



Critical Acclaim For 'THE CITY DARK'

By Ian Cheney

"A documentary about light pollution that is entertaining and thought-provoking? It hardly seems possible, but that's what Ian Cheney has made in *The City Dark*. . . . This film makes you want to go find a starry sky to camp under quickly, before it's all gone."

—Neil Genzlinger, *The New York Times*

"New York pedestrians tend not to look up too much for fear of being mistaken for tourists gawking at skyscrapers. Ian Cheney gazed toward the heavens and got a film out of it. *The City Dark* is an unexpected walk through the implications of well-lit cities. . . . One bonus is its cool, hypnotic music."

—David Bauder, *Associated Press*

"Perhaps the most important thing *The City Dark* has to tell us is that by losing touch with the stars, we've lost touch with something that inspired our distant ancestors in a profoundly spiritual way."

—Michael D. Lemonick, *Time*

"An illuminating documentary about what constant exposure to artificial light does to our bodies, our minds and the natural world."

—Joe Neumaier, *New York Daily News*

"Poetic, at times profound. . ."

—Gary Goldstein, *Los Angeles Times*

"An informative, well-rounded look at light pollution told with a star-gazing enthusiast's passion for his subject."

—Jay Weissberg, *Variety*

"Cheney may be a city boy now, but he is still the same guy from Waldoboro, Maine who grew up respecting the stars."

—David Greene, Host, NPR "*Weekend Edition Sunday*"

"One of the most important advances in modern technology is impacting the world in ways most people probably don't even realize. . . . A fascinating subject."

—Terrell Brown, CBS News "*Up to the Minute*"

"Illuminating. . . . I hadn't given much thought to light pollution until I watched *The City Dark*. . . . Definitely worth watching, even if you have a lovely view of the night sky right outside your window."

—Whitney Matheson, *USA TODAY*

"Elegant and poetic. . . . Ian Cheney has built a bridge with this documentary, hoping to give us a new appreciation for the jewels of the darkened sky. A love story that reminds us of our ancestral past and, as [astrophysicist Neil deGrasse] Tyson comments, 'our place in the cosmos.'"

—Jana J. Monji, *Chicago Sun-Times*

"The City Dark is a quiet, reflective, modest movie, but it changed the way I look at the city, the sky, the stars, and night itself."

—**Matt Zoller Seitz, *Vulture* blog, *New York* magazine**

"Documentarians get their ideas from all sorts of places—newspaper stories, family albums, an overheard story on a train — but rarely does inspiration come from as poetic an activity as stargazing— unless, of course, the documentarian in question happens to be filmmaker Ian Cheney."

—**Mary Anderson Casavant, *Filmmaker* magazine**

"What is lost in the glare of the city lights? . . . The answers may surprise you. Or they just may send you driving out into the country, running into a field to marvel at the night sky you don't normally see if you live in a well-lit city. (Watch for 'no trespassing' signs, please.)"

—**Rita Sherrow, *Tulsa World***

"An absolutely beautiful film from its quiet, nostalgic beginning to the final rapid-fire revelations from the compelling individuals we meet throughout."

—**Nick GioBarbieri, *The Austinist***

"Cheney is pointing us to the deeply spiritual human connection with the night sky. . . . you'll meet men and women who understand this age-old link between faith, science and the stars. Again and again, *The City Dark* asks us whether we've forgotten that essential connection."

—**David Crumm, *ReadTheSpirit.com***

"An elegy for the star-spangled skies of Cheney's Maine upbringing and his challenges in his adopted home of Brooklyn. . . . Wondrous pictures of the stars and galaxies twinkle and glitter to dreamy music."

—**Roger Catlin Online**

"This year, one of the true standout films . . . very entertaining and thought-provoking. . . . *The City Dark* is quite humorous, visually engaging and will hold your attention throughout."

—**Gary Denny, *Wisconsin Public Television***

"Visually arresting and even hypnotic. . . . It's an eye-opener."

—**Charles Cassidy, Jr., *Cleveland Movie Blog***