



FIRST DESCENT

THE STORY OF THE SNOWBOARDING REVOLUTION

“What I’m excited to see is that the best freestyle snowboarders in the world are willing to come up to these mountains and risk their lives and get better that way.”

-Nick Perata

Production Notes

This December, the revolution will be on powder. Avalanches, sick runs, crevasses, mind-blowing action, unbelievable cinematography, are just the tip of the iceberg in *First Descent*—the story of snowboarding from its renegade roots over 25 years ago as a backyard hobby to its current status as a billion-dollar recreation and licensing industry. Told by five famous boarders who alternately assisted in the creation and perfection of a sport claimed by both thrasher punks and millionaires, the film chronicles the rise of boarding—from its explosive growth in the 1970s to its current status as a high-adrenaline phenomenon that has become permanently entrenched in global culture.

First Descent, the boarding term that refers to a rider’s inaugural trip down a virgin peak, provides both a historical retrospective and a present-day look at the phenomenon—from the birth of snowboarding as an alternate to surfing and

skateboarding to the Olympic draw it is today. Blending archival footage from the early days and using the latest in aerial film techniques to capture never-before-seen footage of amazing runs, the film takes the audience along as the boarders climb cliffs, face avalanches and launch off mountains unintended for human footing.

In the film, action-sports documentarians KEVIN HARRISON and KEMP CURLEY have directed their lenses at five of the world's most creative and influential riders during a three-week stay in the remote powder of Valdez, Alaska. Inter-cut with the story of carefree counter-culturists of the '70s who lived for that chance to claim they had done what no one else had done, *First Descent* brings viewers on the journey as the camera crew follows the riders while they explore fresh territory and ride powder that no one had ever set foot upon.

Die-hard boarders and new fans to the sport will experience the thrill of *First Descent* as these five riders tackle The Last Frontier in this new documentary from Mountain Dew Films and Universal Pictures. Exploring the worlds of three generations of boarders...seasoned Alaskan snowboarding pioneers SHAWN FAMER and NICK PERATA; Norwegian-born, triple world champion, TERJE HAAKONSEN; and modern-day phenoms, USA Snowboarding team member HANNAH TETER and five-times X Games medallist and snowboarding poster boy SHAUN WHITE share the rush of nailing moves while giving snowboarding a living biography through their stories.

Harrison and Curley—who direct and produce the story—chronicle the early years of boarding years to today's champs. Along the journey to Valdez, the film crew documents these five talents and a cameo from snowboarder Travis Rice, splicing in interviews with seasoned veterans of the skate- and snowboarding worlds who began it all. Among the many icons interviewed or featured are pioneers such as Jake Burton and Chuck Barfoot; celebrated boarders Tom Sims, Danny Kass, Jamie Lynn, Jim Rippey, Mike Basich, Tina Basich, Chris Roach, Jeff Brushie, Bryan Iguchi; Todd Richards, Mike Ranquet, Bjorn Leines; as well as skateboarding legend Tony Hawk.

The five boarders of *First Descent* all make the journey for different reasons—Perata and Farmer to see if they still have what it takes to compete with the young guns, Haakonsen a chance to go to “best place in the world to snowboard” and add another first descent to his impressive resume of big mountain, backcountry riding and White and

Teter to get off the halfpipes and snowboard parks they've trained on in the safety of a controlled resort...and take the first big mountain rides of their young lives.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

THE CLIMB TO *FIRST DESCENT*

Kevin Harrison and Kemp Curley, longtime friends and business partners, created their New York City-based Transition Productions in the late '90s. The pair grew up together as young snowboarders, eventually becoming business partners and making names for themselves by shooting documentaries and commercials for snowboarding pioneer Burton, commercial golden-boy Tony Hawk and producing programming/shows for MTV Sports and the pinnacle for extreme sports fans: the X Games.

When they discovered that Mountain Dew, a longtime sponsor of high-octane sporting, had put out a call for creative new projects from self-shot shorts to motion pictures for theatrical release, they saw their opportunity to make a filmic project about their first love: snowboarding. According to Curley, "We'd been doing so much surfing, skating and snowboarding documentary for television, we wanted a chance to do something theatrical. Mountain Dew was looking for opportunities, and they wanted to do something very big and different."

