

## Bolivia Ski mountaineering trip

*After Argentina, Peru and Ecuador, another South American classic destination where to bring ski mountaineering to a high level.*

Skiers Giulia Monego, Dave Rosenbarger and photographer/mountaineer Christian Pondella, are leaving on May 12 for 3 weeks of ski mountaineering in the Andes, in Bolivia.

The three friends met each other in the mountaineering Mecca, Chamonix Mt Blanc. After have spent some great skiing days together in 2010, tracking fresh snow down the North face of the Aiguille di Midi and other beautiful lines in the surroundings, they decided to get together for an extra-european trip, and head down to another classic mountaineering place: Bolivia.

The Andes in this section of the South American continent are incredibly shaped, leaving a skier imagination dreaming over some of their esthetic lines, and steep snowy faces. "Stunning looking pyramids, big glaciers and sharp ridges are the terrain that we are expecting to encounter", says Giulia, "and the goal will be to explore, climb and ski some of those nice, steep, white looking faces that are making me dream now!".

"Objectives are many, but depending on snow conditions and weather we will focus on some beautiful peaks, hoping for good skiable snow", declare Dave. "Some lower summits, like the Pequeño Alpamayo 5370m, will work out great for the acclimatization, but offers as well a stunning skiable line from the summit" he continue.



Pequeño Alpamayo 5370m

Climber, mountaineer, skier and professional photographer Christian Pondella, is looking forward to capture some moments of this fabulous trip with his camera, but nonetheless to summit and ski those high mountains that he dreamt about for a long time. All the three of them have good experience in the mountain, and traveled to ski mountains all over the Earth. With their climbing and skiing skills we can expect only over standing reports and cutting edge photography

## The Team:



### **Giulia Monego** [www.giuliamonego.com](http://www.giuliamonego.com)

Since childhood Giulia has dedicated herself to her passion for mountains and snow. This passion took her first from the Venetian waters of her birth to the Dolomites, and then to Verbier in the Swiss Alps where she has found the home which inspires and motivates her.

After few years of freeride competitions around the world she moved on bigger mountains and brought her skiing to the next level.

Traveling and exploring new countries remains her greatest passion besides skiing, giving her the opportunity to meet others and encounter new cultures. Combining a charity purpose with a climbing/skiing trip is for Giulia a great opportunity which makes her proud to be one of the founders of the Summits4kids NGO that she started in 2009. As a professional skier and a passionate mountaineer, Giulia lives to share her love for riding free...

Sponsors: The North Face, Kästle skis, Garmont, Smith, Grivel, Freegun

### **Dave Rosenbarger**



David was introduced to skiing at a very young age and has never looked back. He grew up in the mountains of Oregon, in the northwest corner of the United States. During university, his enthusiasm for the mountains naturally led him towards climbing and later he began combining his two passions. Ski mountaineering, and a desire to ski steeper peaks eventually brought him to Chamonix, France. It is here he has called home for the past 10 winters and where he respectfully collected a number of beautiful, hard ski descents. David now splits his year between Chamonix and Lake Tahoe, California. He is currently working to complete his IFMGA/UIAGM guide certification.

Sponsors: Oakley, Blizzard, Tecnica, Patagonia

### **Christian Pondella** [www.christianpondella.com](http://www.christianpondella.com)



Christian Pondella is an adventure sports photographer who has lived in Mammoth Lakes for over 18 years. He travels all over the world on assignments shooting a variety of adventure sports like skiing, BASE jumping, hanggliding, FMX motocross, mountain biking, and just about any kind of extreme sport. He is a Senior photographer for Powder Magazine and images have been featured in most ski publications world wide as well as many other adventure magazines like Maxim, FHM, GQ, Sports Illustrated, Outside, Sunset, Men's Journal and ESPN magazine.

As an avid participant in a lot of the sports he photographs, he tries to capture an image through the athlete's perspective, instead of the spectators view. His goal is to bring people an intimate view of the cutting edge of adventure sports. "I like to get close to the action" so you can feel what is going on in my images. His favorite sport to photograph is powder skiing, "If I am shooting powder that means I am skiing it!"

Media coverage.

Diverse type of media are now contacted for this kind of trip coverage.

The connection that photographer Pondella has with magazines in the US are significant, and creates a good potential to publish a story in some specialized press there. Some European magazines can possibly be interested in an article, and surely some Giulia's personal sponsors will be interested in having some photos of the products.

The hope is that between article in websites, and on paper there will be a good visibility of the photos that Pondella will capture.

