

REZA

PHOTOGRAPHER



A

WITNESS OF HUMANKIND



*«The World is my field of vision.  
From war to peace, from the unspeakable to moments of  
poetry, my images are testimonies of humankind.»*

*REZA*

Witnessing the chaos and suffering of the World, Reza captures the resilience of those who endure what is not even conceivable. He reveals with a rare sensitivity that invisible limit where joy runs alongside despair and where harmony is faced with conflict, but where life always triumphs. From Kurdistan to Afghanistan, from Lebanon to Turkey, from Pakistan to China, from Sarajevo to Cairo, from Rwanda to Saudi Arabia, from South Africa to France, he reveals to us the greatness of humanity as well as his deepest defeats.

Reza talks about the helplessness and dismay of humankind caught up in torment, but he also shares the cultures of the world to which they belong, the traditions, the history and, above all, the infallible hope of a better world.



# A WITNESS OF HUMANKIND

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# A COMMITTED WITNESS

A philanthropist, idealist, humanist, Reza's career began with studies in architecture. He has gone on to become a renowned photojournalist who, for the last three decades, has worked all over the world, notably for National Geographic. His assignments have taken him to over a hundred countries as a witness to humanity's conflicts and catastrophes. His work is featured in the international media (National Geographic, Time Magazine, Stern, Newsweek, El País, Paris Match, Geo...), as well as a series of books, exhibitions and documentaries made for the National Geographic Channel.

Along with his work as a photographer, since 1983 Reza has been a volunteer committed to the training of youths and women from conflict-ridden societies in the language of images, to help them strive for a better world. In 2001, he founded Ainaworld in Afghanistan, a new generation NGO which trains populations in information and communications through the development of educational tools and adapted media. While pursuing his reportages for international media outlets, Reza has continued to conduct workshops on the language of images in a variety of formats (onsite and online) through his association Reza Visual Academy. He works with refugees, youths in the suburbs in Europe and youths coming from other disadvantaged backgrounds.

After his work, *Mémoires d'Exil* ("Memories of Exile") shown at the Louvre Carrousel in 1998, he has shared his humanitarian vision through a series of monumental installations: *Crossing Destinies*, displayed on the fences of the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris, *One World, One Tribe* in Washington DC, and the Parc de la Villette in Paris, *War + Peace* at the Caen Memorial and on the banks of the Garonne in Toulouse, *Hope* in Doha (Qatar), *Windows of the Soul* in Corsica, *Soul of Coffee*, 250 photographic exhibitions throughout the world, including major installations on the banks of the Seine, or at Kew Gardens in London, *Land of Tolerance* at the UN Headquarters in New York, at the European Parliament in Brussels, as well as at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. In 2014, *Azerbaijan: the Elegance of Fire*, presented at the Petit Palais revealed a little-known people with an ancestral culture, turned towards modernity. Finally, the giant panorama *A Dream of Humanity* was featured along the banks of the Seine during the summer of 2015, showing portraits of refugees around the world taken by Reza and photographs taken by refugee children in Iraqi Kurdistan who were trained as "camp reporters" at the workshops organized by Reza Visual Academy.

«I aim to  
recount,  
denounce,  
touch, witness,  
and make laugh  
or cry, thanks  
to the universal  
language of  
photography.»

REZA

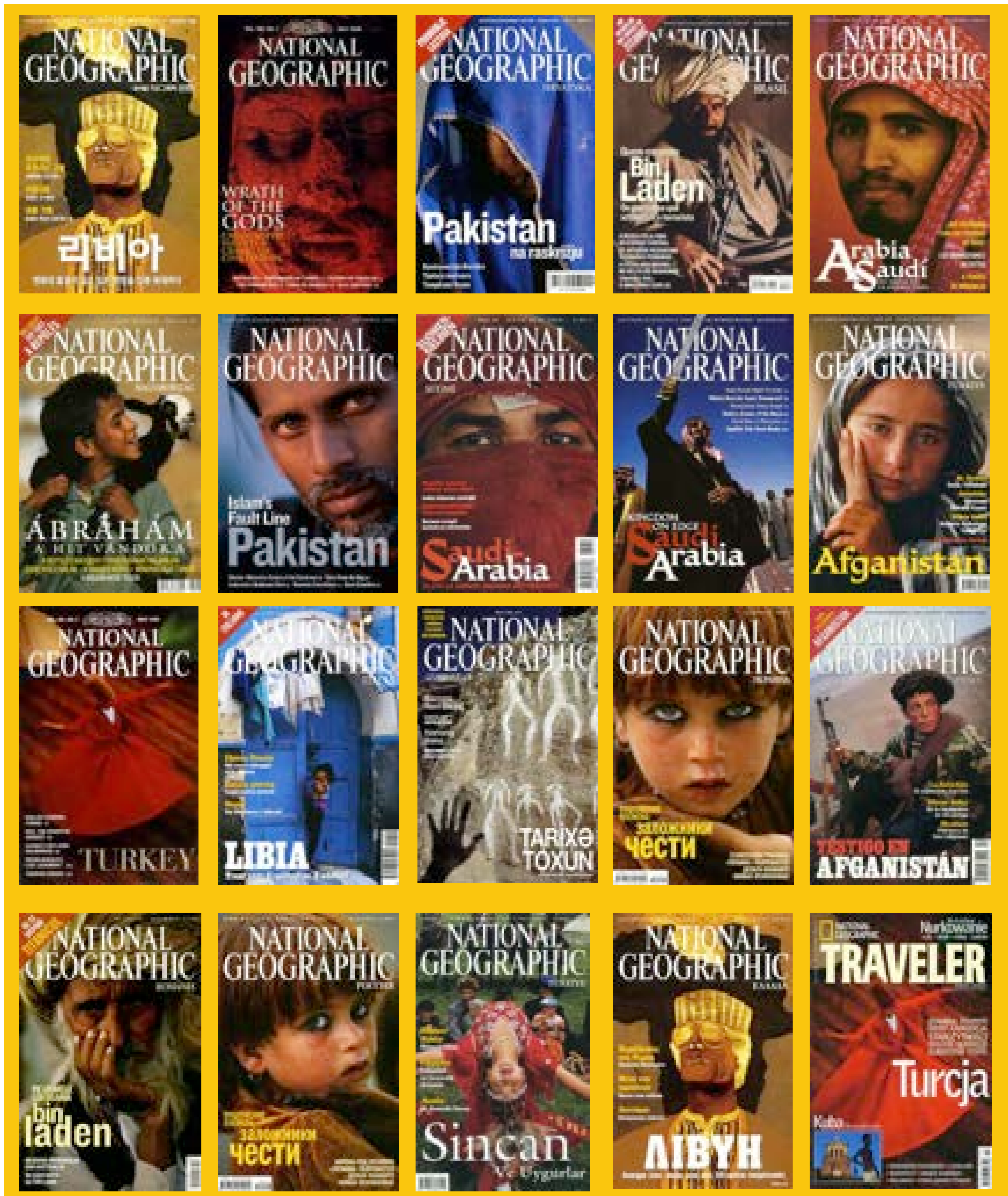
Author of thirty books, and a recipient of many awards over the course of his career, Reza is also a Fellow of the National Geographic Society, and a Senior Fellow of the Ashoka Foundation. Reza's work has been recognized by World Press Photo; he has also received the Infinity Award from the International Center of Photography, the Lucy Award, an honorary medal from the University of Missouri and the honorary degree of *Doctor Honoris Causa* from the American University of Paris. France has also appointed him a Chevalier of the National Order of Merit.