Curley and partner Harrison felt that they were just the men to do it. With feet in both the worlds of documentary-making and extreme sports, the Transition Production partners were prepared for a new challenge. Harrison extrapolates that film was a medium they'd long been interested in, and a new way to tell the story of boarding. He feels the documentary is "the culmination of the sport from its beginning. We wanted to tell the history of the sport, which is very unique and colorful. For the film, we're putting in a number of modern day events...from Tokyo to the U.S. Open to X Games, Super Park and here, the backcountry."

The duo felt the only way to tell the story of snowboarding was to weave biographies of current talent with the history of the sport. "We've always felt that snowboarding was this rebellious revolution and a movement that exploded on the scene," Harrison notes.

Professional skiers once ridiculed snowboarding as an obnoxious nuisance to skiers by brats on boards. Those naysayers long dismissed, amateur and pro-boarders now dominate the ski industry, with professionals amassing millions of fans who have fallen for the extreme sporting showmanship, flip attitude and thrilling rush that can only be achieved by those willing to take on intricate runs and the biggest of powder lines. Harrison and Curley felt this was a story well worth telling.

Their first step in compiling the film was research. After securing the green light from Mountain Dew with their “wish list” of boarders who represented the diversity of the field of snowboarding, it was time to tackle history. Having grown up on the magazines and snowboarding videos that launched the movement, Curley and Harrison were familiar with the cross-culture attraction of the sport, but they weren’t prepared for the voluminous amount of footage they would find. Scouring the earth for as much snowboarding tape they could find, they created the first theatrical documentary on snowboarding that explores the history of the sport and the global phenomenon that has developed.

After securing the five talented boarders for three weeks of Alaskan airtime, the duo assembled a gang of seasoned production partners to brave the cold winter and tough conditions. This included securing cinematographer Scott Duncan, associate producer / cinematographer Matt Goodman, aerial cinematographer Mark Hyrma, HD operators Elia Lyssy and Christian Hoagland; associate producer Steve Lawrence; coordinating producer Bruno Musso; and other talented crew that included Jeff Sutch, Tom Day, Jim Harrington, Rob “Whitey” McConnaughy and Greg Benitez.

Using shocking aerial footage, HD cams, 35 mm film plus old-school 16mm film—some of which is over 20 years old—they have cleaned footage and edited hundreds of hours of tape to pull the pristine footage into a film.

That accomplished, it was time to head to Alaska. Not all of the boarders were prepared for what they would find in the land made famous by the poems of Robert Service and the short stories of Jack London. White laughs at his reaction to hitting the backcountry. “I mean we’re staying in log cabins up on the mountain,” he laughs. “I mean, I gotta walk through the wilderness to get to the bathroom while fighting off bears with my bell!”

White summarizes the documentary participants nerves about the first descent: “Doing a first descent is pretty heavy, because it means that you’re the first one to ever in history go down the face of this one mountain. And the sketchiest part about that is...you don’t know what’s gonna happen because nobody’s ridden it before. You don’t know whether there’s a big crevasse in the middle of it, whether it’s gonna avalanche or, what’s gonna happen.”

This healthy dose of fear coupled with an even bigger dose of anticipation of new jumps and never-before-seen footage would lead the cast and crew of *First Descent* on an adventure of a lifetime.

SNOWBOARDING: A BRIEF HISTORY

Before *First Descent*, there was plenty of air...it just happened on skateboards. Many snowboarders started off as skateboarders in the '70s. It was a time and counter-culture of punk hair, punk music and breaking the rules of the system...living by your own code. Harrison refers to the glory days of snowboarding as an era when it was just a “little backcountry hobby that no one believed would go anywhere.” For boarders, riding powder became another way of expressing themselves.

Snowboarders, much like their skateboarding counterparts were constantly trying to find the perfect walls and try out different skate maneuvers. They were thrashers who wanted to express themselves. According to “senior” statesmen Farmer, the sensory overload came from the sheer drop...the not knowing what you were going to hit or if you would wipe out. It was about getting stoked.

For enthusiasts, snowboarding became all about finding the perfect line in an imperfect world. While skiers on slopes looked on in disgust at boarders who ripped by them, the athletes would laugh it off. What did they care? They were getting ready to launch into a hundred feet of open air and ride lines. They knew that where they found perfect powder, they could trust it. That was all they needed to stay on the ridge and keep their minds focused on the next rush.

