

AUDITORIUM THEATRE

CHICAGO'S LANDMARK STAGE[®] EST. 1889

50 E Ida B Wells Dr
Chicago, IL 60605
AuditoriumTheatre.org

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Release date: December 28, 2021

The Auditorium Theatre Presents

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE — WILD HOPE

With Photographer and Filmmaker Ami Vitale

Features Vitale's Images and Adventures
from a Career Spent "Living the Story"

[National Geographic Live — Wild Hope | January 23, 2022 @ 2PM](#)



(CHICAGO, IL) — The Auditorium Theatre's **National Geographic Live Series** returns on January 23, 2022 with **Wild Hope**, featuring National Geographic photographer and filmmaker **Ami Vitale**.

Ami Vitale shares her personal odyssey — from documenting the heartbreaking realities of war to witnessing the inspiring power of an individual to make a difference. She'll tell awe-inspiring stories of the reintroduction of northern white rhinos and giant pandas to the wild, as well as Kenya's first indigenous-owned and run elephant sanctuary. The event will feature incredible images and film that transformed Vitale into a celebrated global storyteller, photographer, and filmmaker.

"We continue our National Geographic Live Series in 2022 and welcome three dynamic Nat Geo Explorers sharing their adventures from the wild," says **Rich Regan**, Auditorium Theatre CEO. "We look forward to kicking off the series with the incredible Ami Vitale who will share her compelling wildlife stories while showcasing her inspiring work."

This is the first event of a 3-show series that also includes [Spinosaurus: Lost Giant of the Cretaceous](#) with **Nizar Ibrahim** (February 27) and [Social by Nature](#) with **Ronan Donovan** (April 10).

[Click here to watch a Wild Hope preview.](#)

Ami Vitale Biography

Nikon Ambassador and National Geographic magazine photographer Ami Vitale has lived in mud huts and war zones, contracted malaria, and donned a panda suit — all in keeping with her philosophy of "living the story." She has traveled to more than 100 countries, bearing witness not only to violence and conflict, but also to surreal beauty and to the enduring power of the human spirit. Recently, she has turned her lens to compelling wildlife stories, such as returning critically endangered, captive-born species like the giant pandas back to the wild, and attempts to save the last living northern white rhinos from extinction.

Vitale's work is exhibited worldwide in museums, galleries, and private collections. She has garnered prestigious awards including multiple prizes from World Press Photo, the International Photographer of the Year prize, and the Daniel Pearl Award for Outstanding Reporting. She has also been named Magazine Photographer of the Year by the National Press Photographer's Association.

Vitale is a founding member of Ripple Effect Images, a collective of scientists, writers, photographers and filmmakers who document challenges facing women and girls in developing countries and donate that media to the organizations to assist in fundraising. She is chair of the Photographers Advisory Board for National Geographic magazine photographers and a member of the Executive Advisory Committee of the Alexia Foundation's Photojournalism Advisory Board.

The North American Presenting Sponsor of the National Geographic Live Series is
Office Depot.

The Auditorium Theatre National Geographic Live Series Sponsor are
Deborah and Bruce Crown.

The Auditorium Theatre invites members of the press and a guest to attend National Geographic Live — Wild Hope on Sunday, January 23 @ 2PM.

Please RSVP to Mary Crylen by Monday, January 17 at mcrylen@auditoriumtheatre.org.

Media interview opportunities available – please contact Mary at mcrylen@auditoriumtheatre.org or Colleen @ cflanigan@auditoriumtheatre.org or 773.610.3445.

Press photos available [here](#).

EVENT INFORMATION

[NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE — WILD HOPE](#)

Sunday, January 23, 2022 @ 2PM

Tickets are \$60 or \$48 and are available now at AuditoriumTheatre.org, by calling 312.341.2300, or at the Box Office at 50 E Ida B Wells Drive in Chicago, IL. [Click here for phone and in-person hours.](#)

Wild Hope is part of a 3-event [National Geographic Live Series](#) subscription that offers a 20% discount for all 3 shows. Wild Hope may also be added to the Auditorium Theatre's "[Create Your Own](#)" Series subscription offering a 15-25% discount. Discounted tickets for [groups](#) of 10 or more people are also available.

The Auditorium Theatre offers \$15 [student rush](#) tickets to full-time college students and \$5 tickets to young people ages 13-19 with Urban Gateways' [Teen Arts Pass](#) program. The Auditorium also offers a [Student Savings Club](#) for both college and high school students. The Auditorium Theatre's [ADMIT ONE](#) program offers complimentary tickets to Chicago-area community groups.

The Auditorium Theatre is fully committed to the health and safety of our patrons and our staff. **For this event, patrons 5 and over are REQUIRED to show proof of vaccination at the door. Guests under 5 may gain entry by wearing a mask at all times when not eating and drinking. All guests must wear a mask when not eating or drinking.** [Click here for the most current safety protocols.](#)



About The Auditorium Theatre

The Auditorium Theatre, located at 50 E Ida B Wells Dr at Roosevelt University in Chicago, is an Illinois not-for-profit organization committed to presenting the finest in international, cultural, community, and educational programming to all of Chicago and beyond as The Theatre for the People. The organization also is committed to the continued restoration and preservation of this National Historic Landmark that originally opened in 1889.

The Auditorium Theatre 2021-2022 Season is made possible in part with support from **The Florian Fund, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation,** and the **Illinois Arts**

Council Agency. The Auditorium's official hotel partner is the **Palmer House Hilton** and their official magazine is **Chicago** magazine.

For a complete listing of events at the Auditorium Theatre, please visit AuditoriumTheatre.org.



Photo of Ami Vitale by Michael Davie. | Photo by Ami Vitale. | Photo of Auditorium Theatre by Andres Marin.

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