

The Field Museum Debuts ‘Women of Vision: National Geographic Photographers On Assignment’

PNC-Sponsored Traveling Exhibit Celebrates Work of 11 Inspiring Photojournalists

CHICAGO, May 16, 2016 —“[Women of Vision: National Geographic Photographers on Assignment](#)” will open at The Field Museum May 18, 2016, highlighting the influential photography of 11 award-winning female photojournalists. The traveling exhibition is sponsored by The PNC Financial Services Group will be in Chicago until September 11, 2016.

“Women of Vision” features nearly 100 photographs, including moving depictions of far-flung cultures, compelling illustrations of conceptual topics such as memory and teenage brain chemistry, and arresting images of social issues including child marriage and 21st-century slavery. In addition to the photographs, visitors will have an opportunity to learn how National Geographic magazine picture editors work closely with the photographers to select images and tell a story. Video vignettes will present first-person accounts that reveal the photographers’ individual styles, passions and approaches to their craft.

“For the last decade, some of our most powerful stories have been produced by a new generation of photojournalists who are women. These women are as different as the places and the subjects they have covered, but they all share the same passion and commitment to storytelling that has come to define National Geographic,” said Kathryn Keane, vice president of National Geographic Exhibitions. “The exhibition reaffirms the Society’s position as a respected leader in the field of photography.”

“Women of Vision” underscores National Geographic’s history of documenting the world through photography and its ongoing commitment to supporting photographers as important and innovative storytellers who can make a difference with their work.

“This exhibit beautifully embodies the courage and passion of women throughout the world, while capturing stolen moments of their personal and cultural conflicts,” said Scott Swanson, PNC regional president for Illinois. “It reminds us of the common challenges, risks and achievements routinely experienced by successful women, whether they’re running a business or telling a compelling story with a camera.”

PNC’s sponsorship has also brought the exhibit to venues in Washington, D.C.; Charlotte, NC; Detroit, MI; West Palm Beach, FL; Atlanta, GA and Orlando, FL as part of its strong commitment to supporting culturally engaging programs that strengthen its the communities.

Jaap Hoogstraten, Director of Exhibitions at The Field Museum, says, “The Field collects the physical objects of human cultures around the world, so to us, contemporary photography offers a great counterpoint in ways to understand cultures. We think it’s interesting that, worldwide, female photographers often have access to community spaces that their male colleagues do not. And we like the fact that the ‘ethnographic eye’ of these photographers turns to far-away places as well as within the US, to uncover such moving portraits of communities and individuals.”

“Women of Vision” was curated by National Geographic Senior Photo Editor Elizabeth Krist, who had the challenging task of choosing a selection of images to best represent the broad portfolios of the 11 extraordinary photographers (see below for photographers and their bios).

About National Geographic

National Geographic is a global nonprofit membership organization driven by a passionate belief in the power of science, exploration and storytelling to change the world. We fund hundreds of research and conservation projects around the globe each year. With the support of our members and donors, we work to inspire, illuminate and teach through scientific expeditions, award-winning journalism, education initiatives and more. For more information, visit www.nationalgeographic.com and find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+, YouTube, LinkedIn and Pinterest.

About The Field Museum

The Field Museum is one of the world’s premier natural history institutions. Its staff maintains an irreplaceable collection of more than 30 million artifacts and specimens, which are made available to scientists throughout the globe. Additionally, the Museum maintains more than 350,000 square feet of permanent exhibitions.

About PNC

This exhibition is supported by PNC and The PNC Foundation, which receives its principal funding from The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE: PNC). PNC is one of the largest diversified financial services institutions in the United States, organized around its customers and communities for strong relationships and local delivery of retail and business banking; residential mortgage banking; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance and asset-based lending; wealth management and asset management. For information about PNC, visit www.pnc.com.

ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHERS

- **Jodi Cobb** has worked in over 65 countries and produced 30 NGM stories, including "21st -Century Slaves," which was among the most popular stories in the magazine's history. Cobb was the only photographer to penetrate the geisha world, which resulted in her Pulitzer Prize-nominated book, "Geisha: The Life, the Voices, the Art." She was also the first photographer to document the hidden lives of the women of Saudi Arabia and among the first to travel across China when it reopened to the West. She has received numerous accolades, including repeated honors from the National Press Photographers Association, Pictures of the Year, and World Press Photo, as well as receiving the 2012 Missouri Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism. Cobb was also the first woman to be named White House Photographer of the Year.
- Pulitzer Prize winner and MacArthur Fellow **Lynsey Addario** is widely admired for her conflict coverage in Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Darfur and the Congo. Featured assignment work includes images that document human rights issues, particularly the plight of women and families in conflict zones.
- **Kitra Cahana** explores important social, anthropological, and spiritual themes. Born in Miami, but raised in Canada and Sweden, Kitra earned her BA in Philosophy from McGill University and her MA in Visual and Media Anthropology from the Freie Universitat in Berlin. She has won a first prize from World Press Photo, a TED Fellowship and the ICP Infinity Award. Her work includes images taken on assignment for

NGM's important feature on the teenage brain and culture in the United States.

