

ATLAS

ENDURANCE AND THE GREAT WHITE SILENCE

THE ANTARCTIC PHOTOGRAPHS OF FRANK HURLEY,
HERBERT PONTING AND CAPTAIN SCOTT

8 DECEMBER 2020 - 31 MARCH 2021

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The exhibition *Endurance and the Great White Silence* at Atlas Gallery brings together the most famous and most influential photographs of Antarctica ever taken in superb new platinum-palladium prints. It is the first time these images by three legendary Antarctic names – Scott, Ponting and Hurley – have been exhibited together.

The photographs by Herbert G. Ponting (1870-1935), Captain Scott's official photographer on his final expedition, and Frank Hurley (1885-1962), Ernest Shackleton's photographer on the *Endurance* expedition, are complemented by a limited-edition book containing Captain Scott's own photographs, taken as he headed to the South Pole.

"Setting their extraordinary stories aside, these are some of the greatest landscapes ever taken and are, from a photographic point of view, comparable to the work of the great landscape photographers of the 20th century," says Atlas Gallery director Ben Burdett. "And these limited-edition prints by Salto Ulbeek Publishers, world leaders in platinum-palladium printing, are definitive prints of photographs from the collections of the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge and the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG).

"Ponting and Hurley were very different photographers," says Burdett. "Before joining Scott aboard the *Terra Nova*, English-born Ponting had been working in California at the same time as the likes of Alfred Stieglitz in the early 1900s. Had he not gone to the Antarctic, he still would have been one of the most important landscape photographers of the 20th century – and may well have been more famous had he not become associated with Scott. Ponting's approach was more formal, Hurley's was much freer. Hurley was much more an early reportage photographer. His most famous image of *Endurance* at night was entirely modernist in concept and took a huge degree of art direction, setting up multiple magnesium flashes. This is an image that Ponting wouldn't have taken."

Before Ponting and Hurley's photographs were published, there were few images of the mysterious ice-bound southern continent. "These photographs are the foundational images of Antarctica and among the first images through which the wider public discovered Antarctica visually," says Jean de Pomereu, co-editor at Salto Ulbeek Publishers, who is himself a seasoned Antarctic photographer.

"Photography being reproduceable suddenly brought Antarctica to a wider public. As well as providing an unparalleled historic record, their depiction of the vast frozen landscapes, ice sheets and bergs greatly influenced how the continent has been regarded since. These photographs are the first chapter of Antarctic photography – they touch on the sublime and are imbued with romanticism."

HERBERT G. PONTING & CAPTAIN SCOTT'S BRITISH ANTARCTIC (TERRA NOVA) EXPEDITION 1910-13

As well as introducing an entire new realm at the 'end of the earth', the photographs brought viewers face to face with the explorer-heroes and their daily lives during the long months aboard fragile ships, with the animals that were destined to be both transport and food, then the sled treks across vast white wastes.

Herbert Ponting reveals other-worldly vistas, such as Beautiful, broken ice, reflections and Terra Nova and Erebus and dome cloud from West Beach; but he also shows us Captain Oates and some of the ponies, a gentle hand on the neck of one. The poignant image is tinged with foreboding.

In Ponting's individual three-quarter portraits, we meet weather-beaten men with goggle marks on their serious, self-contained, faces but we also see them larking about in the snow, their life in huts and tents, and tiny figures sledding through the towers of ice and snow.

CAPTAIN SCOTT'S OWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE TERRA NOVA EXPEDITION

Too old to make the trek to the pole, Ponting left for London in February 1912 with his photographs, but not before he taught Captain Scott (1868-1912) to use the camera. "Scott's photographs document an incredible physical endeavour and, with Ponting as his teacher, he developed an eye and considerable ability," says Ben Burdett. "These images were found in the Ponting archive some years ago – until then, no one had realised they were Scott's own photographs." Scott took them between September and mid-December 1911 and sent the exposed negatives back to Cape Evans with a supporting party. Scott died at the end of March 1912, on his return from the South Pole.

Captain Scott's Antarctic Expedition 1910-13 is a platinum-palladium book (35 x 40 cm) produced in a limited edition of 18 by Salto Ulbeek in association with the Scott Polar Research Institute.

