

Panelist Biographies

1st Conservation Photography Symposium

Anchorage, Alaska October 2nd to 5th, 2005

Kevin T. Gilbert

Digital Workflow Workshop,

Kevin T. Gilbert is a 24-year veteran photojournalist based in the Washington, DC area, where he has covered superpower summits, professional sports, national political campaigns, and the news of Washington and the nation. He is the President of Blue Pixel, the country's leading digital photography consulting group, an award winning digital photographer and a nationally known digital workflow evangelist.

Kevin has been shooting digitally since 1996 when he was Chief Photographer at the Washington Times in Washington, DC. Since those early days of digital, he has crisscrossed the globe shooting digital stills for newspapers, magazines, stock agencies, television networks and movie studios. The past few years, Kevin's mission has been to inspire and educate consumers to professional photographers, on the joy and excitement of digital photography. Whether he is shooting on the set of The Apprentice or the West Wing, or consulting with Best Buy, Nikon, Apple, Adobe or Microsoft, his goals remain the same: to shoot digitally and continually improve the efficiency of the digital workflow without sacrificing quality. And to have fun!

Panel Presentation #1 – the psychology behind imagery

Moderator: Haroldo Castro

Dr Gene Myers Jr.

Olin Eugene (Gene) Myers Jr. is Associate Professor at Huxley College of the Environment, Western Washington University, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in environmental education, social sciences and the environment, environmental ethics, and natural history. His Ph.D. research in Psychology from the University of Chicago has been published as *Children and Animals: Social Development and Our Connections to Others Species* (Westview, 1998; to appear in revised edition soon). Subsequent publications look at the expansion of concern for animals to concern for other aspects of our relations to nature. Gene is become a leader in the emerging field of Conservation Psychology, which seeks to study and apply knowledge of these relationships in partnership with organizations seeking change in human behavior towards the natural world.

Patricio Robles Gil

Patricio Robles Gil is an artist with a passion for Conservation. He has traveled extensively,

documenting the world's natural treasures in an effort to preserve the earth's natural resources. With Agrupación Sierra Madre, an organization that he founded in 1989, he has published numerous books with stunning photographs illuminating the beauty and fragility of Mexico's ecosystems. With great business acumen, he has demonstrated that ecologically sustainable enterprises can be profitable. In 1993 Patricio found Unidos para la Conservación (United for Conservation) to carry out specific actions for the protection of wildlife and natural areas.

Karl Amman

Karl Amman is a tourism consultant/wildlife photographer, turned conservation activist. He is an advisory director to several animal welfare organizations. After studying at St Gall Graduate School of Economics and graduating from Cornell University's hotel management school in 1974, Ammann worked on new project development and marketing for Inter-Continental Hotels in Africa and worldwide, traveling to over 70 countries. In the past 12 years Ammann has authored widely distributed photo-essay books, including The Great Ape Odyssey and Orangutan Odyssey (with Birute Galdikas), Gorilla, Cheetah, The Hunters and Hunted, And Masai Mara. He helped edit and provided photographs for the APA Insight GuideBook, East African Wildlife and Kenya and is the Co-author of Eating Apes. For five years Ammann won the "World in our Hands" category of the BBC's Wildlife Photographer of the year competition. The Ark Foundation also honored him for documenting the bush meat crisis.

Russell A Mittermeier

Russell A. Mittermeier is President of Conservation International, a position he has held since 1989. A primatologist, herpetologist and biological anthropologist by training, he has conducted fieldwork in more than 20 countries, with emphasis on Brazil, the Guianas, and Madagascar. His publications include 10 books and more than 300 scientific papers and popular articles on primates, reptiles, tropical rain forests and biodiversity. His most recent research has focused on identifying the world's megadiversity country, biodiversity hotspots and major tropical wilderness areas – themes of his latest books, *Megadiversity* and *Hotspots*.

Dr. Mittermeier graduated from Dartmouth College in 1971 (B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*) and received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1977.

