**Czech Photo Centre showcases the best of NOOR photo agency’s ten year history**

**The multi-genre Czech Photo Centre is showcasing thirteen world-renowned NOOR photographers beginning on 13 October. The NOOR BY NOOR exhibition commemorates the works of individual photographers including, for example, Yuri Kozyrev, Kadir van Lohuizen and Francesco Zizola. The NOOR photo agency documents current events and issues wherever they occur in many corners of the globe.**

*“The Czech Photo Centre is celebrating a year of operation. Last year we launched with the work of VII Photo Agency. The NOOR BY NOOR exhibition is a worthy continuation of the idea that we want to bring the best of world and domestic photography presently available. Furthermore, this year marks ten years since NOOR was founded. So it will be a number of celebrations in one,”* explains Veronika Souralová, Czech Photo Centre Director. Clement Saccomani, Director of NOOR will personally present the exhibition in the Czech Photo Centre at the vernissage on 12 October. He is also one of the judges for this year’s Czech Press Photo contest. The complete international panel who will subsequently be meeting in the Czech Photo Centre to select the best images of 2017 will also be introduced alongside him at the vernissage.

NOOR documents civil and political unrest, environmental issues, wars, famine and natural disasters around the world. For the tenth anniversary of its founding, the NOOR BY NOOR exhibition will include selected photographs whose impressions best reflect what marks NOOR out: confrontation with a dominant story inspired by empathy and interaction through visual narrative undertaken with integrity and passion.

The exhibition will be open to the public in the Czech Photo Centre every day except Monday until 3 December. From Tuesday to Friday, the exhibition will be open from 11.00am to 6.00pm, and on weekends always from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Entrance costs 50 crowns, or 30 crowns for concession tickets. The gallery is located at Seydlerova 2835/4 near the Nové Butovice metro station. Further information on the NOOR BY NOOR exhibition and NOOR agency can also be found at [www.czechphotocentre.cz](http://www.czechphotocentre.cz) and [www.noorimages.com](http://www.noorimages.com).

**Source of photographs:** NOOR agency

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**Enclosed**

**Exhibited NOOR agency members**

**Nina Berman (USA)** is a documentary photographer focusing primarily on America’s political and social life. She is the author of two acclaimed monographs, Purple Hearts – Back from Iraq containing portraits of wounded veterans and interviews with them, and Homeland, which looks at the militarisation of American life post 11 September. Her work has been recognised with awards in art and journalism including from the New York Foundation for the Arts, World Press Photo Foundation, Open Society Institute Documentary Fund, Pictures of the Year International and Hasselblad. Her photographs and videos have been exhibited at over 100 venues.

**Pep Bonet (Spain)** is an award-winning filmmaker and photographer who has travelled extensively capturing profound moments that represent the unbalanced world in which we live. His longer-term projects focus on African issues, with his most well known project being “Faith in Chaos”, a photo essay on the aftermath of the war in Sierra Leone. Pep’s ongoing work around the globe on HIV/Aids and identity has led to several photography books and many exhibitions worldwide.

**Andrea Bruce (USA)** is a documentary photographer who brings attention to people living in the aftermath of war. She concentrates on the social issues that are sometimes ignored and often ignited in war's wake. Andrea started working in Iraq in 2003, following the intricacies and obstacles of the conflict experienced by Iraqis and the US military. For over ten years she has chronicled the world's most troubled areas, focusing on Iraq and Afghanistan. For eight years she worked as a staff photographer for The Washington Post and later as part of the VII Network (2010-2011).

**Alixandra Fazzina (United Kingdom)** focuses with her photography on under-reported conflicts and the often forgotten humanitarian consequences of war. Alixandra has an ability to work in the most difficult social and geographical environments and is recognized for her compassionate and empathetic approach towards the human condition, always fully aware of the bigger picture.

**Stanley Greene (USA)** produced *The Western Front*, a unique documentation of the San Francisco’s punk scene in the 1970s and 80s during the early years of his career. An encounter with W Eugene Smith turned his energies to photojournalism. Stanley began photographing for magazines, and worked as temporary staff photographer for the New York Newsday paper.

**Tanya Habjouqa (Jordan)** is an award-winning photographer, journalist and educator. Her practice links social documentary, collaborative portraiture and participant observation. Her principal interests include gender, representations of otherness, dispossession and human rights, with a particular concern for ever-shifting socio-political dynamics in the Middle East.

**Robin Hammond (New Zealand)** is a winner of the World Press Photo prize, the RF Kennedy Journalism Award, three Pictures of the Year International Awards, the W Eugene Smith Award for Humanistic Photography, and the recipient of four Amnesty International awards for Human Rights journalism. He has dedicated his career to documenting human rights and development issues throughout the world through long term photographic projects.

**Bénédicte Kurzen (France)** began her career as a photographer after moving to Israel in 2003, where she covered news from the Gaza Strip, Iraq and Lebanon. In 2004, her photography developed from news to a more documentary style with her work on the lives of volunteer suicide bombers and widows in the Gaza Strip. Bénédicte contributed with this work to the “Violence Against Women” group project, undertaken in collaboration with Amnesty International and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).

**Yuri Kozyrev (Rusko)** has worked as a photojournalist for 25 years, and as such has witnessed many world-changing events. He started his career documenting the collapse of the Soviet Union, the last empire of our modern times, capturing the rapid changes in the former USSR for the LA Times during the 1990s. In 2001, Yuri started to cover international news. He was on the scene in Afghanistan after September 11, 2001, and lived in Baghdad, Iraq, between 2002 and 2009, arriving before the war. During those Iraqi years, he was a contract photographer for Time magazine and travelled across the whole country taking photos of different sides of the conflict.

**Sebastián Liste (Spain)** is a documentary photographer and sociologist whose passion is documenting the profound cultural changes and contemporary issues in Latin America and the Mediterranean, regions where he grew up and which he knows well. With his visual communication projects he wants to generate dialogues and collaborations between its subjects and the participating audiences, confronting different world perspectives and evaluating our impact on future generations.

**Kadir van Lohuizen (Holland)** documents conflicts in Africa and elsewhere, but he is probably most well-known for his long-term projects focused on seven rivers of the world, the rising sea-level, diamond mining and migration in North and South America. He started his work as a professional freelance photojournalist in 1988 covering the Intifada. In the years following, he worked in many conflict areas in Africa, such as Angola, Sierra Leone, Mozambique, Liberia and the DR of Congo.

**Jon Lowenstein (USA)** specialises in long-term, in-depth documentary explorations that confront the realms of power, poverty, racial discrimination and violence. Through the combination of photography, video, experiential writing and poetry, he strives for unsparing clarity by revealing the subjects of history that lack voice.

**Francesco Zizola (Italy)** has documented the world’s major conflicts and their hidden crisis, focusing on the social and humanitarian issues that define life in the developing world as well as in western countries. A strong ethical commitment and a distinctive aesthetic eye are specific features of his pictures. His assignments and personal projects have taken him around the world, giving him the opportunity to carefully portray forgotten crises and relevant issues often disregarded by the mainstream media.