When the Bellbird Calls, You Know It

白风铃鸟的叫声

[Loud bird call]

That incredibly loud song soaring over the quieter birds in the Amazon rainforest belongs to the male white bellbird. At 125 decibels, his short but startling songs are louder than a jackhammer.

在亚马逊雨林中，雄鸟在较安静的鸟类上空高歌一曲，声音大得令人难以置信。125分贝，它的短而惊人的歌曲比一个手提钻响亮。

“The white bellbird may be the loudest bird in the world…these birds are making extraordinarily loud noises. Noises that are so loud they would be harmful to our hearing if you had to hear them up close.”

“白风铃鸟可能是世界上最吵的鸟了……这些鸟发出的声音格外大。”噪音太大了，如果你近距离听的话，对我们的听力是有害的。”

Mario Cohn-Haft, curator of birds at Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas de Amazonia. He and his colleague Jeffrey Podos recorded the birds in their natural habitat. Their findings are in the journal Current Biology.

马里奥·科恩-哈夫特是亚马逊国家鸟类研究所鸟类策展人。他和同事杰弗里·波多斯在鸟类的自然栖息地对它们进行了记录。他们的发现发表在《当代生物学》杂志上。

Birds like the kakapo and the Moluccan Cockatoo have also laid claim to the loudness title. But the researchers think the new study has better instrumentation and data than anything previously published in the scientific literature.

人们之前认为鸮鹦鹉和摩鹿加凤头鹦鹉这样的鸟类叫声最高。但研究人员认为，这项新研究比之前发表在科学文献上的任何研究都有更好的仪器和数据。

“Loud sounds are usually for long distance communication and then when the listener…is up close, the volume is dropped way back down…but in the case of the white bellbird the opposite seems to be true. The loudest sound they make is actually reserved for courting a female…when the female comes in close they just switch to their loudest sound and do it right in her face.

“大声通常用于远距离交流，当听者……离得很近时，音量又会降下来……但就白风铃鸟而言，情况似乎正好相反。”它们发出的最大的声音实际上是用来求爱的……当雌性走近时，它们就会把声音调到最大，直接对着雌性的脸发出声音。

The male displays another feature—an extendable wattle. It looks like a worm hanging from above the bird’s beak.

雄性展示了另一个特征——可伸缩的垂尾。看起来像一条虫子挂在鸟的喙上。

“When they do their loudest song, which is this fast two note ‘bong BONG’ that they do the first bong looking away from the female with their back to her. And then swing around right into her face with that second note and that wattle whips around and I suspect that if she were too close she would get it in the face.”

“当雄性唱出最响亮的歌时，也就是这个快速的两个音符‘bong bong’，在第一个bong时它们会背对着雌性。然后用第二个音符时，则在她的脸上转了一圈，我怀疑如果离得太近，就会击中她的脸。”

Most birds have paper thin abdominal muscles. But the half pound bellbird, roughly the size of a common city pigeon: “had a washboard stomach…this incredible thick set of muscles rippling all along its abdomen.”

大多数鸟类都有纸一样薄的腹肌。但是这只半磅重的白风铃鸟，大概和一只普通的城市鸽子一样大:“有一个搓衣板般的胃……这些令人难以置信的厚肌肉在它的腹部荡漾。”

The powerful muscles provide lots of singing power. But the mating song is short and sweet [bong BONG] because: “a very loud sound like that has to be really short for the bird to be able to do it at all.”

强健的肌肉提供了强大的歌唱能力。但是求偶之歌是短而甜美的，因为:“一个非常大的声音必须非常短，这样鸟才能完成交配。”