Kathy Moran

Kathy Moran is Senior illustrations Editor for Natural History for National Geographic Magazine. Kathy specializes in articles on wildlife and underwater ecosystems. Recent highlights include a special edition of National Geographic's "100 Best Wildlife Photographs" and the Africa "Megatransect" project. She has edited books for the Society, including "Women Photographers at the National Geographic," "The Africa Diaries—An Illustrated Memoir of Life in the Bush," and "Cat Shots."

Piotr Naskrecki

Piotr Naskrecki, a native of Poland, is a professional wildlife photographer that holds a Master in Science degree in Zoology from the A. Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland and a Ph. D in Entomology from the University of Connecticut. He currently serves as Director of the Invertebrate Diversity Initiative at Conservation International and the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.

His images have been published in a wide variety of publications, but more recently in the newly published volume "The Smaller Majority", written and illustrated by Piotr.

Panel Presentations #2 – The power of images to change Public Opinion

Moderator: Sarah Leonard

John Nuhn

Photography Director, previously photo editor, of the award-winning *National Wildlife* magazine, largest circulation nature periodical in the United States, a publication of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). Responsible for obtaining, assigning and editing all photography for the magazine's three editions. Until recently, also Photo Editor of *International Wildlife*, another NWF magazine which ceased publication in 2002. Journalism degree, self-taught photographer. A founder and past president of the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA); treasurer of American Society of Picture Professionals and member of National Press Photographers Association, Society of Professional Journalist and Outdoor Writers Association of America. Speaker, panelist and judge at many forums, including four NANPA Summits, the Roger Tory Peterson Institute, Maine Photo Workshops, Valley Land Fund, Guilfoyle Report Photo Awards, International Wildlife Film Festival, Outdoor Writers Association of conference, and Photography at the Summit.

Robert Glenn Ketchum

Robert Glenn Ketchum's photography, writing, numerous books and exhibits over the last 35 years have earned him the acknowledgment of Audubon magazine as one of the 100 people who shaped the environmental movement of the 20th Century. His ability to weave his projects into useful ways that serve issues and drive effective legislation have made him one of the most successful artist/activist in American history. For 15 years, he also served as Curator of Photography for the National Park Foundation for whom he organized the seminal exhibit and book connecting the evolution of American landscape photography and the establishment of the National Park System. He has been the recipient of the Robert O. Easton Award for Environmental Stewardship and the Josephine and Frank Duveneck Humanitarian Award. He has also been named the 2001 Outstanding Photographer of the Year by the North American Nature Photography Association and Outstanding Person of the Year 2000 by Photo Media magazine. American Photographers, the National Parks and the Evolution of Conservation will look at work from the 1800s that includes Watkins & Muybridge in Yosemite, WH Jackson in Yellowstone and Hillers & Sullivan, who explored the Canyonlands in the West. In his presentation, Ketchum will carry forward the photographic legacy in National Parks to a review of the works from Ansel Adams, Eliot Porter, and the Weston Family. The next generation of photographers will then include political activists to unexpected experimental image-makers such as Jerry Uelsmann. The discussion will tie together the important influence photographers have had on national park legislation and the equally important influence the parks have had on American photographers.

Larry Minden

Larry Minden is founder and director of Minden Pictures, a California based stock photo agency renowned internationally for the world-class wildlife and nature photographers it represents. Minden grew up in the Bay Area, New England and London then completed UC Santa Cruz's undergraduate program in environmental Studies and an MS in Wildland Resource Sciences at UC Berkeley. During and following university, he was involved in numerous ornithological and herpetological field studies in Mexico, Galapagos, Chile and various western states. He presently resides in Watsonville, California with his wife and three children.

Panel # 3- The Faces of Conservation Photography

Carlton Ward Jr. – LINC

Carlton Ward Jr is an environmental photojournalist from Tampa Florida, with graduate training in ecology and anthropology. At home and abroad, he seeks stories where he can use photographs to make a difference. Carlton's passion for nature was born from the Florida landscape, where eight generations of family history have grounded his perspective. He sees cultural heritage and the natural environment as two of society's greatest yet most threatened resources. In 2004 he founded the Legacy Institute for Nature and Culture (LINC) as a tool for connecting society to natural heritage issues, striving to advance conservation through communications. Carlton regularly produces stories for newspapers and magazines including recent features in Smithsonian, National Wildlife, Africa Geographic, and Outdoor Photographer. For his recent book, *The Edge of Africa*, Carlton spent eight months in the tropical rain forests of Gabon, documenting the unseen wonders of life at the edge of the African continent. For his most current project, Carlton has been photographing endangered desert elephants in the Sahel region of Mali, at the edge of the Sahara near Timbuktu – the last population of elephants in the Sahel of West Africa.

