

LIFE

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME
FRANS LANTING

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PRESS RELEASE

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Frans Lanting's *LIFE: A Journey Through Time* Multimedia Performance Premieres on East Coast Feb. 22-25, 2007

Maestra Marin Alsop Leads Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in Philip Glass Composition of *LIFE*

SANTA CRUZ, CA, January 28, 2007. Frans Lanting, acclaimed as one of the great nature photographers of our time, announced today the East Coast premiere of the multimedia production, *LIFE: A Journey Through Time*. Featuring the “lush, pulsing” music for orchestra by composer and Baltimore native Philip Glass, *LIFE* is an innovative multimedia work that interprets the history of life on Earth by merging the photographic arts, science, and music. Conductor Marin Alsop and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra will perform *LIFE* on Thursday February 22 at the Strathmore Center in Bethesda, Maryland, and on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, February 23, 24, and 25, 2007, at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore.

The *LIFE* multimedia orchestral performance was produced by the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, in collaboration with Frans Lanting and his wife Christine Eckstrom, composer Philip Glass, music director Marin Alsop, and choreographer/editor Alex Nichols. *LIFE* premiered on the West Coast on July 29 and 30, 2006, at the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music.

Other elements of The LIFE Project include a lavish, large-format, photographic book published by TASCHEN in seven languages (English, Dutch, Spanish, German, Italian, Portuguese, and French); a traveling photographic exhibition launched in Europe at Naturalis, the National Museum of Natural History of the Netherlands, and one scheduled for launch in the United States in partnership with The Exhibition Alliance in 2007; an original website, www.LifeThroughTime.com, which includes an interactive timeline of the history of life along with scientific and technical information about the images and stories produced for The LIFE Project. Discussions are underway with other partners to integrate *LIFE* concepts and images into other applications, including large-format outdoor exhibitions. Public outreach by Frans Lanting includes a series of public appearances for National Geographic on February 27 in Washington, D.C., and on April 24 in Seattle. For more information please visit www.LifeThroughTime.com.

Collaborators and Sponsors of *Life: A Journey Through Time*

The *LIFE* Project is made possible by the generous support of TASCHEN Publishers, Nikon USA and Nikon Europe, the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, Sposto Interactive Studio, the Blue Earth Alliance, Naturalis, the National Museum of Natural History of the Netherlands, the Exhibition Alliance, and other sponsors and donors.

FRANS LANTING

Frans Lanting has been hailed as one of the great nature photographers of our time. His influential work appears in books, magazines, and exhibitions around the world. For more than two decades he has documented wildlife from the Amazon to Antarctica to promote understanding about the Earth and its natural history through images that convey a passion for nature and a sense of wonder about our living planet. Frans has received top honors from World Press Photo, the title of BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year, and the Sierra Club's Ansel Adams Award. He has been honored as a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society in London and is a recipient of Sweden's Lennart Nilsson Award. Prince Bernhard inducted him as a Knight in the Royal Order of the Golden Ark, the Netherlands' highest conservation honor. Frans Lanting makes his home in Santa Cruz, California, with his wife, Christine Eckstrom, an editor, producer, and former staff writer at National Geographic with whom he collaborates on fieldwork and publishing projects. For further information please see www.lanting.com.

CHRISTINE ECKSTROM

Co-producer of *LIFE*, Christine Eckstrom is a writer, editor, and videographer. She has collaborated with Frans Lanting for more than 15 years on assignments and fieldwork on every continent. She is the author of *Forgotten Edens* and a contributing author of 15 books published by the National Geographic Society. The editor of *Okavango*, *Jungles*, *Penguin*, and *Eye to Eye*, she partners with Frans Lanting to produce books, videos, and other publishing projects from their studio and gallery in Santa Cruz, California. For further information please see www.lanting.com.

NIKON

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TASCHEN

TASCHEN is an art book publisher founded in 1980 by Benedikt TASCHEN in Cologne, Germany, that has been called the publisher of "the most exquisite books on the planet." TASCHEN has been a noteworthy force in bringing art books to a mainstream audience, including both modern and classic books on art, design, and architecture. TASCHEN has published other titles produced by Frans Lanting and Christine Eckstrom, including *Jungles* (2000), *Penguin* (1999), and *Eye to Eye* (1997), which was named by PBS in San Francisco as one of the 100 most influential nonfiction books of the 20th century. For more information please visit www.TASCHEN.com.

THE CABRILLO FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

The Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music is America's longest running new music festival dedicated to orchestral music, and is the winner of the national A.S.C.A.P. Award for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music for twenty-three consecutive years (1982-2005). Led by Music Director and Conductor Marin Alsop, who also serves as conductor of the Baltimore Symphony and is the first woman

to lead a major American orchestra, the Cabrillo Festival has become the epicenter of modern symphonic music in our nation. For more information please visit www.cabrilloomusic.org.

PHILIP GLASS

Philip Glass is considered one of the most influential composers of our time. He is a pioneer of Minimalist music and is widely recognized as a composer who has brought art music to the public. He has produced music for film, opera, theatre, and orchestra, and has received Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations for his film scores. A prolific composer, Glass's artistic collaborators include Ravi Shankar, David Bowie, the late Allen Ginsberg, and Doris Lessing, among many others. He is a Buddhist and a co-founder of the Tibet House with actor Richard Gere. A native of Baltimore, Glass makes his home in New York City. For more information please visit www.philipglass.com.

NATURALIS

Naturalis, the National Museum of Natural History of the Netherlands, is a leading European museum of natural history that attracts more than 250,000 visitors annually. It was awarded the Prince Bernhard Fund Museum Award for its innovative exhibits and is known for its capacity to interpret earth and life sciences in a striking manner for large audiences. For more information please visit www.naturalis.nl.

SPOSTO INTERACTIVE

Sposto Interactive is an interactive communications firm specializing in the creation of unique and powerful online user experiences. Since 1996 SI has been providing select national and global concerns with a variety of interactive communication solutions. They are proud to be working with Mr. Lanting and to have the opportunity to contribute to this artistic and educational endeavor. For more information please visit www.sposto.com.

THE BLUE EARTH ALLIANCE

The Blue Earth Alliance is a non-profit 501(c) (3) corporation dedicated to supporting photographic projects that educate the public about threatened cultures, endangered environments, and other social concerns. The Blue Earth Alliance has accepted *Life: A Journey Through Time* as a project eligible for financial support. For more information please email the Blue Earth Alliance at info@blueearth.org, or visit www.blueearth.org.

DELAPA CONSULTING

Michael DeLapa specializes in the transformation of ideas into products and services. Drawing on 20 years of experience in launching and managing new ventures, and an extensive network of professional contacts, he provides marketing, strategic planning, business development, and other management services to businesses, government agencies, and nonprofit groups. For further information, visit www.mdelapa.com.

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