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**DYNAMIC DIRECTOR ADDS ASTONISHING NEW IMAX® FEATURE TO
IMPRESSIVE REPERTOIRE**

Stephen Low's innovative spirit continues to advance the art of IMAX filmmaking

Filmmaker Stephen Low is internationally respected for his ability to deliver a unique non-fiction storytelling voice to the giant screen medium. His directorial skill set includes a profound understanding of the language, limitations and possibilities that the giant-sized canvas of 2D and 3D cinema offer. With films like *Super Speedway* and *Fighter Pilot*, he and his team have consistently broken new ground and wowed audiences around the world. Low's expert and creative use of the 3D have also made him a very sought after filmmaker in this still young medium.

The Ultimate Wave Tahiti takes giant screen audiences into the heart of surfing action truly for the first time - but also into the underlying science of waves. Harnessing powerful surfing action and the perspective of nine-time world surfing champion Kelly Slater, the film explores the nature of wave energy and its connection to the oceans and atmosphere and to the islands and reefs that are the setting of the film.

The film also reflects Low's own fascination with the ocean and his passion for working in its grasp - a passion that has taken him into the deep Atlantic and Pacific on more than one occasion—for the Titanic exploration film *Titanica* (1991) and for *Volcanoes of the Deep Sea* (2003). Low took on the underwater photography for *The Ultimate Wave Tahiti* - a favorite role -

but credits surf specialist Mike Prickett for his skill on the waves with the surfers and his ability to get inside the actual waves with the heavy camera to capture crucial surfing action. The surfing magic in the film also benefited from the great expertise of camera operator Ron Condon and camera assistant Warner Wacha who worked with a high-speed camera to capture slow motion sequences and on-the-board action. Relates Low: “Together with Cinematographer Mark Poirier who worked on land to light and capture the magic of Tahiti, we made a great team - the best a director could ask for,” said Low.

Stephen Low’s diverse giant screen filmography includes independent productions, creations for major studios, co-productions and important ventures with theatres, museums and science centers, major corporations, governments and universities. All these projects have sought to unleash the fullest power of giant screen non-fiction - marrying visual spectacle and storytelling to create a compelling and seamless audience experience. Along the way, The Stephen Low Company has consistently worked to advance the educational impact of the medium, collaborating with expert educators and educational institutions and producing films supported by innovative, standards-based education programs that reach out to classroom audiences and the public-at-large.

With *The Ultimate Wave Tahiti*, Low’s filmmaking uses leading science expertise and the hands-on surf expertise of Kelly Slater and Raimana Van Bastolaer to interpret related ocean science and serve a broader, multi-generational audience. Together with science and education elements developed in consultation with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) scientists and educators, the project is geared to making a big splash with adventure-seeking giant screen audiences.

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