

Pat and Rosemarie Keough
22 April 2023

Bem vindos e bem vindas à Universidade de Lisboa e ao seu Museu Nacional de História Natural e da Ciência. Por cortesia aos nossos convidados de hoje, vou continuar em inglês.

Welcome to the University of Lisbon, the Museum of Natural History and Science. My name is Marta Lourenço, and I am the director of the Museum.

Today we are celebrating Earth Day, created in 1970 in the United States and commemorated at international level since 1990. Earth Day is marked by more than a billion people every year as a day of reflection and action to change human behavior towards our planet.

We have been having activities the whole day here at the Museum and the Botanic Garden, but I cannot think of a more inspiring way to commemorate Earth Day than to travel to the southernmost, least populated and remotest continent on Earth, Antarctica. And we could not have the honor and delight of two better guides: Pat and Rosemarie Keough from British Columbia, Canada.

Pat and Rosemarie have been professional photographers, explorers and book publishers for almost 40 years. Their work has taken them throughout the Arctic and Antarctica, the tropics and many other places on Earth. They have been awarded medals by The Royal Geographical Society in the UK and The Explorers Club in the United States. They are also recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medals.

Recently, Pat and Rosemarie have published a fabulous limited-edition book summarizing their Antarctic photography. There are copies of the book at the Instituto Geológico y Minero of Spain, the Centro Polar e Climático do Brazil, the Royal Society in Britain, and the universities of Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Berkeley in the USA.

On the 60th Anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty, specially dedicated copies of ANTARCTICA were presented to the Head of State of each of the 56 nations which subscribed to this important international treaty.

We are thrilled to say that Pat and Rosemarie also gave a copy of their book to the Museu Nacional de História Natural e da Ciência.

It is normally in our library, but I have brought it here for this lecture today. You can have a look at it later – truly amazing.

Pat and Rosemarie told me the pinnacle of their careers is this book, however I don't believe it. I believe they have the enthusiasm, energy, talent, and determination to do still so much more during their lives – for nature conservation and our planet.

Thank you so much for being here with us today. I'm very pleased to present to you, to speak about their passion for Antarctica, Pat & Rosemarie Keough.

*Marta Lourenço
Director, Museum of Natural History and Science
University of Lisbon*

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