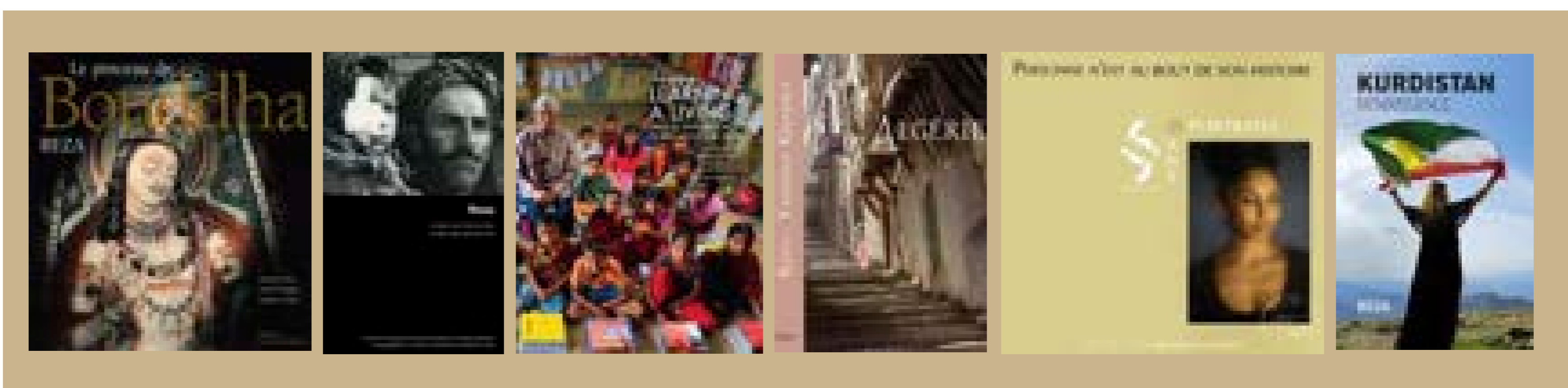
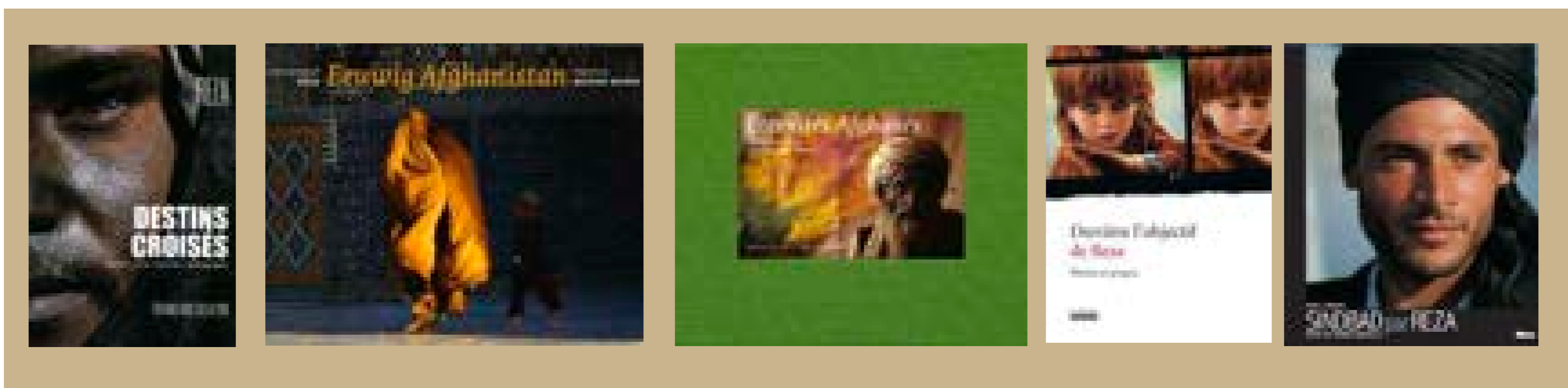
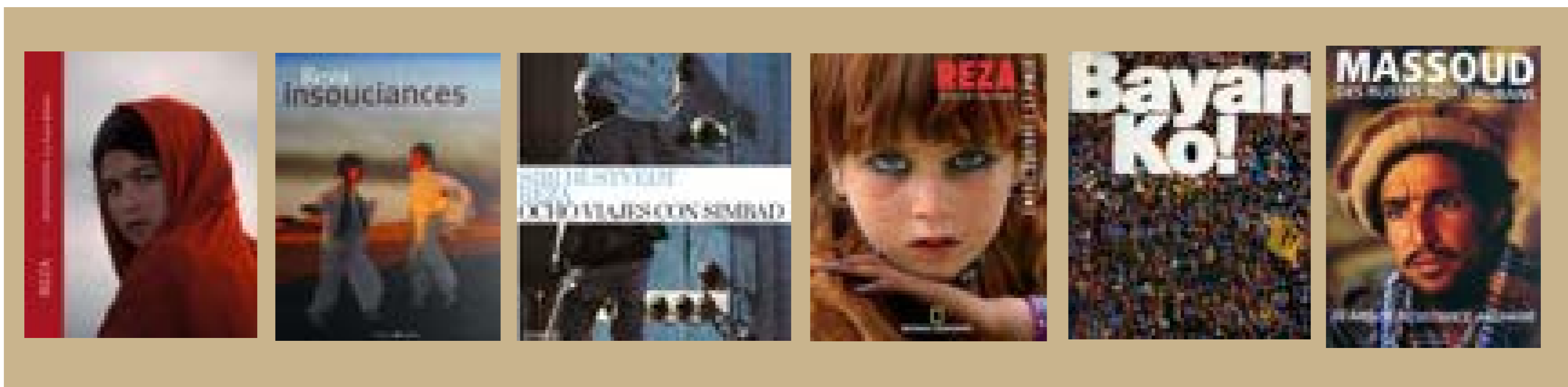
# MAGAZINES



# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINES COVERS BY : REZA



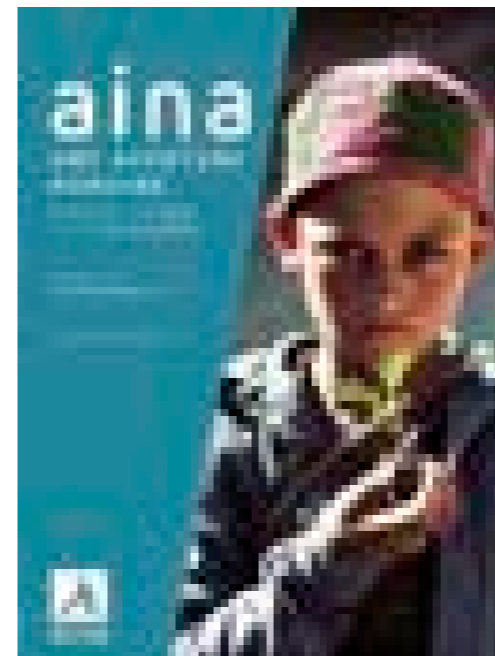
# BOOKS



# DOCUMENTARIES



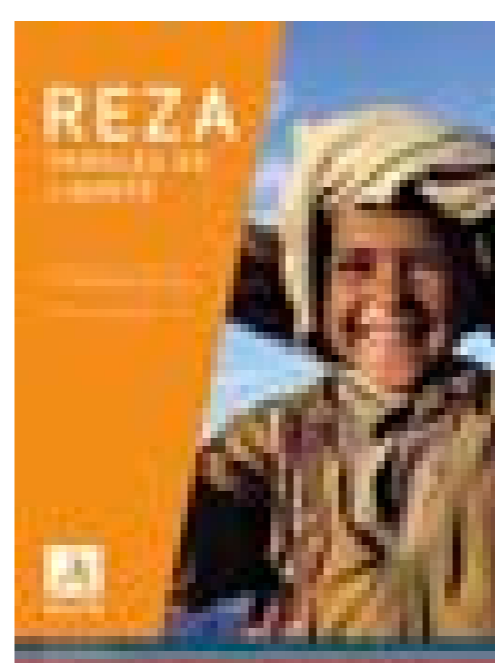
**Into the forbidden zone - 2000**  
The encounter of Reza and Sebastian Junger with Commander Massoud.  
*National Geographic, 52' min.*  
Emmy Award



**Aina, a human adventure - 2006**  
Aina is a non-governmental organisation committed to the education of children and the professional training of women in media and communication in Afghanistan.  
*AINA Productions, 52' min.*



**Reza : Shooting back - 2002**  
Looking back at Reza's dedication: 30 years of photography for peace.  
*National Geographic, 52' min.*  
Emmy Award Nomination