Magazines of the late '70s and early '80s began to show this new boarding phenomenon to the world. The mags documented trends for adolescents who felt numb to the mainstream. Photographers shared the stories of these punks and started opening

eyes to a wary public. With the invention of the snowboarding video of the mid-'80s, tens of thousands of minds were exposed to what the “bad kids” were doing. Slowly, boarders were allowed at previously restricted slopes—as park owners realized the monetary value of their participation.

Halfpipe parks were created to accommodate this new entrée into the world of skiing—in fact, the creation of the halfpipe gave rise to freestyle snowboarding, allowing the most opportunity for expression that these youth could find in their areas. Twenty-foot pipe walls cut by giant pipe-dragons from former six-foot walls upped the ante. People were abandoning their cumbersome skis and opting for the air-light fiberglass boards on which they could lock and go.

Snowboarding soon spread to Europe and Japan. With images of boarders ripping through space, it was impossible for the sport to stay on the fringe. Throughout the '90s, parks kept opening their doors and ski supply companies developed boards to keep up with the ever-increasing demand by customers who were willing to pay for the thrill of snowboarding. Ski parks and backcountry trails were becoming packed with snowboarders. Competitions, once laughed off by the mainstream, achieved sporting sponsors and funding from corporate entities like Mountain Dew. ESPN brought X Games champs into millions of viewers' homes. Demand from customers was astonishing. Kids of all ages were blown away by the rail-riding antics of boarding phenoms. In 1998, snowboarding stepped onto the Olympic stage in Nagano, Japan, and the rest, was history.

THE DREAM TEAM: FIRST DESCENT'S BOARDERS

When producers / directors Harrison and Curley began to brainstorm their dream team for the *First Descent* documentary, they believed that it was crucial to have multiple generations of boarders represented. Fans of underground snowboarding documentaries from the '80s like *Totally Board One*, the pair felt it mandatory to pay homage to snowboarding legends Nick Perata and Shawn Farmer, the one-two punch guys who led the way for today's snowboarding. Curley wows at the now-infamous story of these boarders' journey camping, hiking and snowboarding the dangerous Moose's Tooth peak

on Mount McKinley. He relates that their first descent of this infamous peak “was the stuff of snowboarder folk-lore.”

Harrison hopes the documentary will expose the true soul of snowboarding, as he believes the biggest misconception about boarders is who snowboarders really are. He and fellow documentarian Curley want to show a small slice of boarder-life through these five characters followed by camera. Curley notes, “That’s what Alaska’s all about, being exposed.”

They emphasize that snowboarding has grown so much, become so diverse that it’s impossible to lump the disparate members into one pile. Their documentary would bring these five relative strangers to the remote Tsaina Lodge in the furthest region of Valdez, Alaska for three weeks. Their science experiment would result in emotional stories and breathtaking footage. Big powder lines, big mountains, riding choppers...it’s all there for the riding.

THE LEGENDS

SHAWN FARMER (*Age: 40; Hometown: Jefferson City, Missouri*) is one of the first snowboarders to pioneer big mountain snowboarding in Valdez. He is the biggest character to define snowboarding’s beginnings. Being part of the old guard, Farmer never saw the financial success that the pros who followed in his footsteps have received. Dividing his time between Southern California, where he works as a carpenter, and Missouri, where he helps out with the family business, Farmer has not snowboarded in Alaska in the last four years.

The rule seems to be (according to the boarding community): “Don’t follow Farm.” Farmer laughs that due to his unorthodox styles and penchant for taking the road less (and most dangerously) traveled, “Most boarders would be better off to take their own line.” Stoked, anti-establishment, free will, he feels, “Big mountain riding is definitely in my blood.”

Known for picking the most unique, sickest lines seen, Farmer just stays in the zone and is willing to take whatever challenge the mountains give him. Curley feels he has, “A sixth sense, if you will.” His now famous jump across the Mount Baker Road Gap in Washington State solidified Farmer as a legend in the sport. He hopes that *First*

Descent will “show the mainstream the kind of lifestyle that we lead or the people that are in these mountain sports.”

White looks up to the legend. “Farmer was—there was like three or four guys that like were really like the rock stars to me. It was Shawn Farmer and Shawn Palmer. I’d see him at the hill just doing back flips all the way down. I’m like, yes, I wanna back flip too.”

