

PRESS RELEASE
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WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY

SOPHIE HOWARTH'S PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION -THE GOLDEN EAGLE FESTIVAL, AND PREVIEW OF NEW FILM *THE EAGLE HUNTRESS* AT DENDY NEWTOWN ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - MARCH 8.

When: *The Golden Eagle Festival of Mongolia* photography exhibition opens 6pm, Wednesday 8 March. Film commences 7pm.
Venue: Dendy Newtown, 261-263 King St Newtown.
Ticket price: \$15 per head includes exhibition, a glass of sparkling and film.
Buy tickets: <https://www.dendy.com.au/events/the-eagle-huntress>
Film trailer: <https://youtu.be/ICxLAQCxK2c>

As official photographer one of the world's most successful rock music festivals, The Big Day Out, Sophie Howarth became fascinated in capturing the festival experience - the audience, the gaze, the energy. Sophie has curated a selection of mesmerizing photographs from her time in Mongolia attending The Golden Eagle Festival. The exhibition will coincide with the release of the stunning documentary *The Eagle Huntress*, and will be on show for 2 weeks from March 8 at Dendy Cinemas Newtown.

The old Kazakh tradition of horseback eagle falconry is celebrated each October in the Bayan-Uljii Province in far western Mongolia. Horse-riding with her host family allowed Sophie to create shots that communicate her signature theme - the connection between performer and audience, of hunter/huntress and eagle - against the dramatic landscape of the wild Mongolian Altai mountain range.

"My work is a study of reverie, a powerful alchemy that the performer and audience inspire, exist in, and respond to during the cycle of a festival. A presence that everyone has a part in, that brings an otherworldliness to the occasion; an atmosphere of something greater than ourselves," Sophie says.

ABOUT THE FILM

The Eagle Huntress follows Aisholpan, 13 year old girl, as she trains to become the first female in twelve generations of her family to become an eagle hunter, and rises to the pinnacle of an ancient tradition that has been handed down from father to son for centuries.

Set against the breathtaking expanse of the Mongolian steppe, *The Eagle Huntress* features some of the most awe-inspiring cinematography ever captured in a documentary, giving this intimate tale of a young girl's quest the dramatic force of a narrative film.

Directed by Otto Bell, *The Eagle Huntress* is narrated by Daisy Ridley (Star Wars). It opens at Dendy Newtown, Dendy Opera Quays and other select cinemas on Thursday 16 March. Rated G.

Works in the exhibition will be available for purchase. Sophie will be donating a portion of funds from each sale to Aisholpan to assist her education and career goals.

Media wishing to cover the exhibition opening should contact spr_melbourne@spe.sony.com by Friday 3 March.

For interviews, high res images and exhibition information please contact Sophie Howarth Photography | T 0408403253 | E howarth.sophie@gmail.com sophiehowarthphotography.com // insta: [sophiehowarthphotography](https://www.instagram.com/sophiehowarthphotography) // fb: Sophie Howarth Photography

For more information on *The Eagle Huntress* film contact Cheryl_Mulholland@spe.sony.com
Download film images: www.sonypicturespublicity.com.au (Login: press | Password: sonypicturesau)