can trace a fascination with framing the natural world alongside the public’s desire to sightsee from the safe confines of a movie theater. This ability to travel to and through environments that might otherwise be inaccessible has been at the heart of film’s popular attraction since its inception.

Following the first film screening in 1895, the Lumière brothers dispatched Cinématographe operators around the globe to promote their new camera and to collect imagery of exotic locales. The resulting catalogue of travel films, or ‘vues,’ originated the filmic tradition of foregrounding natural landscapes for the public’s amusement. Although early travel films were eventually outpaced by narrative features, the use and promotion of natural locations expanded in the post-war era, and even now forms the basis of a thriving tourist trade.

Including A ROOM WITH A VIEW (UK, 1985), SHULTZE GETS THE BLUES (Germany, 2003), and LOOP (Norway, 2005), as well as rarely seen early travel films from the Norwegian National Library, the series DETOUR: The Landscape of Travel on Film will explore the point of contact that arises between an individual and their environment when they intentionally enter into unfamiliar territory. This program will also include 1920s and 30s Norwegian travel films selected from the Norwegian National Library’s collection by Bjørn Sørenssen (University of Trondheim).

Ann Hornaday, Washington Post film critic, and Deborah Sorensen, curatorial associate, will introduce films.

Features
- A Room with a View (James Ivory, 1985, R, 117 min.)
- Schultze Gets the Blues (Michael Schorr, 2003, PG, 114 min.)
- LOOP (Sjur Paulsen, 2005, NR, 78 min.)

Shorts
- NORWAY, THE COUNTRY FOR TOURISTS (Lyder Selvig, Norway, 1929)
- ACROSS BESSEGGEN ON MOTORCYCLE (Tiedemann’s Tobacco Co., Norway, 1930)
- SNOWCLEARING ON THE RAILROAD TO BERGEN (Norway, 1930)