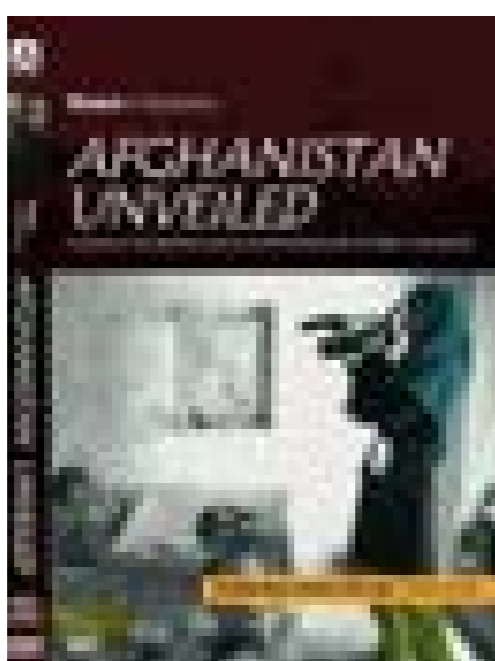
**Reza, paroles de liberté - 2005**  
Reza's struggle to promote the freedom of expression and training of women in visual media in Afghanistan, through his NGO Aina.  
*French TV TF1 Productions, 52' min.*



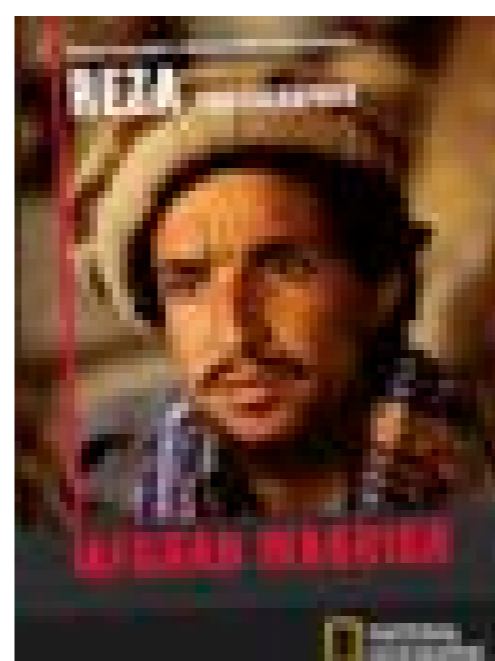
**In the eye of the storm - 2008**  
Throughout his pictures, the photographer Reza describes his experience of war and his hope for peace.  
*Webistan Agency Productions, 8' min.*



**Parvaz - 2010**  
by a close friend of Reza, Ali Badri. This documentary is a conversation between two men, two friends, two exiles.  
*Mil Sabord Productions, 52' min.*



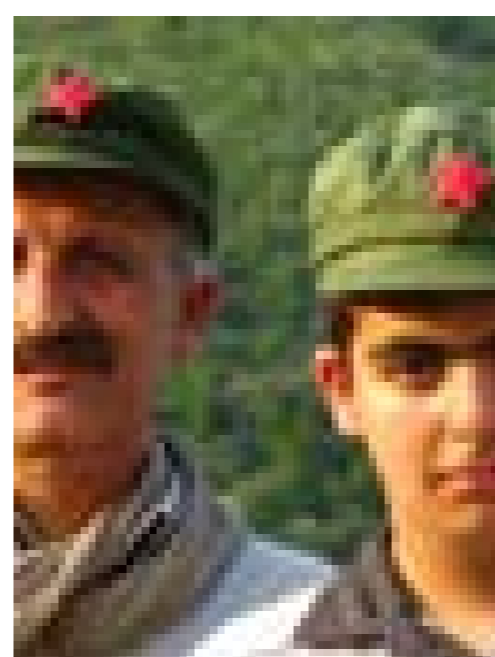
**Afghanistan Unveiled - 2005**  
Documentaries, portraits and short films made by the first Afghan camerawomen, trained by Aina.  
*AINA Productions, 52' min.*  
Emmy Award Nomination



**Afghan Warrior - 2009**  
National Geographic film crew follows Reza through the Afghan mountains. He returns to the hideout where he took his famous portrait of Commander Massoud during the Russian invasions.  
*National Geographic, 52' min.*



**One World, One Tribe - 2006**  
An interactive catalogue of photographs of Reza's exhibition at the National Geographic museum, Washington D.C., from June to November 2006.  
*Webistan Agency Productions.*



**A Childhood Promise - 2008**  
The initiatory journey of Reza and his son Delazad, from Beijing to Paris, in August 2008.  
*National Geographic Channel, 5 x 26' min.*





# WEB DOCUMENTARIES

## MULTIMEDIA

### AFGHANISTAN : 10 YEARS, 100 VIEWPOINTS

Arte Reportage Platform, Web, October 2011

Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the assassination of Commander Massoud, Reza joined the web documentary project produced by Arte Reportage. The web platform, «Afghanistan: 10 years, 100 viewpoints» provides daily broadcast of in-house produced videos, but also creations by young Afghan film-makers like the famous film-maker Barmak Akram and the ones below produced by Reza and Rachel Deghati.



#### RESISTANCE

Uploaded on October 3, 2011

Through the first module "Resistance", Reza shares his memories of a deep friendship with the late leader of the Afghan resistance. It brings a new perspective on the resilience of the Afghan people, the struggle of Massoud and his men against the Russian invaders and later the Taliban.



#### THE SOUTHERN DRUG ROUTE

Uploaded on October 10, 2011

Through photographs and videos, "The Southern Drug Route" traces the route of drugs from Afghanistan to Pakistan, a scourge in the heart of the Golden Crescent. Reza goes back over this major economic and political challenge of Afghan society, between culture and hell.



#### IN THE HEART OF A US CAMP

Uploaded on October 17, 2011

In September 2001, the death of Massoud and the attacks on the World Trade Center set off the American intervention in Afghanistan. «In the heart of a US-camp», in the tribal regions between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the images show a real clash of cultures, through the story of Reza.



#### A CULTURE OF WAR

Uploaded on October 28, 2011

Through "A Culture of War", Reza, in the tribal zones between Afghanistan and Pakistan, focuses on the daily life of a village which entire economy is based on the production and sale of sophisticated weapons. There, the tradition of weapon making passes from father to son and the children skilful hands perfectly reproduce firearms. Journey in the heart of the Afridis tribe, one of the twelve Pashtun tribes.



#### THE SORROW OF WAR

Uploaded on October 31, 2011

Through "The Sorrow of War", the photojournalist Reza reveals some of his intimate visual and auditory memories of an Afghanistan scarred by decades of conflict. Reza recounts the story of war-wounded people who, despite everything, are still hoping for peace.



# WEB DOCUMENTARIES

## MULTIMEDIA

### SOUL OF COFFEE

Web, September-December 2013

For several months, Reza immersed himself into the traditional coffee fields and plantations of India, Colombia, Brazil, Guatemala, Ethiopia and South Sudan. Crossing paths with coffee producers, farmers and agronomists, these six video clips offer an exclusive look into the culture around coffee and the communities who produce it.

- Production of 6 web documentaries
- 5 to 7 minute long videos
- Photographs, videos and storytelling



# PRESS REVIEW

## ABOUT REZA

An untiring observer of the chaos and suffering caused by war, of the misery and the catastrophes that come of it, Reza invites us to discover human stories, individual destinies charged with tragedy, but also hope. «War + Peace» reveals an artist of humanity refusing to give in to pessimism.»

**Daphné Thiery, Le Figaro Magazine, February 2009**

Founded by Reza, Aina a non-governmental organisation dedicated to media training, began educating journalists in 2001, free and independent media were virtually non-existent in Afghanistan. More than 1,000 journalists have since been trained by the NGO founded by the Iranian photojournalist Reza Deghati, in print journalism, photojournalism and video production, as well as graphic design and illustration.

**Lucinda Dunn, The Guardian, August 2009**

Apart from the organization Ainaworld, an NGO based in Paris and founded by well-known National Geographic photographer Reza Deghati, no NGO has put any consistent money into publishing materials for young Afghans. Up to now, Ainaworld has collected funds for the excellent children's magazine published in Afghanistan, Parvaz, that is packed with stories that promote children's rights, the rights of girls, information on health and nutrition, and is wonderfully designed and illustrated with cartoons and photographs.

**Canadian thestar.com, June 2009**

Wherever he goes, Reza beholds a warm and friendly view on men. He walks among the myriad of those curious men who make themselves useful to others. Thank you Reza.

**Michel Puech, Mediapart, November 2008**

His weapon is his Leica, with which he captures in silence, life and death. Since coming to a mature age, I think he looks more and more like Gandhi. Draped in a white tunic, with small round spectacles on his nose, he could very well have incarnated the apostle of non-violence.

