



MEDIA CONTACT

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**National Geographic Live and Mesa Arts Center present
GORONGOSA REBORN: A CAMERAMAN'S JOURNAL
Wildlife Filmmaker Bob Poole
January 20, 2016**



Mesa, AZ – The 2015-16 *National Geographic Live* Arizona Speaker Series brings **award-winning natural history cinematographer Bob Poole** to Mesa Arts Center on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ikeda Theater. Join the acclaimed cinematographer and filmmaker for an unforgettable evening of images and stories about Gorongosa's majestic animals.

***"Gorongosa is proof that, what we've broken, we can put back together."* - Bob Poole.**

Tickets are available through Mesa Arts Center's Box Office, at MesaArtsCenter.com or by calling 480-644-6500.

A childhood in East Africa gave Emmy Award-winning cinematographer Bob Poole a fierce curiosity about the natural world as well as an adventurous spirit. Now, for a new, 6-part PBS/Nat Geo International series, Bob is drawing on that experience to document the rebirth of a lost Eden: Mozambique's Gorongosa National Park, a jewel of Africa's parks system until civil war almost destroyed it. There, he joined forces with rangers and scientists (including his sister, renowned elephant researcher Joyce Poole), on perhaps the biggest conservation project on the planet. He'll share secrets of filming lions, crocs, elephants, and spectacular scenery, and tell how he cracked the "*Gorongosa code*" - learning to read the landscape and find prime locations for filming the park's spectacular wildlife.

The acclaimed cinematographer extensive credit list includes documentaries for PBS NATURE and NOVA, BBC, over 30 films for Discovery Networks, and an additional 30 plus films for National Geographic Television. Bob Poole's passion for wildlife led to his involvement as a Board Member for the Gorongosa National Park Restoration Project. Currently he is working in Africa as the Presenter and Director of Photography on a 5-part series on the restoration of

Mozambique's Gorongosa National Park for PBS and National Geographic International.

Also in the *National Geographic Live* Arizona Speaker Series:

SPINOSAURUS: LOST GIANT OF THE CRETACEOUS

Paleontologist Nizar Ibrahim

Wed, February 10, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Ikeda Theater

In a tale for the ages, 2014 National Geographic Emerging Explorer Nizar Ibrahim finds “a *needle in a desert*” - the first semiaquatic dinosaur. The German/Moroccan paleontologist was obsessed with the giant predator Spinosaurus, one of the great mysteries in paleontology. Listen to Ibrahim's remarkable story and about the findings of an international team of scientists that were featured as a cover story for National Geographic magazine.

BLUE WORLD

Oceanographer Sylvia Earle

Wed, November 18, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Ikeda Theater

Discover the wonders and fragility of the deep blue seas with National Geographic Society Explorer-in-Residence Dr. Sylvia A. Earle. She has been called “*Her Deepness*” by the New Yorker and the New York Times, “*Living Legend*” by the Library of Congress, and first “*Hero for the Planet*” by Time magazine. She is an oceanographer, explorer, author, and lecturer.

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About Mesa Arts Center

The Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.

About *National Geographic Live*

National Geographic Live is the live events division of the National Geographic Society, featuring live concerts, films and dynamic presentations by today's leading explorers, scientists, filmmakers and photographers, covering a wide range of topics including exploration and adventure, wildlife and habitat conservation, natural phenomena and relevant issues such as climate change. Proceeds from speaker series ticket sales help fund future National Geographic initiatives in field research, exploration and education. For more information, visit www.nglive.org.