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## Canada Coast Mountain First Ascents by Richardson and Rinn by Natalie Berry - UKC 29/Aug/2017

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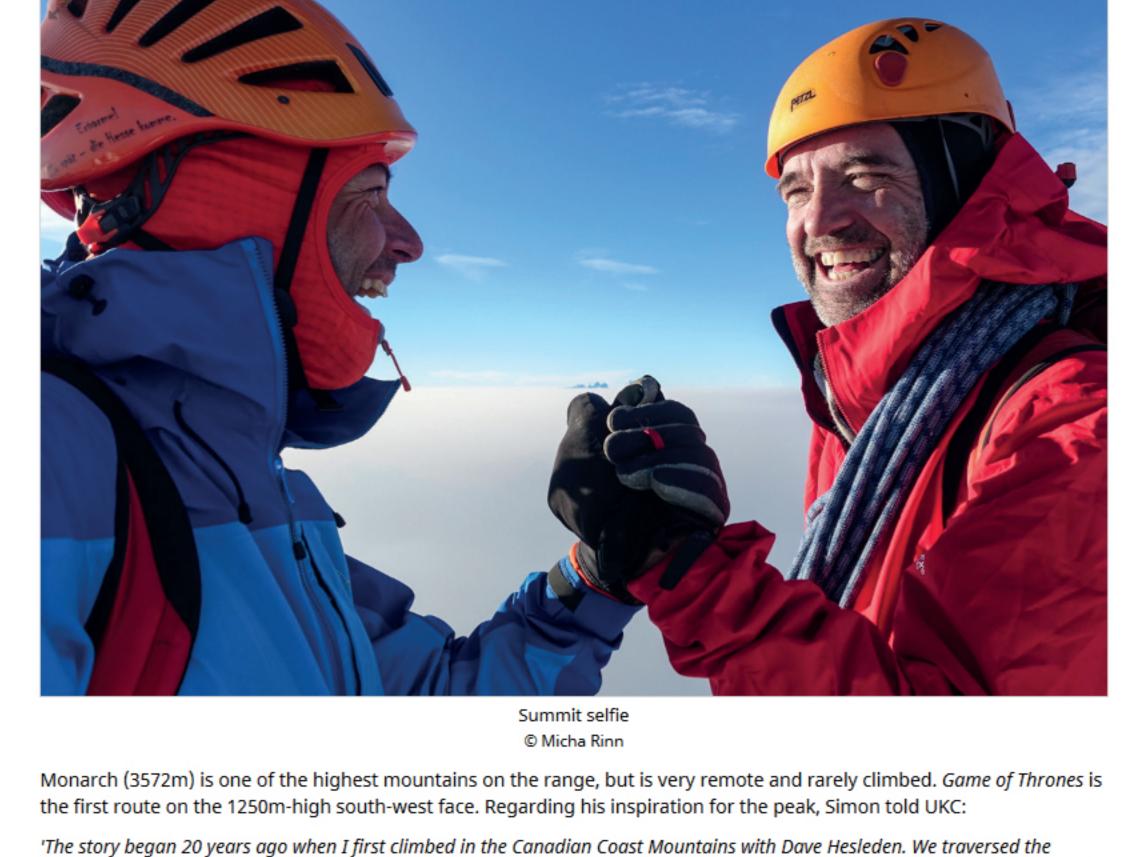
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Mountain (3572m).'

