

PRESS RELEASE

Berlin Foto Biennale 2016

4. Biennial of Fine Art & Documentary Photography

EMOTIONS & COMMOTIONS ACROSS CULTURES

6. – 30. October 2016



Artist Reception & Vernissage

October 6th, 2016 at 6PM

Palazzo Italia

Unter den Linden 10 (entrance on Charlottenstraße)
10117 Berlin

Special Invitee: Steve McCurry, Magnum Photos / Agentur Focus

A Retrospective exhibiting 130 selected works of a remarkable photographer

Emerging Young Talent: Yusuke Suzuki

exhibiting 'Aleppo, Syria, City of Chaos' and 'Refugee Crisis, Lesbos, Greece'

446 contemporary artists from 41 countries are participating alongside Magnum photographer Steve McCurry

Berlin, June 2016 - Throughout October 2016 Berlin welcomes once again the largest German festival for photography, the 7th European Month of Photography. As Associated Partner of the EMOP Berlin the **first edition of the Berlin Foto Biennale** - and 4th edition of the Biennial for Fine Art and Documentary Photography - will take place at the elegant Palazzo Italia, situated in the historic heart of Berlin. After Madrid, Buenos Aires and Malaga, Berlin was chosen as a new base to promote emerging talents and established artists from all over the world.

Emotions and Commotions Across Cultures will present 1230 photos by 446 contemporary artists from 41 countries of all continents – among them 65% women, who have received the *Julia Margaret Cameron Award for Women Photographers*.

The works represent a wide spectrum of styles ranging from documentary and wild life, to portrait and experimental photography. Recognizing a wide array of artistic expression across diverse cultures, the Biennial presents a contemporary overview of the different schools of thought emerging from the United States to China, from Australia to Turkey and from Senegal to Mexico.

The Biennial also contains selected works by Steve McCurry. His solo exhibition 'Retrospective' forms part of the Biennial as special invitee. An essay by the emerging young talent Yusuke Suzuki about the refugee crisis on Lesbos and the chaos in Syria's Aleppo is also included in this comprehensive photographic display.

The Biennial captures international trends in photography and presents us a kaleidoscope of sentiments and perceptions. In this way a photographic chronicle of our time emerges with all its emotions and commotions, visually expressed by hundreds of photographers across many cultures.

Part of the revenue from artwork sales will be donated to **Save the Children**. A catalogue published by Kehrer Verlag accompanies the Biennial.

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Artistic Director: Julio Hirsch-Hardy

Curators: Anly Werbin, Julio Hirsch-Hardy and Victoria Werbin

BerlinFotoBiennale.com

Steve McCurry

Rich, vibrant colours, arresting portraits and fascinating daily scenes of exotic beauty are his trademark. Magnum photographer Steve McCurry has travelled the world for more than 30 years, documenting conflicts, poverty, disappearing cultures and traditions, as well as joy and contemporary culture - yet always retaining a human element. His subjective compositions are of painterly beauty, his portraits full of dignity and grace. His most famous work is the portrait of the 'Afghan Girl', which he took in 1979 during the Afghan War.

Steve McCurry was born in 1950 in Philadelphia, USA. In 1974 he completed his Bachelor of Arts in history and cinematography at the Pennsylvania State University. He has been selected as Photographer of the Year several times and since 2006 he has been an honorary member of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain.

Yusuke Suzuki

The young, award-winning photographer Yusuke Suzuki (31) aims to tell the stories that should be told and not be ignored by capturing these moments and putting raw emotions into a single frame that can stop time. He graduated from the New England School of Photography in 2011.

His works have been published on CNN, The Washington Post, Reuters, Al Jazeera, Boston Globe, NHK (Japan), Internazionale (Italy), Haaretz (Israel), Toronto Sun (Canada), Estadao (Brasil), Ria Novosti (Russia) und Journalism (Japan) among others. Born and raised in Chiba, Japan, he now lives and works in New York.

Palazzo Italia

The Palazzo Italia is surely one of the most attractive exhibition venues in the heart of Berlin. The architecture of this artfully renovated historical building is of unique grace and elegance. Once home to the luxurious Hotel de Rome, it now boasts an atrium and light-flooded exhibition spaces with a chic and sophisticated flair.

Visitors will appreciate the excellent location amidst Berlin's most attractive sights such as Museum Island, Berlin State Opera, historical Friedrichstrasse and Berlin's famous Brandenburg Gate.

European Month of Photography Berlin - EMOP-Berlin.eu

The EMOP Berlin is the largest German festival of photography and a member of the European Month of Photography (EMOP), a European joint project that includes the photography festivals in Bratislava, Budapest, Ljubljana, Luxembourg, Paris and Vienna.

WhiteWall - WhiteWall.com

WhiteWall photo lab is the exclusive printer of all works exhibited at the Berlin Foto Biennale (except Steve McCurry's Retrospective). As one of the largest and most productive photo labs of its kind in Europe, WhiteWall has a record of award-winning standards.

Kehrer Verlag - KehrerVerlag.com

Founded in 1995, Kehrer Verlag Heidelberg Berlin specializes in books in the fields of photography, fine arts, and culture. Working together closely with international artists, authors, museums and cultural institutions, Kehrer Verlag creates its publications in alliance with Kehrer Design, the affiliated design and communication agency. Kehrer Verlag will publish the Berlin Foto Biennale Catalogue in a hard cover edition of 240 pages.

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© Steve McCurry



Zhang Jingna, Celosia



Yusuke Suzuki, Aleppo, Syria - City of Chaos



Anna Tihany, Berlin Bhf.

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Save the Children

The Save the Children Fund, commonly known as Save the Children, is an international non-governmental organization that promotes children's rights, provides relief and helps support children in developing countries. It was established in the United Kingdom in 1919 in order to improve the lives of children through better education, health care, and economic opportunities, as well as providing emergency aid in natural disasters, war, and other conflicts. Today there are 30 national Save the Children organisations (including Germany), which are members of Save the Children International, a global network of non-profit organisations supporting local partners in over 120 countries around the world.