



Northern California Chapter, The Explorers Club

Invites you to join us for our next meeting

Friday, February 22, 2019, with

James Nestor

In Search of the Secret Language of Sperm Whales

Place: Dolan Law Firm
1438 Market Street, SF (near the Corner of Market and Van Ness)

Times: Reception — 6:30 Dinner — 7:15 Program — 8:00

Price: \$49 for reservations received on or before Tuesday, February 19th
\$60 for reservations received after Tuesday, February 19th
\$35 for students

Meal Options: Beef Tri-tip, Grilled Salmon Fillet, or Pasta Primavera (vegetarian)

To reserve, **we offer the following options:**

- Mail your reservation with check and food choices to:
Joan Boothe, 2435 Divisadero St. San Francisco CA 94115
- Sign up via paypal at <http://www.explorersnorca.org/>.
If using paypal, please send food choices to Joan Boothe.

Contact Joan by email (hoodooskr@aol.com) **or phone** (415-233-1697).

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the space limitations at the meeting location, we will limit attendance to 60 people. If the topic this month strikes your fancy, get your RSVP and money in quickly. Reservations received after the 60 person cut-off will be placed on a waiting list in order received. If we have a cancellation, those on the waiting list will be offered the place.

James Nestor

In Search of the Secret Language of Sperm Whales

This presentation will take us to the ocean's depths with free-divers who have trained their bodies to plummet hundreds of feet below the surface with nothing more than a single breath of air. But freediving is more than just a death-defying hobby; it's also the most efficient and effective means of engaging with the ocean's most mysterious and enigmatic residents: the mighty sperm whales.



Sperm whales have the largest brains to have ever existed, and share a complex form of click communication -- the loudest animal sounds on the planet, which can likely be heard by other whales hundreds or thousands of miles away. Nestor's talk will highlight the initiatives now underway for decoding whale songs and sperm whale click communication using artificial intelligence. It will also provide insights about our own "forgotten" human senses and amphibious connection to the sea.



James Nestor is an author and journalist who has written for *Outside Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Scientific American*, and more. His award-winning book, *DEEP: Freediving, Renegade Science, and What the Ocean Tells Us about Ourselves* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), was released in both the U.S. and the U.K. in June 2014 and has been published in eight languages. In 2017, Nestor and National Geographic Emerging Explorer and marine scientist, David Gruber launched CETI (Cetacean Echolocation Translation Initiative), a nonprofit research group that develops and employs technologies such as machine-learning and AI to decipher the language of sperm whales. More at mrjamesnestor.com

DIRECTIONS to the Dolan Law Firm:

1438 Market Street, SF (near the Corner of Market and Van Ness)

DRIVING DIRECTIONS **(see parking instructions and public transit option below)**

From the South: Follow US-101 North to the Mission Street exit. Continue on Mission St. Take S. Van Ness Avenue to Market Street.

From the North: Follow US-101 South in SF. Turn right on Scott St. Turn left on Bush St. Turn right on Gough St. Turn left of Fell St. Turn right on Market St.

From the East: Take I-80 W to the Harrison St. exit (Exit 1c) toward Civic Center. Use two right lanes to merge onto Harrison. Use two right lanes to merge onto 9th St. Turn left on Mission, turn right on 11th, and turn right onto Market.

PARKING: There is limited street parking on Fell Street and other nearby streets. There are parking garages at 110 Franklin Street, 1266 Market Street and 50 8th Street.

PUBLIC TRANSIT

The Dolan Law firm is served by the Metro Van Ness stop (J, KT, L, M, and N), the F line street cars, as well as the 6, 7, 9, 9R, 47, 49, 90, 397-157, 800, K-OWL, L-OWL, M-OWL, N-OWL and T-OWL. Uber HQ is across the street.

See the Dolan Law Firm website (dolanlawfirm.com/offices/san-francisco/) for a map.