Richard Edwards – ArKive

An Oxford University zoology graduate with a Masters degree from the University of London, Richard joined Wildscreen in January 2001 as 'Head of Media Production' for the ARKive project and was promoted to ARKive director in October 2003. During his time on the ARKive project, Richard has been responsible for developing working relationships with some of the most famous names in wildlife film-making and photography; overseeing the implementation of the media accessions processes; coordinating the work of a team of media researchers, librarians, editors and IT personnel, as well as working closely with the web development team in the production of the award-winning ARKive website. Prior to his employment with Wildscreen, Richard was the Exhibition Project Manager for Wildwalk at Bristol, a unique multi-media wildlife attraction in the UK, and has experience and knowledge of the natural history filmmaking industry, having previously worked for some of the leading UK-based independent production companies.

John F. Martin – Chairman of the Board– Images for Conservation Fund

For 25 years, John has been a Certified Financial Planner with A.G. Edwards & Sons. In 1987, he became a founding member and the first president of The Valley Land Fund (VLF), a non-profit land trust located in the Rio Grande Valley of south Texas.

John's dedication to the conservation of wildlife and habitat of private lands led to his creating the VLF's biennial Wildlife Photo Contest. This leadership role in developing partnerships between landowners and wildlife photographers was further enhanced in 2002 when he became a board member of the National North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA).

Now, John is Founder and Chairman of the Images for Conservation Fund (ICF), which has established The Pro-Tour of Nature Photography. The first Pro-Tour competition is planned for The Hill Country of Texas in April 2006.

As residents of the Rio Grande Valley for the past 28 years, John and his wife Audrey live on reforested wildlife habitat north of Edinburg, Texas. He also is a long-time board member and former president of the University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) Foundation. John holds a master's degree in business administration and has been a lecturer at UTPA's College of Business. Always thinking long-term, John actively promotes his vision of preserving wildlife for future generations through the power of photography and positive economics for private landowners.

Phil Borges – Bridges to Understanding

For over 25 years Phil Borges has been visiting and documenting indigenous and tribal cultures around the world. Phil's exhibit and award-winning book, TIBETAN PORTRAIT: The power of compassion, focused on the people of Tibet, marginalized by the Chinese occupation of their homeland. "with direct, uncompromising gazes, his subjects, old and young, stare back with a wisdom and strength that seems born of suffering," writes the Washington Post. In 1998 he joined Amnesty International to present ENDURING SPIRIT, an exhibit and book celebrating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Phil has hosted three television documentaries for Discovery and National Geographic as a part of his current project Spirit of Place. This current series explores selected indigenous cultures that still maintain a spiritual dialogue with the natural world. His award winning books have been published in four languages and in 1998 he was presented the Photo Media Magazine "Photo Person of the Year" award. In December 2003 Phil was honored with the Humanitarian Award at the 1st Annual International Photography Awards. Phil teaches and lectures internationally and is co-founder of Blue Earth Alliance, a 501c3 that sponsors photographic projects focusing on endangered cultures and threatened environments.

Adam L. Weintraub – Blue Earth Alliance

Adam L. Weintraub's current projects include the Co-Presidency of Blue Earth Alliance, a non-profit dedicated to educating the public about endangered environments, threatened cultures and other social concerns. He is teaming up with the Photographic Center Northwest in Seattle to help establish a photo program and artist retreat at his home in Cusco, Peru. He is also involved in an archiving, conservation and cataloguing endeavor for famed Peruvian photographer Martin Chambi whose work has been shown at MOMA and around the world and whose archives are currently in disrepair.