NICK PERATA (*Age: 38; Hometown: Boise, Idaho/Alaska*) is yet another legend in the field—the ambassador of snowboarding in Alaska and one of the first faces of professional snowboarding. He was also one of the first to ride the big mountains in Valdez, where he eventually became a big mountain snowboard safety guide.

Married with two children, Perata is the father figure of the team, the voice of reason—the one with the most experience in these mountains, and a man who has lived the history. His love for snowboarding originally brought him to Alaska, where he set down roots as the organizer of the King of the Hill Snowboarding Competition. In the off-season he leads backcountry king salmon fishing and hunting helicopter tours and teaches golf. Perata notes, he’s in the backcountry to “find some sick runs to go do. Go find a mountain with some good snow and rip it up.”

Curley feels Perata is one of the legends of snowboarding’s past. Growing up on Perata and Farmer’s old snowboard movies, he feels like he knew him before they’d even met. Perata, he notes, “has such a passion for Alaska. He was just a guy that was in love with Alaska and backcountry riding.”

Harrison echoes Curley’s thoughts, feeling Perata is “Mr. Alaska. He is the glue that holds the bond together.”

In one of his most celebrated snowboarding videos, Perata managed to ollie a 75-yard stretch of rock and bush. Unfortunately, he clipped the nose of his board, head-butted a rock and knocked his teeth out. The incident left Perata in a coma for a few days....and a legend in the boarding community.

THE AMBASSADOR

TERJE HAAKONSEN (*Age: 30; Hometown: Oslo, Norway/Hawaii*) is the “Michael Jordan” of snowboarding—the best ever. Considered the most famous, gifted and enigmatic snowboarder of all time, Haakonsen ruled competition snowboarding in the late '90s and early '00s. Today, he has chosen to compete less often. But when he does, it's at select competitions—which he still often wins.

Haakonsen has taken on the challenge of big mountain riding more and more in the past eight years and is one of the most respected big mountain snowboarders of all time. He splits his time between his homes and his children in both Norway and Hawaii.

Mysterious and soulful, this full-blown snowboarding rock-star is one of the few boarders who brought snowboarding to the masses. Farmer compliments Haakonsen's work with, “He's the best snowboarder in the world. He's just done more tricks and he's got more style than anyone...just really an amazing athlete.” He takes the largest (and most death-defying) first descent in the film off one of the Chugach's more challenging peaks.

Raising the bar in the field, Haakonsen, according to Curley has “this natural ability to ride everything...half pipe, backcountry. Getting him on board...we were stoked. He sets a precedent in the field.”

White echoes Curley's praise that the former 14-year-old wunderkind Haakonsen might be the most legendary snowboarder ever. “He's done so much for the sport because he's helped push the riders to do better things. When I was younger, I was like, “I wanna beat Terje'...He was that guy that you wanted to beat.”

THE NEW JACKS: HANNAH and SHAUN

HANNAH TETER (*Age: 18; Hometown: Belmont, VT*) is the youngest and only female in the group. Harrison and Curley brought her to Alaska because she is one of the top female halfpipe riders in the world today and is revolutionizing women's action sports.

Curley feels, “She was the best way to breathe a little fresh air into the group. Her approach to snowboarding has always been so refreshing. She didn't follow anybody's lines...she just ripped it. Big laidback on a spine at 5,000 feet up.”

Teter dreamed of snowboarding in Alaska, and *First Descent* represents her inaugural trip to the backcountry. A freestyler not used to big mountain drops, Teter grew up in the woods of Vermont in a tight knit family with four older brothers, two of whom are professional snowboarders. Like White, Teter has dominated the Winter X Games in recent years and is a favorite for the Women's Halfpipe event at the 2006 Winter Olympics.

Farmer contends, "She's just a phenomenal halfpipe rider, and she's just doing awesome and really fun to hang out with. It's fun to have people that young around ...their energy and their naïveté."

White laughs, "I've seen her take some slams that I would have been like, I'm done. And I would've gone to the lodge and got my cocoa. She's a super good rider."

Teter is modest in her skills. She notes, "I just had a great upbringing. Having that support and just that foundation of love just helps you to blossom into this person standing right here."

SHAUN WHITE (*Age: 18; Hometown: Carlsbad, CA*) is arguably the best freestyler and the most popular snowboarder in the world. White was a find for Curley and Harrison, representing the new breed of boarders. With a laid-back personality that matches his supernatural abilities, White relished the chance to take on big mountain riding.

