

Colin Angus



Speaker Biography

Colin has had a life full of transformative experiences. He spent five years sailing the Pacific Ocean, exploring countries including French Polynesia, the Cook Islands, and Papua New Guinea; he and two friends rafted down the Amazon River, braving treacherous white-water rapids and even gunfire from guerilla fighters; he survived being lost in the Mongolian wilderness with no tools for survival while seeking to navigate the Yenisey River; and, in perhaps his greatest accomplishment, he walked, biked, skied, paddled, and rowed more than 43,000 kilometers, crossing three continents and two oceans to complete the first human-powered circumnavigation of the Earth. Other feats include the fastest human-powered circumnavigation of Vancouver Island in a rowboat; rowing 7,000 kilometers from Scotland to Syria; and, most recently, a National Geographic Expedition searching for the origins of the olive tree.

His time on the water inspired Colin to co-found Angus Rowboats, a company that pushes the boundaries of performance recreational craft. Designing around the parameters of modest human propulsion means that attention has to be paid to every detail to maximize performance, while not compromising seaworthiness. This understanding of small boats, developed through trial and error and rigorous testing, is what is required to develop reliable high-performance autonomous craft. Energy-harvesting boats must perform well and reliably with very little energy input, which is Colin's specialty.

Colin is the author of five books, and his writing has appeared in *The Globe and Mail*, *Explore*, *enRoute*, and *Reader's Digest*, among others. He has also co-produced four documentaries, which went on to collectively win more than ten awards at international film festivals.