

reportage

Festival Director

Jacqui Vicario

Guest Curator 2008

Stephen Dupont

Selection Jury 2008

Mike Bowers, Alasdair Foster, Jonny Lewis

Sound & Image Composition

Andy Wilson and Mark Brandis

Design

Damian Garbenis

www.reportage.com.au

PO Box 982, Bondi Junction
NSW 1355 Australia

Tickets available from the cinema box
office or MCA Tix 1300 306 776

Festival Partner: Nikon**Gold Sponsor:** DHL Express

Silver Sponsors: TIME, Epson, Newspix,
Lonely Planet Images, Australian Centre
for Independent Journalism, Art & About,
The Storrier, Barons Brewing Co.

Festival Venues: Australian Centre for
Photography - 257 Oxford St, Paddington
Chauvel Cinema - Paddington Town Hall,
cnr Oxford St and Oatley Rd, Paddington

wed 08/10/08

7.00pm (sharp) | opening night & after party

reportage screening at The Chauvel Cinema
to be opened by George Gittoes.
Tickets \$25.00

thurs 09/10/08

6.00pm | opening night

Giorgia Fiorio exhibition HUMAN FIGURE
The Australian Centre For Photography.
Free

fri 10/10/08

7.00pm | reportage screening (repeat)

The Chauvel Cinema
Adult: \$16.50 / Concession \$13.50

sat 11/10/08

11.00am | floortalk

about Giorgia Fiorio's HUMAN FIGURE
exhibition with Alasdair Foster.
The Australian Centre for Photography

12.30pm | bbq

The Australian Centre for Photography

3.00-5.30pm | reportage seminar

The Chauvel Cinema
Free

In conjunction with The Australian Centre for
Independent Journalism, UTS

Moderator: Tony Maniaty, Director, Australian
Centre for Independent Journalism

Session 1**Dead Pixels: Photojournalism and Photo-Manipulation in Conflict**

Panel Discussion with: Dr Ian Jackson,
Photographic Section, The Australian War
Memorial; Mike Bowers, Photographic, The
Sydney Morning Herald; Ben Bohane, Author
and Photojournalist

Digital photography has changed the way
photojournalists operate, nowhere more so
than in war zones. The ability to shoot fast and
furious, to download to the laptop and upload
to the satellite has delivered spectacular
results. But the ability to manipulate images
in that heated and highly competitive process
creates enormous temptations to reshape
good photographs into great ones. Who will
ever know if you add a few more shellbursts,
reposition a soldier's gun in a victim's face or
remove messy backgrounds to create more
visual impact? In the Adobe age, what are the
ethics of photo manipulation in the battlefield?
And how do we stop the cheats?

Session 2**The Camera and the Damage Done:
Life and Death in the Hot Zone**

Panel Discussion with: John Moore, Getty
Images, Photographer; Stephen Dupont,
Photographer and Sallie Stone, General
Manager Hart Security

War is grimy, smelly, noisy, shocking,

dangerous - and visually dynamic. For
photojournalists, reporting from the hot
zone remains the ultimate adrenalin, offering
spectacle and excess to the max - and exerting
an often fatal attraction. Weaponry grows
more lethal, friendly fire more unfriendly, and
photographers and journalists are targeted,
kidnapped and killed. The pressure to get
winning shots and footage is constant, but
so are the risks. Each year the number of
photographers and videographers killed rises.
What are the tricks to getting the picture - and
staying alive? Join a panel of experts and
survivors to discuss work and survival on the
modern battlefield.

7pm | reportage screening (repeat)

The Chauvel Cinema
Adult: \$16.50 / Concession \$13.50

sun 12/10/08

**1.00-6.00pm | reportage
documentary film screenings**

The Chauvel Cinema
Tickets \$25.00 for 2 x feature films and
4 x short films

**1pm | "War Photographer" 18+
about James Nachtwey (2001)
(96 mins. Dir. Christian Frei)**

A film about the American photographer
James Nachtwey, about his motivation,
his fears and his daily routine as a war
photographer. If we believe Hollywood
pictures, war photographers are all hard-boiled
and cynical old troopers. How can they think
about 'exposure time' in the very moment of
dread? A film about a committed, shy man,
who is considered one of the bravest and most
important war photographers of our time.

