

**CONTACT/S**  
THE ART OF  
PHOTOJOURNALISM

## INTRODUCTION

CONTACT/S: THE ART OF PHOTOJOURNALISM showcases the last four decades of photography through the medium that helped shape it: the contact sheet.

Marked by red, blue and yellow grease pencils, annotated with circles and arrows, these miniature “films” have represented a crucial link between events and publication since World War II. But their predominance, and the classic narrative-driven tradition they helped create, is quickly disappearing as the digital age drives photojournalism back to a single-image, “one picture says it all” approach.

Mining the historic archive of Contact Press Images, CONTACT/S revisits all the form’s power for storytelling and intimacy. Spanning nearly half a century and dozens of countries, it puts the reader in the room ... standing next to the Ayatollah Khomeini in Tehran as he greets the largest crowd in history after his 1979 return to Iran, or among Kosovar refugees as they are forced to flee their homes in 1999. From apartheid in South Africa to firemen raising the US flag over Ground Zero in New York on September 11, 2001, CONTACT/S allows readers to peer behind the scenes of history.

Shot in both black and white and color, and featuring such legendary photographers as David Burnett, Gilles Caron, Annie Leibovitz, Li Zhensheng, and Don McCullin, the book is comprised of approximately 50 individual “dossiers.” Each revolves around a single marked contact sheet, accompanied by enlarged details, one printed frame, and photographers’ first-hand recollections of the day the roll of film was shot. The result is a photographic tour de force, a study in the process of photojournalism, and a history lesson in the second half of the twentieth century.

CONTACT/S: THE ART OF PHOTOJOURNALISM is conceived, edited and written by Robert Pledge and Jacques Menasche, the team that produced 2003’s landmark book on the Chinese Cultural Revolution (1976-1976), Li Zhensheng -- Red-Color News Soldier (Phaidon), which has been translated into six languages and received the overseas Press Club of America’s Olivier Rebbot Award for Best Reporting from Abroad in Magazines and Books.

**THE CONTACT/S EXHIBITION TOUR IS COORDINATED BY CONTACT PRESS IMAGES  
FOR MORE INFORMATION E-MAIL: [EXHIBITIONS@CONTACTPRESSIMAGES.COM](mailto:EXHIBITIONS@CONTACTPRESSIMAGES.COM)**

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## ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

On the occasion of the agency's thirtieth anniversary Contact Press Images (1976-2006) proposes a major new multi-part show, "Contact/s" featuring thirty or so original contact sheets, mostly black-and-white, enlarged to either 110cm x 135cm (2 1/2x4 ft.), 150cm x 185cm (5x6 ft.), or 285cm x 330cm (9 1/2 x 11 ft.). These oversized contact sheets, the heart of the exhibit, will be accompanied by single images excerpted from each one of them and supported by an additional 40-45 equally iconic images, mainly in color, by some of the biggest names in photography, including David Burnett, Gilles Caron, Giorgia Fiorio, Annie Leibovitz, Li Zhensheng, Don McCullin, Dilip Mehta, Alon Reininger and Sebastiao Salgado.

Curated by Robert Pledge, president and co-founder with American photographer David Burnett, of the renown international agency, this exhibition aims to illustrate the art of photojournalism through the contact sheet — a fast-disappearing artifact in the digital era — and to examine the last three decades through the in-depth photo essays it helped shaped. Founded in 1976, nine months after the end of the war in Vietnam and the year of the death of China's Mao Zedong, Contact has since documented the era that saw the end of apartheid, the fall of Soviet Empire, revolution in Central America, famine and genocide in Africa, ethnic tension in the Balkans, the AIDS pandemic, the birth of the internet, the War on Terror.

Contact photographers have collectively gathered many of the industry's most distinguished honors, including annual awards from the World Press Photo Foundation in the Netherlands and, in the US the Overseas Press Club of America; the Pulitzer Prize; and grants from the Mosaïque Program in Luxembourg and the W. Eugene Smith Memorial Fund in the US.

For "Contact/s," this tumultuous period will be recalled through the large contact sheets that allow viewers to peer beyond the corresponding single frames and behind the scenes of history. This is supplemented by the additional 40-45 images which, in a variety of formats, probe some of the most pressing cultural and social topics of our times: migrations and ecology, poverty and disease, the technological revolution, Islam, US politics, and war.