Photographic clients, exhibits and collections include Sasquatch Books, The New York Times, Money Magazine, Seattle Magazine, TATE ETC, The City of Seattle, Microsoft Art Collection, Nordstrom, 4 Culture, Henry Art Gallery, RCA Records & NBC Studios, The Seattle Theatre Group, The Film Co., The Seattle Art Museum, Bellevue Art Museum, Pilchuck Glass, Kenneth Cole, Gene Juarez Salons, EnterCorp Radio, PCNW, Consolidated Works and CoCA

Gerry Ellis – GLOBIO

Gerry founded GLOBIO as an outgrowth of a film project with children and orphaned baby elephants called Wild Orphans, in the late 1990s. GLOBIO is a nonprofit children's education organization, the only such global organization dedicated solely to children's discovery and communication about cultural and biological diversity. GLOBIO currently has project sites in China, India/Bhutan, Kenya and the USA.

Formerly, as a professional naturalist and photographer, Gerry worked extensively throughout the world. He was a member of World Wildlife Fund's initial biodiversity research team in Papua New Guinea. Gerry has experienced first hand the rapid loss of global biodiversity and its impact on children's lives while authoring and photographing award-winning projects such as *Wild Orphans* and over ten children's books. His words and pictures have engaged children around the world in such publications as Ranger Rick, GEOLino and National Geographic Kids.

Joel Sartore and Katie Harr – Canon Wildlife Series

Since 1981, the "Wildlife as Canon Sees It" campaign has run each month exclusively in National Geographic Magazine, featuring rare wildlife and providing facts about the species and its conservation. The series provides a unique opportunity to get the word out about vanishing species and habitats. Additionally, it rewards photographers (with a credit line and a licensing fee) for their efforts.

The campaign is always looking for great images of new and interesting species, and we'd love to see new work. There are some criteria for submission, however, and we'll take some time to go over them and answer any questions people might have about submitting to the campaign. We're really looking forward to meeting new photographers and seeing new images.

Katie Harr has worked with Joel Sartore for six years on everything from salvaging lumber from old buildings to building a digital stock agency. She and Joel have been helping with research for the Wildlife as Canon Sees It series since 2003.

Jennifer Brown – Marine Photobank

Jennifer Brown represents the Washington DC-based Marine Photobank, an organization that believes that the messages of conservation groups concerned about environmental issues are best stated with the use of dramatic pictures.

Marine Photobank, a virtual organization has been established to provide a way for photographers to contribute high-quality images of threats to our marine world to enable non-governmental organizations and government agencies to use these pictures, royalty free, to educate the public about the ocean's needs and join the effort to protect our water world.

Marine Photobank is also a vehicle for professional photographers to link to their personal sites and royalty protected portfolios. These links will enable photographers to negotiate the sale of their images to nonprofits and governmental agencies. We hope you will take advantage of this offer and contact us to be included.

Peter Knights – Wild Aid

Peter Knights was formerly a program director and investigator working on illegal trade in endangered species for the Global Survival Network and a senior investigator for the Environmental Investigation Agency. He specialized in conducting on-site investigations globally and campaigning against the wild bird trade for pets and consumption of endangered species in traditional Chinese medicine. He is a graduate of the London School of Economics with a B. Sc. in Economics and Associate Laureate of the Rolex Award for Enterprise given for his work on the Asian Conservation Awareness Program. Peter currently serves as Executive Director of WildAid and is on the Board of Directors, while also directing the Shark Conservation Program and Galapagos Forever.

