

October 24, 2011

Wildlife Photographer of the Year winners coming to Royal BC Museum

VICTORIA, BC – The winners of the world’s most respected wildlife photography competition were announced this week. The *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* exhibition of more than 100 acclaimed international photographs appears at the Natural History Museum in London before making its North American debut at the Royal BC Museum in Victoria from December 16, 2011 to April 15, 2012.

Visitors to the Royal BC Museum will experience the wonders of nature as never seen before: through the lenses of prize-winning photographers from around the world. This visually striking exhibition showcases photographs in 17 categories (including Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year, Underwater World, Wild Places and Photojournalist of the Year). Each photo and caption tells the inspirational, astonishing and sometimes humorous stories of our fascinating natural world.



Still life in oil © Daniel Beltrá

The exhibition photographs are selected from more than 40,000 entries. These images were judged to be the best of all those entered in the 2011 competition by a judging panel that included some of the world’s most respected nature photographers and wildlife experts.

The 500-square-metre (5,400 sq ft) *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* exhibition at the Royal BC Museum, opening December 16, 2011, will include:

- 108 photographs displayed on large backlit panels
- high-quality duratran images
- detailed captions telling the story behind the image
- technical details on the photographic equipment used by each photographer

Now in its 47th year, the annual *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* competition is run by London's Natural History Museum and BBC Wildlife Magazine. The competition uniquely combines the work of gifted amateurs, professionals and young photographers. It celebrates the beauty and magnificence of the world in which we live, as well as acting as a stark reminder of the fragility of nature.

The *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* exhibition is sponsored by the Natural History Museum and BBC Wildlife Magazine and locally by BC Hydro.

Please see the attached release from the Natural History Museum, London, for more details on contest winners.

Special Event at the Royal BC Museum

During feature exhibition periods the museum also offers complementary activities and events:

Wade Davis, World Wildlife Photographer on *The Sacred Headwaters*

A renowned ethnographer, writer, photographer and filmmaker, Wade Davis is launching his newest book, *The Sacred Headwaters*, a visual feast and plea to save an extraordinary region in North America. A native of BC, Davis is a licensed river guide, has worked as a park ranger and forestry engineer, and conducted ethnographic fieldwork among several indigenous societies. His photographs have been featured in exhibits and have been widely published worldwide.

Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at 7 pm

Royal BC Museum, Victoria BC

\$15 per person, 10% member discount.

Tickets available online at www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca or at the RBCM box office.

About the Royal BC Museum

As the provincial museum and archives, the Royal BC Museum preserves and shares the stories of British Columbia – on-site, off-site and online – through its research, collections, exhibitions and educational programs. Its two-hectare cultural precinct also includes a number of historically significant buildings and First Nations sites. For more information about the Royal BC Museum, visit www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca or call 1-888-447-7977.

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For high-resolution *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* images, or more information:

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