

CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN

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CORCORAN PRESENTS *PRIX PICTET: GROWTH* TO CELEBRATE FOTOWEEK DC 2011

First-time presentation of the exhibition in the United States

November 3–13, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. – To celebrate the annual FotoWeek DC festival, the Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design will present *Prix Pictet: Growth* (November 3–13, 2011), an exhibition of photographs by each of the 12 artists shortlisted for the Prix Pictet, a prestigious prize awarded to photographers whose work addresses social and environmental change. On view at the Corcoran for the first time in the United States, *Prix Pictet: Growth* is the third season of the prize, which has been shown in Paris, Thessaloniki, Zurich, and Milan, and organized by the Swiss Bank Pictet & Cie.



“Growth, being inherently about change, is a challenging subject for still photographs,” said Philip Brookman, chief curator and head of research at the Corcoran. “Each artist has approached the theme in a different way, relying on complex narratives about difficult subjects to tell stories about our modern world.”

The 12 artists shortlisted for *Prix Pictet: Growth* are **Christian Als** (Denmark), **Edward Burtynsky** (Canada), **Stéphane Couturier** (France), **Mitch Epstein** (United States), **Chris Jordan** (United States), **Yeondoo Jung** (Korea), **Vera Lutter** (Germany), **Nyaba Leon Ouedraogo** (Burkina Faso), **Taryn Simon** (United States), **Thomas Struth** (Germany), **Guy Tillim** (South Africa), and **Michael Wolf** (Germany).

This year, the American photographer **Mitch Epstein** was awarded the Prix Pictet for his series “American Power.” **Chris Jordan** was awarded the Prix Pictet Commission, which funds a new project. Speaking at the Prix



Pictet award ceremony at the Passage de Retz, Paris in March, Kofi Annan, honorary president of Prix Pictet, said, “It is difficult to look at these works without being moved, even angered. And yet, however bleak their message, the creativity and spirit of these artists also gives us hope that we, the human race, have the capacity to find, to agree and to realise the answers to these challenges. I want to congratulate each of the photographers for the power and beauty of their work.”

FOTOWEEK DC AT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design is a satellite location for FotoWeek DC 2011. As a major center for collecting, displaying, and studying photography and photojournalism—including a new MA in New Media Photojournalism, the Corcoran is proud to sponsor and participate in FotoWeek, for the fourth year in a row. During this annual festival dedicated to the photographic arts, the Corcoran will play host to a variety of FotoWeek activities, including expert portfolio reviews, FREE noontime lectures, exhibitions, and more. For a full list of FotoWeek activities at the Corcoran, visit www.corcoran.org/fotoweek.

ABOUT FOTOWEEK DC

Founded in 2008, Foto DC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has evolved from a city-centric photography festival to FotoWeek DC, a multi-season tribute to photography in all its forms. FotoDC celebrates the transformative power of photography through the exhibition of inspiring and provocative images, diverse programming, and collaboration with the local and international community. FotoWeek DC continues to play a central role in FotoDC programming, with its annual festival in November. For further information on FotoDC, please visit www.FotoWeekDC.org.

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869. It was America’s first dedicated art museum and today is Washington’s largest nonfederal museum of art. It is 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. In addition, a dynamic schedule of special exhibitions is

complemented and enhanced by a range of educational programming, which together seek to enrich perspectives, support the local arts community, and encourage interpretation. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded in 1890 and stands as Washington's only four-year college of art and design, offering BFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Fine Art Photography, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Photojournalism; a BA in Art Studies; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); an AFA in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, and Photography; and MA degrees in Art and the Book, Art Education, Exhibition Design, Interior Design, Master of Arts in Teaching, and New Media Photojournalism. The College's Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit www.corcoran.org.



Images

Page one: Mitch Epstein, *BP Carson Refinery, California*, 2007, from the series *American Power*, chromogenic print. © Mitch Epstein, Prix Pictet 2011.

Page two: Chris Jordan, *Midway, CF000478*, 2009, from the series *Midway: Message from the Gyre*, ultrachrome inkjet print. © Chris Jordan, Prix Pictet 2011.

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