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Keith Logan's "A Place Called Home" Exhibition of Bird Photographs Opens at Smithsonian

Through views of birds in their natural habitats, photographer Keith Logan explores the theme of home and what it means to the survival of a species. "A Place Called Home," an exhibition of 40 photographs, will be on exhibit from Nov. 1 to Feb. 25, 2002 in the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

A self-taught photographer from Alberta, Canada, Logan specializes in detailed images of birds in their habitats. He began exhibiting his photographs in 1981. Since then, his work has been published in magazines, books and calendars.

Logan took most of the photographs in the exhibit with an Arca Swiss 4X5 camera equipped with a custom-built flash. He developed and printed all of these Ilfochrome prints as well as built all the frames for the photographs.

"After I've located a nest, I construct a blind and slowly move it closer and closer," says Logan. "I carefully observe activity around the nest, and if the bird's behavior changes, I withdraw. Sometimes I wait for weeks for the birds to chance upon the composition I have in mind."

"Because I spend a long time watching my subjects, I understand how dependent they are on their habitats. Some are adaptable; others need very specific conditions. All need a place they can call home."

The National Museum of Natural History, located at 10th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W., welcomed more than 9.5 million people during the year 2000. Opened in 1910, the museum located on the National Mall is dedicated to maintaining and preserving the world's largest collection of natural history specimens and human artifacts. It also fosters critical scientific research as well as educational programs and exhibitions that present the work of its scientists and curators to the public. The museum is part of the Smithsonian Institution, the world's largest museum and research complex. The Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day except Christmas. Admission is free.