James Nachtwey: "For me, the strength of photography lies in its ability to evoke humanity. If war is an attempt to negate humanity, then photography can be perceived as the opposite of war."

2.40pm | "Contacts" 18+
4 Short Films on Famous Photo reportage Photographers
(13 mins each)

William Klein, Josef Koudelka, Helmut Newton and Don McCullin

3.35pm | "Muhammad Ali: The Greatest" 18+
A film by photographer William Klein (1964/1974) (1:50mins)

Universally accepted as a true icon of the 20th Century, Muhammad Ali's phenomenal achievements spanned sport, politics and religion.

One man - photographer William Klein had comprehensive access to the events that shaped Ali's legend.

In 1964, the young gregarious Cassius Clay successfully defeated the seemingly invincible Heavyweight Champion of the World Sonny Liston - the manner of Clay's victory and his amazing persona made him an instant superstar.

Through this incredible period, and Clay's subsequent rematch with Liston, William Klein enjoyed unrivalled access to Clay's camp - witnessing at first hand Cassius Clay becoming Muhammad Ali and angering the American people with his allegiance to Islam.

Forward to Zaire 1974, and the return of Muhammad Ali to the world stage. Having been stripped of his title and condemned by the American people to go to Vietnam,

Ali arrived in his spiritual homeland to face another invincible champion George Foreman. As Ali reclaimed his crown for a second time, Klein was ever present, capturing the full story at close quarter.

thurs 16/10/08

7pm | reportage screening (repeat)

The Chauvel Cinema

Adult: \$16.50 / Concession \$13.50

fri 17/10/08

7pm | reportage screening (repeat)

The Chauvel Cinema

Adult: \$16.50 / Concession \$13.50

Photographers showing at reportage 2008 screening:

01. Sydney Parkour

James Brickwood | oculi.com.au

Le Parkour originally comes from the word 'parcours', loosely translated as 'obstacle course'. The 'K' came later as a more modern approach to the word. In essence, 'obstacle course' sums up the ideas behind the extreme sport which originated in France. Traceurs, people who participate in parkour, treat city landscapes as one big playground, utilising the urban architecture in a way that is both as stylish and graceful as possible. I was attracted to the movement of parkour by the way traceurs could create new ways to move throughout their environment. And this is a project documenting the life of a Sydney group of teenagers who practise this movement not just for fun but as a way of life.

02. After Kennedy

Seamus Murphy | VII Photo Agency

In June 1963, just months before his assassination, I saw John F. Kennedy in Dublin on his visit to Ireland. From my father's shoulders, I waved a miniature Stars & Stripes, along with the thousands in the crowd. It is a powerful memory and the fire of expectation lit that day has never quite been extinguished. The idea of the United States then, certainly for a young Irish boy and for millions of 'new' Americans, promised infinite dreams.

Today, the world's strongest nation sees itself besieged. The War on Terror has replaced the Cold War, and a new set of demons afflict its peoples. Have the dreams turned to nightmares in a nation arrested by fear?

What is happening to Americans, to the country's culture, to its integrity? There is nothing that represents the United States more than the First Amendment, which says questioning in a nation is a means for a nation to be true to herself. My work in the Middle East, Asia and Africa has always been marked by the spirit of a personal curiosity; inquiries to demonstrate the homogeneity of the human condition, extraordinary as it is. Those accumulated experiences abroad compelled me to know more about the nation of which its foreign policies and shift in values have the power to affect us all.

Between 2005 and 2007, I made four road trips on a journalistic quest to document Americans - the individuals and their fractured lives - beyond the stereotypes the entertainment industry and the

administration attempt to portray of a proud, prosperous and monolithic nation. The collected images of these trips provide a glimpse of a melancholy continent, rebelling at its own mythology. After Kennedy is an attempt to discover the humanity and spirit from which this culture springs. It is not an exercise in the exotic, or an assault on a large easy target. But it is an unflinching look at the values of a nation at war abroad and uneasy at home.

