

CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

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**NOVEMBER 2012 AT THE CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART
AND COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN**

ON VIEW



Ivan Sigal: White Road

November 3, 2012–January 27, 2013

From 1998 through 2005, photographer Ivan Sigal lived and worked in Central Asia, traversing Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Afghanistan. A designer of media projects, he collaborated with local communities to set up radio and TV stations, create current affairs programming, and train journalists.

Alongside these activities, Sigal worked as an itinerant documentarian, using his camera to record the unsettled lives of Eurasians in provincial towns and cities. Showing people of different ages, nationalities, ethnic and religious origins, and class, Sigal's moody, humanistic images reveal both joy and hardship. *White Road* addresses an elusive

question: What was left behind when the Soviet Union's ideological superstructure was dismantled, eliminating the grand narrative that once imposed meaning on people's lives? Using both imagery and text, Sigal's project considers the mysterious circumstances of history and power that propel us—the photographer, his subjects, and those who view the work—from encounter to encounter and from place to place, in a destabilized and uncertain time.

White Road includes nearly 100 images culled from a larger selection featured in the exhibition's catalog, to be produced by renowned photography book publisher Steidl Verlag. Alongside the exhibition, Sigal will teach a semester-long course focusing on alternative production and distribution paths for visual storytelling, photojournalism, and documentary photography. This course will be available to graduate students in the Corcoran College of Art + Design's New Media Photojournalism program.

Since 2008, Sigal has served as executive director of Global Voices Online. *White Road* is Sigal's first solo museum exhibition. For more information, visit <http://www.corcoran.org/exhibitions/ivan-sigal-white-road>.

Taryn Simon: A Living Man Declared Dead and Other Chapters I–XVIII

November 10, 2012–February 24, 2013

This fall, the Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design presents the first complete East Coast exhibition of *Taryn Simon: A Living Man Declared Dead and Other Chapters I–XVIII*, a photographic project by the artist Taryn Simon (American, b. 1975). Simon produced the work over a four-year period (2008–11), during which she traveled around the world researching and recording the living ascendants and descendants of a single individual, or "bloodlines," and their related stories. "In each of the 18 chapters," the artist has explained, "you see the external forces of territory, governance, power, and religion, colliding with the internal forces of psychological and physical inheritance." The subjects Simon documents include feuding families in Brazil, victims of genocide in Bosnia, the



body double of Saddam Hussein's son Uday, and the so-called living dead in India. The exhibition is organized by Philip Brookman, chief curator and head of research at the Corcoran.

Simon's detailed archive of images and text is systematically organized in grids to reveal social changes driven by science, culture, and chance. This collection is at once cohesive and arbitrary, mapping the relationships among order, chaos, genetics, and other components of fate. In addition to the Corcoran, *A Living Man Declared Dead and Other Chapters* is traveling to Tate Modern, London; Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin; and the Museum of Modern Art, New York. <http://www.corcoran.org/exhibitions/simon>

NOW at the Corcoran Enoc Perez: Utopia
November 10, 2012-February 10, 2013

Enoc Perez's lushly figured paintings of modernist buildings at once exploit and question the seductions of architecture as well as painting itself. The exhibition presents two new bodies of work, one focusing on the Marina Towers in Chicago and the other a commissioned painting of the Watergate in Washington, D.C. These architectural portraits evoke modernism's futurist aspirations as well as the sadness of an always-impossible ideal.

The Marina Towers series (2011–12), exhibited for the first time at the Corcoran, consists of eight renditions of Chicago's skyscrapers, built in 1962. Echoing Claude Monet's paintings of the Rouen Cathedral and Andy Warhol's Marilyns, Perez obsessively refigures the architectural icon, shading his palette of reds, yellows, and purples according to mood and time of day. The works encourage intense, repeated looking at an object that is at once static and ever-shifting, compressing the arc of days and years into the confines of eight pictures.

Perez will install a painting of the Watergate—the Washington, D.C., architectural complex built between 1963 and 1971—in the Corcoran's Rotunda. Stretching across the gallery's two rounded walls, Perez's painting is a cloud of swooping curves and jaunty angles, made stark with a palette of blacks, whites, and grays. The intertwining of the painted and printed is here made apparent, as paint is pressed and brushed on top of a photographic image. The resulting work is cinematic in effect, surrounding the viewer in an experience that is inescapably redolent of the scandal that brought the building its fame. <http://www.corcoran.org/exhibitions/enoc-perez-utopia>





On the Campaign Trail

**October 17--November 4, 2012
Reception Thursday, October 18, 5 p.m.**

Gallery 31

An evolving range of mediums has been employed to convey and capture the messages, history, and imagination of American political life: from

paper broadsides and celluloid buttons to robocalls and social media. This exhibition presents campaign photography from The Washington Post, design work from Corcoran College of Art + Design students, and paintings inspired by this electoral season from Miriam's Kitchen. For more information, visit <http://www.corcoran.edu/exhibitions/campaign-trail>.