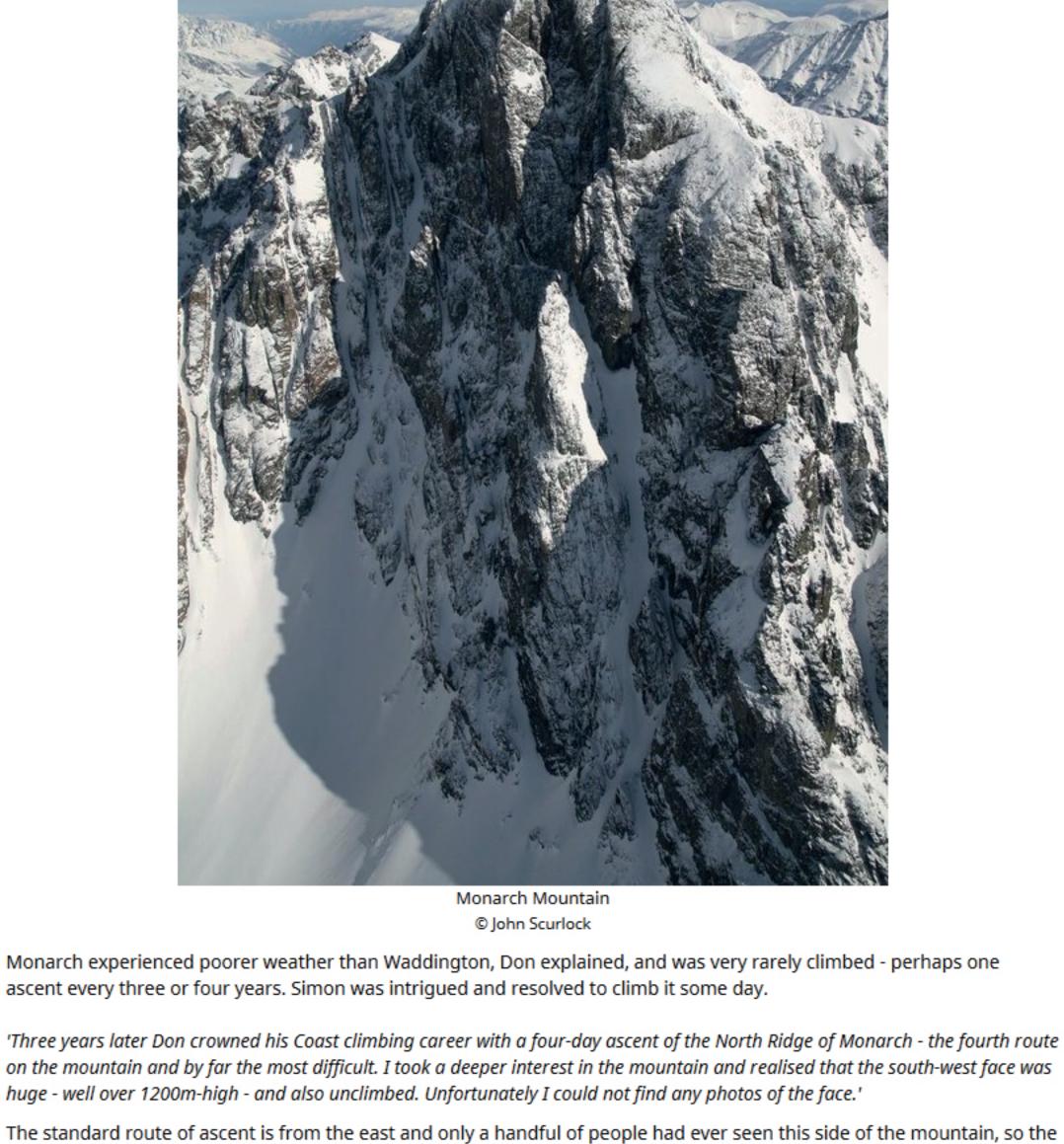
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Simon Richardson and German climber Micha Rinn have recently returned from a successful expedition to the Coast Mountains in Western Canada, where they made three first ascents. The standout route was Game of Thrones (ED2) on the South-West Pillar of the stunning Monarch Mountain.

