



PRESS RELEASE

Charlottesville, VA, June 11 - June 28, 2009

2009 World Press Photo Exhibition makes North American debut at LOOK3 Festival in Charlottesville, VA

The World Press Photo Exhibition will make its 2009 debut in North America at the LOOK3 Festival of the Photograph June 11 – 28 in Charlottesville, VA. This traveling exhibition, unique in its kind, is the result of a worldwide annual contest on press photography and is brought to Charlottesville with the support of Getty Images. The exhibition will be officially opened by WPP Managing Director Michiel Munneke.

Each year, an independent international jury, consisting of thirteen members, judges the entries in ten different categories, submitted by photojournalists, agencies, newspapers and magazines from all corners of the world. This year's competition attracted 5,508 photographers from 124 countries. In total 96,268 images were entered in the contest.

The annual exhibition is shown this year at venues in cities all over the world including Berlin, Paris, Tokyo, Seoul, and Brisbane. This year's exhibition contains 196 photographs. It is an annual public showcase for photojournalism comprising the year's winning photo, together with award-winning images from each of the ten contest categories. The high quality of photojournalism involved is considered to set a standard in the field.

World Press Photo is an independent, nonprofit organization based in Amsterdam, where World Press Photo was founded in 1955. Its main aim is to support and promote internationally the work of professional press photographers. Over the years, World Press Photo has evolved into an independent platform for photojournalism and the free exchange of information.

LOOK3 Festival of the Photograph is a celebration of photography, created by photographers, for those who share a passion for the still image. The Festival features exhibits and on-stage appearances of three “legacy” photographers, as well as many exhibitions, outdoor screenings, and projections over three days and nights. Historic downtown Charlottesville is transformed into a “living image” with photographs hanging in the trees, projected in storefront windows and on the sides of buildings, as well as in all the galleries.

Billed as “3 days of peace, love and photography,” the Festival is designed to bring together the international photography community and create opportunities for attendees and artists to share images, ideas and to be inspired. Full details about LOOK3 can be found at www.look3.org.

World Press Photo receives support from the Dutch Postcode Lottery and is sponsored worldwide by Canon and TNT.

Editors please note:

A selection of the winning images is available online on the World Press Photo press download area (www.worldpressphoto.org/downloads). To access this online download area you are required to register for an account.

For more information please contact:

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