

**PRESS RELEASE**

Release date: 3 April 2019

Friends of the Pitt Rivers Museum Event

**Beatrice Blackwood Event: Peter Frankopan talks about *The Tyranny of Eurocentrism***

We are delighted to announce that Peter Frankopan, global historian and one of Oxford's leading authors, will be speaking at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History on Friday 3 May 2019.

At a time in our history when we have been focussed on Europe, his talk, *The Tyranny of Eurocentrism*, will broaden our perspective with insights on the rhythms of current global changes, and how people could react to them. Cultures and economies are being reshaped by climate change, food shortages, large-scale migrations, population growth imbalances and military conflicts.

Peter Frankopan, author of *The Silk Roads* and *The New Silk Roads*, is speaking at the biennial Beatrice Blackwood Event, organised by the Friends of the Pitt Rivers Museum. Beatrice Blackwood was one of the Pitt Rivers Museum's pioneering anthropologists, travelling the world to study many peoples and their cultures. She taught at the University of Oxford and donated thousands of artefacts and objects to the Museum for visitors and researchers to learn from.

Tickets are available from Tickets Oxford (<https://bit.ly/2FTBF1f>) and the Oxford Playhouse box office (01865 305305). Tickets cost £18 (£15 Friends of Pitt Rivers Museum) and include refreshments in the Pitt Rivers Museum following the talk.

For further information, please contact Wendy Tobitt, Friends of the Pitt Rivers Museum, [wendy.tobitt@btinternet.com](mailto:wendy.tobitt@btinternet.com) 07748641452 or Louise Hancock, Marketing and Media Officer, Pitt Rivers Museum, [louise.hancock@prm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:louise.hancock@prm.ox.ac.uk) 01865 613017.

Notes for Editors

- Peter Frankopan is Professor of Global History at Oxford University, where he is also Senior Research Fellow at Worcester College, Oxford and Director of the Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research. He works on the history of the Mediterranean, Russia, the Middle East, Persia/Iran, Central Asia and beyond, and on relations between Christianity and Islam. Peter often writes for the international press, including *The New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *The Guardian* and has a regular column in the



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London *Evening Standard*.

- *Silk Roads* was named *The Daily Telegraph's* History Book of the Year 2015. It went to Number One in the *Sunday Times Non-Fiction* charts, remaining in the Top 10 for nine months in a row, as well as being #1 in China, India and many other countries around the world. His follow-up, *The New Silk Roads*, is a 'masterly-mapping out of a new world order', according to the *Evening Standard*.
- The University of Oxford's Pitt Rivers Museum (PRM) is one of the finest archaeological and ethnographic teaching museums in the world. Founded in 1884, when General Pitt Rivers, an influential figure in the development of archaeology and evolutionary anthropology, donated his collection of more than 27,000 objects to the University of Oxford, it now stewards over 550,000 objects. These collections of historical, social and ritual significance are of an extraordinary range and depth, including great works of art, invention and design from around the world.
- The Museum carries out world-leading conservation and research and welcomes half a million visitors each year, and currently focuses on developing more socially engaged practice with a focus on inclusivity. The Pitt Rivers Museum is much loved for its characteristic multi-layered and dense displays. Today, the Museum is a dynamic, forward-looking institution with many connections to stakeholders throughout the world.