**⊞** Video



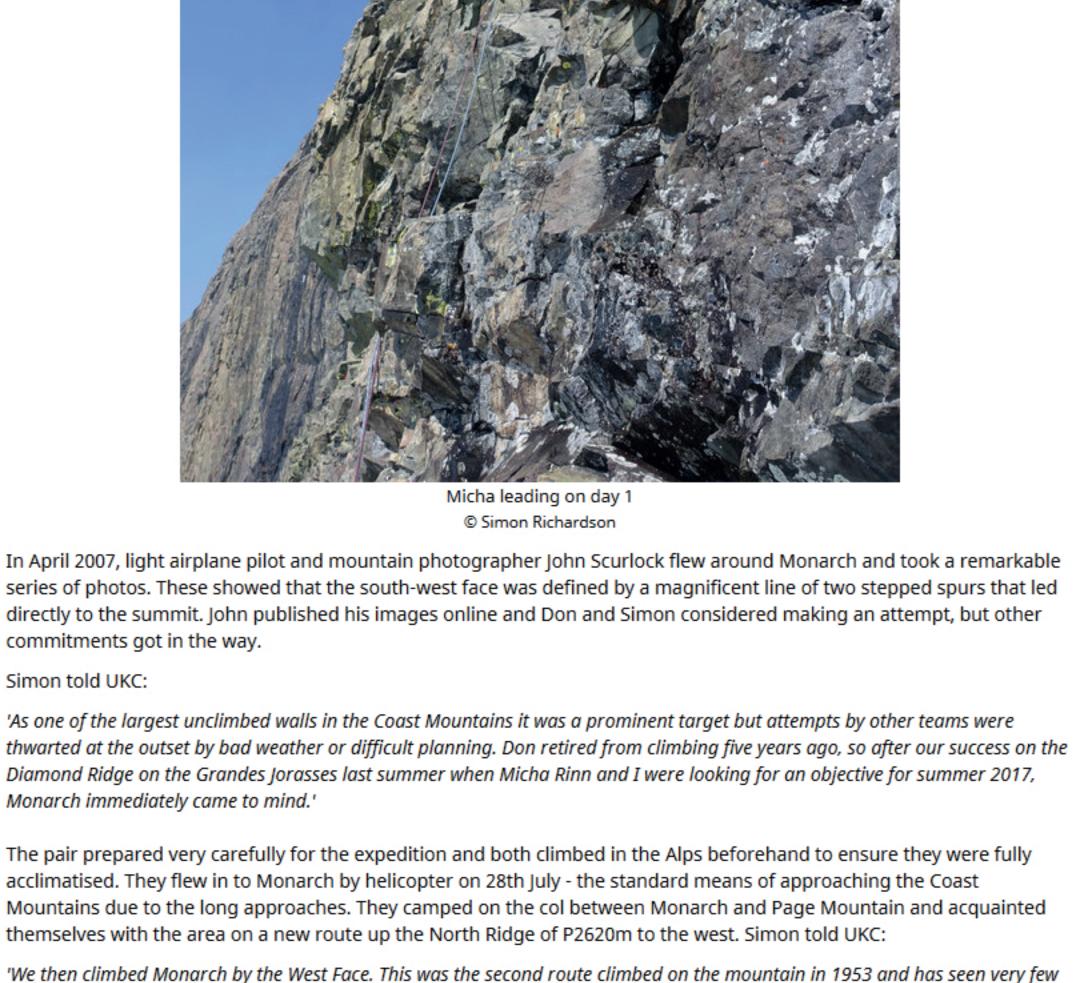
mountains north of Mount Waddington and on the horizon was a very prominent solitary peak. On our way back home we met Don Serl, guidebook writer and pre-eminent Coast Mountains climber, and he explained that the peak was called Monarch



south-west face remained an unknown entity.

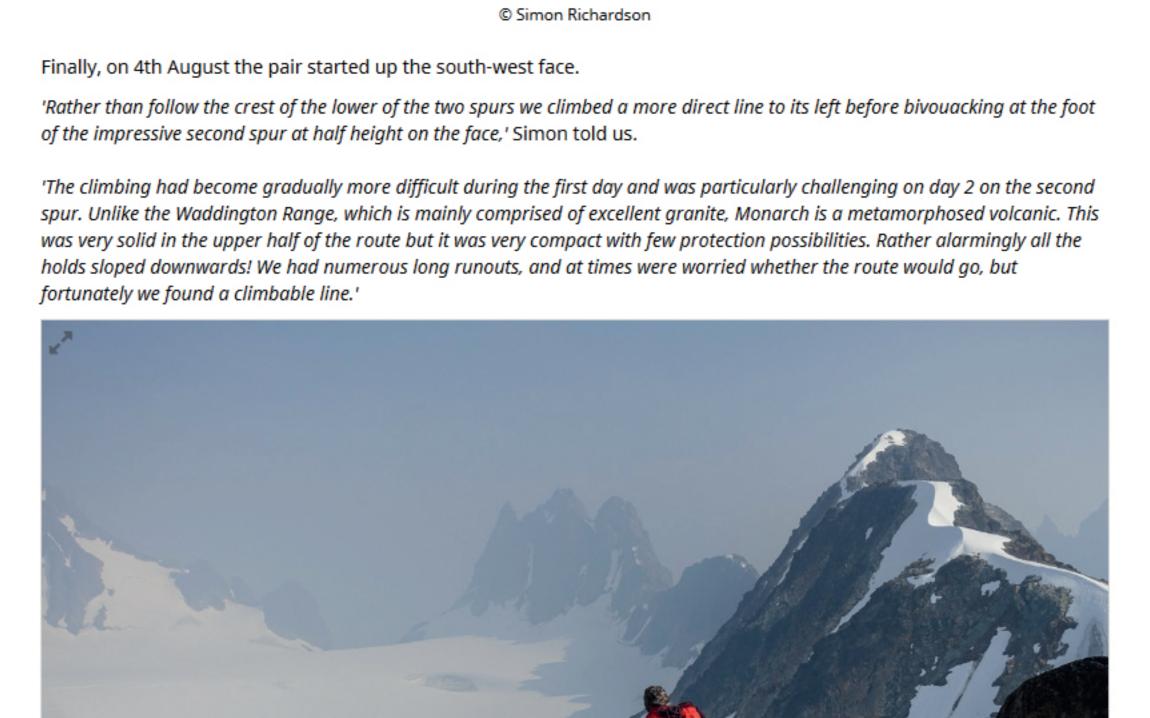
Simon told UKC:

our descent route.'



