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**The Last Ocean:** An urgent message.

## Fishy dealings close to home

### NZ INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

- The Last Ocean
- Directed by Peter Young
- Paramount, today 11.30am and August 12, 1pm
- Reviewed by Graeme Tuckett
- ★★★★★

**T**HE LAST OCEAN is the Ross Sea. It is a pristine and – until recently – unexploited ecosystem that is close to the Antarctic territory that New Zealand is responsible for.

Faced with having depleted and near-destroyed every other fishery that can keep pace with hunger for restaurant-quality fish, the world's fishing industries have now sent their fleets southward, and are hauling in the Antarctic toothfish just as fast as they can fill their nets. The fish is rebranded "Chilean sea bass" and, as such, has been filling the frying pans of the wealthy for the last few years. New Zealand's part of this, until recently, has been to turn a blind eye and cash the cheques.

*The Last Ocean* is a spectacular, informative, and urgent piece of work. Through Peter Young's lens, the Antarctic looks wild and wonderful. Our Government, and especially the mewling harpies of our PR industry, not so much.