

Field Museum Presents Outdoor Photo Exhibition On Crisis in Darfur

The Field Museum will host *DARFUR/DARFUR*, a special exhibition of photography from Sunday, Oct. 7 through Friday, Oct. 12. Each evening from 7-10pm, the dramatic photos, taken by several internationally known photojournalists, will be projected onto large screens at the north exterior wall of The Field Museum (Lake Shore Drive and Roosevelt Road). The exhibition highlights the culture of Western Sudan along with the current ethnocide and shows how the region's diverse population is affected by the crisis.

The Field's outdoor presentation is part of a city-wide community event that includes smaller presentations of the exhibition at 15 other locations, including the DuSable Museum of African American History and multiple faith-based congregations.

DARFUR/DARFUR showcases 170 photographs, both black-and-white and color, taken in Darfur and neighboring Chad. They range from blunt reportage, to sensitive black and white portraits, to almost formal compositions. Former U.S. Marine Brian Steidle photographed what he saw around him: children hit by bullets and piles of bones and bodies. Helene Caux, a Geneva-based photojournalist, documented the population of a refugee camp in Chad, where 80 percent of the refugees are women and children. She photographed the women in their brightly colored clothing, and the moon at dusk, capturing moments of fleeting beauty in the refugee camp. Mark Brecke, a documentary filmmaker from Berkeley, contributed black and white photographs of women, children and soldiers. And stark black and white images by Paolo Pellegrin Magnum, a *Newsweek* photographer born in Rome, show refugees living in cities of tents. Other photojournalists who contributed to the exhibition are Lynsey Addario, Ron Haviv VII, Ryan Spencer Reed, and Michal Ronnen Safdie.

The continuous loop of images is approximately six minutes long and will be played over African-influenced music. During the dates of the outdoor evening exhibition, The Field Museum will show *DARFUR/DARFUR* inside the Museum from 10am through 4pm.

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A special free symposium on Darfur will take place at The Field Museum at 7:30 pm on Monday, Oct. 8 in the James Simpson Theatre. Presented by the Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media, Columbia College Chicago, participants include Daoud Hari, a refugee from Darfur, Olivier Bercault, a researcher with the Emergencies Division at Human Rights Watch, and Connie Kamara, a senior technical advisor in global health with the American Refugee Committee. Lynette A. Jackson, PhD, Associate Professor of Gender and Women's Studies and African American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago will be the symposium's moderator. The evening will open with a performance by the Chicago Children's Choir. See the website www.darfurdarfur.org for more details.

DARFUR/DARFUR has been touring internationally and has been shown at venues including the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. the Jewish Museum in Berlin, the Los Angeles Hammer, and the Boston Institute of Contemporary Art. The exhibition was created to raise community awareness about the Sudanese culture as well as its political situation in order to better understand this current tragedy.

For further information, the public may call 312.922.9410 or visit www.fieldmuseum.org.

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