**Patrick Forestier, Paris Match, October 2005**

Reza isn't a photojournalist; he's a Sufi who practices photography. In the same way that the Turkish Sufi whirling dervishes practice dance. From the outside, they swirl like crazy spinning tops; on the inside, they meditate from within an inch of God. Reza, he swirls around the world, with calm and profoundness.

**Jean-Paul Mari, Le Nouvel Observateur, July 2003**

Where others show war in all its horror, Reza always looks for that glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel, which helps us to not despair in mankind. He is a Sufi photographer, in a way.

**Christophe Ayad, Libération, June 2003**

Using both colour and black and white photography, Reza manages to convey the hopes, pain and anguish of civilians caught in a bloody conflict without actually showing the more gruesome aspects of war. Many of his photos also focus on the cultural identity of the people across Asia and the Arab world, including some stunning portraits.

**Raphael Minder, Financial Times, August 2003**

An internationally renowned photographer, he is above all, besides his professionalism and talent, one of those noble souls, humanist and generous who perceives in photography a way to reconcile the world. To change it even, socially, politically and morally.

**Delphine de Mallevoüe, Le Figaro, October 2002**



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## MEMORIES OF EXILE

**Carrousel du Louvre, Paris, 1998**

First major theme exhibition by Reza in collaboration with «France Terre d'Asile».

*«Beyond the joy of freedom itself, there is the physical and intellectual fracture of mourning ones own country. A smell, a taste, a landscape, a face, the melody of one's own language, the rhythm of one's own country: the exiles' joys of the present are full of memories of their past.»*



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## CROSSED DESTINIES

### French Senate, Luxembourg Park, Paris, 2003

Nearly ninety photographs exhibited on the fences that surround the Luxembourg Park, bearing witness to the wounds and joys of the people Reza encountered during his journeys. Up to a million passers-by discovered these «destinies». Inaugurated by Christian Poncelet, the President of the Senate, this exhibition was followed by the publication of a book of the same title.



*« Reza's photographs are a lesson of solidarity and faith in humankind. They add to our understanding of the World. Compassion, human dignity and energy reveal an inexhaustible source of hope, the desire to live no matter what.»*

CHRISTIAN PONCELET



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

| ONE WORLD |  
| ONE TRIBE |



## National Geographic Society, Washington D.C, 2006

The very first outdoor exhibition at the National Geographic society's headquarters.



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

| ONE WORLD |  
| ONE TRIBE |

**La fontaine, Centre of contemporary art.  
Bahrain, June 1st - July 31st, 2006**



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

ONE WORLD  
ONE TRIBE



## Gijón, Spain, 2007

At HRH Prince Felipe's invitation, the «*One World, One Tribe*» exhibition was co-organized by the Prince of Asturias Foundation and National Geographic at the bay of Gijón.





# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

## SILK ROAD

**The World Bank Office, Paris, June 2007 - February 2008**



The Webistan agency and the World Bank Group jointly organized a photography exhibition to inaugurate a series of biannual exhibitions to be held in Paris as part of the group's Art Program and dedicated to the peoples and cultures of its member countries. The Silk Road was then included in the World Bank's collection of traveling exhibitions.

# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

## WAR + PEACE

**Caen Memorial, January - April 2009**



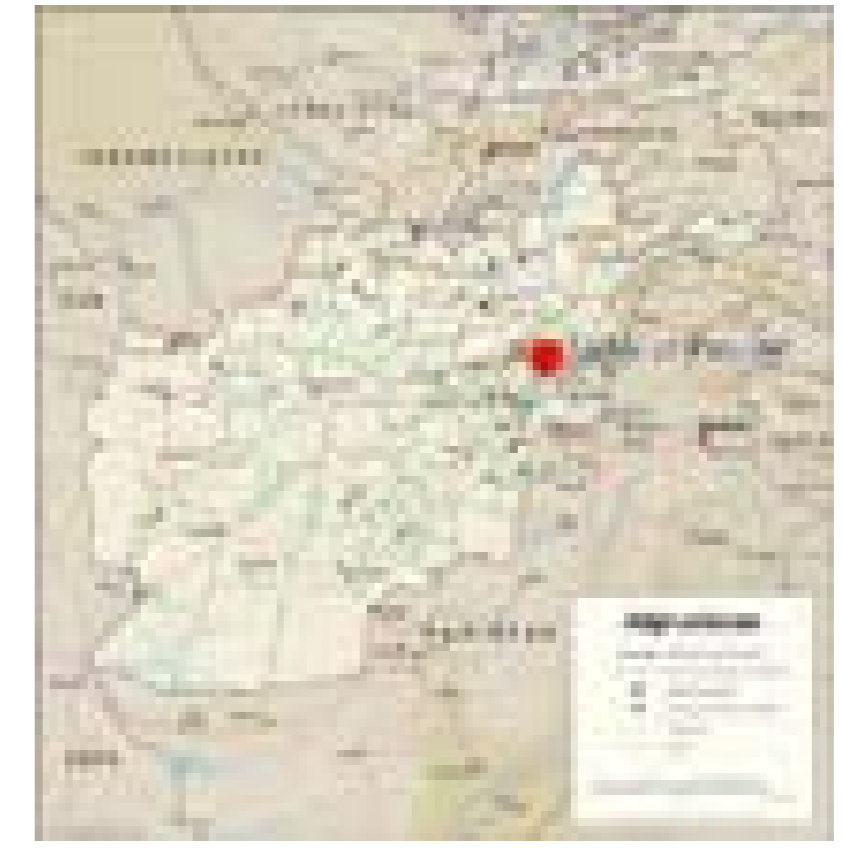
Following the publication of the book entitled «*War + Peace*», published by National Geographic, Reza displayed thirty years of his photographic work from across the World throughout an exhibition of the same name at the Caen Memorial, covering over 5400 Ft<sup>2</sup>.



© Jean Louis Benoît



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## ETERNAL AFGHANISTAN

### Panjshir Valley, Afghanistan, May 2009

On May 22, Reza shared for the first time some of his most remarkable photos of Ahmad Shah Massoud and the Afghan people with those who came from all around Afghanistan and gathered by his tomb in the Panjshir Valley.

More than 50 photographs of the legendary Afghan leader captured during his battles against the Russian invasion and the Taliban were displayed next to the remains of Russian tanks and heavy artillery.

The opening ceremony of this great installation attracted hundreds of visitors, among whom Massoud's brother, Ahmad Wali, and former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Abdullah.

© Fardin Waezi / AINA



*« Reza's photos, and particularly the photographic portrait of Massoud, had a national impact and contributed to the worldwide interest in the destiny of the Afghans.» DR. ABDULLAH*



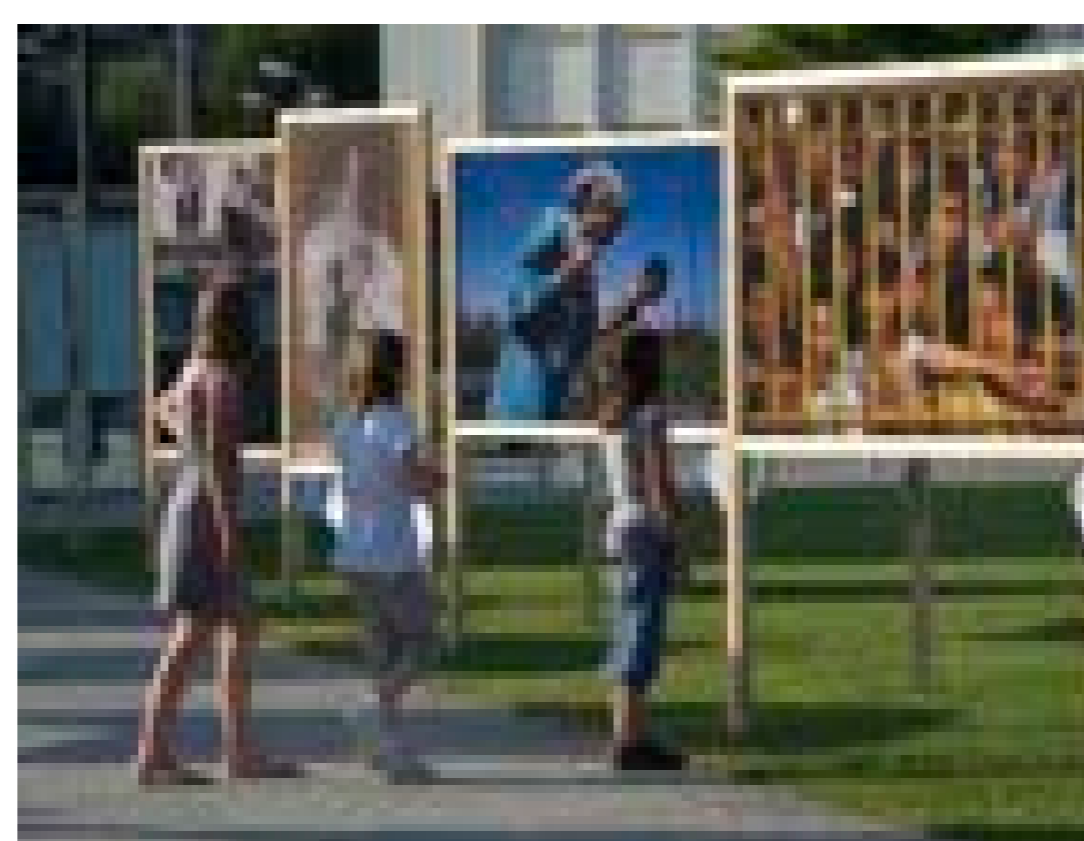
# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## WAR + PEACE

