

Cédric Gerbehaye

CONGO IN LIMBO

September 19 - November 8, 2009



Anastasia Photo is pleased to present Award-Winning photojournalist Cédric Gerbehaye in his first solo exhibition in the United States.

After graduating in journalism from the Institute of High Studies of Social Communications in Brussels in 2003, Cédric Gerbehaye decided to turn to the medium of photography and to work as a freelance photojournalist. He started his career by taking pictures in Indonesia, where he made his first report on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. He has continued his long-term project in the Palestinian territories and Israel, as well as covering Kurdish issues in Turkey and Iraq. In 2006, Cédric was awarded the 15th National Open Photography Prize in Belgium, followed by a group exhibition at the Musée de la Photographie in Charleroi. In 2007, after joining Agence Vu, he received the second prize in the young reporter category at the Bayeux Award for war correspondents. That same year he was selected for the Joop Swart Masterclass from the World Press Photo and began his travel to Congo to record the fragile peace process.

The ongoing project "Congo in Limbo", which earned him 7 distinctions in 2008 shows a population still suffering the effects of the conflict in everyday life: disease, malnutrition, under-development, murder and violence. In 2006, the Democratic Republic of Congo embarked on a course designed to restore political process, and reconciliation. But the rebuilding of the country was prevented by the failure to demobilize the militia and the failure to establish a new national army. The situation was critical in Eastern Congo, in the regions of Ituri and Kivu, with its great mineral wealth and its strategic position bordering Uganda and Rwanda. In 2007, 437,000 persons had to flee their villages to escape fighting, rape, and forced recruitment of child soldiers. Basic community values were attacked. After the last wave of violence in Kivu at the end of 2008, the number of displaced people is now estimated at one million persons. One sees in Cédric Gerbehaye's photography that civilians are always the first victims, and armed groups and members of national military forces continue to make illegal gains from the country's natural resources which provide a source of income to fund the conflict.

AnastasiaPhoto specializes in Photojournalism and Documentary photography. The gallery space also serves as a center for discussion and portfolio review. AnastasiaPhoto couples each exhibition with a related Philanthropic Organization.