

# CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CORCORAN CELEBRATES *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY: IMAGES OF ARMED CONFLICT* AND ITS AFTERMATH WITH SPECIAL PROGRAMMING**

*Seminal exhibition makes its East Coast debut at the Corcoran, on view June 29—September 29, 2013*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — This summer, the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, in conjunction with the landmark photographic exhibition *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY: Images of Armed Conflict and Its Aftermath*, presents a series of programs that enable visitors to engage with the exhibition on a personal level. Programs are designed to enrich and expand on the many themes and stories about life during wartime, and encourage the personal reflection befitting of the show's emotional nature.



Unprecedented in its scope and ambition and featuring many of the most indelible photographs ever made on the subject of war, *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY* revolutionizes our understanding

of this momentous subject and immerses viewers in the experience of soldiers and civilians during wartime. The exhibit brings together images by more than 185 photographers representing more than 25 nationalities, covering conflicts from the past 165 years –from the Mexican-American War through present-day conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, where it opened in November 2012, *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY* makes its East Coast debut at the Corcoran as part of a national tour.

Visitors may visit the exhibition for **FREE** on Saturdays between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend as part of the Corcoran's [Free Summer Saturdays promotion](#). For information about the exhibition, visit <http://www.corcoran.org/exhibitions/warphotography-images-armed-conflict-and-its-aftermath>.

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

### **Reflection Room**

Located in the exhibition galleries, the Reflection Room provides a space for visitors to share their perspectives, feelings, and reflections on war and the images that have represented it over time. Throughout the run of the exhibition, the Corcoran presents Perspective Gallery Talks, with veterans, photojournalists, art therapists, Corcoran student veterans, and partner groups and organizations that deal with veterans' issues, peace initiatives, journalists' freedom, and other issues.

Major John McCrae's 1915 poem "In Flanders Fields," printed on the walls of the Reflection Room, inspires visitors to write a card of remembrance in response to the exhibition and to pin it on the walls to share with other visitors. In addition, the Reflection Room includes a resource library for visitors to learn more about the themes of *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY* and the photographers whose work is displayed.

### **Cell Phone Audio Tour**

A free cell phone audio tour is available through the run of the exhibition. This audio tour presents a variety of perspectives on the exhibition's themes, selected works, and historical context as well as explanations of military history, personal stories, and audio clips of media reporting. The audio tour includes insights by curators, photographers, current and retired military and medical personnel, and historians.

### **Michael Kamber: Photojournalists on War**

**Wednesday, June 26**

**7 p.m.**

**Members \$8; Public \$10**

For his new book, *Photojournalists on War: The Untold Stories from Iraq*, Michael Kamber conducted in-depth interviews with 39 colleagues. The results are candid and honest first-person stories of the war in Iraq. Kamber will review stories and photographs included in the book, before previewing the exhibition *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY: Images of Armed Conflict and Its Aftermath*.

### **WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY Opening Event**

**Saturday, July 6**

The Corcoran celebrates the opening of *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY* with a FREE day of programs and workshops themed to the exhibition. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a number of events, including a workshop conducted by the Veterans Oral History Project of the Library of Congress, a film screening, and a children's workshop booth sponsored by Tragedy Assistance Programs for Survivors. Admission is FREE and open to the public.

### **Bearing Witness**

**Saturday, July 6**

**3 p.m.**

**Free; Pre-registration encouraged.**

In this powerful documentary film, Barbara Kopple, Bob Eisenhardt, and Marijana Wotton chronicle the personal and professional lives of five female journalists as they cover war across the globe.

### **Louie Palu: A Visual Dialogue of Conflict**

**Wednesday, July 10**

**7 p.m.**

**Members \$10; Public \$12**

Photographer Louie Palu is well known for his award-winning frontline coverage of war in Kandahar, Afghanistan from 2006 to 2010. He has worked in numerous countries, including Libya, Mali, Pakistan, and India. Palu is currently at work on a project examining the drug war in Mexico and its relationship to the United States. An exhibition viewing follows the talk.

### **Art Response Family Workshop at the Corcoran**

**Saturday, July 13**

**11 a.m.-1 p.m.; 2-4 p.m.**

**Free; Pre-registration required.**

**Morning session:** <http://artresponsemorning.eventbrite.com/>

**Afternoon session:** <http://artresponseafternoon.eventbrite.com/>

Participants respond artistically to the emotions that arise from viewing the exhibition. Using art materials, they reflect on the exhibition in a quiet and thoughtful way. After a period of drawing, painting, or Polaroid photography, assisted by an art therapist, participants can share their thoughts and feelings.

### **Art Response Workshops Off-Site**

#### **Locations, dates, and times to be announced**

The Corcoran offers workshops for military families and community groups. After an initial overview of the exhibition through slides or prints, a time of discussion and sharing insights and observations follows. Participants are encouraged to create their own images through drawing, painting, or Polaroid photography expressing their feelings.

