At The National Museum of Scotland – Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition

The 53rd Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition opens on 19 January and runs until 29 April 2018 in the museum's largest exhibition space.

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Exhibitions Officer Hannah Boddy views 'The Nightcap" by Charl Senekal at the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland.

There are 100 fabulous images on display in light boxes which will both astonish and entertain you and all of which celebrate the diversity of the natural world. The darkened exhibition space allows you to view the images at their best and wonder how the photographer was in place just at the right time!

This is the most prestigious photography event and showcases some amazing images by photographers of all ages.

The photos have been chosen from an initial entry of 50,000 which is an amazing increase on the original competition in 1965 which attracted 361 entries.

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Pilgrim the Bald Eagle with "Bold Eagle" by Klaus Nigge at the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland. Dr Nick Fraser, Keeper of Natural Sciences at National Museums Scotland, said: "We are thrilled that the National Museum of

Scotland is hosting the 53rd Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, from the Natural History Museum in London. These captivating images offer visitors new perspectives on the wonders of the natural world, and are as arresting as they are beautiful."

Sir Michael Dixon, Director of the Natural History Museum, said: "Wildlife Photographer of the Year is one of our most successful touring exhibitions, enjoyed by millions of people all over the world. The awarded images shine a spotlight on nature photography as a work of art, whilst raising questions about our crucial role in shaping a sustainable future."

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Handler Greg Mulliss with Pilgrim the Bald Eagle view "Bold Eagle" by Klaus Nigge at the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland.

Wildlife Photographer of the Year at the National Museum of Scotland is supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery.

Clara Govier, Head of Charities at People's Postcode Lottery said: "We are delighted that the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition is supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery. Depicting everything from spectacular underwater worlds and unusual animal behaviours to breath-taking landscapes and images which examine our own impact on the natural world, this world-class exhibition has something for everyone."

Admission: £8 adults, £6 concession.

Entry is free to National Museums Scotland Members and children under 16.

Photos Neil Photography| <u>www.neilhannaphotography.co.uk</u>

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