

The project founder Bernard Weber – A Short History

Bernard Weber has had a varied career as a filmmaker, museum curator, aviator, and explorer. Fluent in five languages, the Swiss-born Canadian Weber has spent most of his life traveling the world and experiencing the rare sense of adventure and inspiration that comes from meeting different cultures. “I come from a small country at the center of the European continent where one is practically forced to cross borders to travel. As soon as I was old enough to explore the world, I discovered that travel is one of the great pleasures in life: it is not only a ‘disappearance’, a way of escaping our usual life and work routines; but also a great adventure that allows one to see the extraordinary beauty of the earth and the grandeur of human accomplishment. Aviation has enabled people to experience, within a space of several years, what would have taken 500 years to experience in the past when transport was so much slower and often impossible.”

It is precisely such a global perspective that led Weber to embark upon The Official New 7 Wonders of the World project. “The renowned Ancient Wonders belong to antiquity and, with the exception of the Pyramids, none remains in existence. There has never been any true public consensus of opinion on the last 2000 years of human achievement. The beginning of the new millennium is a poignant historical moment for determining The Official New 7 Wonders of the World. The internet is perhaps the only democratic means of distributing information around the world since it is free to everyone who has access to a computer and telephone network. That is why we are urging the world’s population to participate in this free vote which pays tribute to our collective global cultural heritage.”

Weber’s project opened with the spectacular landing of his amphibian aircraft in Sydney Harbour on 15th September 2000, a week prior to the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games. This event was aired by television stations all over the world, such as CNN and Channel 9.

The New 7 Wonders will further be documented on breathtaking IMAX large format film, for which Weber’s extensive film background will prove useful.