### **DanceEthos, “Unsung” with Special Presentation by the Telling Project**

**Saturday, July 20**

**11 a.m.**

**Free; No registration required.**

Unsung tells the story of war from the soldiers’ perspective. Inspired by letters and interviews of soldiers from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, the work honors the commitment and sacrifice of soldiers while at the same time serving as a sermon on peace. This performance, choreographed by Artistic Director Tiffany Haughn, originally premiered at Dance Place in 2009.

### **WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY Gallery Talk: David Wood**

**Saturday, July 20**

**2 p.m.**

**Free; Pre-registration encouraged.**

As a correspondent, David Wood has covered conflict around the world for more than 35 years, both as a solo journalist and as a reporter embedded with U.S. forces. Since 2001 he has made eight reporting trips to Iraq and Afghanistan. A former conscientious objector, Wood was awarded the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for *Beyond the Battlefield*, his series on severely wounded American soldiers and their families.

### **WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY Gallery Talk: Zoeann Murphy**

**Saturday, July 27**

**2 p.m.**

**Free; Pre-registration encouraged.**

Zoeann Murphy is a freelance visual journalist, writer, and teacher based in Washington, D.C. She facilitates photography workshops for workers and refugees around the world and co-authored the book, *Vietnam: Our Father Daughter Journey* with her father Ed Murphy, one of the earliest combat intelligence agents to speak out against the war in Vietnam.

### **“I am the beggar of the world”; The Poetry of Afghanistan’s Women**

**Wednesday, July 31**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Free; Pre-registration required**

Join journalist/poet Eliza Griswold and photographer/filmmaker Seamus Murphy for readings of poems by Afghan women about drones, war, sex, rage, and love. Readings are followed by a screening of Murphy’s short film *Snake* and a moderated Q&A. A reception follows the program.

### **WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY Gallery Talk: Karin Rodney-Haapala**

**Saturday, August 17**

**2 p.m.**

**Free; Pre-registration encouraged**

A graduate of the Corcoran's Bachelors in Fine Arts Photojournalism program and the Masters of Arts in Teaching program, Karin Rodney-Haapala reflects on her experience as a United States Air Force combat veteran and talks about her most recent photography projects.

**Educators' Evening Out: WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Tuesday, September 10, 5-8 p.m.**

**Free; Pre-registration required.**

Educators are invited to view *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY: Images of Armed Conflict and Its Aftermath* and to explore its powerful imagery. Teachers learn ways of integrating the work of more than 185 photographers representing more than 25 nationalities into world history, social studies, and creative writing lessons. The evening includes free admission, light refreshments, an image packet, and lesson plans. Educators choose two breakout sessions from a variety of disciplines.

*WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY: Images of Armed Conflict and Its Aftermath* is organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and is made possible with generous support from the Phillip and Edith Leonian Foundation.

The presentation at the Corcoran Gallery of Art is funded in part by the Trellis Fund, the William and Mary Greve Foundation, Inc., the Women's Committee of the Corcoran, the Sunrise Foundation, and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The official media sponsor for the exhibition is WAMU 88.5.

## **VISITOR INFORMATION**

The Corcoran's hours of operation are as follows: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; closed Monday and Tuesday. Admission to *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY: Images of Armed Conflict and Its Aftermath* is \$10 for adults, and \$8 for seniors (62+) and students (with valid ID). Free: children 12 and under, active duty military (with ID) and up to five family members, Corcoran Members. All military, including veterans, will enjoy free admission July 4-7, 2013.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Corcoran Gallery of Art membership offers special access to the Corcoran's renowned collection, temporary exhibitions, lectures, films, concerts and an array of social events. Members also receive valuable discounts at the Corcoran Shop, Todd Gray's Muse at the Corcoran, and the Corcoran College of Art + Design. Corcoran Members may visit *WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY: Photographs of Armed Conflict and Its Aftermath* an unlimited number of times for free. For more information, contact the Membership office at (202) 639-1753, [membership@corcoran.org](mailto:membership@corcoran.org) or online at [www.corcoran.org/membership](http://www.corcoran.org/membership).

## **ABOUT THE CORCORAN**

Established in 1869, the **Corcoran Gallery of Art** was one of America's first museums of art—dedicated, in the words of founder William Wilson Corcoran, to “encouraging American genius.” Today it is Washington, D.C.'s largest nonfederal art museum, known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. A dynamic schedule of special exhibitions complements a range of educational programming, which together enrich the perspectives of the visiting public, support the local arts community, and encourage thoughtful interpretation of today's most compelling social issues. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded as a school of art in 1890 and stands as Washington's only four-year accredited college of art and design. The College is one of the few in the nation whose educational model

includes an integral relationship with a museum, fostering the talent of the next generation of artists. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit [www.corcoran.org](http://www.corcoran.org).



Images:

Page one: Sal Veder, *Bursts of Joy*, Travis Air Force Base, California, March 17, 1973.