

GALLERY PANGOLIN

NATURAL WORLD

Nick Bibby & Steve Russell

Meticulously detailed flora and fauna
Sculptures and Photographs

2nd October - 13th November

Meticulously detailed animal studies by Nick Bibby accompanied by Steve Russell's photographic exploration of East Africa.

Nick Bibby spent much of his childhood wandering the Lake District and Cumbria, developing his abiding love of nature and wildlife.

'I love to sculpt wildlife, to try to capture the character and vitality of the subject as I observe it going about its daily business.'



Orangutan (Dagu) Nick Bibby,
Nyamileju (Forest of Giant Heather) (Rwenzori, Uganda) Steve Russell

His unrivalled ability to render natural textures of feather and fur in wax and clay is exemplified by a series of reconstructions of extinct animals of the Mascarene Islands.

'Carinate Tropic Snail' and 'Giant Tortoise' along with ten other animals, were part of a major project in collaboration with Pangolin Editions and the Mauritius Wildlife Foundation.

These life-size, scientifically accurate sculptures were created to raise awareness of the species lost and the species we continue to lose, whilst also raising funds toward continued conservation work on the islands through their sale.

Bibby has always been fascinated by the natural world. His talent was evident at an early age, largely self taught, he began sculpting commercially at sixteen.

He followed various successful vocations: director of a leading miniature figurines company, chief design consultant for a French art company and sculptor and model maker for television and stills advertising in London.

Bibby returned to his first love the natural world and began casting into bronze in 1992, his precisely executed animal studies have since become collectors' items.



Giant Tortoise Nick Bibby

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One of Bibby's recent commissions of a life-size 'Emperor Penguin', a charismatic sculpture greets visitors in the foyer of The Wilson Gallery and Museum in Cheltenham. It was especially commissioned by The Wilson, to represent the importance of Edward Wilson in Scott's Antarctic expeditions and the Wilson family's role in the founding of the Museum.

With subjects ranging widely, from small to monumental, Bibby's sculptures are owned and admired by an ever growing number of Collectors worldwide. Most notably a commission from the prestigious Ivy League University, Brown, to sculpt a monumental, fifteen foot, Kodiak Brown Bear (the university's mascot) which now stands outside the Nelson Fitness Centre, Ittleson Quad, on their campus in Providence, Rhode Island. Aptly titled 'Indomitable', the giant bear was installed in 2013.



Emperor Penguin Nick Bibby

Steve Russell has shot photographs since he was a child, his passion for the camera eventually prompting his father into building him a darkroom. That proved an enlightened investment, ultimately helping Russell transform a schoolboy hobby into an award-winning career.



Peregrine II: Lightning Bolt Nick Bibby,
Snow on the Peaks (Rwenzori, Uganda) Steve Russell

Particularly adept at photographing sculpture - a notoriously difficult thing to capture thanks to the vagaries of ambient light on three-dimensional objects, Russell has been working closely with Pangolin for 20 years.

Russell's passion for African life and culture was first ignited on a visit to Uganda with the Ruwenzori Sculpture Foundation when he was commissioned to photograph the site and development of the sculpture foundry and gallery there.

Frequent journeys to East Africa over the last twelve years have provided Steve with huge inspiration and the opportunity to photograph an impressive variety of animals and bird species as well as staggering scenery, from the Rwenzori Mountains of Western Uganda to the Tanzanian coastline.

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Tributary (Landing at Murchison, Uganda)
Steve Russell

A mammoth expedition to the Rwenzori Mountains in 2018 also known as 'Mountains of the Moon' led to a successful exhibition of the same title at The Royal Geographical Society, London. A photographic exploration of the Rwenzori Mountains, five thousand metres up, with their glaciers, rocky outcrops and unique variety of plants like nowhere else on earth captured by Russell on his Hasselblad.

His images have been recognised in various competitions including Hasselblad Masters 2016, Travel Photographer of the Year 2015 and the British Book Design and Production awards 2013, where his book 'Katonda Wenge' was shortlisted for Best Book in the 'Photographic, Arts, Architecture and Monographs' category.

Russell's work features in both private and public collections including 'Nature In Art' Gallery and Museum in Gloucestershire, the Royal Geographical Society Collection and the British Council in Kampala, Uganda.



Latham Island (Tanzania) Steve Russell

Celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year, Gallery Pangolin is a world-class sculpture gallery with a renowned reputation for works of quality and excellence by Modern and Contemporary Artists.

For a copy of the exhibition catalogue, high resolution images by Steve Russell Studios, or if you would like to discuss payment by instalment, please contact Sally James or Cath Ingram on **01453 889765**

The Gallery is open and following government guidelines: Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm and Saturday 10am to 1pm

Further information can be found on the gallery website:
www.gallery-pangolin.com

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