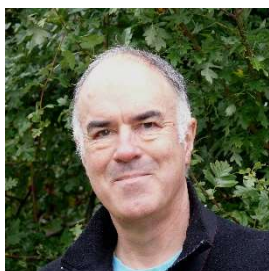


Talks by Laurence Rose

Updated January 2024



Laurence Rose is a Yorkshire-based writer, researcher and conservationist. He worked for the RSPB between 1983 and 2022 in roles as varied as volunteer development, international partnerships, international law and policy, regional and country leadership, area reserves management and strategic project management. To discuss your organisation's requirements, contact laurence@laurerose.co.uk

Notes from the Field Laurence Rose's writing always starts with close, careful observation of nature wherever it is found, and whatever its context. His prose has been described in reviews as lyrical, mindful, inspiring and eye-opening. This talk focuses on the wildlife, describing specific encounters that became the starting point for passages in books and essays. Versions of this talk can be adapted for different groups depending on whether a wildlife focus or a literature focus is required.



Framing Nature – conservation and culture. Based on the book of the same title. Through the stories of nine species – four birds, three mammals and two insects – Laurence Rose explores the roots of our relationship with nature, revealing much about us. Includes scientific detective stories, cultural revelations, stories of loss, recovery and hope.

The Long Spring – tracking the arrival of spring through Europe. Based on the book of the same title. Between February and May 2016 Laurence Rose followed the progress of spring, starting at the northern tip of Africa and ending his journeys on the north coast of Arctic Norway. This talk is a homage to the diversity and beauty of his home continent, with a focus on wildlife.

Leopard Moon Rising – distant views of India. Based on the book of the same title. A version of my talk *Perspectives of India* (see below) but with more of a cultural focus, exploring the relationship between people and nature and how this influences conservation issues.

Perspectives of India This talk takes us to central India, Assam, Gujarat and Mumbai. Laurence Rose claims to be an expert in “how little I know about India” which is hardly surprising, given the vast scale and diversity of this amazing country. Birds and big cats feature strongly, alongside the people for whom daily life revolves around nature.

Windhover – a year among kestrels (new for 2024) Laurence wanted to devote a year, 2023, to really getting to know one species well, from among the relatively common birds in his home area. He chose the kestrel – or rather, the kestrel chose him. A book is due in 2025.



Wild Spain Laurence Rose has visited Spain around 80 times, for work and pleasure. This talk is a tour of some of the special places of this endlessly fascinating country, and its special wildlife, some of which is found nowhere else.

Iberian fox ©Laurence Rose

Bringing them Back – stories from the brink Laurence Rose retired from the RSPB in early 2022 and immediately started a new ‘job’ as a volunteer, writing up the stories of some of the RSPB’s very-long-term work to recover threatened species. White-tailed eagle, curlew, bittern, red kite, common crane and corncrake are among the first subjects to be explored.

Birds on the Brink. The Red, Amber and Green Lists of Birds of Conservation Concern explained, and their implications for the future.

Rethinking Nature. Our relationship with nature has been repeatedly re-evaluated over the last 250 years. Starting with an historical perspective, Laurence Rose looks at the contributions made to western thinking by Gilbert White, Charles Darwin, Rachel Carson and E.O. Wilson, before tackling contemporary issues. These include finding nature-based solutions to the wider climate and environment crisis, and nature-positive ways of progress. This is a challenge to society, including the environment sector itself, to take bolder steps.

Birds and Music. An occasional composer and regular collaborator with musicians and fellow composers, Laurence Rose has created this talk for music clubs and societies, or joint meetings. It explores the contribution birds and nature have made to inspiring classical and contemporary music. The title and content can be adapted according to the interests of the audience, including university/conservatoire students. Particularly suitable for venues with a good sound system.

Conference keynote speeches, presentations, panels, festivals, workshops and academic lectures.

Please contact Laurence Rose to discuss your requirements. laurence@laurerose.co.uk

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