03. Japan Manga

James Whitlow Delano | jameswhitlowdelano.com

Once upon a time, more than a decade ago, I called this series, Scuba Diving In Japan because like a diver, no matter how hard one might try to become a fish, it could never happen. A foreigner, or gaijin in Japan, likewise would always live slightly apart, separated by an invisible barrier not unlike the mask of a diver. I still see the merit in this simplistic theory.

Japan is not so easily quantified. Words don't come easily to describe the nature of the mind games there. It is though the paranormal flirts with the surface, just out of reach. Japan is Mangaland. No other indigenous medium better describes the energy than manga, it is ill-advised to throw out casual remarks about its internalised world. A jaded core sends up shoots of naivety; Western values are inverted, challenged and even mocked without malice; absolutes become relative. Taboos are routinely opened up, dispassionately examined and discreetly debauched - then they are quietly set back in place.

Certain freedoms never existed in Japan and are not missed. Other freedoms are

infuriatingly stifled. The individual is not valued and yet there exists millions of individual private zones in public trains or among and between pedestrians. These privacy zones are rarely breached. They are designed to cut off interaction, to alienate, and they do. Acquaintances yesterday become today's strangers through selective amnesia. Suddenly it becomes risky to greet that familiar store clerk when encountered on the street. Idle conversation is reduced to scripted niceties and nothing more. Yet, longing gazes from the opposite sex reflected in a commuter train window can devour the recipient. Eyes meet ever so briefly and never meet again. The powerful timorous moment is gone, leaving one shaken and wanting more when there is no more to be had. It is a chemical rush and unsustainable anyway.

Japan is a minefield for the zealot and liberating for the observer not subjected to its straight-jacket regulations. The crowded sidewalks are the loneliest places on the planet. Although one is rarely physically alone, human nature is squeezed and moulded and oozes out in the volcanic brilliance that is Japan.

04. Teen Mums: Young and Proud **Janie Barrett** | Sun Herald

When I decided I wanted a baby at 39, I was struck by how differently I was perceived compared to younger mums. Teen mums receive a lot of criticism; it seems we only ever see one view. I spent 18 months documenting the lives of young mums, exploring the stigma associated with their choice. I met mums who were married, single, some who were finishing high school or working, others who were full-time mothers who planned to study or work when their kids went to school. The common factor was that they all seemed very focused

on their kids. Now at 40 with a 6 month old, I wish I had more of a younger mum's energy.

I worked on this project from September 2006 until December 2007. Most of the girls are from Sydney or Newcastle, and one lives in Perth.

05. Walkabout **Andrew Quilty** | oculi.com.au

Located 300km south-east of Mt. Isa in Far North Queensland, the town of McKinlay once played host to Hollywood when its pub, The Walkabout Creek Hotel, was used as a location for the film *Crocodile Dundee*. While the pub continues to attract tourists, the town is isolated. Distance is on a huge scale, a 500km round trip for a game of Friday-night footy or 200km to do the grocery shopping is a parochial reality. Schooling is via School of The Air, so some children rarely mix with others their age. The isolation however is part of the attraction for certain residents of McKinlay and some will stay forever.

06. Tibet **Ben Bohane** | degreesouth.com

Tibet is once again closed to outside eyes following the latest Chinese crackdown. "It is dangerous here now," whispers the young Tibetan man who has pushed through the crowd in Yushu town to speak with me. "The army is arresting many monks. They are killing people. We are afraid." China's crackdown on the biggest Tibetan uprising since 1959, when an estimated 86,000 Tibetans were killed by the People's Liberation Army, has once again sealed off this vast Himalayan land from outside eyes. The entire Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR) province has been closed since April, the intention to lessen China's embarrassment during its moment of glory, hosting the Olympics.

07. Holi – India's Spring Festival **Palani Mohan** | Getty Images

A riot of colour, spirituality and exuberance, Holi is perhaps India's most joyful and spectacular event. The spring festival is celebrated across the country, starting with the lighting of bonfires to signify the burning of demons. There are several versions of its origins, but all relate to Lord Krishna, one of the most loved gods in the Hindu pantheon. According to legend, Krishna complained to his mother about the contrast of his dark complexion and his consort Radha's fair appearance, so Krishna's mother applied colour to Radha's face, an act now widely mimicked. The epicentre of Holi is Vrindavan, supposedly the holy city where Lord Krishna was raised.