- **Diane Cook** is a leading landscape photographer whose work is in numerous collections, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego, and the L.A. County Museum in Los Angeles. Cook often works collaboratively with her husband Len Jenshel. Their NGM stories have covered New York's elevated park the High Line, Mount St. Helens, Green Roofs, the Na'Pali Coast of Hawaii, the US-Mexico border, and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.
- **Carolyn Drake** is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Fulbright Fellowship, the Lange Taylor Documentary Prize, a World Press Photo award, and was a finalist for the Santa Fe Prize. She has spent years documenting the cultures of Central Asia and life in western China's Uygur region.
- A Knight Fellow and passionate advocate for visual arts education, **Lynn Johnson** has covered a wide range of assignments for NGM, producing images for 21 stories on subjects including vanishing languages and challenges facing human populations in Africa and Asia. Johnson has also participated in photo camps in Chad, Botswana, and at the Pine Ridge reservation. She has received several awards including the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award for Coverage of the Disadvantaged.
- **Beverly Joubert** is a National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence, filmmaker, photographer and co-founder of the Big Cat Initiative. Together with her husband, Dereck Joubert, they have been documenting the plight of African wildlife for over 30 years. Beverly's images have appeared in National Geographic Magazine, over a hundred magazines worldwide, and they have co-authored several books and scientific papers. The Jouberts have produced over 25 television documentaries and a feature film, *The Last Lions* (2011), which has reached over 350 million people worldwide. These films have received many awards from around the globe including 7 Emmys, a Peabody, Panda Awards and conservation accolades including the World Ecology Award, an induction into the American Academy of Achievement and the Presidential Order of Meritorious for their conservation work in Botswana. In 2011 '60 Minutes' (CBS) did a profile on their lives, documenting their film and conservation work in Africa.
- **Erika Larsen** studies cultures with strong ties to nature. She published a 2009 story in NGM on the Sami reindeer herders of Scandinavia, an assignment which grew out of her own documentary work for which she lived and worked within the culture for over 4 years. Larsen received a BFA and MFA from Rochester Institute of Technology and is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship and a New Jersey State Arts Council Fellowship. Erika's photography has been exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery and the Sami Ájtte Museum in Sweden.
- **Stephanie Sinclair's** decade-long project on child marriage has earned global recognition, including three World Press Photo awards and prestigious exhibitions on Capitol Hill, at the United Nations and at the Whitney Biennial in New York. Scenes from Yemen and from polygamist families in the Fundamentalist Church of the Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints will also be displayed.
- A celebrated figure in the photographic community, **Maggie Steber** has worked in over 62 countries and her images have earned several prestigious honors, including the Leica Medal of Excellence and World Press Photo awards. NGM has published her essays on Miami, the African slave trade, the Cherokee Nation, sleep, soldiers' letters, Dubai and a story on the science of memory that featured a touching sidebar on Steber's mother Madje and her struggle with dementia.
- **Amy Toensing** began her prolific career covering the White House and Congress for the New York Times. She has created portraits of unforgettable people around the world while shooting NGM stories in Papua New Guinea, Puerto Rico, the Jersey Shore, and Tonga. For the past 3 years, she has been documenting Aboriginal Australia for a story that was published in the June 2013 issue of NGM. Toensing is also committed to teaching photography to kids in underserved communities. She has worked with

Somali and Sudanese refugees in Maine and Burmese refugees in Baltimore, and recently traveled to Islamabad to teach young Pakistanis.

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Full details on the exhibition, including photo galleries and links to related National Geographic magazine content, are available at wovexhibition.org.

WOMEN OF VISION EXHIBIT IMAGES AND USAGE GUIDELINES

Images can be found on the ftp site:

http://press.nationalgeographic.com/downloads/exhibit_women_of_vision

user name: press **password:** press

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Please include a link to the Women of Vision website for online use: <http://wovexhibition.org/>

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