



Society for
Reproduction
and Fertility

SEX
IN THREE
CITIES

PRESS RELEASE

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The Curiosities of Animal Reproduction and their Potential to Change the Future of Animal Conservation comes to the UK

The highly acclaimed Sex in Three Cities free public lecture series is about to take place from 12th to 15th February 2018 in London, Edinburgh and Nottingham. The 8th such programme, the 2018 series provides a rare opportunity to meet and hear Professor Hildebrandt, from the The Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Berlin – a world leading voice in the protection of endangered species – present his lecture on “Animal Reproduction: Curiosities and Conservation”.

Listen to Professor Hildebrandt as he talks about:

1. The **plight of some of our most endangered species** and how applying the most advanced assisted reproductive technologies can be used in the fight against their extinction.
2. The latest and sometimes unusual reproduction strategies that can open **a new dimension in animal conservation**. He will even demonstrate how his patent pending 4 foot double lumen needle can be used in assisted reproduction for a 2 tonne female rhinoceros!
3. The **application of nature’s own protective solutions** to some of human societies most burning problems such as cancer. For instance, the potential to apply the anti-cancer strategies of the naked mole-rat, which never gets cancer, to humans, and much more.....

His fascinating lecture will last one hour and be followed by an informal drinks reception, providing the chance to network and meet Professor Hildebrandt himself. “I am excited to



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be part of the Sex in Three Cities lecture series to increase awareness of the issues surrounding endangered species, animal reproduction techniques and how we can learn from the studies of these to apply to human society and vice versa”.

The Sex in Three Cities is an initiative run by the Society of Reproduction and Fertility (SRF), that takes place in London, Edinburgh and Nottingham each year, typically attracting over 400 people. One of the principle aims of the SRF is to enhance the knowledge of reproductive processes and fertility in humans and animals, and the Sex in Three Cities Series forms part of SRF’s programme of bringing this knowledge to people interested in the field and to the public at large. In 2018, the lectures take place on:

- Mon 12th Feb, 6.30pm, at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Regent Park, London
- Wed 14th Feb, 5.30pm, at The Queen’s Medical Research Institute, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh,
- Thurs 15th Feb, 6.30pm, at The School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, Sutton Bonington Campus, University of Nottingham, Nottingham.

These early evening lectures are FREE of charge and tickets can be booked by visiting the SRF website: <http://srf-reproduction.org/events/sex-in-three-cities-events/>

“Thomas Hildebrandt's talk was brilliant! Very entertaining and informative” quote from a delegate at the SRF Annual Conference 2016

ENDS

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Editors Notes

- **About the Speaker**

Professor Thomas Hildebrandt is based at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (IZW) in Berlin where he has led a research programme on the reproductive management of zoo animals and wildlife for many years. This has included numerous research explorations around the World to study reproduction in species as diverse and challenging as sharks, sealions, orcas, elephants, octopuses, komodo dragons, rhinos and primates. He is currently the Head of Reproduction Management at IZW as well as being an honorary professor at the University of Melbourne, Australia and University Professor for Wildlife Reproduction Medicine at the Free University of Berlin. Thomas graduated as a veterinary surgeon from the Humboldt University of Berlin in 1993. Since then he has been based at IZW, first as a research scientist and then as a department head. His research has focused on understanding gonadal function.

He has been recipient of numerous Awards and Honours including Recognition of Outstanding Contribution to Obstetrics in Elephants (2008), Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (2012), Career Award from Species Conservation Research Canada (2012) and Conservation Legacy Award USA (2015).

He is also a passionate supporter of the public communication of science, talking at science meetings across the globe and he has also presented his work on the BBC. He has served on numerous advisory bodies in Europe and elsewhere. He has published >140 papers, written 23 book chapters, given over 200 presentations (including 45 plenary lectures) and has 4 patents.

- **About The Society for Reproduction and Fertility**

The SRF's principal aim is to support research and teaching in all aspects of reproductive biology.



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It was established in 2001 as the amalgamation of 2 societies, the Society for the Study of Fertility (SSF) and the Journals of Reproduction and Fertility Ltd (JRF), SRF's roots go back much further to the 1940's and the Society carries forward the long standing heritage of the SSF/JRF in being one of the principal scientific societies specialising in reproductive biology, both within the UK and internationally.

The Sex in Three Cities public lecture series was created to support the SRF's aim of promoting research in reproduction of all species and to disseminate information to the public at large.

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Appendix

- Scientific Synopsis (existing synopsis) – for contacts (unis etc.) who understand the language and will want some depth
- Video of Thomas