Each contact sheet is introduced by a short text, looking behind the scenes of the day the roll of film was taken, written by journalist and editor Jacques Menasche, based on interviews with the photographers. Each image will be accompanied by a detailed caption. Biographies of the participating photographers will be included along with a chronology of the agency's history. A general introductory text written by Robert Pledge will preface the entire show.

## BIOGRAPHIES

### CURATOR

Robert Pledge was born in 1942 in London, UK and moved to Paris, France at the age of ten. A student of West African languages and anthropology, he found his way into journalism as a specialist in African affairs writing for *Jeune Afrique* and *Le Monde Diplomatique*. In 1970 he coordinated a daring trip into Libya and Chad with the late photographer Gilles Caron and filmmaker Raymond Depardon. Later that year he became the editor of the French visual arts magazine *Zoom*, and, three years later, director of the New York office of the picture agency Gamma. In 1976 he founded Contact Press Images with American photographer David Burnett in New York. He has edited highly-acclaimed books and catalogues, and curated major photographic exhibitions throughout the world. In 2004 he received the Overseas Press Club's "Olivier Rebbot Award" for *Red-Color News Soldier*, which he authored with Jacques Menasche and photographer Li Zhensheng. He commutes between Paris and New York.

### TEXT

Jacques Menasche was born in 1964 in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. He began his career in journalism as a desk clerk at *The New York Times* and has since written on culture and conflict from the Middle East, Afghanistan, China, and the US. He is the author with Robert Pledge of *Eleven: Witnessing the World Trade Center 1974-2001* (Universe Publishing/Rizzoli International 2002), and with Pledge and Li Zhensheng of *Red-Color News Soldier: A Chinese Photographer's Odyssey Through the Cultural Revolution* (Phaidon 2003). His work has appeared in *The New York Daily News*, *ESPN The Magazine*, and *Vanity Fair* in the US, *The Independent* in the UK, *Corriere della Sera* in Italy, *Maxim* in Germany, and many other publications around the world. In 2006, his film collaboration with Stephen Dupont on heroin addiction in Afghanistan, "Brothers of Kabul," was a finalist in the Rory Peck Award for Freelance Features, and winner of Australia's Walkley Award. He is based in New York City.

### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Patrick Artinian  
Kirsten Ashburn  
Jane Evelyn Atwood  
Alexandra Avakian  
Nadia Benchallal  
David Burnett  
Deborah Copaken  
Nick Danziger  
J.B. Diederich  
Stephen Dupont  
Girogia Fiorio  
Chuck Fishman  
Frank Fournier  
Matt Franjola  
Gianfranco Gorgoni  
Lori Grinker  
Hale Gurland  
Afrim Hajrullahu  
Sean Hemmerle  
James Hill  
Kenneth Jarecke  
Yunghi Kim  
Annie Leibovitz  
Li Zhensheng  
Liu Heung Shing  
Don McCullin  
Dilip Mehta  
Olivier Rebbot  
Alon Reininger  
Sebastião Salgado



## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



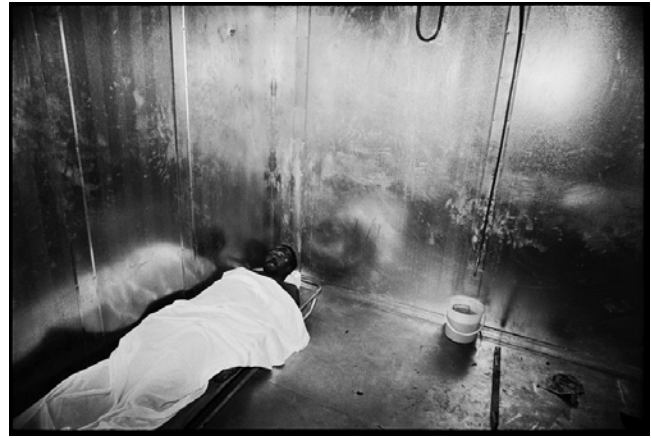
Police academy dog training under Apartheid.  
Pretoria, South Africa, March 1976



