

## History 1999 - 2014

[www.explorersfestival.pl](http://www.explorersfestival.pl)

Since 1999, Lodz has hosted the Explorers Festival – a festival of the mountains, extreme sports and adventure comprising numerous meetings with the stars of Himalayan climbing and extreme sports, well-known discoverers and travellers, a presentation of mountaineering films, various competitions, exhibitions and workshops. Beside Polish celebrities, as **Krzysztof Wielicki, Andrzej Zawada, Marek Kamiński, Janusz Majer, Atrur Hajzer, Leszek Cichy, Piotr Pustelnik, Krzysztof Zanussi, Ryszard Pawlowski, Martyna Wojciechowska and Roman Paszke**, we had the privilege to host and give awards at the festival:

- **Erhard Loretan - Switzerland** (1999, 2005)
- **Stefan Glowacz - Germany** (1999)
- **Gertrude Reinisch - Austria** (1999, 2000)
- **Catherine Destivelle – France** (2000)
- **Leo Dickinson – UK** (2000)
- **Reinhold Messner - Italy** (2001)
- **Borge Ousland - Norway** (2001)
- **Davorin Karničar – Slovenia** (2001)
- **Dominique Perret - Switzerland** (2001)
- **Gerhard Baur – Germany** (2001)
- **sir Christian Bonington –UK** (2002)
- **Bertrand Piccard – Switzerland** (2002)
- **Jean Troillet – Switzerland** (2002)
- **Fulvio Mariani - Switzerland** (2002)
- **Marian and Robert Kočan - Slovakia** (2002)
- **Bertrand Roche – France** (2002)
- **sir Edmund Hillary – New Zealand** (2003)
- **Pascal Tournaire – France** (2003, 2013)
- **Liv Arnesen – Norway** (2003)
- **Joe Jennings – USA** (2003)
- **Keith Partridge – UK** (2004)
- **Jake Willers – UK** (2004)
- **Hayden Turner – Australia** (2004)
- **Erich von Däniken – Switzerland** (2004)
- **Erika Warmbrunn – USA** (2004)
- **Michael Bustelo – Italy** (2004)
- **Doug Scott – UK** (2004)
- **Michael Brown – USA** (2004, 2008)
- **Thomas Huber – Germany** (2004)
- **Peter Chrzanowski – Canada** (2004)
- **Kurt Diemberger – Austria** (2005)
- **Stephan Eberharter – Austria** (2005)
- **Leo Houlding UK** (2005)
- **Norman Kent – USA** (2005)
- **Sandra Noel – UK** (2005)
- **Kelly & Craig Perkins – USA** (2005)
- **Marko Prezelj – Slovenia** (2005)
- **Don Walsh – USA** (2006)
- **Robert Jasper – Germany** (2006)
- **Heinz Zak – Austria** (2006)
- **Olivier Aubert – Switzerland** (2006)
- **Mike Blyth – RSA** (2006)
- **Jon Bowermaster – USA** (2006)
- **Diego Azubel – Argentina** (2006)
- **Nancy LaRiviere – USA** (2006)
- **Kevin Alderton – UK** (2006)
- **Martin Strel - Slovenia** (2007)

- **Kurt Albert - Germany** (2007)
- **Alison Gannett - USA** (2007)
- **Prof. Nicholas Middleton - UK** (2007)
- **Melanie Carrier - Canada** (2007)
- **Olivier Higgins - Canada** (2007)
- **Barbara Brighetti - Italy** (2007)
- **Stipe Božić - Croatia** (2007)
- **Lynn Hill – USA** (2008)
- **Chris Sharma – USA** (2008)
- **Hans Florine – USA** (2008)
- **Fiona Thornewill – UK** (2008)
- **John Harlin III – USA** (2008)
- **Colin Angus – Canada** (2008)
- **Julie Angus – Canada** (2008)
- **Edurne Pasaban – Spain** (2008)
- **Andrew Skurka – USA** (2008)
- **Araceli Segarra – Spain** (2008)
- **Corey Rich – USA** (2008)
- **Will Steger -USA** (2009)
- **Victor Bojarsky - Russia** (2009)
- **Simone Origone – Italy** (2009)
- **Stephen Koch - USA** (2009)
- **James Hooper - UK** (2009)
- **Beth Wald - USA** (2009)
- **Geoff Somers - UK** (2009)
- **Keizo Funatsu – Japan** (2009)
- **Pavol Barabáš – Slovakia** (2009)
- **Stephen Bouey – USA** (2010)
- **Steven Shoppman -USA** (2010)
- **Simon Carter – Australia** (2010)
- **Witold Casetti – Italy** (2010)
- **Didier Delsalle – France** (2010)
- **Andrew Elson – UK** (2010)
- **João Garcia – Portugal** (2010)
- **Tamotsu Nakamura – Japan** (2010)
- **Jamling Tenzing Norgay – India** (2010)
- **Yves Rossy - Jet-Man – Switzerland** (2010)
- **Uli Jon Roth – Germany / (Scorpions)** (2010)
- **Alex Honnold - USA** (2011)
- **Basil Pao - China** (2011)
- **Alain Robert (spiderman) –France** (2011)
- **Richard Meredith – Hardy – UK** (2011)
- **Stefan Hoerner – Austria** (2011)
- **Chris Ribitsch – Austria** (2011)
- **Armin Buchroithner - Austria** (2011)
- **Ines Papert – Germany** (2011)
- **Cedric Gras – France** (2012)
- **Linda Bortoletto – France** (2012)
- **Gill Elkaim - France** (2012)
- **Mickael Brangeon – France** (2012)
- **Raphael Domjan – Szwajcaria** (2013)
- **Dalibor Carbol – Czechy** (2013)
- **Rick Deppe - UK** (2013)
- **Mike Libecki - USA** (2013)
- **Jose Lopez - Spain** (2013)
- **Anne Quemere - France** (2013)
- **Claudio Leonardi – Switzerland** (2013)
- **Patrick Gabarrou – France** (2014)
- **Dani Arnold – Switzerland** (2014)-