Panel #4 – Establishing an Ethical High Ground for the International League of Conservation Photographers

Moderator – Sarah Leonard

Theo Allofs

Based in Canada's Yukon Territory, wildlife and nature photographer **Theo Allofs** travels to the remote corners of the world, with a focus on documenting endangered animals and threatened habitats. His work has taken him to such varied places as the shores of Antarctica, outback Australia, the magical Pantanal wetlands in Brazil or the rainforests of Borneo. Through his photography he strives to raise the level of awareness of the natural world and to stimulate the interest to preserve it for the creatures that depend on it. Theo's images and wildlife stories have been published in major natural history magazines around the globe. His photographs have won numerous awards in international photo competitions such as the renowned BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition. Conservation Photography & Wilderness Worldwide will illustrate his approach to raising awareness about the dangers and threats wild animals and ecosystems are facing almost everywhere. Using examples of some of his photo stories about Bengal tigers, Australian flying foxes, the Pantanal and other topics, he demonstrates how to create complete photo essays as well as single images with impact. Faced with a continually decreasing interest of the general public in the natural world, he details his efforts to infuse his images with drama, emotion, excitement or humor, in order to get people's attention in our visually saturated societies, and to strengthen or even help create a positive relationship and bond with nature that must be at the basis of all successful conservation work.

Gary Braasch

Gary Braasch covers environmental issues and conservation, biodiversity and field science, climate change and global warming in stock photography and assignments.

Photographs of landscapes, patterns, forests, Antarctica, the Arctic, cities and travel destinations are used by publications worldwide. His photography grows from a deeply felt connection with nature and an ardent conservation ethic. Gary was named Outstanding Nature Photographer for 2003 by the North American Nature Photography

Association. Most recently he has photographed in China, Bangladesh, Tuvalu and Australia for a World View of Global Warming. He has photographed for Scientific American dangers to coral reefs and the international aquarium trade in the Philippines. Further, by photographing for the Conservation Land Trust he has helped protect an endangered wetland in Argentina. Other major photographic assignments include Antarctic glacier research (Discover), tropical forest studies in Peru (The Nature Conservancy), anaconda research in Venezuela (Smithsonian), honeybees and native pollinators (Natural History), endangered wood stork nesting in the Everglades (Audubon), rare plant rescue in Hawaii (Smithsonian and Discover), and climate change in Florida and Alaska (Natural Resources Defense Council).

Since 1999 Gary Braasch has turned his environmental photography toward global warming by illustrating the major effects, discussing the science, and identifying habitats that are changing. Like the climate, his success at reaching the public with his work has varied, but the intensity is rising with the coming publication of his book, *Earth Under Fire*. His presentation will include images from pole to pole and from the Great Barrier Reef to the heights of the Andes and Alps. Examples of publications and public use of the photos to educate about global warming will also be featured.

Niall Benvie

Born in Scotland in 1964, Niall Benvie's passion for the natural world was fostered by his late father, Donald, at an early age. After working on the land for seven years running his family's fruit farm, Niall went on to study for an Honours Degree in Geography after the farm was sold. He has worked as a professional outdoor photographer and writer since graduation in 1993. Over the years, the focus of his work has shifted from stock to photographic stories. The core theme has often been the relationship between people and the land. His most recent book, *Scotland's Wildlife* (Aurum, 2004) is a contemporary review of the state of that relationship in his home country. Interviewed for "The World's Top Photographers: Landscape" (RotoVision2003), he commented, "In light of the unfolding environmental catastrophe of the 21st century, I feel it's a bit frivolous – not to say misleading to continue to focus only on pristine environments and charismatic fauna without taking into account the state of the wider environment and people's relationship with it. So long as landscape and wildlife photographers continue to do this, we can't expect to be taken seriously as contributors to the debate on how we should balance the needs of nature and culture." Niall's presentation, "Seeking Ecological Asylum" is a reflection on the unusual nature/culture dynamic in Latvia and Estonia, Baltic states that he has visited 16 times in recent years. He draws comparisons with the situation in Scotland and other parts of Europe and considers how differing styles of nature photography re-enforce and perpetuate national self-image for better or for worse. He will also propose a model for grassroots activism through photography called photo-lobbying and describe his experiences in organizing a group of professional photographers to raise the profile of an undervalued

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Kevin Schafer

For more than twenty years, photographer Kevin Schafer has worked on location all over the world, documenting wildlife and wild places. His work has appeared in all of the most important nature and science magazines worldwide, including the Smithsonian, Natural History, National Geographic and BBC Wildlife. He is the author of several books, including Penguin Planet, which received the 2000 National Outdoor Book Award. Committed to putting his images to work for conservation, Kevin spent two years documenting threatened eco-regions around the world for the World Wildlife Fund, and has worked closely with conservation NGOs on three continents. Photography plays an essential role in supporting conservation efforts around the world. Images can be powerful tools that can illustrate, inspire and educate people about the importance of wild areas, and the threats that they face. In this talk, Kevin will discuss his work in several remote areas of the world, developing photographic inventories of threatened species and endangered ecosystems. He will also discuss the natural partnership between photography and conservation, one that has not yet been fully realized.

