



PRESS RELEASE

**HOPE
PRIX PICTET**

Shahidul Alam
Joana Choumali
Margaret Courtney-Clarke
Rena Effendi
Lucas Foglia
Janelle Lynch
Ross McDonnell
Gideon Mendel
Ivor Prickett
Robin Rhode
Awoiska van der Molen
Alexia Webster

Opening

Saturday November 6th, 2021
3PM – 8PM

On view

November 7-28th, 2021
Every day, 10.30AM – 7.30PM
Admission fee € 6 Reduced € 3 (6-26 years)
Booking on www.fondazionesozzani.org

The exhibition opens to the public in keeping with all health and safety measures.



The Fondazione Sozzani presents **HOPE**; an exhibition of the work of the artists shortlisted for the **Prix Pictet, the world's top photography prize for sustainability**. Founded by the Swiss bank Pictet in 2008, the Prix Pictet aims to promote discussion and debate on global issues of sustainability, social crises, and the critical environmental issues of our time.

HOPE, the title chosen for the eighth edition of the award, was suggested by Kofi Annan, UN secretary general and former President of the Prix Pictet in 2017, and by Sir David King, who chairs the jury. Among the 600 professional photographers who submitted from around the world, **twelve have been shortlisted** with a selection of about 100 photographs to be shown in Milan. The winner of the eighth Prix Pictet was the Ivorian photographer, Joana Choumali. She was presented with the award on 13th November, 2019 at London's Victoria and Albert Museum for her series *Ça va aller* (it will be ok).

The distinguished international jury for the eighth cycle of the Prix Pictet was: **Sir David King**, former Special Representative for Climate Change to the UK government (Chair of the Jury); **Martin Barnes**, Senior Curator, Photographs, Victoria & Albert Museum, London; **Richard Mosse**, winner of the seventh Prix Pictet, *Space*; **Philippe Bertherat**, Member of the International Council of Sotheby's; **Jan Dalley**, Arts Editor, Financial Times; **Hermينيا Ibarra**, Charles Handy Professor of Organisational Behaviour, London Business School; **Jeff Rosenheim**, Curator in Charge, Photographs, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; **Kazuyo Sejima**, Co-Founder, SANAA, and Pritzker Prize-winning architect.

Beyond Joana Choumali, this year's Prix Pictet winner, are the following shortlisted photographers: Shahidul Alam from Bangladesh with the series "She smiles", Margaret Courtney-Clarke from Namibia with the series "Cry Sadness into the Coming Rain / cry of sadness in the rain), Rena Effendi from Azerbaijan for the series "Transylvania: Built on Grass", Lucas Foglia from the United States with the series "Human Nature", Janelle Lynch from the United States "Another Way of Looking at Love", Gideon Mendel from South Africa with the series "Damage : A Testament of Faded Memory , Ivor Prickett from Ireland with the series "End of Caliphate", Robin Rhode from South Africa with "Principle of Hope", Awoiska van der Molen from the Netherlands with the series "Am schwarzen Himmelsrund / in black paradise , Alexia Webster from South Africa with "Street Studios".

This is the 100th exhibition of the award which includes a world tour in over 40 cities around the world, from New York to Tokyo, from Dublin to Milan. In 2011, the Fondazione Sozzani hosted the Prix Pictet's GROWTH edition dedicated to environmental growth. Now, ten years later it again hosts in Milan this highly emblematic edition dedicated to hope: HOPE.

Fondazione Sozzani

The Fondazione Sozzani was established in 2016 by Carla Sozzani and is dedicated to the promotion of culture through photography, fashion, the fine arts, and applied arts. The Foundation has assumed the patronage of Galleria Carla Sozzani and continues all relevant public functions that the Galleria has supported since 1990.