- Mick Fowler – UK (2014)
- Tromod Granheim – Norway (2014)
- Bartrand Lemeunier – Canada (2014)
- Graldine Fasnicht – Szwajcaria (2015)
- Nicolas Bossard – Szwajcaria (2015)

During the Festival, prestigious **Explorer** awards are distributed. They are granted by the Committee consisting of people of exploration, journalists and laureates from the previous years. Explorer is granted to the most outstanding contemporary discoverers and explorers of the Earth.

**2000 Explorer Laureates:** [www.explorersfestival.pl](http://www.explorersfestival.pl)

**2001 Explorer Laureates:**

- Davo Karničar - Slovenia
- Borge Ousland - Norway
- Reinhold Messner – Italy
- Roman Paszke - Poland

**2002 Explorer laureates:**

- sir Christian Bonington – UK
- prof. Bertrand Piccard - Switzerland
- Józef Nyka – Poland

**2003 Explorer Laureates:**

- Liv Arnesen – Norway
- sir Edmund Hillary – New Zealand
- Janusz Kurczab – Poland

**2004 Explorers Laureates:**

- Walery Babanow – Russia
- Erich von Däniken – Switzerland
- Doug Scott – UK

**2005 Explorers Laureates:**

- Kurt Diemberger – Austria
- Erhard Loretan – Switzerland
- Marko Prezelj – Slovenia

**2006 Explorers Laureates:**

- Don Walsh – USA
- Olivier Aubert – Switzerland
- Mike Blyth – RSA
- Anna Czerwińska - Poland

**2007 Explorers Laureates:**

- Martin Strel - Slovenia
- Kurt Albert – Germany
- Piotr Pustelnik – Poland

**2008 Explorers Laureates:**

- Lynn Hill – USA
- Fiona Thornewill – UK
- Colin Angus – Canada
- Piotr Chmieliński – Poland/USA

**2009 Explorers Laureates:**

- Will Steger -USA
- Victor Bojarsky - Russia
- James Hooper - UK
- Geoff Somers - UK
- Keizo Funatsu – Japan

**2010 Explorers Laureates:**

- João Garcia – Portugal
- Tamotsu Nakamura – Japan
- Yves Rossy /Jet-Man/ – Switzerland
- Jerzy Wala - Poland

**2011 Explorers Laureates:**

- Alain Robert – France
- Richard Meredith – Hardy – UK

**Camera Extreme**, another prestigious award, granted by the organizers goes to the most distinguished extreme film

makers and photographers, who work in unusual, often extremely tough conditions.

**2000 Camera Extreme Laureate: Leo Dickinson –UK**

**2001 Camera Extreme Laureate: Gerhard Baur - Germany**

**2002 Camera Extreme Laureate: Fulvio Mariani – Switzerland**

**2003 Camera Extreme Laureates: Joe Jennings – USA, Pascal Tournaire – France**

**2004 Camera Extreme Laureates: Michael Brown – USA, Keith Partridge – UK**

**2005 Camera Extreme Laureates: Norman Kent – USA, Jerzy Surdel – Poland**

**2006 Camera Extreme Laureates: Heinz Zak – Austria, Diego Azubel – Argentina**

**2007 Camera Extreme Laureate: Stipe Božić – Croatia**

**2008 Camera Extreme Laureate: Corey Rich – USA**

**2009 Camera Extreme Laureates: Elizabeth Wald– USA, Pavol Barabáš – Slovakia**

**2010 Camera Extreme Laureate: Simon Carter – Australia**

**2011 Camera Extreme Laureate: Basil Pao – China / Hong Kong**

All laureates arrive in person to receive the award, and their special presentations provide a top attraction for the audience.