### **Saint Lô, Normandy, July - August 2009**

In this town called «the city of ruins» as it has been nearly entirely destroyed during the Normandy landings in 1945, the exhibition «*War + Peace*» was displayed to the passers-by in Saint Lô in three strategic sites.



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

## A BRIDGE BETWEEN ORIENT AND OCCIDENT



**Exhibition by Reza, performance in collaboration with Rumi Ensemble,  
Bâtiment des Forces Motrices, Geneva, Switzerland - October 2009**



A unique event featuring a traditional music performance by Rumi Ensemble and a photo projection by Reza was organized in parallel to the photo exhibition which took place in the *bâtiment des Forces Motrices*. From the subtle discussion between images and sounds, a bridge between Orient and Occident imperceptibly emerged.



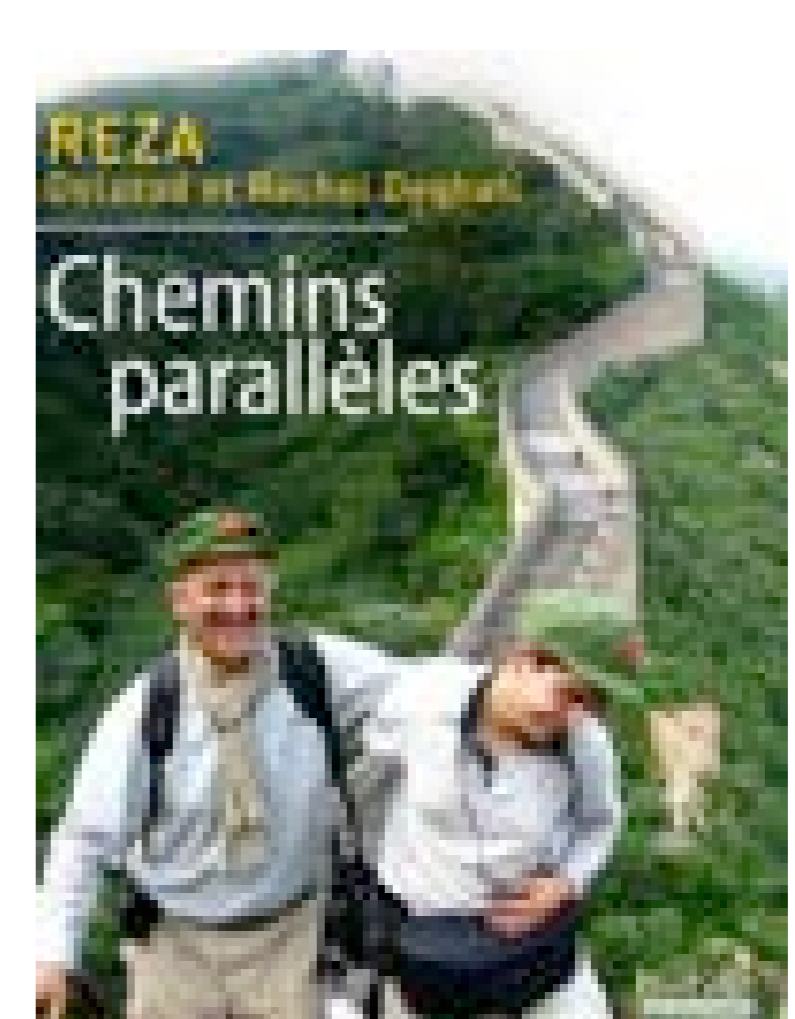
# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## A CHILDHOOD PROMISE

**Luxembourg station RER B, Paris, April - September 2010**

Reza wanted to exhibit «*A Childhood Promise*» in a public place accessible to everyone. With the partnership of National Geographic Channel, SONY and the RATP, six large panels of 17 x 5 meters present the initiatory journey of Reza and his son Delezad. This exhibition invites people of all ages to think about the importance of education, of commitment, and of the communication of information in a changing society.





# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

| ONE WORLD |  
| ONE TRIBE |



**La Villette Park, Paris, September 2010, January 2011.**

For the first time ever, the La Villette Park exhibited an artist's work on the famous Folies, the red structures created by the architect B.Tschumi. An installation of 22 monumental portraits displayed over 55 hectares of the park, permitting free access to everyone, night and day.

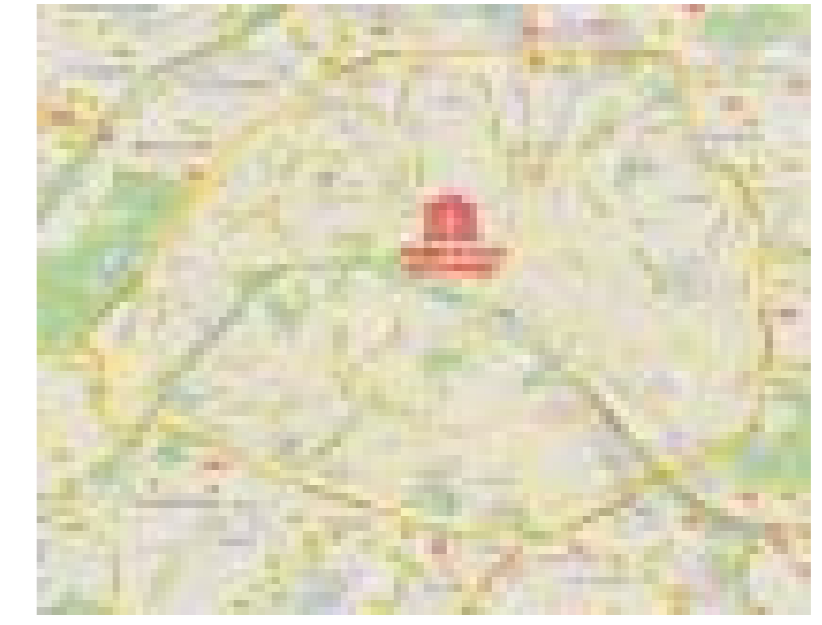
This exhibition was like a treasure hunt from one portrait to the other, from one world to the other, a dialogue between cultural diversities.

During the opening, many came to discover this installation. At night fall, the audience participated in a torchlight procession of the visit, led and commented by Reza himself.





# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## FINANCIAL SOLIDARITY EXHIBITION

### Paris Stock Exchange, Paris, November 2010

Reza supported the actions of «Finansol association», which promote the financial solidarity, by covering the columns of Paris stock exchange with his monumental photographs.



