

Press Release June 2010

stevebloom



Waterstones, St Margarets Street, Canterbury

Waterstones is proud to present an exhibition of photographs by best-selling international author and photographer, Steve Bloom, who lives near Canterbury.

For the past seventeen years, Steve Bloom has travelled to the remotest reaches of the world, capturing spectacular photographs of its wildlife and human cultures. Born in South Africa in 1953, he first used his camera to document life in that country during the apartheid years. He moved to England in 1977, where he co-founded one of London's leading photography special-effects companies.

In the early nineties, spurred by a safari holiday, he returned to full-time photography and concentrated on building up a body of work that makes a powerful environmental statement by revealing sentience in animals and blurring the lines that separate different species. Deliberately anthropomorphic, with many pictures featuring eye contact, Steve Bloom's work has an intimacy that exposes the common threads linking all living beings. These connections pervade all his work, including his studies of people. In recent years he has returned to photographing people, exploring the diversity of cultures in Africa and has had two further books published by Thames & Hudson on the subject.

His books have appeared in twenty languages worldwide. Titles include *Untamed*, *Elephant*, *Elephants - A Book for Children*, *Spirit of the Wild*, *Living Africa*, and *Trading Places: The Merchants of Nairobi*. His outdoor giant exhibition installations, *Spirit of the Wild*, have been seen by an estimated ten million people across Europe. Books and related merchandise will be available to browse and purchase in Waterstones. A new childrens' book, *My Favourite Animal Families*, will be published by Thames & Hudson in the Autumn

Steve Bloom's photographs have been in many solo and group shows, including London's Photographers' Gallery and The National Portrait Gallery. International awards for his work include The Power of Photography Award, The Golden Eye of Russia, and the Lucie Awards.

Chives Cafe, Waterstones, 20 St Margarets Street, Canterbury CT1 2TH - From June 2010

For further information and images for the media, call 01233813777 or email info@stevebloom.com