One of the most recognizable action sports stars in the world today, White currently dominates both the halfpipe and slope style events in men's snowboarding and is the first one to accomplish this at such a young age. White has ruled the Winter X Games for the past two years and is currently on target to be the odds-on favorite for the Men's Halfpipe event at the 2006 Winter Olympics.

Mastering Alaska is every pro snowboarder's dream and always a step in the best of pros' careers. A newbie to Alaska, he had a big fan in Farmer. Farmer notes White is the "up-and coming baddest ass ripper out there."

Though certainly not without fear of the first descents he would encounter in Alaska, White reflects, "Every run is its own mountain. I'm not used to it at all." An unlikely Hollywood celebrity, he has become a phenomenal snowboarder who has given

a fresh face to the Winter X Games. Yet he owes much of his success to the sports' pioneers and is mindful of his status as a newbie.

Curley believes that “the reason Shaun White can run around and be unique personality today is because of guys like Shawn Farmer.”

He can do it all...slopestyle, rails, freeriding, and halfpipe. With commercial endorsements flooding in...at 18, he seems to have it all. White hopes that the career he loves will continue to grow as a hobby and a sport for millions. He summarizes, “I just envision snowboarding becoming such a big sport to where like it's baseball and soccer and all these things.”

DEATH DEFYING SHOTS: CAPTURING DESCENT

Amazing boarders need amazing runs and phenomenal camera equipment to capture their exploits. *First Descent* offers never-before-seen footage taken by a brand of heli-mounted cameras (helicopter shot cameras) known as Wescams. Curley notes, “Assuming decent weather, good snow, and no winds, the cams can be there in two minutes. They can get to the key location without guides.”—a feat for any extreme sports documentary.

He continues, “And then you have to respect 35 and the film and the exposed negative and the lenses you want to use and everything else.” (including cast and crew member safety)

Harrison adds that the riders have to “look at a peak or descent and decide if they like it. And then we have to figure out if a helicopter can land up there. All of these things have to come together to get a day of riding documented.”

Not a simple accomplishment. For the filming of the documentary, the directors and cinematographer Duncan decided to shoot on a widescreen aspect ratio to capture the true awe of what he was filming. The directors / producers feel that *First Descent* will turn people onto the sport and “blow their minds at the progression and the ups and downs the sport had. You know...entertain the sh%\$ out of them.”

According to Farmer, the prospect of being filmed for the documentary at this high an altitude is really not the problem—remember, he's not camera shy—it's just the

height itself! “You get out of the bird, and you’re all cold, and you’re not really ready. You’re going to be dropped on this face that’s a couple thousand feet high.”

The guides of this remote Alaskan region were shocked to see a film crew come up laden down with such equipment, all in the goal of getting this never-before-seen snowboarding documentation. Four-35mm cameras, two-HD Cameras, two-mini-HD packages, a Wescam heli-mounted 35mm camera, multiple time-lapsed rigs and every camera package known to man came with the production. With a cinematographer like Scott Duncan who would push technology and camera techniques, Harrison and Curley were guaranteed good footage...and multiple difficult shooting days.

Harrison laughs when he reflects on scouting the day, “Winds, sun, snow, rain. Then your plan changes that morning. You make a new plan, and then 20 minutes later, that plan changes again. And there’s four loads of helicopters stacked up behind you.”

But it was worth it for the filmmakers. In Alaska, Curley believes boarders can do whatever type of line they want. “Freestyle oriented jumps, technical lines, big lines.” Their goal became to find mountains where they were assured they could find powder that would “turn on Hannah and Shaun, on a terrain that they can learn on—all while satisfying Nick and Farmer.” Haakonsen craved a challenge that was mind-blowing to the rest of the cast and crew. It became his quest to finding untouched mountains in the remote Alaskan ranges that hadn’t seen first descent, steep cornices, dangerous jumps off regions with names like, “Never-Never Land” and “Crudbusters”—all daunting.

Fresh powder presented both a welcome challenge and an obstacle for the boarders. With new snow came amazing trails to blaze...and issues for the helicopters tracking the shots. The crew soon agreed that there was no need for chitchat in the helicopter. No time for small talk, just the urgency of getting the key shot and giving core instructions to the riders.

