

PARIS SETS ITS CLOCK TO OCEAN TIME... OCEAN DREAMS – EXPLORING PLANET OCEAN

**FROM SATURDAY 6 TO MONDAY 8 JUNE 2026
AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, JARDIN DES PLANTES – PARIS 5**

To mark World Ocean Day, Paris will become, for a weekend, the capital of marine exploration. The National Museum of Natural History joins and hosts **Mission Neptune** to present a free, open-access program for all, at the intersection of science, imagery and storytelling.

With **Ocean Dreams – Exploring Planet Ocean**, set within the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution and the Jardin des Plantes, the public is invited on an immersive journey: from the Amazon to the Ocean, three venues become chapters of a single narrative. A photography exhibition, an exploration film festival and a series of encounters form a pathway blending knowledge and emotion, reminding us of a fundamental truth: we belong to one and the same living system within **Planet Ocean**.

01. THE NEPTUNE EXPLORERS DOME — A JOURNEY INTO THE DREAMS OF THE OCEAN, WITHOUT LEAVING PARIS

At the heart of the Jardin des Plantes, a geodesic dome, featuring a giant curved screen over 10 meters wide, opens a portal: *Ocean Dreams – Stories of Hope*, an immersive projection that takes visitors into the depths of the global ocean. From the clear waters of northern Norway to the reefs of Raja Ampat in Indonesia, the film reveals the diversity of marine life. Alongside several scientists, it highlights what we see — and what remains to be protected. A sensitive visual journey, between science and emotion, where hope emerges from knowledge and from our capacity to act. The film is produced by Deep Sea Productions and distributed by SK Films, with the support of Voice of the Ocean (VOTO) and UNESCO. The Neptune Explorers Dome is designed for Mission Neptune by WMH Project.

10 meters

giant screen
in the Neptune Explorers Dome

100

Spectators
per 22-minute screening

3 days

of continuous
screenings

02. PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTALLATION — THE BOTOS, SPIRITS OF THE AMAZON

In the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution at the National Museum of Natural History, **Prince Hussain Aga Khan** presents *The Botos, Spirits of the Amazon*, a series of eight previously unseen underwater photographs taken in the Amazonian waters of Manaus, Brazil.

With the sensitivity of a portrait artist, Prince Hussain has captured these iconic pink river dolphins of the flooded forests in their natural environment: their subtle gaze, their shifting silhouettes, and the almost human texture of their skin illuminated by sunlight filtering through the brown surface waters. These photographs were recognised in 2025 with the international awards *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* (Natural History Museum, London) and *Underwater Photographer of the Year*.

The installation is presented from 4 to 14 June 2026 by the National Museum of Natural History, in partnership with Focused on Nature (FON) and Mission Neptune.

"These images invite us to traverse a single world, from the aquatic depths of the Amazon rainforest to the vastness of the Ocean, where science, images and storytelling reveal an obvious truth: we belong to one and the same living system within Planet Ocean."
— **Ashok Adicéam - Executive director - Mission Neptune** —

03. THE NEPTUNE EXPLORERS' CINEMA — 3 DAYS OF FILMS & ENCOUNTERS

Auditorium of the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution.

The Neptune Explorers Cinema presents an exceptional program of documentaries and encounters, bringing together scientists, navigators, artists and filmmakers who bear witness to the fragile beauty of the marine world.

In resonance with the Natural History Museum's marine collections and the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution, these immersive narratives reveal the deepest secrets of the Ocean: from the poles to the tropics, from coastlines to the abyssal depths.

Through these expeditions and intersecting perspectives, the public is invited on a fascinating journey into a world that is as spectacular as it is still largely unknown.

From bioluminescent abysses to threatened deep-sea environments, from the sperm whales of the Azores to futuristic visions of bio-inspired underwater architecture and habitats, this program will bring together several leading figures in contemporary exploration and ocean storytelling: Sylvia Earle, Vincent Pieribone, Romain Troublé, Jacques Rougerie, Jean-Louis Etienne, as well as teams from OceanX, the Tara Ocean Foundation and the National Museum of Natural History.

Among the highlights are *Deep Rising*, produced by Matthieu Rytz, co-produced and narrated by Jason Momoa, focusing on what is at stake in deep-sea mining; *A Life Illuminated*, a striking portrait of marine biologist Edie Widder and her discoveries on bioluminescence; *Mission Blue* featuring the legendary Sylvia Earle; *OceanXplorers – Giant of the Deep*; as well as an exceptional screening of the new film *Ocean* with David Attenborough.

The full program, final screening schedules and booking information will be announced on the National Museum of Natural History and Mission Neptune websites.

Free access from the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution, with screenings running from 10:30am to 5:00pm on Saturday 6th, Sunday 7th and Monday 8th June.

ABOUT MISSION NEPTUNE

Mission Neptune, launched at the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice in 2025 under the high patronage of the President of the French Republic, is an international initiative dedicated to the exploration and understanding of the Ocean, with the aim of better communicating the essential role it plays in maintaining the balance of our planet. The Ocean regulates the climate, shapes exchanges between continents, yet remains still largely unknown. In response to these challenges, Mission Neptune brings together scientists, explorers, institutions and committed stakeholders to advance knowledge, share it and make it useful to all. Through its activities, Mission Neptune also contributes to strengthening a European Union-driven dynamic around Ocean observation and understanding, within the framework of the OceanEye initiative, which aims to better see, measure and understand ongoing transformations. Based at the Maison de l'Océan in Paris, Mission Neptune brings together an international community of engagement and launches the Neptune Forum, whose first edition takes place in June 2026, on the occasion of World Ocean Day.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

A partner of the Neptune Mission, the National Museum of Natural History is hosting the Neptune Forum in the heart of the Jardin des Plantes. Heir to a long tradition of naturalist exploration, and drawing on its marine stations, invaluable collections, and research laboratories, the Museum is a leading force in the international effort to promote the sustainable and shared management of the oceans.

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HD visuals available upon request · Press accreditation upon registration
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MISSION
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Mission Neptune is a global initiative supporting the operational deployment of OceanEye, within the European Ocean Pact, in partnership with GOOS and Mercator Ocean International.



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