FRANK HURLEY AND ERNEST SHACKLETON'S IMPERIAL TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION 1914-17

Australian photographer Frank Hurley accompanied Ernest Shackleton on his Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition. Setting sail in 1914, the Endurance became trapped in pack ice in the Weddell Sea and the men never landed on the Antarctic mainland. Instead, months later, they were forced to abandon ship but, before she sank, Hurley and Shackleton saved some 200 glass negatives, all the weight they could afford. After months on the drifting ice, the men managed to land on Elephant Island. There, most waited while Shackleton and five crew sailed to South Georgia for help in a small open boat. The expedition and its rescue is one of the greatest stories of survival, gripping the public imagination for generations.

Hurley, who was both photographer and protagonist, offers an astounding record of that voyage and escape. One crew member wrote that he was "a warrior with his camera & would go anywhere or do anything to get a picture". Always willing to improvise in search of a new angle, Hurley climbed high into the rigging with heavy camera, tripod and boxes of glass plates, and lugged them over dangerous expanses of ice to capture precisely his desired composition.

Hurley's photographic skill is evident in his handling of both the monumental icy landscape and his images of life below deck in the Antarctic winter months. His photographs document the crew at work with a microscope and charts, at rest, reading, playing dominoes in the before the final demise of Endurance and the beginning of their long journey to safety.

Just over a century later, Professor Julian Dowdeswell, Director of Cambridge University's Scott Polar Research Institute, was Chief Scientist on the Weddell Sea Expedition 2019, which had the dual aims of understanding more about climate change in the Weddell Sea and searching for the wreck of Shackleton's Endurance, whose remains rest 3,000 m below the sea-ice infested waters. "What struck me most about being in the Weddell Sea, even in a modern state-of-the-art icebreaker, was the sheer desolation of the place, its inaccessibility and the ever shifting and threatening ice cover," said Dowdeswell. "The isolation of Endurance during its drift, and the impact that its sinking must have had on Shackleton's men, was really brought home to me."



HERBERT G. PONTING

Grotto in Berg, Terra Nova in Distance, Taylor and Wright (interior), January 5th 1911

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Master Print

Paper: 90 x 120cm

Image: 88 x 118cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 15,000



HERBERT G. PONTING

Beautiful, broken ice, reflections and Terra Nova, January 7th 1911

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

50 x 36 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 3,080 (print only)

Large format

80 x 58 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £4,845

Extra Large, Master print

paper size: 90 x 120 cm / image size: 86 x 115 cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 9,500 (print only)



HERBERT G. PONTING

At the pumps in a gale in Antarctic ocean, March 1912

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

50 x 36 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,425

Large format

80 x 58 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 3,740 (print only)

Extra Large, Master print

paper size: 90 x 120 cm / image size: 86 x 115 cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 9,500 (print only)