This Is Not a Photo

November 7–18, 2012; reception November 15, 5 p.m.

Gallery 31

The exhibition features work created by the inaugural class of the Corcoran's MA program in New Media Photojournalism. Like the program itself, the photographs, video, and Web-based media on view at once embrace and challenge the status of the how the news is presented today. For more information, visit <http://www.corcoran.org/exhibitions/not-photo>.

Transparency

November 21-30, 2012

Gallery 31

Students from the Corcoran College of Art + Design respond to the documentary photography of Taryn Simon, whose work is now on view in the Gallery. Inspired by the artist's rigorous research methods and the questions she asks about contemporary social issues, the student work on view also builds upon collaboration across different departments. Direct interaction with Simon is an integral component of the workshops leading to this exhibition.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Newman Distinguished Visiting Artist Lecturer in Photography: Taryn Simon

Thursday, November 8, 7 p.m.

Free; Pre-registration required

The Arnold Newman Distinguished Visiting Lecture in Photography is generously funded by the Arnold and Augusta Newman Foundation in memory of Arnold Newman, who had a long-standing relationship with the Corcoran and curator Philip Brookman. For more information, visit https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/newman_lecture

Webelos Cub Scout Day

Saturday, November 10, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Free, pre-registration is required

This is a free day just for Webelos Cub Scouts to earn their Webelos Art Activity Pin during a morning of engaging art workshops and tours! For more information, visit https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/webelos_cub_scout_day

Artist's Talk with Ivan Sigal

Monday, November 12, 7 p.m.

\$10 members; \$12 public; \$6 students

Ivan Sigal, whose documentary project *White Road* is on display through January 27, discusses on the changing ways photographers tell stories in online and digital platforms, focusing on the shift from traditional narrative structures as found in photo essays and books to the aesthetic possibilities of digital storytelling. https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/ivan_sigal

Transforming Society through Photos: The Role of Free and Independent Photojournalism

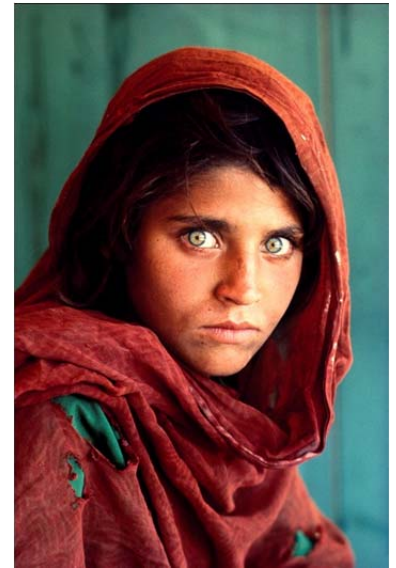
Panel Discussion

Wednesday, November 14, 7 p.m.

\$10 members; \$12 public; \$6 students

To complement the exhibition, 101 Photos for Press Freedom, on view at FotoWeek Central (1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW), join a panel of Magnum photographers as they examine the role of free and independent photojournalism in society. Delphine Halgand, D.C. Director of Reporters without Borders, introduces the evening. Presented in partnership with Magnum Photos and Reporters without Borders. For more information, visit

https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/transforming_society_through_photos



Visiting Artists: Eduardo Abaroa and Sofia Taboas

Thursday, November 15, 7 p.m.

\$10 Members; \$12 Public; \$6 students

Co-sponsored by the Mexican Cultural Institute

Eduardo Abaroa is a contemporary Mexican artist and writer working in the fields of sculpture, installation, and live action. A prominent figure in the Mexican art scene since the 1990s, Abaroa founded and worked in the artist-run space Temistocles 44, and has exhibited in solo and group shows in prestigious museums in Mexico, Los Angeles, New York, Argentina, and Germany. Sofia Taboas is a respected artist whose evocative, ambiguous works have been shown all over Mexico. Join them as they discuss their artwork and provide a context for today's contemporary Mexican art. For more information, visit https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/eduardo_abaroa_sofia_taboas.

Corcoran Uncorked

Exclusively for Members

Thursday, November 15, 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Corcoran Members are invited to special evenings of art, wine, and conversation. Sarah Newman, Curator of Contemporary Art, leads tours of the exhibition. Please register at <https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/memberevenings>.

Silk Painting Workshop

Saturday, November 17, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

\$20 Members; \$25 Public

Ages 12 and up; pre-registration required

The rich, shimmering, colorful forms of painter Enoc Perez's *Marina Towers* series inspire this workshop. Following a tour of *Enoc Perez: Utopia*, participants explore silk painting techniques to create wearable art. For more information, visit https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/silk_painting_workshop

Visiting Artist: Enoc Perez

Monday, November 26, 7 p.m.