08. The Parisians – Separate Lives **Tim Clayton**

Paris is often known as the 'City of Love', but like any major city in the world, its inhabitants often live a singular existence, going about their daily lives in relative solitude. Parisians are respectful of each other's space, often courteous and polite while extremely conscious of their own image. While love can be seen openly around the streets of Paris, so can the separate lives of the city's dwellers.

09. Metropolis **Tamara Voninski** | oculi.com.au

Real life is like a theatre when you wander the same streets everyday. The scenes change in a blink of an eye as reality blends with your memories and dreams. If Metropolis was a sound it would be the sound of stiletto heels staggering on the footpath after a night out in Sydney.

10. Neighbourhood: The Redfern Waterloo Public Housing Estate **Tom Williams**

The estate is situated 3km from Sydney's CBD. It is home to about 9000 people from diverse cultural backgrounds, predominantly Aboriginal, Eastern European, Pacific Islander, Anglo-Australian and Chinese. Incomes are typically very low, unemployment stands at about 90 per cent and drug use and family violence ongoing. Largely an elderly population, many have lived in the area since the first high-rise tenement blocks were built in the 1960s. In 2004, The NSW State Government is redeveloping the area in partnership with private property developers. Where will these people live? Should more private housing be introduced to the area in an effort to 'improve services and help lift the community out of poverty'? A diverse and fascinating community, facing a period of major transition, these are some of the poorest and most vulnerable people living in the middle of one of the world's wealthiest cities. How will Australia approach the care, rehabilitation and housing of its most impoverished citizens?

11. Lower Your Ears **Georgia Metaxas**

Over a number of months, I documented the simple act of getting a haircut. Using portraiture and evoking the aesthetic of early documentary photography, I shot the participants of the free haircutting sessions held at St Mary's House of Welcome, a non-profit Community Centre servicing the inner-city area – in particular, the homeless and marginalised community of Fitzroy, turning

the humble haircut into a poignant moment of reflection. The haircut is a moment of physical intimacy between strangers. By presenting the subjects wrapped in the barber's apron – devoid of social indicators such as clothes or accessories, and by using only the barest of photographic devices - I aim to strip back the portraits to their essential elements. The camera is unflinching, stationed at eye-level in place of the mirror.

12. Istanbul

Matthew Abbott

Istanbul is a place where East literally meets West, it is the only major city that straddles two continents. Istanbul is both Asian and European, Islamic and secular, ancient and modern. It is also the largest Muslim city in the world. Recent discussion as to whether Turkey is ready for EU membership, motivated me to document the country's cultural and historical heart. Istanbul is a breathtakingly beautiful, vibrant city. I set out to capture the lives of its habitants, from the high-society living alongside the Bosphorus, to the recent immigrants from the east, Anatolia and beyond. What I discovered was a uniquely modern city, with an immense mix of cultures, traditions and beliefs. There is simply no other city like it.

13. Pakistan on the Brink

John Moore | Getty Images

The assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in December is one of the top international stories of last year. However, her killing was the climax to one of the most turbulent years in Pakistan's modern history. As the year began, Islamic extremists had established a presence at the Red Mosque in Islamabad, only a few

kilometres from the Presidency and the US Embassy, stating a strong symbol of the Taliban militancy in the nation's capital.

In the spring, President Pervez Musharraf sacked the Supreme Court Chief Justice, in a move that sparked nationwide protests throughout the year. He was forced to allow the return of two former prime ministers, his nemesis Nawaz Sharif and Benazir Bhutto, who would lead their political parties in planned parliamentary elections. Musharraf had to relinquish control of the Army, and Benazir Bhutto narrowly escaped an assassination attempt against her in Karachi upon her arrival from six years in exile.