Staffan Widstrand

Staffan Widstrand is an artistic photojournalist from Sweden. His favorite story topics are nature travel, outdoor action, ecotourism, wildlife (especially large carnivores), indigenous cultures, and environmental issues, hunting and fishing. From 1998–2004 he ran a media project called "The Scandinavian Big Five", which attempted to cover as many aspects as possible of the five large Scandinavian carnivores – the wolf, bear, lynx, wolverine and man. He is a board member of the Swedish Ecotourism Society because he believes ecotourism is an extremely useful tool to promote conservation, local sustainable development and genuine goodwill among tour guides, tourists, and the local people. He is now busy covering ecotourism in Sweden for a three-year period and really enjoying his work.

Susan McElhinney

Susan McElhinney is the photo director of the children's publications of the National Wildlife Federation, *Ranger Rick*, *Your Big Backyard* and *Wild Animal Baby*. Before turning to children's publishing ten years ago she was a staff photographer for Newsweek Magazine in the Wash DC bureau covering all that moved and much that didn't in national and international politics. After Newsweek she freelanced for a number of years for magazines ranging from Life and People and Discovery to Ms Magazine, Running, National Geographic World and Fortune. She believes that the reportage of the environment and animal behavior are the last great AND URGENT areas for photojournalistic coverage. She lives in Arlington, VA with her husband Mark Godfrey, the photo director for the Nature Conservancy.

Steve Maka

Steve Maka is a full time nature photographer based in Massachusetts. After earning a degree from the Rhode Island School of Design and working in fine art, he eventually succumbed to an ever-increasing draw to natural environments, away from the pace of the city. Combining his design background and intrigue with nature, he incorporates macro, landscape, and wildlife images into his photographic projects. Because of Steve's respect for the natural world and desire to protect the environment, he prefers to work with conservation organizations and nature-oriented magazines. He has recently been presented an international award recognizing his outstanding practice and promotion of high ethical standards relative to the environment.

His photography appears internationally on publications from cards and calendars to posters and billboards. Steve also is enthusiastic about sharing his photography experience and knowledge by teaching organized classes and leading field trips.

In 18 years as a full-time nature photographer, Steve's "job" has given him the opportunity to travel and photograph in many remote places around the world, from the Arctic Circle to the Equator, from the Boreal Forest to the Rain Forest. These vast and fragile ecosystems have not only inspired Steve's imagery but have had a profound influence on his personal philosophy. Most recently he has turned his attention to long-term projects and compiling series of interrelated images.

Tom Mangelsen

Conservation is a key theme in this multi-award winner photographer. Through showing the beauty of nature, Tom hopes to encourage others to go out and discover the wonders the natural world has to offer, to care enough about it to help preserve what remains. The Vital Grounds project, an organization with which Tom is heavily involved, sets aside funds to purchase land for grizzly bears. Four years ago, Tom's traveling museum exhibition Images of Biodiversity premiered at the San Diego Museum of Natural History.

The North American Nature Photography Association honored Tom with its "Outstanding Photographer of the Year" award in 2000 for the most impressive body of work by a single photographer. In 1994 Tom was chosen by the BBC as "Wildlife Photographer of the Year," the most prestigious international award given in nature photography. His winning photograph was exhibited in the Museum of Natural History in London, part of a traveling exhibition, which later toured the United States.

In 2001, Tom Mangelsen co-founded a nonprofit organization called The Cougar Fund. While mountain lions are not endangered, they have been wiped out of much of their range, which included the entire continental United States. Today, they remain in only 13 of those states, and are still persecuted by trophy hunters.