

Press release

# LONDON'S BEST WEEK OF WILDLIFE ART



The David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation's annual **Wildlife Artist of the Year** competition has become a major event in the artists and art-buyers calendar. Attracting artists from around the world, 150 works are shortlisted from over 1,000 entrants and brought together each summer at London's prestigious Mall Galleries, SW1 for an amazing week of wildlife art in support of conservation.

"With a broad spectrum of artistic styles and mediums from amateur and professional artists alike and nine categories, the competition creates a truly vibrant mix of art to suit all tastes and pockets," says event organiser, Nina Neve.

The competition forms the heart of the charity's week of wildlife art at the Mall Galleries and is complemented this year with original works from three generations of the Shepherd family: David Shepherd CBE, Mandy Shepherd and Emily Lamb. Joining them in the Threadneedle Space are exciting original works from South African sculptor and 2013 Wildlife Artist of the Year winner, Simon Max Bannister; sculptor and previous winner Adam Binder; Kent-based artist Sevina Yates and Italian Stefano Zagaglia.

The **North Gallery** will feature charity postcards from participating artists and celebrity supporters plus an awe-inspiring life-size oil painting of a tiger by Richard Symonds created specifically to raise funds and awareness for the charity's TigerTime campaign ([www.tigertime.info](http://www.tigertime.info)) working to save tigers in the wild.

'**Inspired by Art**' - a new collection of beautiful scarves inspired by supporting artists including Karen Laurence-Rowe and Claire Harkess - will also launch at the event and be available in the North Gallery.

"The extraordinary talent and creativity of all the artists involved never ceases to amaze me," says wildlife artist and conservationist, David Shepherd CBE, who set up the competition in 2007 to raise funds and awareness for endangered animals. "And what is so utterly brilliant is that all these talented artists share my passion – to give something back to the animals that inspire our work."



Since it began, Wildlife Artist of the Year has raised over £150,000 for conservation projects supported by David's eponymous wildlife charity - the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (DSWF).

"It's a win, win situation," says Nina Neve. "The artists have the chance to win an amazing sponsored £10,000 top prize and have their work exhibited and sold at one of London's top galleries while DSWF raises much needed funds to help save critically endangered wildlife like the elephant, rhino and tiger."

Don't worry if you can't make it to London this summer, the full exhibition catalogue will be available to view online at [www.davidshepherd.org](http://www.davidshepherd.org) from mid June.



## The week of wildlife art at the Mall Galleries, London SW1

**Monday 29 June – Private Preview and Prizes\*** with David Shepherd, Deborah Meaden & Jules Knight  
**Tuesday 30 – Saturday 4 – Public viewing 10am to 5pm\*\* (4pm Saturday)**

**Entry by donation**

\*invitation only

\*\*some late nights tbc - see the website for details

### The 2015 Wildlife Artist of the Year is generously supported by:

Mr & Mrs Covey, Tilney Bestinvest, Barlow Robbins, Powertraveller, The Oliver Foundation, SilverSurfers.com, Gary Hodges, Carol Cordrey, Simon Trapnell and The Artist magazine.

**More information at [www.davidshepherd.org](http://www.davidshepherd.org)**

**Tel: 01483 272323**

### Press enquiries:

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Press preview 2-4pm Monday 29 June.

*Images shown: Whooper Swans by Dafila Scott -  
Inspired by Art scarves - Tigress by Claire Harkess  
- House Crows by Karl Taylor - Machali by Jardev  
Parsad Soni - Ring Tailed Ride by Nick Mackman  
- White Ghost by Atsushi Harada - Atruches by  
Francois Gruson*