Biographies

JOANA KOUMALI (Ivory Coast, 1974) winner of this edition of the Prix Pictet HOPE, before embarking on a career as a photographer, Choumali studied graphic arts in Casablanca (Morocco), and was the artistic director of an advertising agency. In 2014, Choumali won the CAP Award for Contemporary African Photography and the Lens Culture Award for Emerging Talent. She in South Africa in 2016 she and she were awarded the Magnum Foundation Emergency Grant and the Fourthwall Books Photobook Award. Her works have been published by major international newspapers, including CNN, The New York Times, Le Monde, The Guardian, The Huffington Post, La Stampa. In 2016 you published the volume Hââbré in Johannesburg.

SHAHIDUL ALAM (Bangladesh, 1955) photographer, writer, curator and human rights activist, Alam earned a PhD in Chemistry from the University of London before turning to photography. Alam served as President of the Bangladesh Photographic Society for three terms. A pioneer of new media, he was responsible for the introduction of electronic mail in Bangladesh in the early 1990s. Nominated by Time as one of the “People of the Year” of 2018, Alam has written and edited several publications including My Journey as a Witness (2011). He is a visiting professor at Sunderland University and an honorary member of the Royal Photographic Society, in 2020 he was awarded the International Press Freedom Award by the Committee for the Protection of Journalists (CPJ).

MARGARET COURTNEY-CLARKE (Namibia, 1949) studied art and photography in South Africa and has spent the last forty years working as a photographer in Italy, the United States and the African continent. In 1979 she was declared “persona non grata” under apartheid laws and she renounced South African citizenship. Over the course of her career, Courtney-Clarke follows some projects in Africa aimed at documenting female identity. She has distinguished herself in the Deutscher Fotobuchpreis, Kraszna-Krausz Book Award (in the preliminary selection), PDN Photo Annual 2018 and HCB Award 2015 of the Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson (selected artist). Among the publications dedicated to her work we mention in particular Cry Sadness into the Coming Rain (2017), her trilogy on the art of African women Ndebele (2002), African Canvas (1990) and Imazighen (1996), as well as several collaborations with Maya Angelou.

RENA EFFENDI (Azerbaijani, 1977) was born in Baku, Azerbaijan, and studied languages. Her early works focus on the effects of the oil industry on people's lives. For over six years she has been following the 1,700km pipeline through Georgia and Turkey, and in 2009 she published her first volume, Pipe Dreams: A Chronicle of Lives along the Pipeline. Effendi's works have been exhibited at institutions worldwide, including the Saatchi Gallery in London, the Istanbul Modern, the Venice Biennale and the MoMA in New York. Effendi has won two World Press Photo Awards, the Fifty Crows Documentary Photography Award, the Sony World Photography Award, the National Geographic All Roads Photography Award, the Foundation Emergency Grant, the Getty Images Editorial Grant and the Alexia Foundation Grant. In 2011, Effendi worked on the editorial committees of National Geographic, The New York Times, Vogue, The New Yorker, GEO, Time, The Sunday Times and many other magazines.

LUCAS FOGLIA (New York, 1983) currently lives in San Francisco. Her third volume, Human Nature, was published in 2017 by Nazraeli Press. Foglia's works are part of public collections including those of the Denver Art Museum, the Foam in Amsterdam, the International Center of Photography in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

JANELLE LYNCH (United States, 1969) earned his Master of Fine Arts in Photography from the School of Visual Arts in New York, where he studied with Joel Sternfeld and Stephen Shore. Lynch's work studies the themes of absence, presence, transcendence and the cycle of life through the landscapes and waterways of the United States, Mexico and Spain. Her photographs are part of collections such as those of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the New York Public Library and the Brooklyn Museum. Lecturer at ICP, the International Center of Photography in New York, Lynch has won three Kodak Film Grants and was ranked among the finalists of the Cord Prize, Santa Fe Prize for Photography and Photo Espana Descubrimientos. This is her third nomination for the Prix Pictet.