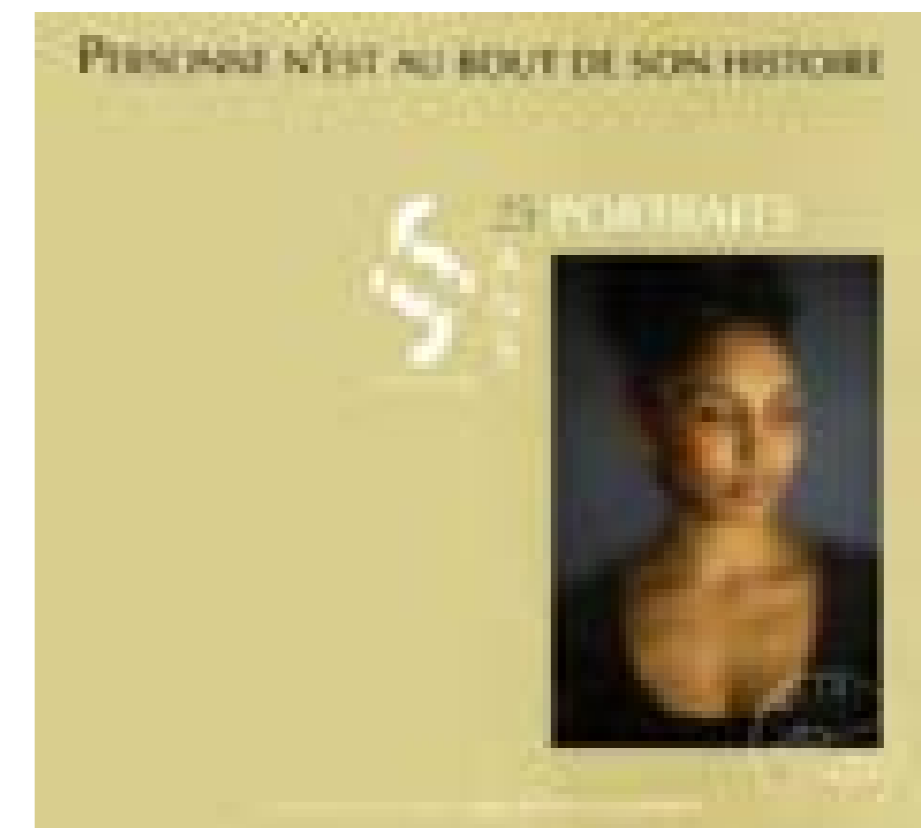
© Maryam/Webistan



© Maryam/Webistan



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



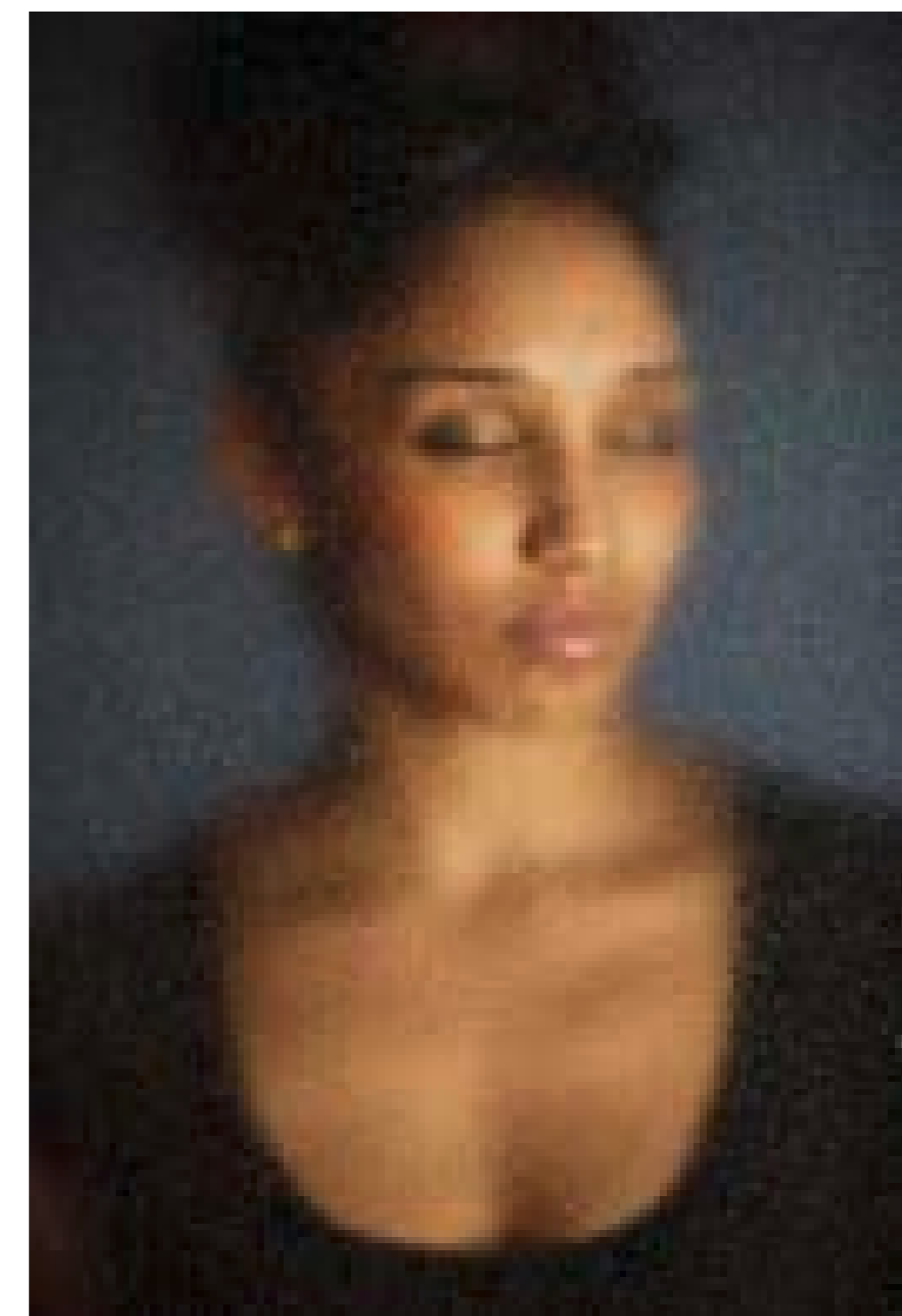
## 25 PORTRAITS FOR THE 25 YEARS OF THE SOS GROUP

**Salle Wagram, Paris, novembre 2010**

Reza encounters women and men who, after having been rejected by society, have found a place in it once again thanks to the SOS Group.



He discovered their lives and shared these powerful moments with us through 25 portraits exhibited at an event but also printed in a book, celebrating 25 years of struggle against exclusion in all its forms thanks to innovative solutions in the social, health and education fields.



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

## WAR AND PEACE

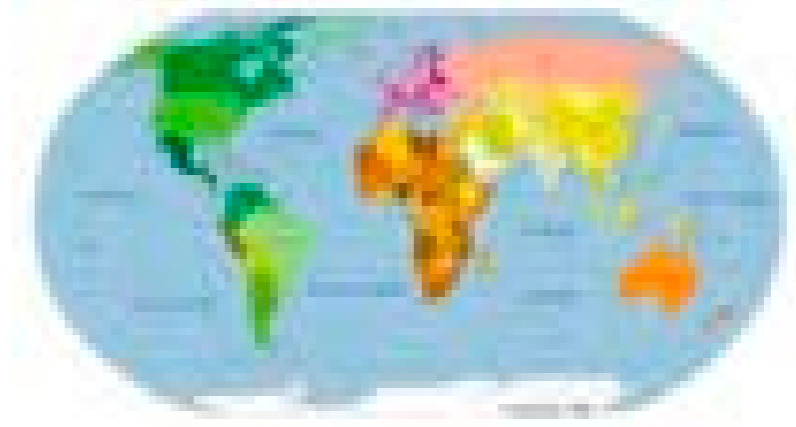
**Toulouse, banks of the Garonne river, September- November 2012**



From September 12th to November 11th, 2012, passers-by and enthusiasts could discover while wandering, as if in a treasure hunt, this open-air exhibition featuring a selection of 25 very large format prints (6m x 4m) tracing the career of the artist.

The exhibition, part of the «2012, Year of the Garonne» project, was a walk along the river during which the walker, sensitive of the sounds of the water, was invited to discover, through Reza's photographs, the destiny of men and women who lived the history of this century, experiencing its wounds as well as its moments of pure poetry.

# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## SOUL OF COFFEE

**231 Exhibitions throughout the world, June-September 2013**

**& 2 monumental installations in public spaces**

Through a real visual walk from the Tuileries Gardens to the Musée d'Orsay displaying a 345 meter-long fresco or in the Royal Gardens in London, Reza's images shed light on the essential human link in the coffee production chain.



Bank of the Seine, Paris, France.