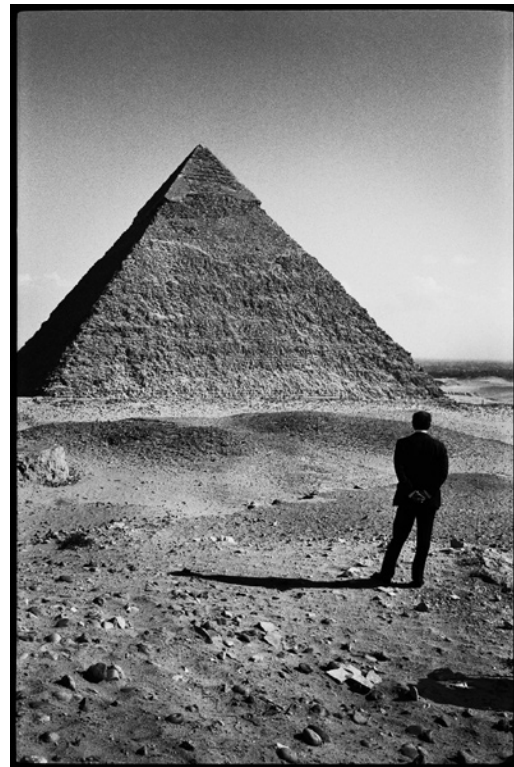
Looters during blackout.  
Brooklyn, New York, July 1977



## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Body of anti-Apartheid leader Steven Biko in a makeshift morgue before his burial. Biko died September 12th from beatings after his arrest by South African police. Pretoria, South Africa, September, 1977



Egyptian President Anwar Sadat posing in front of Gizeh Pyramids, two weeks before his meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. Pyramids of Gizeh, Egypt, December 1977

## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Israeli Defense Forces taking positions in southern Lebanon's villages during the "Litani River Operation". Tibnin village, Lebanon, March 1978



Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and his aides inside the girl's secondary school turned revolutionary headquarters, surrounded by thousands of his followers, just after his return from exile after the forced abdication of Shah Mohammed Reza Palavi. Iran, February 1979



## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Victorious Sandanista fighters in the gymnasium of the former dictator Anastasio Somoza's house, after the fall of Managua. Managua, Nicaragua, July 1979



Gun battle between undercover police and gang members, on election day, a bitterly contested legislative election campaign between Michael Manley's socialist People's National Party and Edward Seaga's Jamaica Labor Party. Kingston, Jamaica, October 30, 1980

## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Lech Walesa, leader of the Solidarity Labor Union, visiting the site of an oil rig fire near Koscalin, in the northwestern part of the country.  
Koscalin, Poland, December 1980

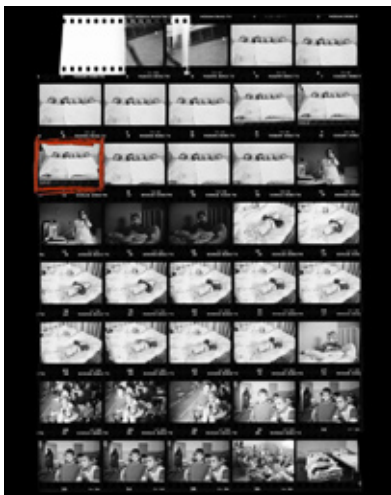


Famine refugees in Korem camp.  
Ethiopia, November 1984

## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Cremation of Union Carbide distaster's victims.  
Bhopal, India, December 4, 1984



Young AIDS victims in the morgue of the Virology and Infectious Diseases Hospital in Constanta.  
Romania, January 1990



## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Child laborer carpet weaver in India.  
Varanasi (Benaras), India, August 1990



Yard privilege, in a female penal colony, for inmates kept in solitary confinement: half-hour a day in outdoor cages.  
Perm, Russia, 1990

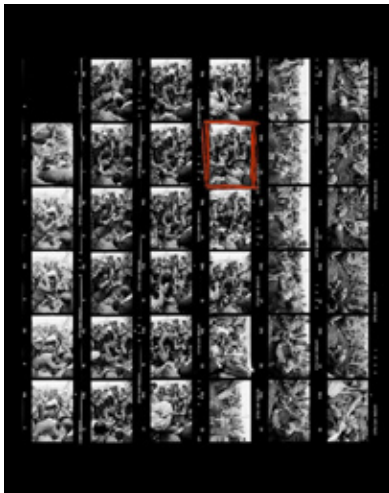




## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Iraqi casualty, from the final stages of Operation Desert Storm, First Gulf War.  
Nasiriyah, Iraq, March 1991



