

AT TIMES IT'S BEEN HARD. I WENT
THROUGH YEARS WHERE I HAD TO
PROVE MYSELF... I DON'T NEED TO
PROVE MYSELF ANYMORE.

| HILAREE NELSON, MOUNTAINEER |



GADAM CLARK

HILAREE NELSON



MOUNTAINEER

For Hilaree Nelson, skiing is the gateway to possibility. Outside magazine named her one of the most adventurous women in the world of sports. She is celebrated for being the first woman to have climbed both Everest and its neighbor, Lhotse, in a single 24-hour period.

Nelson started skiing at age three at Stevens Pass in the Cascade Mountains of Washington State. Shortly after graduating from Colorado College, she took a leap of faith and moved to Chamonix, France, to explore the world of ski mountaineering and climbing. In 1999 Nelson made the first female ski descent of the Bubble Fun Couloir on Wyoming's Buck Mountain, a technical run that drops into a 61-foot cliff.

Nelson has since cut turns down volcanoes on the Kamchatka Peninsula of Russia and mountains in Mongolia, India, Lebanon, and Baffin Island, entering the record books for high-altitude innovation and prowess.

As the recipient of a National Geographic grant, Nelson led a team of alpinists, photographers, and filmmakers to attempt a first ascent of Hkakabo Razi in northern Myanmar in 2014. The film about their adventure and well-publicized feuding, *Down to Nothing*, won the Best Cinematography Award at the Telluride Mountainfilm festival in 2015. Most recently, Nelson attempted another Himalayan giant, Makalu, which was named by *Outside* as one of the "most badass adventures of 2015." In May 2017 she and Jim Morrison made the first American ascent and first-ever ski descent of 21,165 foot Papsura in India. In 2018 she made the first ski descent of Lhotse. She was recently recognized as a 2018 National Geographic Adventurer of the Year, and was named captain of the North Face Athlete Team.

WATCH

| VIDEO 1 | VIDEO 2 | VIDEO 3 |



SPEAKERS

| SPEAKERS@NATGEO.COM

| 1 202-791-2800