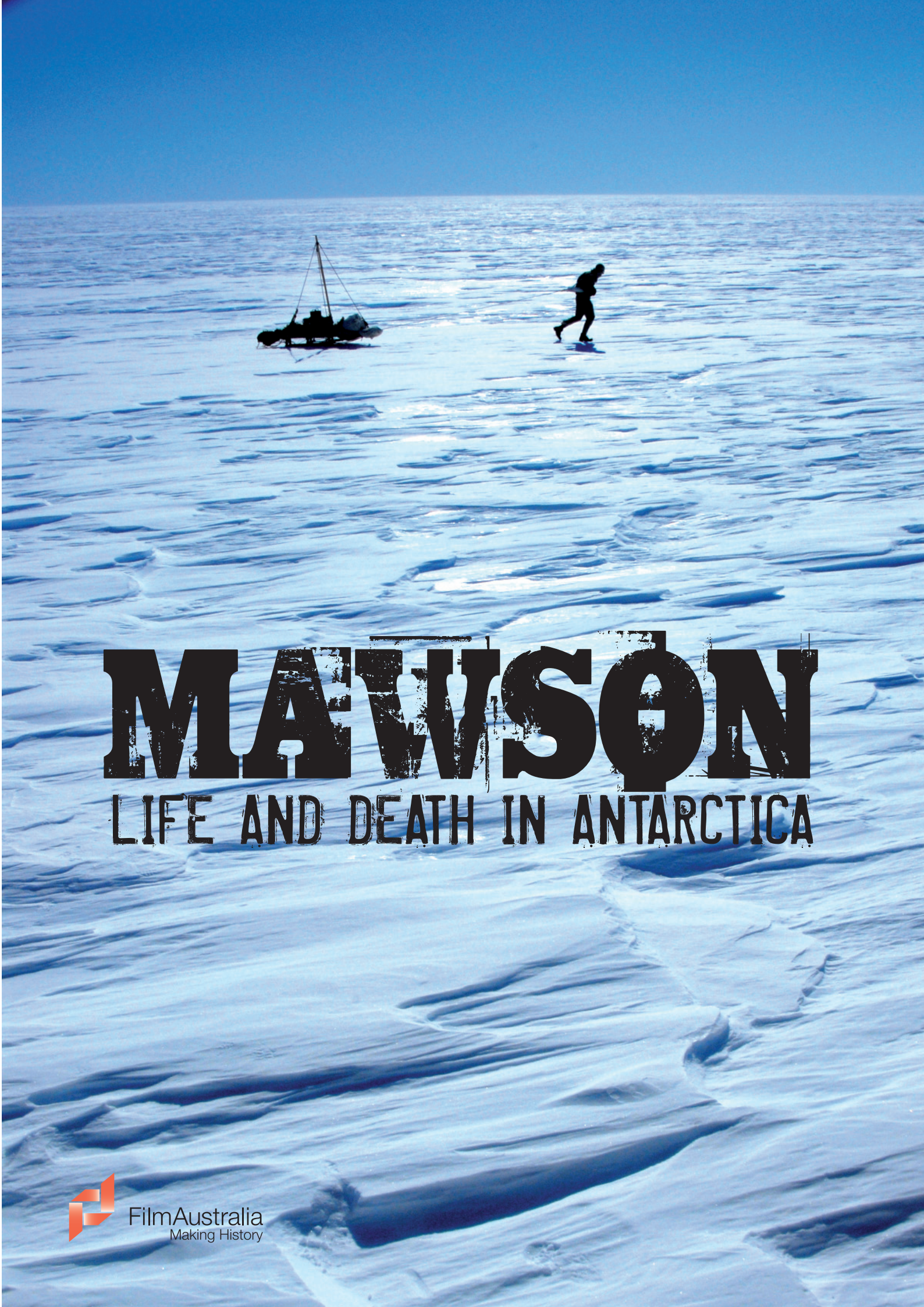


A wide-angle photograph of a person walking across a vast, icy landscape. In the distance, a small boat is visible on the ice. The sky is a clear, deep blue.

MAWSON

LIFE AND DEATH IN ANTARCTICA



FilmAustralia
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MAWSON

LIFE AND DEATH IN ANTARCTICA



The Douglas Mawson Antarctic Expedition of 1912 is one of the most amazing feats of physical and mental endurance of all time.

After an horrific journey across hundreds of kilometres of frozen wasteland during which his two companions perished, the world was amazed to hear that Douglas Mawson had survived. Some questioned how it was possible, and the media of the day reported that he had considered eating the body of his dead comrade, Xavier Mertz.

Mawson was knighted and became a hero, but the question of how he lived when others died has tantalised scientists, historians and explorers ever since.

Now, Australian adventurer Tim Jarvis retraces Mawson's grueling experience to find an answer. Having been almost killed during his own solo trek to the South Pole in 1999, he confronts the deadly ice again—as Mawson did, with the same meagre rations and primitive clothing and equipment.

It's a bold and unprecedented historical experiment that will provide clues to what happened to Mawson physically—and mentally—as a man hanging on the precipice of life and death. Combining the drama of Jarvis's contemporary adventure with chilling dramatic reconstructions, expert commentary and stunning footage from the original expedition photographed by Frank Hurley, this is an extraordinary story of human survival.

Writer/Director Malcolm McDonald

Producer Richard Dennison

Line Producer Perry Stapleton

Executive Producer Alex West

Year 2007

A FILM AUSTRALIA MAKING HISTORY PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION
WITH ORANA FILMS. PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE
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PHOTOGRAPHS BY MALCOLM McDONALD, FRED OLIVER
AND COURTESY THE MAWSON CENTRE