

The Eagle has landed for famous Scottish film-maker

HE'S tackled a brutal dictator in Uganda, journalists on the case of corporate murder cover-up in America and the true story of two climbers on a perilous trek in the Andes.

But Kevin MacDonald's latest release *The Eagle* is by far his most personal. And while it's set in Scotland, the film depicts action from Roman times. "Even though it won't seem to be personal, *The Eagle* was a book I read when I was 11 and making this film was an

opportunity to fulfil a childhood dream," said the 43-year-old director from Glasgow, who now lives in London.

"Because I associated it with childhood, and as it's set in ancient Scotland, I chose to shoot the film in places I knew as a child and places I spent time with my family.

"So this film has a lot of personal significance for me." *The Eagle*, which stars Channing Tatum and Jamie Bell, is currently showing at cinemas.

Kevin will be speaking about the film at a Director's Cut event at the University of Aberdeen on Wednesday.

"I'll be speaking about all my films and documentaries, as well as showing clips and taking questions," he said. "Hopefully it'll be entertaining and informative."

Since finishing *The Eagle* last year, Kevin has been working on new project *Life In A Day*, a Youtube film that'll be in Vue cinemas on June 13.

"It's an experimental film - I asked people all over the world to film a single day of their life,"

Kevin explained. "We got 80,000 people entering so luckily I had 25 editorial assistants." Kevin is also putting

together a documentary about Bob Marley.

"Bob had 11 children who are scattered between Jamaica, Florida and LA so I've been

speaking to them and Rita his widow,"

he said. "I spent three weeks in Jamaica and it made me appreciate his music in a whole new way.

"Because we hear his music all the time we

don't really hear the lyrics any more but he was the first third-world superstar."

Don't miss Kevin Macdonald at the Arts Lecture Theatre on Wednesday at 6pm.

My favourite place in the world

At the moment it's the north coast of Jamaica. Both it's jungles and beaches are incredibly evocative. I've also fallen in love with Mexico as I love Mayan history.

My favourite place in Scotland

Achiltibuie. We filmed there for *The Eagle* and being there is one of my childhood memories. When the book

described a series of islands drifting away into the sunset the first place that sprang to mind was Achiltibuie and the Summer Islands.

My

favourite restaurant

There's a Japanese restaurant called Shima at Venice Beach in California. It's the best Japanese food I've ever had. I lived nearby the restaurant for a while when we were filming

State Of Play and whenever I was feeling rich and hungry I went there to eat.

My favourite hotel

I stayed in an eco-friendly home in Mexico where you were right on the Caribbean Sea - one of my favourite places.

Five things I'd take to a desert island

1. A subscription to Love Movies
2. My iPad
3. A box of matches
4. Fortnum and Mason champagne truffles
5. A bottle of New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc.

Dream Holiday companion

Donald Sutherland who I worked with on *The Eagle*. He's the most charming man with amazing anecdotes.

Before I die I'd like to visit

Iceland. The idea of such a huge country with so few people living there is very attractive to me.





REMOTE: Achiltibuie on Scotland's west coast.

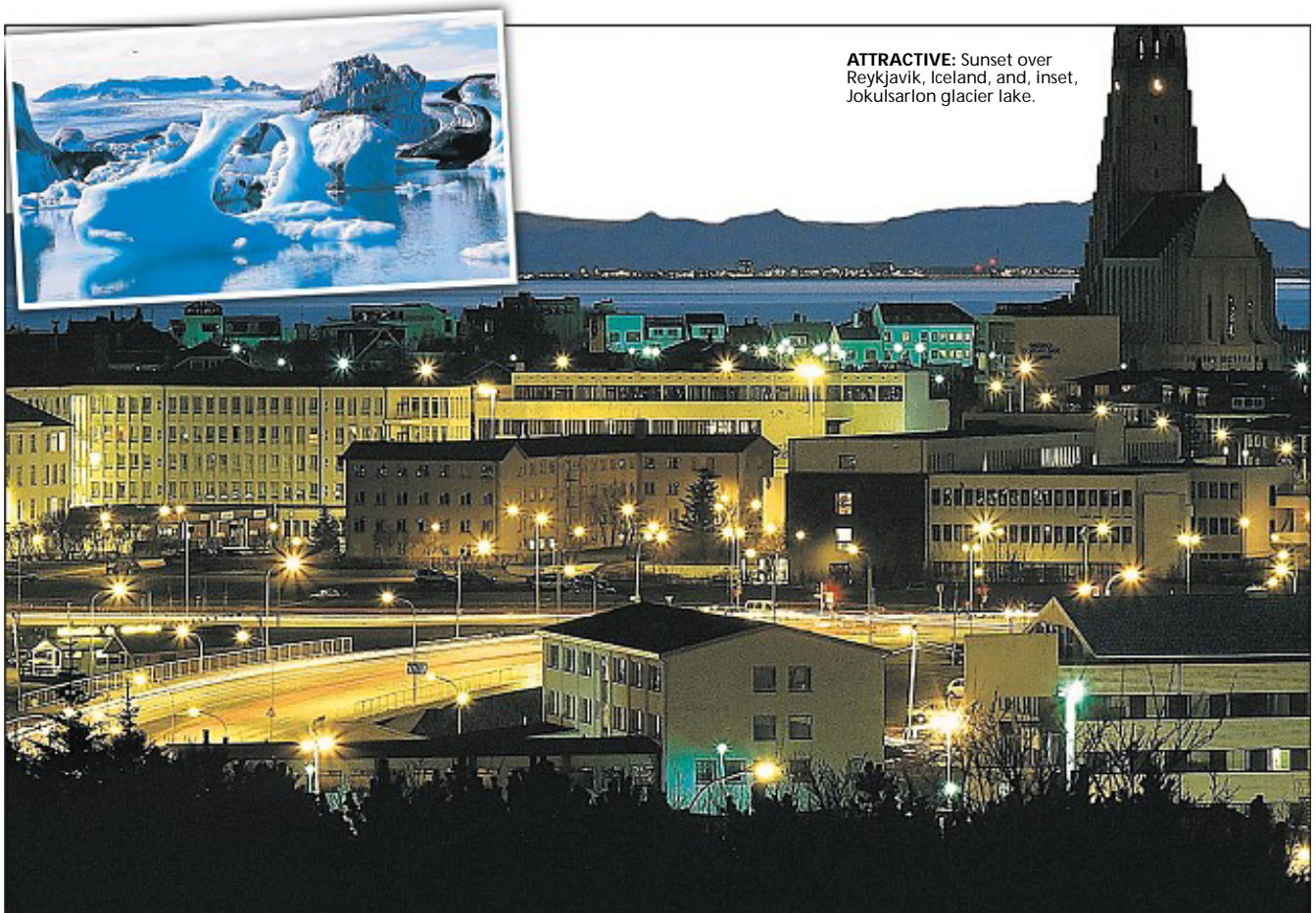


ANECDOTES: Donald Sutherland is "charming".



BEHIND THE LENS: Director Kevin MacDonal.





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