

Between Two Worlds

A film by Monty Hempel

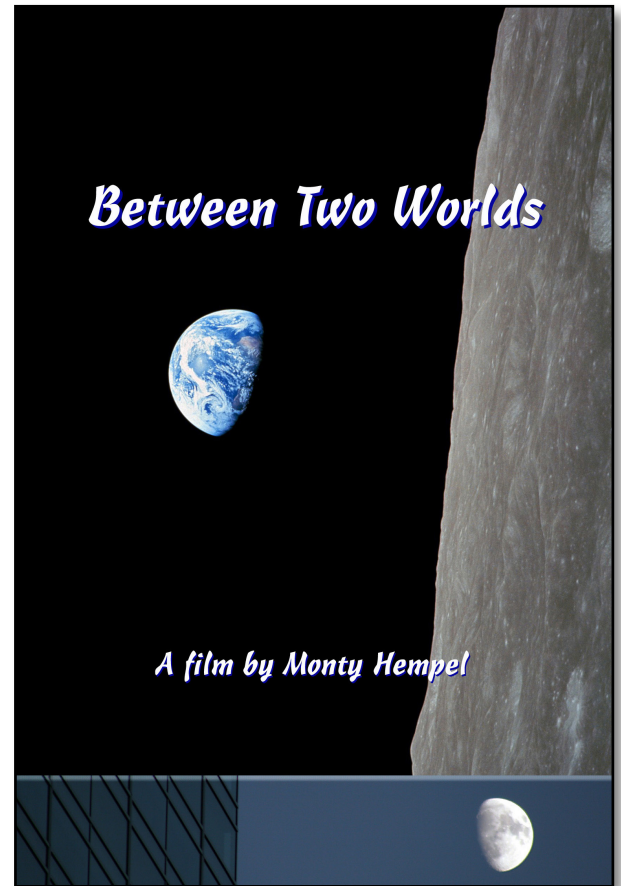
Click here to watch the film: <https://vimeo.com/102578817>

Film Release: 2009 (running time: 15 minutes + epilogue; 24 minutes total)

Between the world in which we live and the world that we hope to build lies a fundamental choice between conventional growth and sustainability.

Between Two Worlds examines this choice, and the daunting challenge of securing environmental health, economic vitality, and social equity for both present and future generations. Filmed in fifteen diverse countries, it tells the story of how our world is changing, and why. Viewers are presented with vivid images of a human society that is teetering between hope and despair; wealth and poverty; freedom and tyranny; progress and ruin. Despite its brevity, ***Between Two Worlds*** provides a powerful synthesis of social, technological, and environmental driving forces that have influenced our past and that are now shaping our future.

Guaranteed to be thought-provoking, this film explores the historical facts and trends that have determined the present course of our civilization and now threaten its future. It is perfect for promoting classroom discussion and thoughtful conversations about globalization, the distribution of wealth, and the fate of the natural environment. It is recommended for age groups in high school, college, and beyond.



Filmmaker's Summary: "*Between Two Worlds* is an audacious attempt to re-examine human history from the perspectives of sustainability and fairness. To say that such a short film is wildly ambitious in its purpose and scope is a fair criticism, but my intention here is not to chronicle history nor rewrite the story of humankind; merely to help people visualize the critical driving forces that have brought us to this point in time and to question their suitability for guiding future development." [See filmmaker's commentary in the epilogue section following the film's credits.]

About the Filmmaker: *Between Two Worlds* was written, directed, and produced by Monty Hempel, president of Blue Planet United and Hedco Professor of Environmental Studies at the University of Redlands. Hempel is a veteran college teacher and filmmaker, as well as a nationally recognized leader in sustainability and environmental protection. He was the first (interim) president of the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS) and served as a founding board member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). Hempel has taught university courses about environmental issues for 30 years and has produced three books and more than a dozen previous films, including the award-winning video, *Spirit of Place*. (2011).

About Blue Planet United: **Blue Planet United** is a public benefit, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that helps people make connections between three defining issues of the twenty-first century: population stabilization, sustainable consumption, and the preservation of wild landscapes, seascapes, and habitat. We create print publications, educational films, and web resources that foster awareness and action to save the last great wild places of this tiny blue planet. Visit us at www.blueplanetunited.org. See the film: <https://vimeo.com/102578817>