Harrison notes, “Communication is critical out here between the riders and the guides. When the riders are coming down a run, you’ll talk to them. ‘Go left, go right...no that’s a cliff fan there!’ You’ll count them in before their run, and you’ll have to count in—the cinematographer as well—so they know when to start rolling. You coordinate the west cam to get up there. When the helicopter is dropping two thousand

feet in moments, and you're trying to go for a big hero shot, with five on the peak...it's crazy."

Curley summarizes the experience had by all during the filming of *First Descent*, and the effect that snowboarding has had in permanently changing the face of winter sports: "The coolest thing about snowboarding is that it's a testament that you can develop a lifestyle because you have to dedicate yourself to the mountains, to weather—to, learning your tricks, coming up with your own style. It will almost develop a culture from that. And you can become part of a movement."

In the immortal words of the unlikely poet Shawn Farmer, "Once you ride the powder, you never forget it. It's like a drug that brings you back every time."

Universal Pictures and Mountain Dew Films present A Transition Production in association with Embassy Row Liveplanet and Davie-Brown Entertainment: *First Descent-The Story of the Snowboarding Revolution*, starring Shaun White, Hannah Teter, Shawn Farmer, Nick Perata, Terje Haakonsen and narrated by Henry Rollins. Music is by Mark Mothersbaugh; the director of photography is Scott Duncan; co-producers are John Kaplan and Mark Joubert; executive producers are Dave Burwick, John Galloway, Jaime Weinstein, Tera Hanks, Chris Moore, Larry Tanz. *First Descent* is produced and directed by Kevin Harrison and Kemp Curley, written by Kevin Harrison and edited by Kemp Curley. A Universal Release ©2005 Universal Studios.

www.firstdescentmovie.com

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

TRANSITION PRODUCTIONS was formed when Kevin Harrison and Kemp Curley, two long-time friends, came together to form a production company that would embrace and showcase their passion for alternative sports, music and lifestyle with documentaries and television programming. Based in New York City, but traveling all over the world, they created a unique documentary style of meshing multi formats of film and video to showcase these stories from the inside out.

The Transition Productions style was quickly recognized by many long-term clients. MTV/MTV2 has been using Transition Productions for specialty programming,

reality shows and documentaries for over 10 years. MTV shows produced by Transition include *Crashing With...*, *MTV Sports: AXXESS*, *MTV Sports: 3Way Threat* and *Prom Date*. ABC/ESPN has worked with Transition for X Games event coverage and specialty programming for the last seven years. Transition has become the largest outside production company to work on the most recent X Games, covering street skating and surfing (doc events Transition pioneered with ESPN). Major League Soccer is another longtime client of TP. TP has worked with the league for 10 years and created seven years of image campaigns, as well as producing, directing and editing features and profiles for the 2002 and 2006 World Cups held in Korea and Germany. Other clients include BBC America, Discovery, OLN, NBA, MLB, Burton Snowboards, Universal Records, PUMA and the USA Network—which was the first to air a snowboarding documentary based in Alaska produced and directed by TP.

As executive producer / producers who are equally adept at writing and conceptualizing, Harrison and Curley's TP has also been the influential force behind the development of a number of successful shows, series, campaigns and promo concepts.

After leaving MTV Sports in the mid 90s, **KEVIN HARRISON (Producer/Director/Writer)** moved on to produce and direct a number of critically acclaimed documentaries and reality shows for television. In addition to long form programming, he has also written, directed and produced a number of commercial campaigns and promos for Sports Illustrated, Discovery Channel, Nickelodeon, Major League Soccer, BBC, and BBC America. Harrison's seasoned experience as a producer has taken him all over the world and put him in almost every type of production environment imaginable. As a producer of live events, Harrison has coordinated and directed shoots for the World Cup, NBA, MLS Cup, MLB, ESPN's *X Games*, ABC Sports, USA Networks, MTV and multiple live musical performances.

Widely regarded as a strong story telling editor and producer/director, **KEMP CURLEY (Producer/Director/Editor)** has shaped a number of documentary and reality shows including ESPN's *X Games*, *MTV Sports: Unlimited Axxess/Three Way Threat* and all three seasons of the critically acclaimed Tony Hawk's Gigantic Skatepark Tour.

Kemp has produced and directed image campaigns for PUMA, Major League Soccer, Foot Locker and Burton Snowboards. In 2002, he was the *ABC Sport's* chief on-site editor for the Men's World Cup in Seoul Korea, the most widely watched sporting event in the world.

-first descent-the story of the snowboarding revolution-