



# SECOND YEAR OF KILIAN JORNET'S PROJECT SUMMITS OF MY LIFE CHALLENGES STARTS

*Today, the athlete completed the ascent and descent of Mont Blanc from Chamonix, setting a new route record with a time of 04:57 h.*

*The second year of the Summits of My Life challenges started today at Montblanc and will continue throughout the summer in Elbrus (Russia) and the Matterhorn (Italy). Director Seb Montaz will film what is to be the second film of the project.*

*"We knew that the weather conditions were good and that it was a good day for the attempt. We have had a constant pace during the ascent. We have been roped with Mathéo so we could hold to each other and thus avoid the crevasses. On the descend Mathéo fell down and couldn't keep up on the final stretch. It has been a great experience anyway"*

Chamonix, 11th July 2013

Today Kilian Jornet has started the second year of the *Summits of My Life* challenges. In this project, which started in 2012 and is expected to last three more years, Jornet set himself the target of crowning some of the globe's most iconic peaks. To do this, he will attempt to break speed records of each peak without assistance and with the minimum material possible, trying to convey his values and his vision of life and the mountains. As happened with the challenges of 2012, this year's will be filmed by French director Seb Montaz.

This second year of the challenges started this morning with the ascent and descent of Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in the French Alps. It was 4:48 am when Jornet, accompanied by friend and mountain skier Matheo Jacquemond, set off on the third challenge of the project. The planned route started in the church square in Chamonix and climbed to the summit of Mont Blanc following the historic route of the Grands Mulet. Upon leaving Chamonix, the athletes started the climb via Jonction, then crossed the Grand Moulets and passed the Vallot mountain refuge, reaching the summit in a time of 3:30h.

Jacquemond and Jornet climbed from Jonction to the Vallot refuge roped together for safety reasons. This was the same during the descent, although Jacquemond suffered a slight fall in Jonction. It was then that Jornet ran off ahead and reached the church in Chamonix with a final time of 4:57h. The existing record broken today was 5:11h, established by Swiss Pierre-André Gobet in 1990.

Upon reaching the square Jornet said, "***We knew that the weather conditions were good and that it was a good day for the attempt. We have had a constant pace during the ascent. We have been roped with Mathéo so we could hold to each other and thus avoid the crevasses. On the descend Mathéo fell down and couldn't keep up on the final stretch. It has been a great experience anyway***"

Once Mathéo Jacquemond has reached Chamonix he explained: "***We climbed fast and steady until we reached the Mont Blanc Summit, it was a very nice moment. I fell while descending and I got a bit injured on my leg. Even though I was fine I felt I couldn't run***"



Per a més informació sobre el projecte Summits of My Life o Kilian Jornet

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*as fast as I wanted so we agreed with Kilian that he would go on his own so that I could climb down with Vivien. I am happy I was able to go with Kilian, it was a wonderful day”.*

The whole journey was filmed by director Seb Montaz who said: ***“It is very easy to work with Kilian and Matheo because they are enthusiast people, but shooting them is a bit more complicated as they run really fast and it’s difficult to follow them. As there was quite a lot of snow today we could ski our way down and shoot them at the same time. We used a small steady cam that gives the feeling to the spectator that he is running with them. For me, the best moment today was when Kilian had to leave Matheo and they hug each other, it was very emotional”.***

Together with Montaz was mountain guide Vivian Bucher, who was responsible for safety during the ascent and who descended with Jacquemond. On arrival in Chamonix, he said, ***“Seb and I started at 1am to get ready so we could wait for the moment for Kilian and Matheo to climb up. We have also checked the snow conditions and we have realized that it was really good. We knew well the route as we did it four times before the attempt today. With Seb we have split so we could have visual contact with them at any time. On the way down we descended with Matheo after he fell. It has been an amazing experience”.***

Following the basic premises of his project *Summits of My Life*, Jornet wanted to make the climb respecting the values he sustains: friendship (climbing alongside Jacquemond up to the summit); simplicity (using lightweight material), effort (trying to break a record) and respect for nature, among other factors. Kilian Jornet said: ***“If I had to define today’s day with one word it would be friendship. It was very nice to get to share the route with a friend. Once we reached the top we looked at each other and we understood what this route meant for the two of us”.***

This mountain traverse is the first stage of the Summits of My Life challenges this year. The following challenges in 2013 will be Elbrus (Russia) and the Matterhorn (Italy).

## **DETAILS OF THE CHAMONIX-MONT BLANC-CHAMONIX TRAVERSE**

START: Chamonix (France)

END: Chamonix (France)

DISTANCE: 32 Kilometers

Total altitude climb: 4000m

Route: Via the Grand Mulets, the classical ascent route to Mont Blanc

## **EQUIPMENT USED**

Trainers with softcrown soles and spikes

Shorts

Thermal t-shirt

Windproof jacket

Windproof trousers



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Bumbag

Sunglasses

Gloves

Neckwarmer

0.5l water

2 icepacks

Watch

15m of rope

Headlight

**SUMMITS OF MY LIFE**  
BY KILIAN JORNET

*Summits of My Life* is Kilian Jornet's personal project, in which he will try to set ascent and descent records for the most important mountains on the planet. The project lasts four years, and is planned to culminate in 2015 with the record attempt on the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest.

*Summits of My Life* is closely linked to certain values and to a purist and minimalist way of understanding mountains, which is why the climbs will be as self-sufficient as possible, searching in this way for the maximum bond between man and mountain.

The Project will be recorded in four films, which will show the experiences of each year. The first, « [A Fine Line](#) », directed by Sébastien Montaz-Rosset, narrates the first year of the project and is an emotional journey across the spectacular peaks of the Alps in the company of a small group of extraordinary mountains athletes in search of their own particular idea of happiness.

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**TRAILER OF A FINE LINE :** <http://vimeo.com/55782654>

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