

BLIND DATE & ORGASMOTRON

Grade: M7+ WI5, 90m & M7+ WI5, 100m

Location: North Ghost, Don Getty Wildland Provincial Park AB

Base Elevation & Aspect: 2150m, North facing

First Ascent (Blind Date): Jeff Mercier, Raphael Slawinski, February 16 2016

First Ascent (Orgasmotron): Juan Henriquez, Raphael Slawinski, Feb 28 2016

ATES: Challenging (2)

Editor's Note: I have reformatted this from Raph's article in the CAJ and his blog. For more info, check out the blog here: <https://raphaelslawinski.blogspot.com/2016/02/romancing-ghost.html> -NB

"As we rounded a corner, the wall at the head of the creek we were crunching up came into view. 'Whoa! What's that?' I stopped to get a better look. A black rock wall adorned by crazy ice blobs looked like a mixed climber's dream."

Approach

As for *Bad Romance*. Drive into the North Ghost and park as for *Going To The Sun Highway* (51.3200°N, -115.2692°E).

Hike up the main drainage as for *Bad Romance*, bypassing the side drainage of *GTTSH*. Hike up the creek and at the head of the creek, head directly up scree slopes to the route. The routes form in an overhanging cliff band below and left of *Bad Romance*. 1.5 hours.

Rack

Screws including stubbies, up to 14 draws.
Small nuts optional for *Orgasmotron*.



P1: M7+ WI3 20m

Climb steep, featured rock past 6 bolts, then step right to gain the ice past the roof. Climb 5m of thin, low-angle ice to a ledge and a 2-bolt anchor.

P2: WI3 40m

An aesthetic pitch gains a large, comfortable ledge below the upper mixed wall. Belay at a bolt-and-pin anchor. The station at the top of pitch 1 is a bit exposed to falling ice so take care while leading.

P3 (*Blind Date*): M6+ WI5 30m

A classic pitch of mixed climbing that moves from rock to ice to rock back to ice. The climbing is mostly bolt protected, but a few screws are needed for the upper ice. Belay at a 2-bolt anchor.

P3 (*Orgasmotron*): M7 WI5 40m

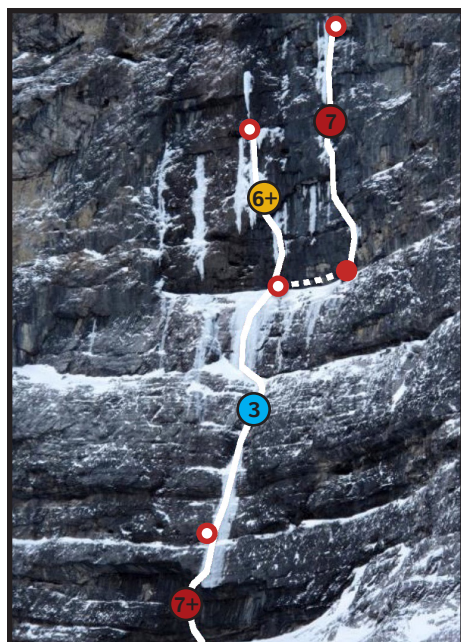
Move the belay 10m right on the ledge and belay off a blob of ice. Drytool past a bolt to a short ice flow. At its top, move up and left into a corner and follow it to a rotten alcove. From the right side of the alcove, drytool over a roof and up smooth rock on small, well-spaced hooks. From an ice blob continue more easily to a hanging curtain, and head up it for 10m to a 2-bolt belay on the right.

Descent

Rappel the routes.

FA Notes

- Extensions are possible above both routes with one or two more bolts.



Jeff Mercier styles the last pitch of *Blind Date*. Photo: Julien Ferrandez