Aftermath of the Gulf War, an Iraqi Kurd family in the Isikveren refugee camp, just inside the Turkish border, mourns a man shot and killed by Turkish soldiers in a melee that occurred upon the arrival of relief supplies.  
Turkey, April 1991



## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Refugee camp during famine in Somalia, following the overthrow of Siad Barre's dictatorship.  
Bardera, Somalia, November 1992

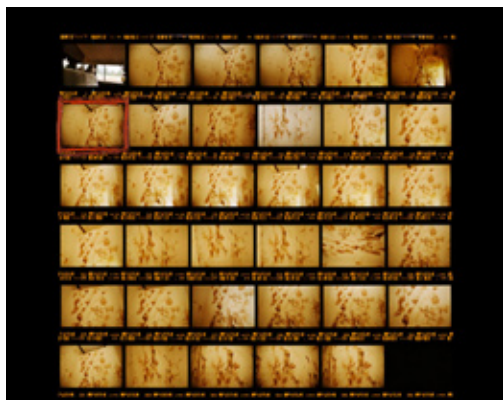


Death of a 15 year old boy, killed by shellfire while riding a bicycle.  
Sarajevo, Bosnia, November 1993

## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Nelson Mandela presidential campaign rally at Mmbabatho Stadium.  
Bophuthatswana, South Africa, March 1994



Traces of a massacre of Tutsi schoolchildren and villagers left on a bathroom wall of the Shagi Mission school, in the southwestern part of the country, after the Rwanda genocide.  
Rwanda, August 1994

## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Bolivian peasants, during a visit of a Doctors Without Borders team, which travelled in Andean villages, in order to improve the inhabitants health conditions.  
Chama Alto village, province of Cochabamba, Bolivia, November 1995



Funeral of Princess Diana, from left to right : Prince Philip, Prince William, Earl Spencer, Prince Harry and Prince Charles.  
London, September 6, 1997

## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Riots in the aftermath of the fall of Haji Mohammad Soeharto. Body of a Christian security guard killed by a Muslim mob after a false rumor that he had helped burn down a nearby mosque.  
Jakarta, Indonesia, November 1998



Albanian Kosovars expelled from their town by Serbian soldiers, during a campaign of ethnic cleansing, at the beginning of the Kosovo War.  
Pristina, Kosovo, Albania, March 31, 1999



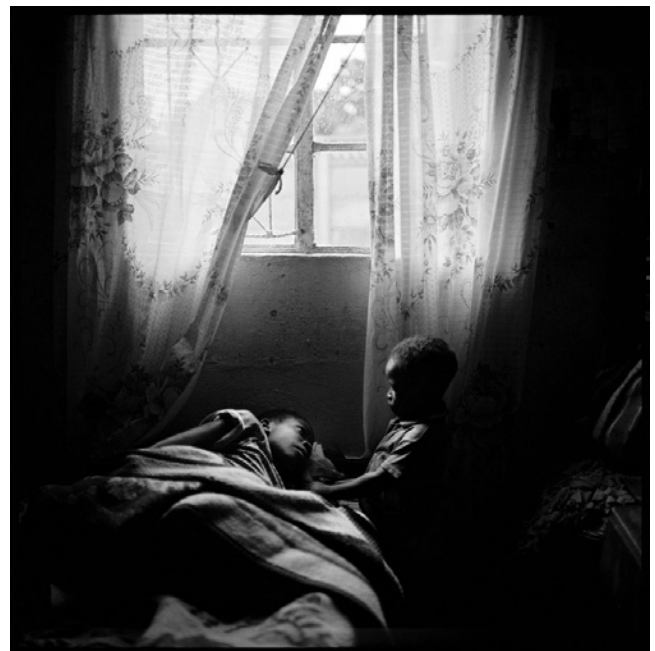
## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Celebration of the new millenium, at midnight, in Times Square.  
Times Square, New York City, NY, USA, December 31, 1999