Micha on the summit ridge

ascents since. It provided an interesting and somewhat demanding mountaineering route of 'Difficile' standard and would be

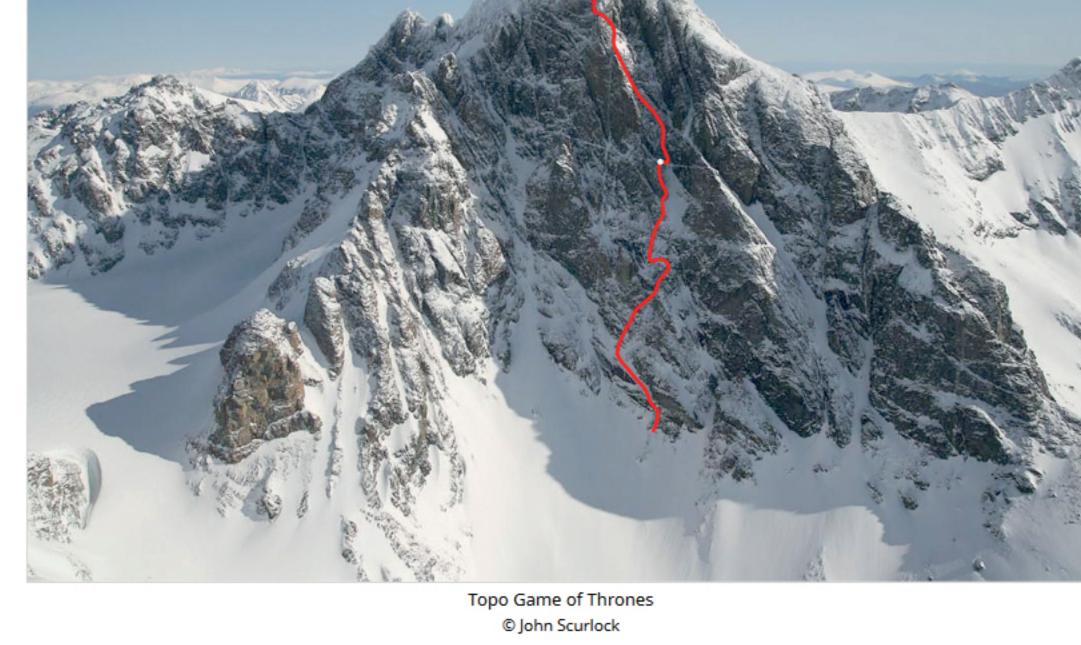


Micha looking towards Page Mountain. P2620m behind. © Simon Richardson At the top of the second pillar the upper ridge provided easier climbing. The pair bivouacked for a second time 70m below the top and were on the summit early next morning. The descent of the West Face went smoothly thanks to their prior

'We called our 1250m-high route Game of Thrones and graded it ED2 5.10a. It is similar in difficulty and scale to the Walker Spur on the Grandes Jorasses but more serious. We would not have been able to descend from above half height because the compact

knowledge of the route. Simon described the line as follows:

nature of the rock would have quickly exhausted our rack.'



After a day's rest, Simon and Micha made the first ascent of The Sugarloaf (2620m) which lay at the end of a long pinnacle ridge to the north of P2620 that they had climbed earlier in the trip.

'Reaction in Canada to our ascent was very kind and gracious, especially considering two Europeans had plucked one of their major routes. Don Serl wrote on Facebook "Superb! A great route on one of the very finest Coast Range peaks! Well done, Simon

Commenting on the local response to their new lines in Canada, Simon told UKC:

and Micha!" Last July, Simon climbed a new route on the south south-east face - AKA Tronchey Wall - of the Grandes Jorasses, named

Diamond Ridge (1600m, 5c, AO). A few months later in November, Simon was part of the successful British expedition to the sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia that made a 16-day ski traverse of the Salvesen Range. The group made a number of first ascents including Mt Baume (1912m) and the spectacular Starbuck Peak (1434m).