With suicide bombings going off around Pakistan and his political rivals gaining strength, Musharraf declared martial law for five weeks, banning political rallies and scrapping the free media. When emergency rule was lifted, Bhutto held a campaign rally near Islamabad, angrily denouncing both Musharraf and the Islamic extremism that was spreading across the country. As she departed the event, waving from the sunroof of her armoured car, an assassin fired on her from close range then detonated his explosive vest, killing the charismatic leader, throwing the nation into a state of turmoil and shocking the world. Getty Images photographer John Moore was only about 20 metres from the blast.

14. Australians at War

Sean Hobbs

Sean Hobbs was commissioned as an 'Official War Artist' by the Australian War Memorial in 2007. He spent several weeks travelling with Australian troops on patrol in Iraq and Afghanistan, documenting support bases in

Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The access granted was unprecedented as it diverged from the carefully controlled, stage-managed media visits. This body of work represents a comprehensive portrait of the day-to-day activities of Australian military personnel engaged in the US-led War on Terror. Sean returned to the Persian Gulf independently in 2008, and joined HMAS Arunta in Iraqi territorial waters. He documented our involvement in a Coalition naval armada deployed to protect Iraq's offshore oil pumping terminals. These strategic sites are used for the export of Iraq's crude oil and have been upgraded during the US occupation of Iraq.

15. A Million Shillings: escape from Somalia

alixandra fazzina | trolleyarchive.com

I followed the desperate exodus of Somalis fleeing violence in their country, plagued by a ferocious civil war now in its 17th year. In a country with the longest coastline in Africa and hemmed in by conflict, one of the only means of escape is by sea. Capturing their voyage from both sides of the water, I have followed the established smuggling routes from southern Somalia to Yemen, and follow the migrants as they continue their journey in search of a better life. The refugees have a one-in-20 chance of arriving on the shores of Yemen alive. Life is cheap in this volatile region and there is risk of rape, robbery, murder and drowning at the hands of the militia and people traffickers. Despite the risks, tens of thousands of Somalis take their chances, rather than stare death in the face at home.

14. Indigenous

Renee Nowtarger | The Australian

The images cover the Australian Indigenous communities that were affected by the Intervention brought in by the Howard Government in 2007. I focused on the communities in the town camps within and to the north of Alice Springs in the NT. Life in the town camps – including Hermansburg, Papunya, Yuendumu and Mt Leibling – involved sporting weekends and general daily life for Australia's Indigenous people.

16. The Boarding House Wallerawang, NSW

Lisa Wiltse

Situated on the western edge of the Blue Mountains 156km north-west of Sydney, the town of Wallerawang grew around the establishment of its power stations, which dominates the landscape. The town is home to 38 residents, aged between 20 to 100 and with intellectual disabilities, who live in small group homes and come and go freely within the town of 1900 people. Their disabilities range from Alzheimer's to autism, learning difficulties and psychiatric problems. The central boarding house provides the residents with activities and health assistance but the manager and staff allow the adults the same services and lifestyle as able-bodied people, integrating them into society rather than isolating them.

17. Surf Club

Craig Golding | craiggoldingphotos.com

Since 1907, Australia's surf lifesavers have saved more than half a million lives along our rugged and unforgiving coastline; 2007 marks the centenary of Aussie lifesaving. On beaches from September till April, lifesavers participate in competitions to develop and demonstrate their skills. Their mission

is to provide safe beaches and aquatic environments throughout Australia. To me, the lifesavers and the competitions in which they take part – small interclub carnivals to the epic National Championship – had a visual richness that demanded to be covered. I traipsed endless kilometres up and down beaches and in and out of the surf in all sorts of weather. From helicopters to cramped surfboats being hammered by the surf, I tore through early mornings, long days and megalitres of sunscreen. Rest time involved hours of cleaning salt and minute grains from my equipment. I felt shooting in black and white was a more appropriate treatment for the Aussie lifesaver.