\$10 members; \$12 Public

In conversation with Sarah Newman, Curator of Contemporary Art. For more information, visit https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/enoc_perez

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Spring Registration Begins

Members' early registration begins November 12, with registration opening to the public on November 19. The spring semester begins January 23, 2013. We recommend that students register early for the best course selection and availability.

PH0930: Darkroom Photography Basics

Learn the basics of camera operation, film developing, and printing while becoming familiar with the aesthetics of black-and-white photography. Students must have a manual 35 mm slr camera with a working light meter.



Sundays, 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
6 Sessions: November 6–December 18, 2012
Instructor: Jennifer Sakai
Non-credit: \$460 tuition + \$40 lab fee.

TODD GRAY'S MUSE AT THE CORCORAN

Market Brunch

Every Sunday from 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

A fresh concept by celebrated chef Todd Gray, Muse offers handcrafted, seasonal options and local fresh foods. Created exclusively for the Corcoran, the menu celebrates the culinary arts, with inspiration from local and regional farm communities, showcasing a wonderful variety of menu items, with many ingredients sourced from nearby farm markets and purveyors.

Muse offers Market Brunch every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Guests who brunch at Muse enjoy \$5 off the full admission price to the Corcoran Gallery of Art, for the perfect mix of the culinary and the visual arts! For more information, please visit www.corcoran.org/muse.

ONGOING

FROM THE COLLECTION

The collection galleries of American Art to 1945, European Art, Modern and Contemporary Art Since 1945, and Photography and Media Arts display outstanding examples from the Corcoran's world-renowned holdings. These include work by Lee Bontecou, Harry Callahan, Mary Cassatt, William Christenberry, Frederic Edwin Church, Robert Colescott, Camille Corot, Edgar Degas, Ellsworth Kelly, Hiram Powers, Martin Puryear, Frederic Remington, John Singer Sargent, Anne Truitt, James Van Der Zee, and Edward Weston, along with many others, as well as the Salon Doré (1770).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design

(202) 639-1700

www.corcoran.org



CorcoranDC

Hours

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m.–9 p.m.

The Corcoran is closed on Monday and Tuesday.

Admission

\$10 Adults; \$8 full-time students (with ID) and seniors (62+); children under 12 free; Corcoran members free.

Tours

Enhance your visit with docent-led tours of highlights from the Corcoran's collection and special exhibitions! Enjoy exploring our beautiful Beaux Arts building and learn fascinating details about the art with our highly trained docents and experts.

Highlights Tours are offered Wednesday–Sunday at noon and at 7 p.m. on Thursdays. Free with admission and lasting 45–60 minutes, tours provide an overview of the Corcoran's history and exhibitions. Ask about tours at the Admissions Desk, and meet your guide in the Atrium. On Saturdays at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., we offer brief Spotlight Tours focusing on a single work of art.

Corcoran Shop

Shop at the Corcoran or online at shop.corcoran.org for art and design books, apparel, accessories, toys, prints, posters, and more, as well as original artwork by Corcoran College of Art + Design students and alumni. Members get 10 percent off all purchases.

Program Registration

(202) 639-1770

For additional images, please contact Rachel Cothran, Director of Public Relations, at rcothran@corcoran.org.

Images:

Page one: Ivan Sigal, *Kabul, Afghanistan*, 2004. Gelatin silver print. Image courtesy of the artist. (c) Ivan Sigal.

Page two: Excerpt from Chapter XVII, *A Living Man Declared Dead and Other Chapters I–XVIII*. © 2012 Taryn Simon.

(Name withheld), 16 Mar. 1993. Student. Undisclosed location, Ukraine.

(Name withheld), 25 Nov. 1993. Student. Undisclosed location, Ukraine.

(Name withheld), 17 Jan. 1994. Student. Undisclosed location, Ukraine.

Page two: Enoc Perez, *Marina Towers, Chicago, January 2012*, 2012. Oil on canvas, 110 x 90 in. Courtesy of the artist and Acquavella Galleries, New York.

Page three: Left: Nikki Kahn/Washington Post; Clifton, VA; July 14, 2012; Barack Obama, campaign stop at Centreville HS. Right: Melina Mara/Washington Post; Stratham, NH; June 2, 2011; Mitt Romney, after announcing his candidacy for the 2012 U.S. Presidential race.

Page four: PAKISTAN. Peshawar. 1984. Afghan Girl at Nasir Bagh refugee camp. Copyright Steve McCurry/Magnum Photos.

Page five: Courtesy Todd Gray's Muse.