ROSS MCDONNELL (Ireland, 1979) is an Irish director and photographer whose work consists of long-term projects focused on the themes of sustainability, war, migration and ecology. McDonnell's first award-winning film Colony is a study of the dramatic decline in honey bee populations in the United States and the resulting impact on agriculture. The film Elián, made in 2018 for CNN Films, the BBC and Amazon, received a nomination for the News and Documentary Emmy Award. Ross's photographic works are exhibited and published around the world. Ross regularly collaborates with Time, The New York Times and The Sunday Times.

GIDEON MENDEL (South Africa, 1959) born in Johannesburg, Gideon studied African psychology and history at the University of Cape Town. He began to devote himself to photography in the 1980s. He works for several magazines such as National Geographic and The Guardian Weekend, and in 2001 he published his first volume, A Broken Landscape: HIV & AIDS in Africa. Since 2007 Mendel has been working on Drowning World, a long-term project on floods and climate change. Among his numerous awards, the W. Eugene Smith Grant in Humanistic Photography, six World Press Photo awards and the Amnesty International Media Award. Prix Pictet finalist in 2015, he won the Pollock-Krasner Foundation's Pollock Prize for Creativity in 2016 and the Greenpeace Photo Award Jury Prize in 2018.

IVOR PRICKETT (Ireland, 1983) produced in exclusive collaboration with the New York Times, Prickett's latest work focuses on the conflict against ISIS in Iraq and Syria. Prickett documented the Arab Spring uprisings in Egypt and Libya. In 2019 Steidl published Prickett's complete work, with the title End of the Caliphate. Among the many accolades, the 2018 World Press Photo, Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2019, the Taylor Wessing Award for portrait photography and The Ian Parry Scholarship. Her work has also been exhibited at the Foam in Amsterdam and the National Portrait Gallery in London. Ambassador of Canon Europe, he graduated in documentary photography from the University of Wales in Newport.

ROBIN RHODE (South Africa, 1959) a multidisciplinary artist engaged in photography, performing arts, drawing and sculpture, Rhode has always created stories with everyday materials such as soap, charcoal, chalk and painting. Born in Cape Town and raised in post-apartheid South Africa, Rhode's works have been exhibited in numerous museums around the world, such as the Haus Konstruktiv in Zurich, the Haus der Kunst in Munich, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the MoMA in New York, the Center Pompidou in Paris, the Hayward Gallery in London. He has participated in the New Orleans Biennale (2008), the Sydney Biennale (2009) and the 56th Venice Biennale in 2015. His photographs are part of the public collections of the Center Pompidou (Paris), the Fondation Louis Vuitton (Paris), the National Gallery of Victoria (Melbourne), the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (New York), the MoMA (New York) and the Walker Art Center (Minneapolis).

AWOISKA VAN DER MOLEN (Netherlands, 1972) studied architecture and design, and later photography, at the Minerva Art Academy in Groningen (Netherlands). She was awarded the Japanese Hariban Award in 2014 and in 2011 she was ranked among the finalists of the Festival international of Hyeres (France). In 2017 she was ranked among the finalists of the Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize thanks to her exhibition Blanco, and received the Larry Sultan Photography Award. Her first monograph, Sequester in 2015 she was awarded for the "Best Book Design From All Over The World" by the German foundation Stiftung Buchkunst. Her works are present in the collections of museums around the world, including Pier 24 Photography in San Francisco, the Victoria and Albert in London, the Stedelijk in Amsterdam, the Museum of Photography in Seoul, the Fotomuseum in The Hague and the Foam in Amsterdam.

ALEXIA WEBSTER (South Africa, 1979) is a photographer and visual artist whose work explores the values of intimacy, family and identity throughout the African continent and beyond. In 2013, she was awarded the Artraker Award for Conflict Art and the CAP Prize for Contemporary African Photography; in 2007 she was awarded the Frank Arisman scholarship at the International Center of Photography for Photography in New York. Her shots have been the subject of many exhibitions in South Africa, Nigeria, United States, Europe, Reunion Island and India, and reproduced in numerous international publications. Recently, Webster traveled to Tijuana, Mexico as part of a fellowship from the International Women's Media Foundation.