18. Dinosaurs, Dodos & Drive-ins

Paul Jones

They used to be everywhere. Giant screens facing a sea of cars and bitumen, movie stars beamed 13m high, as the audience gazed on from sedans, family wagons and utes. In the 1960s, the drive-in brought Hollywood to suburban Australia, and at the peak of their popularity more than 330 were dotted around the country. Forty years on, more than 90 per cent of Australia's drive-in cinemas have disappeared. I chose to celebrate this dying tradition – from its beginnings in 1933, Camden, New Jersey, USA, to 1954's Skyline in Burwood, Melbourne, an Aussie first. There are only 15 drive-ins still in operation, most of them in industrial suburbs, or choked with weeds. Rising land prices dealt a near-death blow in the 1980s, the advent of shopping malls and suburban multiplexes and home-movie technology have all lead the drive-in to the foot of its grave.

19. Blindness

Stefano De Luigi | VII Photo Agency

Having worked as a professional photographer since 1988, Stefano, in collaboration with Christian Blind Mission Italia, has created the project Blindness. This is a broad reportage about the living conditions of blind people. Part of a five-year project documenting the condition of blindness, the project is aimed at raising the awareness of the daily battle an estimated 45 million people face worldwide. Stefano travelled throughout Africa (the Congo, Liberia and Nigeria), Europe (Lithuania, Bulgaria), Central and South America (Perù, Bolivia and Brasil) and through Asia: India, Vietnam, China, Thailand and Laos. Blindness, which is about to become a book, has received the patronage of Vision 2020 - WHO (World Health Organization). Stefano has also won the Fellowship Grant award from the W. Eugene Smith Foundation for this work in 2007. And this year, he won World Press Photo award in the "Arts and Entertainment",

20. The Water Gypsy

Dean Sewell | oculi.com.au

For the past 30 years, Steven Tripp has been a traveller on life's freedom trail. From the frontlines of environmental activism as an eco-warrior and busking his way through the mean streets of inner-Sydney, to the navigation of Australia's waterways on a one-man odyssey with only a dinghy and his dog as companions. A self-proclaimed Art Monk and Water Gypsy, Steve has settled in Sydney for the winter months, taking advantage of the city's glut of vacant housing while composing his Environmental Rock Opera extravaganza and writing his life's memoirs.

21. Beautiful Music

Lisa Hogben

Beautiful Music is the story of the originally homeless men and women of the Sydney Street Choir journeying to 'Apologise' to the traditional owners of Australia, the Aboriginal people as represented by the Custodians of Uluru. It is humbling to learn that the homeless, mentally ill and drug- and alcohol-affected members of the Sydney Street Choir have made it their mission to travel to the 'Rock' to sing their 'Sorry' Song – a heartfelt acknowledgement of the anguish of the Stolen Generations. Scientific research has discovered

that singing can release endorphins and therefore increase feelings of wellbeing. For many within the choir, the chance to perform for other people elevates them from a state of dependency to that of independence and happiness. The transformative effects of singing are evident in the expressions of the choristers.

09-26/10/08

HUMAN FIGURE by Giorgia Fiorio

Australian Centre For Photography | www.giorgiafiorio.com

Giorgia has brought the tradition of documentary to her project in order to help people discover secluded social communities of men, one with measured boundaries. Giorgia's photographs look at the physical while trying to portray the inner struggle of self-doubt and emotional fragility. These men need to belong while still maintaining their solitude and Giorgia has tried to capture the physical and the spiritual.

The writer Gabriel Bauret expressed: "By shooting the human form, the photographer is looking into lives, with all their passions and obsessions. The message epitomises a certain vision of man, of the human, of humanity, with each of these variants adding its own semantic nuance. Giorgia sets her own limits, showing us miners, boxers, firemen and sailors, but in reality, what we see, is always something more than the mere activity of these men: She has attempted to convey an image of physical force, of mental resilience, of sensibility and fragility, too. This exhibition constitutes a new stage in the rereading of what has been done and in the prefiguration of that which remains to be done in the world of man'.

Giorgia's work mostly focuses on long-term self-directed projects. She has won many awards and published nine books, including her first, Soldati, on the Italian Army, and the 2003 series of five monographs entitled Men: Legio Patria Nostra (French Foreign Legion), Etre/Ser Torero (Bullfighters), Boxin' USA, American Firemen, and Men of the Sea – as well as Des Hommes (Marval 2003).