

PRESS RELEASE

**For IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***Raptors & Rehabilitation: Where Birds Meet People*
Work by Sophie Zyla**



Sophie Zyla, Banshee – Barn Owl

- WHAT:** ***Raptors & Rehabilitation: Where Birds Meet People***
Work by Sophie Zyla
Birds are hiding in plain sight in the cities, suburbs, and the natural places our paths take us. The photographs in this exhibit are of educational birds from A Place Called Hope (APCH), a non-profit raptor rehabilitation center in Killingworth, Connecticut.
- WHEN:** Exhibition Dates: November 17, 2018 – January 11, 2019
Artist reception: **Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 5:30-7 pm**
Gallery & Library Hours: Monday – Thursday, 10 am – 8 pm; Friday & Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm, Sunday Closed
- WHERE:** Ives Gallery (Lower Level), New Haven Free Public Library, 133 Elm Street, New Haven, CT
- EVENT:** A free public artist reception Wednesday, November 28 from 5:30-7 pm in the Ives Gallery

About the Exhibit

Birds are hiding in plain sight in the cities, suburbs, and the natural places our paths take us. The photographs in this exhibit are of educational birds from A Place Called Hope (APCH), a non-profit raptor rehabilitation center in Killingworth, Connecticut.

The birds of prey in this exhibit remain in captivity due to circumstances caused mainly by encounters with humanity. Despite best efforts and medical care some do not survive, while many birds are released and continue their lives in their natural habitats, and others live in aviaries where people can observe and study their behaviors. Educational birds have a personality and disposition which allows them to become ambassadors, educators, and acquaintances of humans, travelling to fairs and programs. With a closer look, one can see more than a bundle of feathers. There may be an expression in the eyes, a determination seen in the face, suggestions of physical strength, hints of personality that inspire awe, or a moment of silliness that causes a smile. As human and animal paths cross, collisions are inevitable. We have the capacity to hurt but also the ability to help.

Artist Statement

Photography is my passion and conservation is where my heart is. My photographic studies and explorations began with a family and sports focus in the early 1980 film days. With time, came a change to digital and the wonders to be found in nature and landscape. An opportunity to leave the corporate world behind and return to school for outdoor leadership, environmental education, journalism, and conservation biology blended photography into all that I cared deeply about. Exhibits allow me to share what I love and raise awareness and appreciation for all with which we walk our land. Digital photography freezes a moment in time and paves the way for looking closer in order to see and get to know that which may have went previously unnoticed.

About the Ives Gallery

The Ives Gallery is proud to exhibit work that reflects and celebrates the rich diversity of greater New Haven's cultural community.

About the New Haven Free Public Library

The New Haven Free Public Library welcomes more than 500,000 library users through its doors each year. The library system includes the Ives Memorial Library on the historic New Haven Green, 24/7 online services, the Readmobile bringing books to early childhood learning centers, and four neighborhood libraries: Fair Haven, Mitchell, Stetson and Wilson. Read the new Strategic Framework 2018-2013: *Growing Together. One City. One Future.* at <http://nhfpl.org/strategic-framework/>.

Vision

Now and tomorrow, the New Haven Free Public Library will transform lives and contribute to creating a strong, resilient, and informed community where everyone can thrive.

Mission

The New Haven Free Public Library fosters lifelong learning, inspires curiosity, and builds community through shared access to resources, experiences, and opportunities for all.

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