Six years old girl tends to her mother, dying of AIDS.  
Mabvuku, Harare, Zimbabwe, January 2001



## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Firemen raising an American flag, in the wreckage of the World Trade Center, after the terrorist attack of September 11.  
New York City, NY, USA, September 11, 2001



Illegal Mexican immigrants captured by US citizens, along the US-Mexico border, await pickup by the US Border Patrol.  
Cochise County, Arizona, July, 2003

## EXHIBITION CONTACT SHEETS AND ICON IMAGES



Devastation in Banda Aceh, the area hardest hit by the Tsunami of December 26th of 2004.  
Banda Aceh, Sumatra, Indonesia, January 2005



US forces of the 173rd Airborne division burning the bodies of two Taliban killed in a battle the previous day, near Gumbad,  
Afghanistan, October 2005



## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Christian gunmen in the foyer of the Holiday Inn, battling with Palestinians in the adjacent hotel, Beirut, Lebanon, 1976



Police academy dog training under Apartheid.  
Pretoria, South Africa, March 1976



## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Hundreds of thousands gather in People's Stadium to mourn Chairman Mao Zedong, who died in Beijing on September 9. Harbin, Heilongjiang Province, China, September 18, 1976



Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and his aides inside the girls' secondary school turned revolutionary headquarters, surrounded by thousands of his followers, just after his return from exile after the forced abdication of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. Iran, February 1979

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Revolutionaries attack pro-Shah supporters.  
Tehran, Iran, February 1979.



Cambodian refugees: A woman huddles her baby in a refugee camp near the Thai border with thousands of other Cambodians who fled the killing fields.  
Sa Keo Camp, Thailand, November 1979.

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Studying in Tiananmen Square.  
Beijing, China, 1979



John Lennon and Yoko Ono at home only hours before the former Beatle's assassination.  
New York City, USA, December 8, 1980



## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Civil war and political violence.  
San Salvador, El Salvador, January 1981.



The latest news from the Falklands (Malvinas) Islands War in front of the La Nacion newspaper building.  
Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 1982

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Members of the US 82nd Airborne Division after the American invasion of Grenada.  
Mt. Fann, Grenada, November 1983



American runner Mary Decker after falling in the 3000m Olympic final.  
Los Angeles, USA, August 1984

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Gathering of Hindu women following the Union Carbide chemical disaster.  
Bhopal, India, December 1984



Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and US President Ronald Reagan with their interpreters at a Soviet-US summit.  
Geneva, Switzerland, November 1985



## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Omayra Sanchez, a 13-year-old victim of the eruption of the Nevado del Ruiz volcano that killed 23,000. Armero, Colombia, November 1985



Ken Meeks, an AIDS patient at home. San Francisco, California, USA, September, 1986

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Anti-Sandinista Contras at their Coco River camp across the border from Nicaragua.  
Honduras, September 1987



The Palestinian intifada.  
Nablus, West Bank, March 1988



## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Pro-democracy demonstrators at Tiananmen Square.  
Beijing, China, May 1989



Pro-democracy demonstrators at Tiananmen Square.  
Beijing, China, May 1989

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



The fall of the Berlin Wall.  
West Berlin, Germany, November 1989



Tanks on the second night of the USSR coup attempt against Mikhail Gorbachev.  
Moscow, USSR, August 1991



## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



First May Day celebrations after the collapse of the Soviet Union.  
Moscow, Russia, May 1992



China's Fu Mingxia, 13, wins a gold in diving at the 1992 Summer Olympics.  
Barcelona, Spain, August 1992

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Christian victims of the north/south civil war.  
Yuai, southern Sudan, April 1993



Fleeing Cuba for the USA in homemade rafts.  
Cojimar, Cuba, August 1994

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Bosnian refugees from the UN-protected enclave of Srebrenica during the massacre of men by Bosnian Serb forces. Tuzla, Bosnia, July 1995



A French Foreign Legionnaire with UN forces during the civil war between Serbs and Bosnian Muslims. Mount Ingman, Bosnia, September 1995



## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Former comfort woman, Son Pon Nim, facing a painting depicting a comfort woman being taken away from her family by Japanese occupiers during WWII.  
Seoul, South Korea, March 1996