HERBERT G. PONTING

Chris and the gramophone

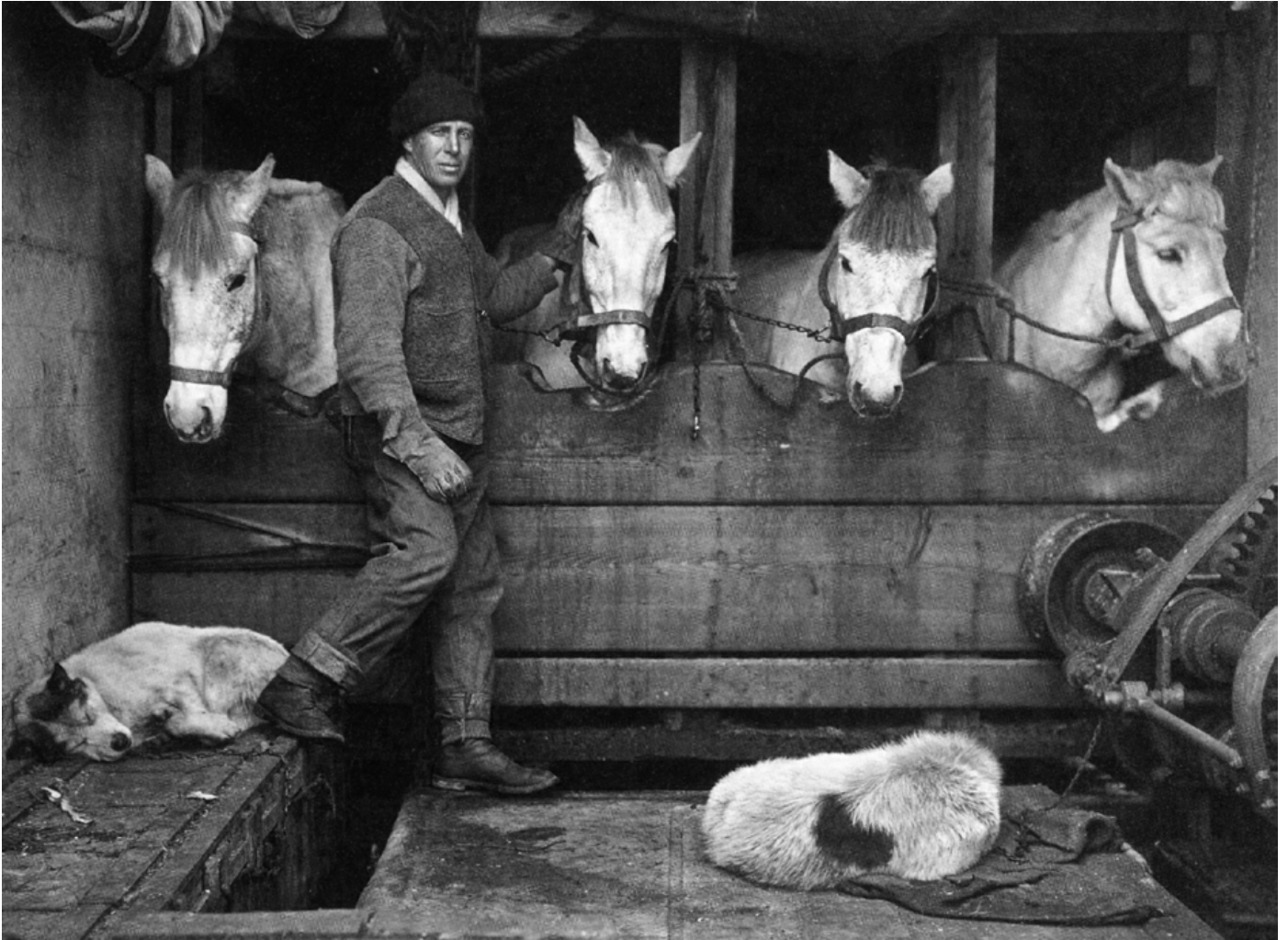
Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

50 x 36 cm

Edition of 30

Starting from £ 3,950



HERBERT G. PONTING

Capt. Oates and some of the ponies

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

50 x 36 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,875

Large format

80 x 58 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 3,740 (print only)

Extra Large, Master print

paper size: 90 x 120 cm / image size: 86 x 115 cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 9,500 (print only)

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FRANK HURLEY

Flashlight taken during the Polar night., "The Spectre Ship"

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 63 x 53 cm, Image size: 50 x 37.5 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 3,385 (print only)

Large Format

Paper size: 75 x 95 cm, Image: 60 x 80 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 5,300



FRANK HURLEY

The Returning Sun, August 1915

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 65 x 53 cm, Image size: 50 x 37.5 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 3,550



FRANK HURLEY

Mid-winter Dinner

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 4,350



FRANK HURLEY

The Nightwatchman's Story

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,750



FRANK HURLEY

The Endurance crushed by the ice packs 300 miles from land

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Large Format

Paper size: 75 x 95 cm, Image: 60 x 80 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 4,600



FRANK HURLEY

Crystal ice flowers on the surface of the newly frozen ice, with Endurance frozen behind

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,750



FRANK HURLEY

A morning in the "Ritz", on board the Endurance in midwinter

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Large Format

Paper size: 75 x 95 cm, Image: 60 x 80 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 4,500



HERBERT G. PONTING

The Terra Nova and a berg at ice-foo, January 16th 1911

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

50 x 36 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,365 (print only)

Large format

80 x 58 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 3,990

Extra Large, Master print

paper size: 90 x 120 cm / image size: 86 x 115 cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 9,500 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Endurance frozen in the ice

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,995 (print only)

Large Format

Paper size: 75 x 95 cm, Image: 60 x 80 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 4,500



FRANK HURLEY

The Endurance keeled over by pressure

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Large Format

Paper size: 75 x 95 cm, Image: 60 x 80 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 4,500 (print only)



