

# CHILD SOLDIERS

forced to be cruel



Photo: Francesco Zizola/Noor



Photo: O. Sakamaki



Photo: Cedric Gerbehaye



Photo: Colin Finlay



Photo: Peter Mantello

## EXHIBITION SPECIFICATIONS

### Contents:

30 mounted photographs and  
10 unmounted photographs

### Signage:

Accompanying testimony panels  
Introduction panel

### Publications:

Available for purchase:  
"Child Soldiers" by Leora Kahn  
(PowerHouse Books)

### Space requirement:

55 linear feet

### Fees:

\$3,000 for the first month  
\$500 for each additional month

### Program:

Curator will be able to liaise  
with educators and can give  
public lectures and workshops

### Education:

Materials can be provided

Borrower bears all fees,  
including insurance & shipping.

### Shipping:

To and from:  
PROOF: Media for Social Justice  
Center for Social Innovation  
601 W 26th Street Suite 325  
New York NY 10001

### Contact:

Phone: 914 522 3109  
Email: [info@proof.org](mailto:info@proof.org)

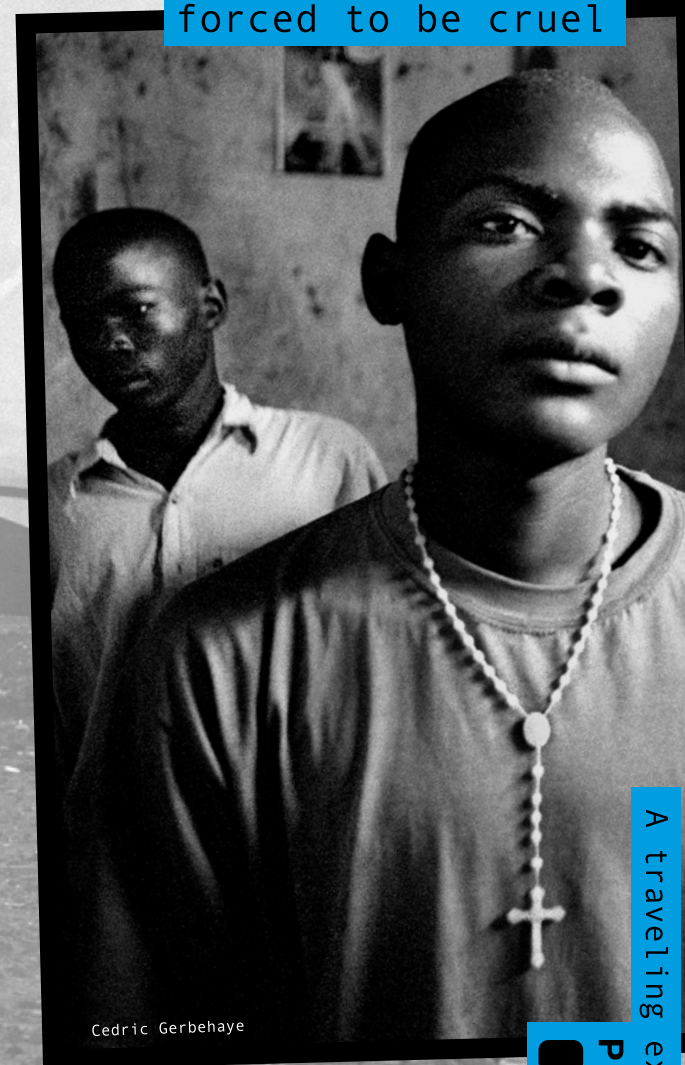


Background photo: Colin Finlay

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Cedric Gerbehaye

A traveling exhibition of  
**PROOF** Media for Social Justice



**UP TO HALF A MILLION CHILDREN  
HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN MORE THAN  
85 CONFLICTS WORLDWIDE.**

As armed conflict proliferates, increasing numbers of children are exposed to the brutalities of war. Boys and girls around the world are recruited to be child soldiers by armed forces and militant groups, either forcibly or voluntarily. Some are tricked into service by manipulative recruiters, others join in order to escape poverty. Still more are abducted from school, from the streets and from their homes. Aside from participating in combat, many are used for sexual purposes, made to lay and clear land mines, employed as spies, messengers, porters, or servants. Kids have become the ultimate weapons of twenty-first-century war.

**THIS EXHIBITION SEEKS TO ILLUSTRATE THE STORY  
OF CHILDREN MANIPULATED BY WAR CRIMINALS  
AND SUBJECTED TO UNSPEAKABLE VIOLENCE.**

Their faces depict the reality of a childhood lost. Instead of the frivolity and joy - or even the defiance and rebellion - of childhood, we see the deadly seriousness of the machinery of death in the hand of a teenager. Who will see past the grim confidence, the bravado, and the swagger to their origination in terrifying abductions and coerced recruitments? Who will look beyond their rifles and remember them as children?

The exhibit "Child Soldiers: Forced to be Cruel", is based on the book "Child Soldiers" by Leora Kahn, and features 40 photographs taken of child soldiers from all over the world by talented and devoted photographers. This is an international exhibition that has traveled to the Capitoline Museum in Rome, the Bonn Kunstmuseum in Germany and to the United Nations in NYC. It will also be traveling to South Africa, Canada, Spain and Bosnia and Herzegovina.