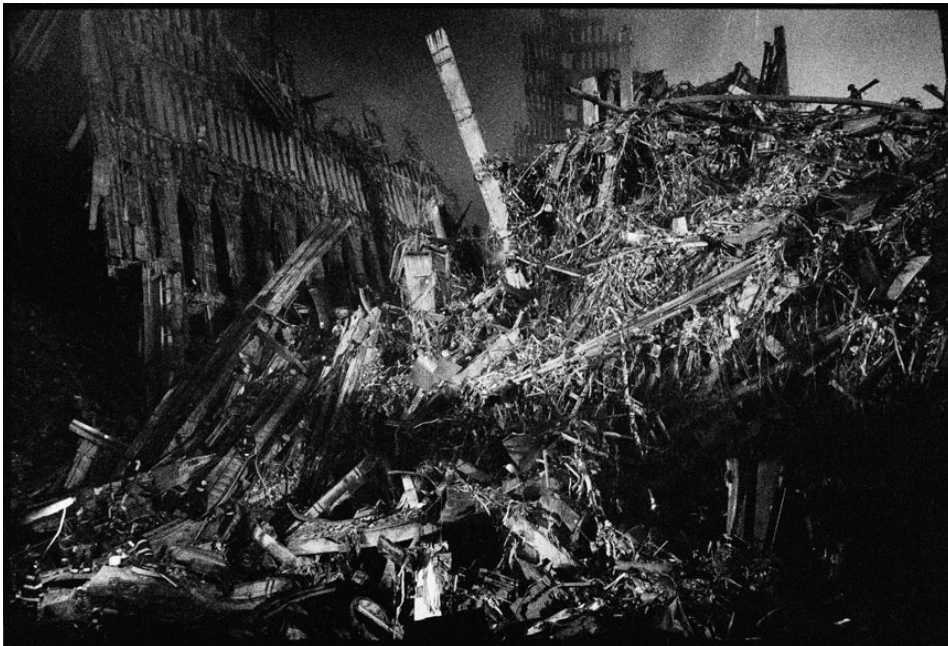


Hutus returning home to Rwanda after the genocide of the Tutsis.  
Zaire, November 1996

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Former Tamil Tiger separatists in Avissawella-Government Rehabilitation Center.  
Colombo, Sri Lanka, September 1999



Ruins of the World Trade Center.  
New York, USA, September 2001

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Taliban fighter killed by Northern Alliance troops.  
Kunduz, Afghanistan, November 2001



Suicide bomber's explosive belt, worn by a member of the Al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigade.  
Gaza, December 2002



## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



British Prime Minister Tony Blair and US President George W. Bush.  
Hillsborough Castle, Northern Ireland, April 2003



Funeral for Marine Lt. Therrell Shane Childers, the first American combat death in Iraq.  
Powell, Wyoming, USA, April 2003

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Ministry of Communications building destroyed by US missiles.  
Baghdad, Iraq, September 2003

