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.

“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.

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REMOTE: Achiltibuie on Scotland's west coast.

ANECDOTES: Donald Sutherland is “charming”.

BEHIND THE LENS: Director Kevin MacDonald.
ATTRACTIVE: Sunset over Reykjavik, Iceland, and, inset, Jokulsarlon glacier lake.