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**RIVERS AND TIDES**  
A film with Andy Goldsworthy  
directed by Thomas Riedelsheimer

*"The river, the sea made solid. And stone made liquid. Then you see something  
you never saw before; that was always there but you were blind to."*

Landscape sculptor **Andy Goldsworthy** is renowned throughout the world for his work in ice, stone, leaves, wood. Some of his works stand and remain in the landscape; others decay, melt, or are blown away. His own remarkable still photographs are Goldsworthy's way of talking about his often ephemeral works, of fixing them in time. Many find places in the exquisite books that have been the basis of his wide popularity. Now with this deeply moving film, shot in four countries and across four seasons, and the first major film he has allowed to be made, the elusive element of time adheres to his sculpture.

Two big influences on his work, says Goldsworthy, are "the sea and river, both water. You would think that time would be more compatible with the tide; time and tide, this daily up and down, but somehow a lot can be learnt about time by the river." And then: "river is not dependent on water – we're talking about the flow. The river is a river of stone, a river of animals, a river of the wind, a river of water, a river of many things. And the river of growth that flows through the trees and the land."

The opposite should be stone. But "we set so much by our idea of the stability of stone. We measure stability by stone. And when I find that stone itself is actually fluid and liquid, that really undermines my sense of time, of what is here to stay and what isn't".

Director **Thomas Riedelsheimer** worked with Andy Goldsworthy for over a year to shoot this film. What Riedelsheimer found was a profound sense of breathless discovery and uncertainty in Goldsworthy's work, in contrast to the stability of conventional sculpture. There is risk in everything that Goldsworthy does. He takes his fragile work - and it can be as fragile in stone as in ice or twigs - right to the edge of its collapse, a very beautiful balance and a very dramatic edge within the film. The film captures the essential unpredictability of working with rivers and with tides, feels into a sense of liquidity in stone, travels with Goldsworthy underneath the skin of the earth and reveals colour and energy flowing through all things.

Riedelsheimer's film, like Goldsworthy's sculpture, grows into something beyond the simple making of an object. It touches the heart of what Goldsworthy does and who he is, in much the same way that Goldsworthy touches the heart of a place when he works in it and leaves his mark on it. In this film, which is Goldsworthy's work as much as Riedelsheimer's, "you see something you never saw before; that was always there but you were blind to".

**"Rivers and Tides"** is produced by Mediopolis GmbH, Berlin and Skyline Productions Ltd, Edinburgh. The producer is Annedore v. Donop and the co-producers are Trevor Davies and Leslie Hills. It is 90 minutes duration, 35 mm, Dolby SR and was finished in December 2000. The music for the film was made by FRED FRITH.