

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: MONDAY 28 APRIL 2014

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Eight Days: The Overland Track in Winter

The Overland Track is considered to be a challenging walk even in fine weather. For many, the thought of making it a solo mid-winter trek would be asking for trouble.

Tasmanian photographer David McCormack took the risk to experience and record the beauty of the wilderness in winter, and the results can be seen in a stunning photography exhibition at the UTAS Cradle Coast Campus Atrium Gallery.

Eight Days: The Overland Track in Winter is McCormack's first solo exhibition and features images of the track under the blanket of mid-winter snow. McCormack arrived in Tasmania from the UK 15 years ago, armed only with his experience of Scottish and Italian mountains and his beloved SLR camera. His confidence to tackle the Overland Track in winter resulted from his experiences of walking and climbing in Europe.

"I had learned how to judge and avoid certain risks; carry the right kit, make sure you can survive a night out if something goes wrong. I knew how to climb with ropes, to read maps and use compasses, to use ice-axes and to how to judge avalanche risks," he said.

UTAS Exhibitions Coordinator Joanna Gair said the exhibition provides an insight into the usually hidden wild winter spaces along the track.

"The images bring a sense of awe and wonder, and provide the viewer with a climber's perspective of these epic Tasmanian landscapes," Ms Gair said.

What: Photography exhibition *Eight Days: The Overland Track in Winter*.

Where: Atrium Gallery, UTAS Cradle Coast Campus, 16-20 Mooreville Rd, Burnie.

Exhibition dates: May 1 – May 29 2014

Opening: 5pm Thursday 1 May 2014. All are welcome to attend. Address by photographer and ABC radio presenter Rick Eaves.

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