



Tigers skulking around a vivid savannah; birds surrounded by kaleidoscopic foliage; a moose in a kitsch mountain scene... the images on these pages show nature in glorious, unnatural hues. "The idea behind the project is to question our idealised image of the natural world and to suggest that it's largely fictional," says the British artist Jim Naughten, whose photographs are not of wild animals but of existing dioramas — 3D replicas of natural scenes found in natural history museums, or 2D representations from wildlife books. He wanted to convey a sense of mankind's growing alienation from the natural world we

are rapidly destroying. He used Photoshop to alter or remove elements from existing dioramas and radically change the colour palettes to create these disquieting tableaux.

"I hope the project goes a little way to raising awareness about the biodiversity crisis," Naughten says.

His images go on display at the Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London W1, March 1-30, 2023 ■

Ereozoic: The Age of Loneliness by Jim Naughten is published by Hatje Cantz on November 24 at £54



Above: orangutans in Borneo and Sumatra are critically endangered, mostly due to habitat loss from deforestation

Left: these cephalopods — squids, cuttlefish, octopuses and nautiluses — swim in a scene set 450 million years ago



Above: tigers are at risk from poaching and retaliatory killings, but overall numbers are on the rise. About 4,500 remain in the wild

Left: shorter, milder winters are affecting moose populations in North America as overheating and tick infestations kill off weaker animals

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