



Press information –June, 13TH 2023

NATHALIE LASSELIN, EXCEPTIONAL GODMOTHER OF THE 25TH PARIS INTERNATIONAL DIVE SHOW!



- An exceptional diver-explorer, specialized in Tech dives in all the world's waters, underground, oceanic and Arctic.
- Her goal: see, understand, feel and share the adventure underwater.
- Her message: it's urgent to act and think differently.

Explorer, adventurer, diver and filmmaker, Nathalie Lasselin is a privileged witness of the evolution of the underwater, Arctic and subterranean world.

An exceptional woman, she has agreed to be the godmother of the next edition of the Paris International Dive Show, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary from January 11th till 14 that Paris Porte de Versailles Exhibition Center
In perfect respect of the 2024 show's theme, "**Diving at 360°! All dives, everywhere, in fresh and salt water**", Nathalie Lasselin is keen to convey the beauty and fragility of the underwater world she has been exploring for many years, to share it with those who don't put their heads under water, and also to raise awareness.

Water Sentinel

"As an underwater explorer, I have the privilege of going on expeditions all over the world, in the ocean, in karst systems as well as lakes and rivers. When we immerse ourselves and discover with our own eyes the effects of human pollution on nature, we can no longer deny, we can no longer ignore the findings, and our position of privilege is transformed into a positive and active responsible role towards behavioral changes to live in better balance with the nature of which we are a part".



"What we do to nature, we do it to ourselves"

During her dives in a wide variety of environments, Nathalie Lasselin observes the impact of human activity on the density of aquatic populations, biodiversity and the transformation of species due to so-called emerging contaminants or plastic pollution. According to the explorer, this is a major crisis that threatens the very existence of the human species, compared with nature's unequalled capacity for adaptation and resilience.

"For me, the question in this upheaval is more: do humans realize that they risk not overcoming this crisis?"

Inspire for transcendency

"My curiosity drives me to set up exploration projects to not only see but feel the environments I'm going into."

"The pleasure of going to see a place that even Google doesn't have a picture of is one of the great satisfactions of my explorations. The fact of not knowing what to expect, of having to understand the environment in which we are to be able to adapt ourselves to it, is every time, a great life lesson and a great happiness to feel fully human with our strengths and weaknesses in an environment bigger than ourselves. We're just a tiny drop in the equation, and that's the beauty of it all, too."

Through her lectures, films and documentaries, Nathalie Lasselin inspires people to transcend themselves, to make a commitment to the environment and to achieve daily personal fulfillment that can bring something positive and encouraging to the community.

"For too long, nature and the oceans have been seen as serving us, either as resources or as support for our transport. This relationship is out of balance and shows the extent to which we have forgotten to take care of these rich and fragile environments."

Journey into the center of water

Nathalie Lasselin likes to dive into waters that are not easy, but also unusual, strange, fascinating and overall significant because they may represent a source of drinking water or bear witness to our relationship with nature and humans.



In the submerged boreal forests.

Nathalie's next expedition will take place, for the 4th time, **in the dark waters of Canada's Manicouagan reservoir**. Impact Manicouagan is an expedition into the hydroelectric reservoir of the Manic-5 power station at the Daniel-Johnson dam in Quebec. This reservoir is on the site of the 4th largest impact crater in the world, but also on traditional Innu territory.

When the reservoir was created in the late 1960s, the water level rose by 130 meters, engulfing a vast territory.

"My next expedition aims to dive into the original shoreline, where the Innu people of Pessamit spent most of the year, where people were born. For the Innu, the notion of territory is extremely important, an integral part of their identity.

We've gained a clean source of electricity, while at the same time a people has lost a large part of its territory. This expedition into the reservoir will enable us to put into image and perspective our relationship with nature and its use.

It's also an expedition into the submerged boreal forest. A unique and atypical landscape in an inner world lulled by darkness, in which a series of stories is revealed that began 214 million years ago with the impact of the meteorite".

"We don't have a spare planet, so let's take care of it!"

Nathalie Lasselin is eternally amazed by the beauty of the underwater world. Her role is also to raise awareness and inspire people to take concrete action.



"There's 70% of the Earth waiting for you under the surface of the water. Do you really want to miss 70% of opportunities to surprise yourself, to do yourself good, to admire these beauties? The day you see them, your outlook on life may change, your view of our balance with nature may take on new meaning, and you, in turn, will become allies in the protection of our planet."

A committed godmother of the 25th Paris International Dive Show

"It's a great honor for me to be the godmother of the dive show in Paris. As an expatriate, it takes on an added significance: to be part of the extraordinary influence of this annual event which celebrates diving in all its forms, for anyone who wants to experience immersions underwater. The Dive Show is an annual event not to be missed. It's the very symbol of the festive sharing of enthusiasts who come from all over the world to meet new and future initiates and experts of all kinds".



BIOGRAPHY

With some sixty countries to her credit, **Nathalie shares her passion for the underwater world and exploration** as an expedition leader through her films, articles and conferences. She has taken part in numerous film productions for the big screen, as well as for television (National Geographic, Discovery, TV5...).

Between 2007 and 2021, Nathalie gave over 250 lectures in 10 countries. She is also an author and exhibits her photos at trade shows and festivals around the world. Since 2019, in Quebec, 9-year-olds have been studying her in their school textbooks.

Flagship expeditions

2009-2022: Documentary filming of karst systems in **China, Iceland, Mexico, Dominican Republic...**

2015: Iceland - Diving expedition leader. Exploration and filming in thermal caves.

2015-2021: Underwater cinematographer and protagonist of the historical series wreck hunters/secret shadows.

2015 : Bahamas - Shooting on tiger, lemon, and great hammerhead mokarran sharks with Steven Surina of Shark Education.

2015-2023: Arctic Canada - Diving expedition leader and filming of the Arctic Archipelago and Northwest Passage to raise awareness of climate change.

2017: Montreal - UWO Urban Water Odyssey (proof of concept) through a unique dive of over 21 km and 6 hours. Nathalie is fully committed to this unique dive in order to enrich knowledge about the St. Lawrence River and draw the general public's attention to this water source. Stage 2 of the project took place in 2018.

<https://nathalielasselin.com/expedition-odysseurabineaquatique/>

2018: Montreal - Scientific dives to trace emerging contaminants, river clean-up campaign and 70km dive, from the western tip to the eastern tip of the island of Montreal.

2022: Exploration and filming of the impact of forests exploitations on **Quebec lakes**.

2021-2023: Impact Manicouagan. Exploration and filming of the hydroelectric reservoir in the world's 4th largest impact crater.

Member of the highly select **WDHOF** (Women Divers Hall of Fame), Nathalie Lasselin is also a Fellow of the SRCG Société Royale Canadienne de Géographie and a Fellow of **the Explorers Club**, as well as a **TEDx speaker**.

<https://aquanath.com>

25th edition
Paris International Dive Show
11-14 January 2024 - Paris
Parc des Expositions Porte de Versailles - Hall 4
www.salon-de-la-plongee.com

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