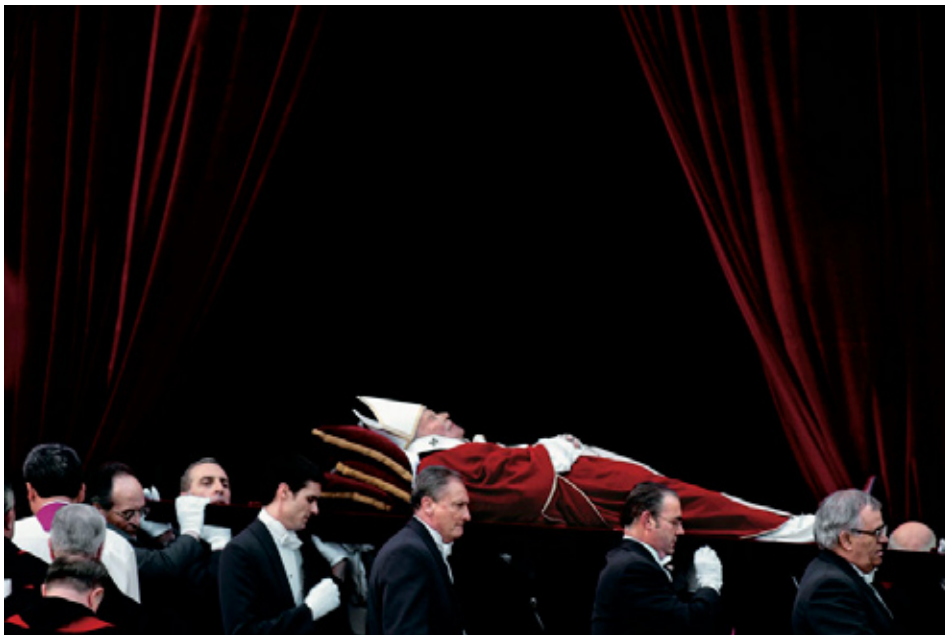


The new security wall in At Tur.  
Near Jerusalem, Israel, May 2004

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Aftermath of the tsunami, Galle coastline area.  
Sri Lanka, January 2005



The body of Pope John Paul II en route to the basilica of St. Peter's.  
Vatican City, Rome, Italy, April 4, 2005

## EXHIBITION SINGLE IMAGES



Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.  
New Orleans, Lousiana, USA, January 2006



Chadian refugees from villages destroyed by the Janjaweed, a militia responsible for the Darfur genocide in Sudan.  
Habile Camp, near Goz Beida, Chad, 2007



## PAST VENUES

Pingyao China, September 16-22, 2006  
Pingyao International Photography Festival



## PAST VENUES

Perpignan, France, September 2-17, 2006  
Visa Pour L'Image





## PAST VENUES

Dhaka, Bangladesh, November 9-29, 2006  
Chobi Mela Photography Festival





## PAST VENUES

Sydney, Australia, June 1-July 7, 2007  
Australian Center of Photography (ACP)



## PAST VENUES

Canberra, Australia, April 3-June 1, 2008  
Old Parliament House



Fremantle, Australia, April 5-May 4, 2008  
Fotofreo International Photography Festival





Below is a selection of Contact/s tearsheets from around the world:





## CONTACT/S IN THE MEDIA



## 联系30年：震撼人心的新闻摄影艺术 "Contact 30" Exhibition: Breathtaking Art of Photojournalism

展览介绍

“联系30年：震撼人心的新闻摄影艺术”是英国摄影杂志《Contact》创刊30周年纪念展（1976-2006）而举办的一场展览。他们特地选择在伦敦著名的“联系”画廊举办了一个“联系30年”的展览。展览的规模和影响力，使2006年成为国际摄影界历史上具有重要意义的一年。

展览的规模和影响力，使2006年成为国际摄影界历史上具有重要意义的一年。展览的规模和影响力，使2006年成为国际摄影界历史上具有重要意义的一年。展览的规模和影响力，使2006年成为国际摄影界历史上具有重要意义的一年。展览的规模和影响力，使2006年成为国际摄影界历史上具有重要意义的一年。



## CONTACT/S IN THE MEDIA



人物 - People

1997年 伊通縣在全年總

[illegible]

1977 David Burnett—Seated at the Foreword  
On November 19, 1977, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat invited a historic moment that led to both the Camp David Peace Accords signed by the two countries the following year—for which he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize—and, in 1981, his assassination at the hands of Islamic extremists.

At December 1977, a month after Seated at the Foreword, David Burnett traveled to Egypt to cover Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's arrival and for the Christmas, 1977, festival. In the interim, Egypt's first women's talk-show meeting, he accompanied photographer Shaula Haima Karmali to shoot a cover story on the Egyptian leader for "Compassionate," i.e., "Man of the Year," issue.



## PROGRAMS

The photographers of Contact Press Images are available by invitation for openings, walk-throughs, lectures, panel discussions, seminars & symposia, and other cultural events. All honorariums and travel expenses are to be borne by the inviting venue.

Programs from the Contact/s project have included:

Lectures and panels with the photographers, in conjunction with the  
Pingyao International Photography festival  
Pingyao, China, 2006

Lectures and seminar with Robert Pledge, in conjunction with  
Chobi Mela International Photography festival  
Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2006

Lecture and walk-through with Robert Pledge at the  
Australian Centre for Photography exhibition  
Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2006