CAPTAIN SCOTT

Antarctic Photographs, 1911

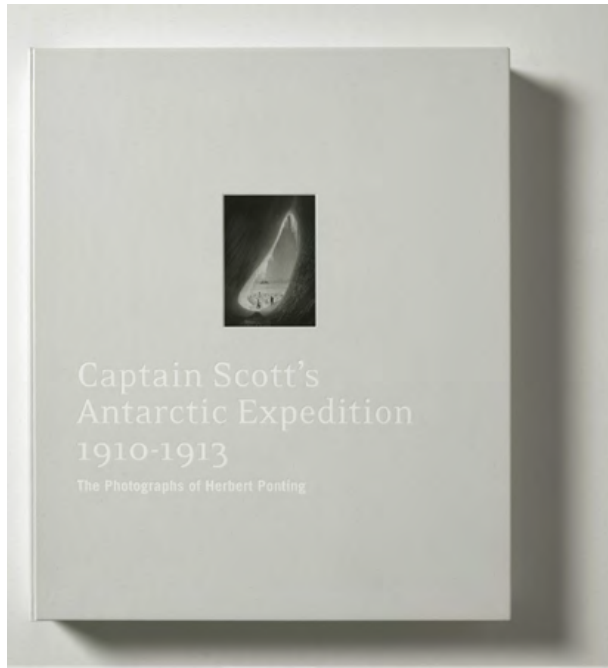
Edition Platinum-Palladium book

18 copies – 1 printer proof – 3 artist proofs

Published by Salto Ulbeekin association with the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge

14 x 16 inches

£ 23,000



HERBERT G. PONTING

Captain Scott's Antarctic Expedition, 1910 - 1913

Edition print portfolio, printed later

48 platinum prints on 100% cotton paper with 6 essay booklets

Print and booklet size: 42.8 x 50.7 cm, Box size: 44.7 x 53.3 x 6 cm

Edition of 50 portfolios

£ 32,000



SHACKLETON'S ENDURANCE
The Photographs of Frank Hurley, 1914-1917

FRANK HURLEY

Shackleton's Endurance - The photographs of Frank Hurley

Limited platinum-palladium edition Portfolio

25 copies + 4 artist proofs + 1 printer proof

Size of portfolio box : 37.5 x 43.5 cm.

Contents - four sections :

- 12 page offset-printed introductory pamphlet.
- 16 page offset-printed essay pamphlet.
- 68 platinum-palladium loose-leaf prints on cotton paper.
- 52 page platinum-palladium printed bound book.
- Portrait of Hurley: platinum-palladium print on Japanes gampi paper

Published by Salto Ulbeek in association with the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) and the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge

£ 60,000

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ALSO AVAILABLE, PLEASE ASK STAFF:



HERBERT G. PONTING

The waning daylight sun over the Barne Glacier, Midday, March 26th 1911

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

50 x 36 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,365 (print only)

Large format

80 x 58 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 3,740 (print only)

Extra Large, Master print

paper size: 90 x 120 cm / image size: 86 x 115 cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 9,500 (print only)



HERBERT G. PONTING

The Terra Nova held up in the pack, December 13th 1910

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

50 x 36 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 3,440 (print only)

Large format

80 x 58 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 4,595 (print only)

Extra Large, Master print

paper size: 90 x 120 cm / image size: 86 x 115 cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 9,500 (print only)



HERBERT G. PONTING

The Matterhorn Berg profile with Erebus, October 8th 1911

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

50 x 36 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,365 (print only)

Large format

80 x 58 cm

Edition of 20

starting from £ 4,125 (print only)

Extra Large, Master print

paper size: 90 x 120 cm / image size: 86 x 115 cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 9,500 (print only)



CAPTAIN SCOTT

Camp on the Ferrar Glacier: Mt Sister, the Overflow Glacier, the Royal Society Range, Descent Glacier and Cathedral Rocks, Spring Journey sequence. September 1911

Two negative composite panorama, Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Edition of 15

starting from £ 3.600 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Endurance in full sail, in the ice (side view)

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Extra Large, Master print

paper size: 90 x 120 cm, image size: 86 x 115 cm

Edition of 5

starting from £ 9,500 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Second Mate Leask admires the buttress of an ice face

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,995 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

The Endurance beset by pack ice during the Polar Night

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,995 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Endurance in the ice

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,600 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Kennels and dogs on the ice at night

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,600 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Endurance frozen in the ice

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,600 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Dawn after winter

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,600 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Skiing on the ice

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,600 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Tom Crean with born puppies

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,600 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Hussey lifting Samson

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,600 (print only)



FRANK HURLEY

Frank Wild

Platinum Print on 100% cotton paper

Medium format

Paper size: 53 x 65 cm, Image size: 37.5 x 50 cm

Edition of 30

starting from £ 2,600 (print only)

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Please note prices are inclusive of framing (unless stated otherwise) but exclusive of VAT.
Prices are subject to change as the editions sell.

*** FOR DELIVERY OF OTHER FRAMED PRINTS, ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 5TH ***

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