© Maryam Ashrafi

Kew Gardens, London



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## WINDOWS OF THE SOUL

**An exhibition in three acts in Bastia, Bonifacio and Corte**

**Corsica, June-September 2013**

On the Isle of beauty, the exhibition was recounting mankind's universality. At the Museum of Bastia, *Insouiances* was like a journey through moments of grace, far from the torments of life. In Corte, *Resistance* extended this visual reflection in the gardens of Corsica and the city walls. Finally in Bonifacio, a panel of 60 portraits covered the openings in the walls of the Genoese Barracks. Beyond their faces and their life paths, *Rencontres*, seemed like a kaleidoscopic portrait of the citizens of the world.



Bonifacio



Corte



Bastia



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS



## SOUL OF AZERBAIJAN

**House of Lords, London, United Kingdom- 2014**



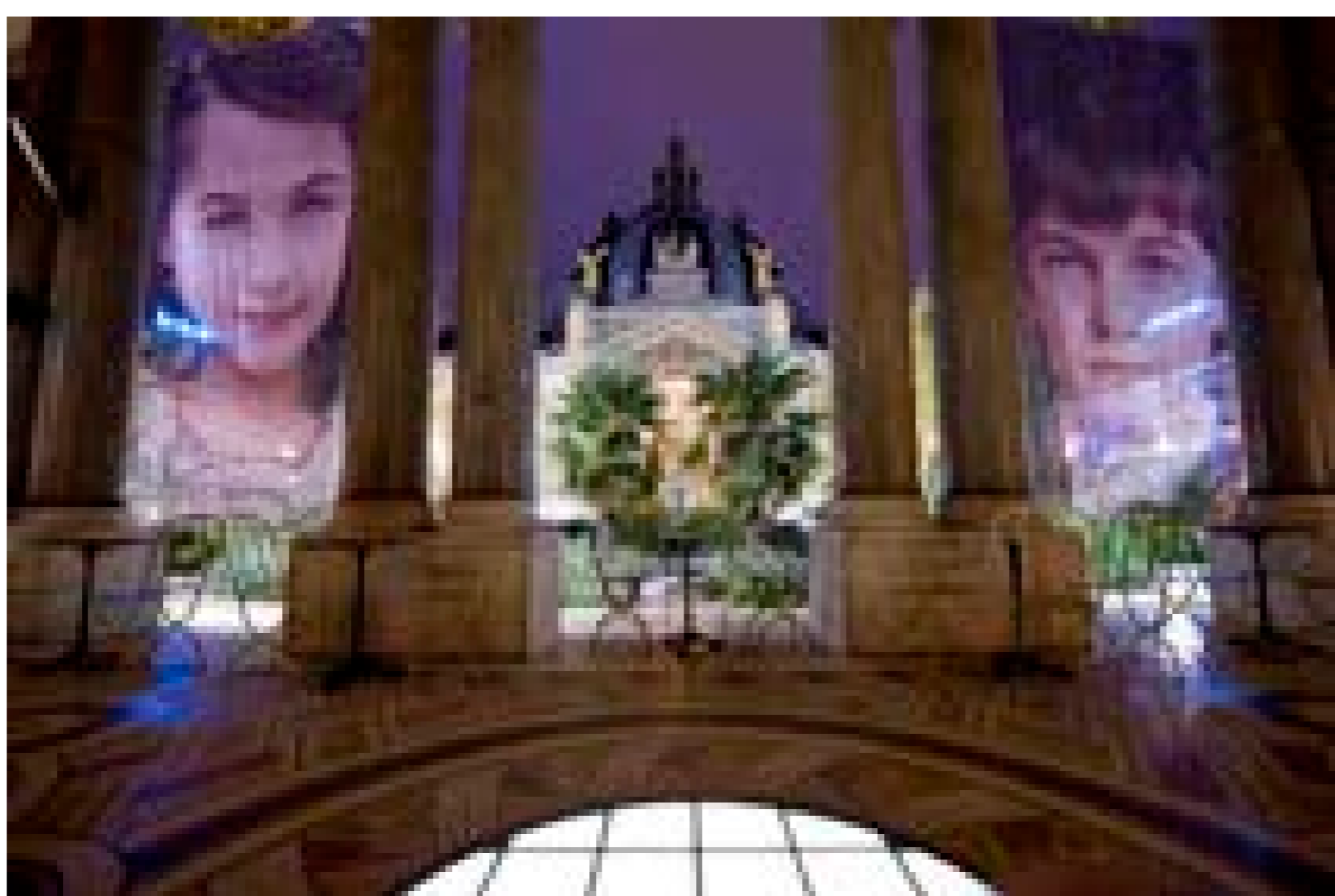
In the highly prestigious House of Lords, a new exhibition revealed the many faces of the Azerbaijani people and their time-honoured culture.

# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

## THE ELEGANCE OF FIRE

**Petit Palais, Paris, France - November - December 2014**

The peristyle of the Petit Palais has been, for the first time, the site of an original installation, with an exhibition which proposed a visual and poetic promenade throughout this country at the crossroads between East and West. Immense portraits, full of humanity, printed on voile, were suspended between each column of the peristyle, inviting one to an encounter with the other, while large format prints of landscapes and scenes from life in the region were presented on Dibond photo panels subtly framed along the walls and in the garden.



# LANDMARK EXHIBITIONS

## A DREAM OF HUMANITY

**Banks of the Seine river, between Louvre museum and Musée d'Orsay  
Paris, France**

**July - October 2015**

As a tribute to our human family, Reza proposed in summer 2015 a giant photographic fresco on the banks of the Seine river, between the Léopold-Sédar-Senghor bridge and the Pont Royal. The exhibition Dream of Humanity emphasises the photographs made by the Syrian refugee children and invited the spectator to think about our values such as dialogue, dignity and tolerance.





# UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS



PARIS AIRPORTS



## ALGERIA

**Institut du Monde Arabe - Paris**

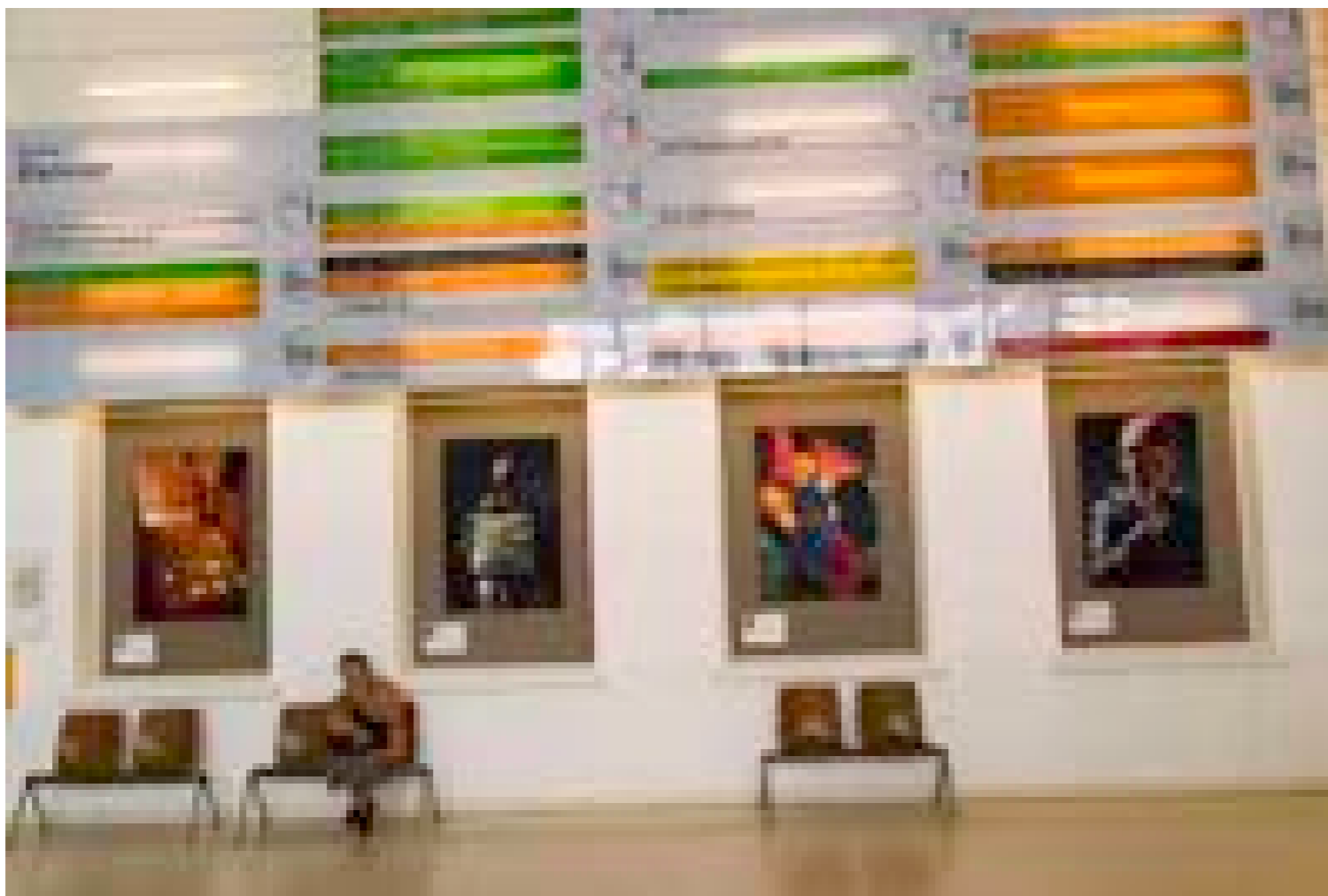
REZA - A WITNESS OF HUMANKIND



# ART FOR SOCIAL CHANGES

## EXHIBITIONS OF SOCIAL RELEVANCE

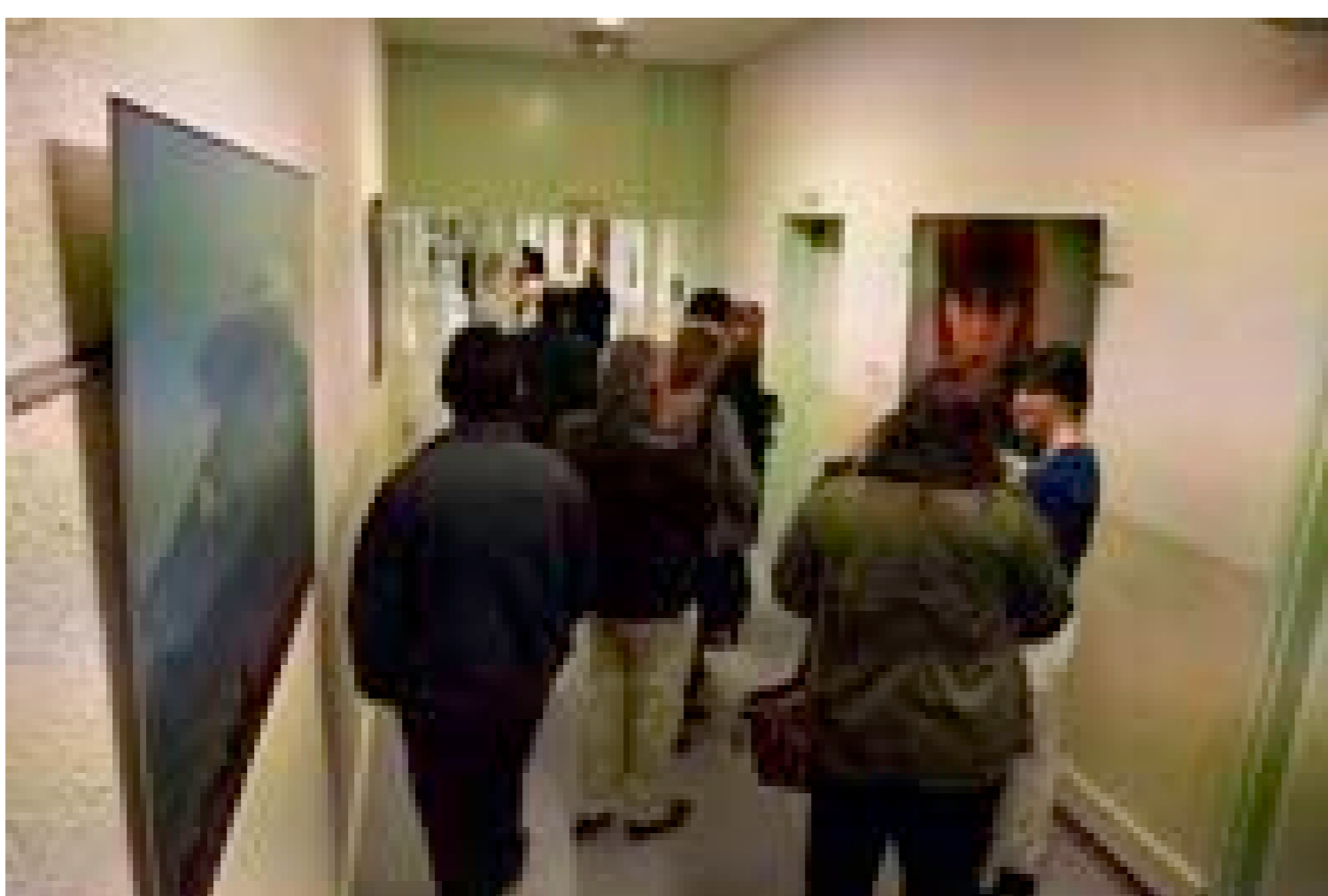
Involved against the social injustice Reza has been witnessing, he has always endeavoured to set up social actions through the power of image, especially with exhibitions designed for persons in precarious situation.



### **CROSSED DESTINIES**

**Roanne Hospital, France, April 2013.**

On the initiative of Mably Photo Club, Reza organized a photographic installation in Roanne Hospital, displaying portraits of men, women and children he had encountered on the road, through his much reportage around the world. Thus, he proposed a humanist encounter to the staff members of the hospital and the patients.



### **OUR HUMAN FAMILY**

**Arles Prison, France, April 2015**

Involved with long-term prisoners preparing a professional baccalaureate in photography who took part in two photography training workshops by Reza in 2013 and 2014, Reza donated some prints to the prison. The permanent exhibition *Our Human Family* is like a window opened to the world for the staff members and for the prisoners.

# ART FOR SOCIAL CHANGES



## CHILDREN'S EYES ON EARTH

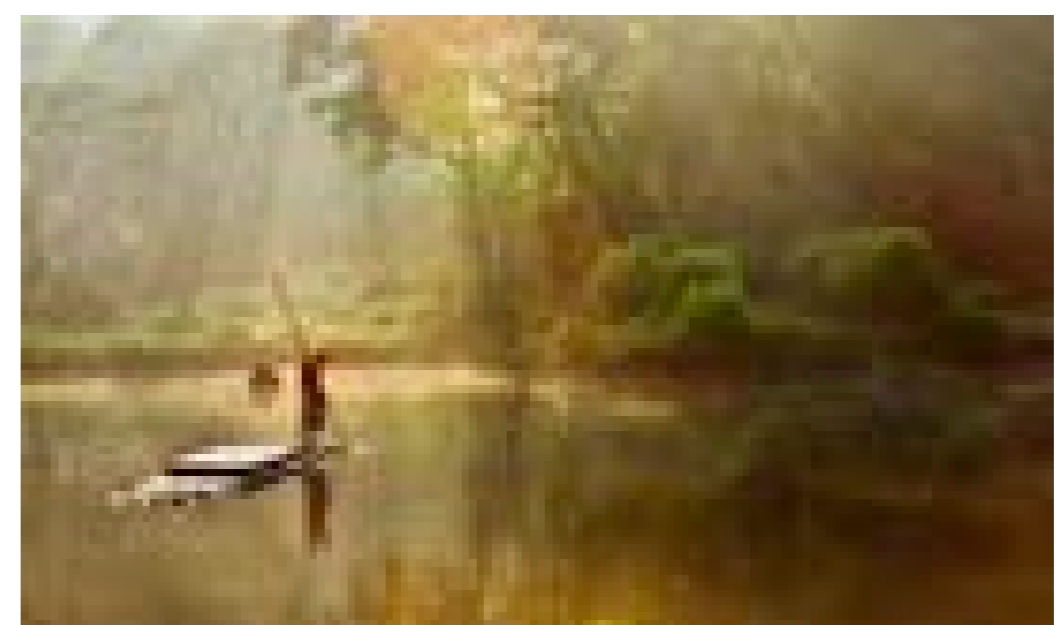
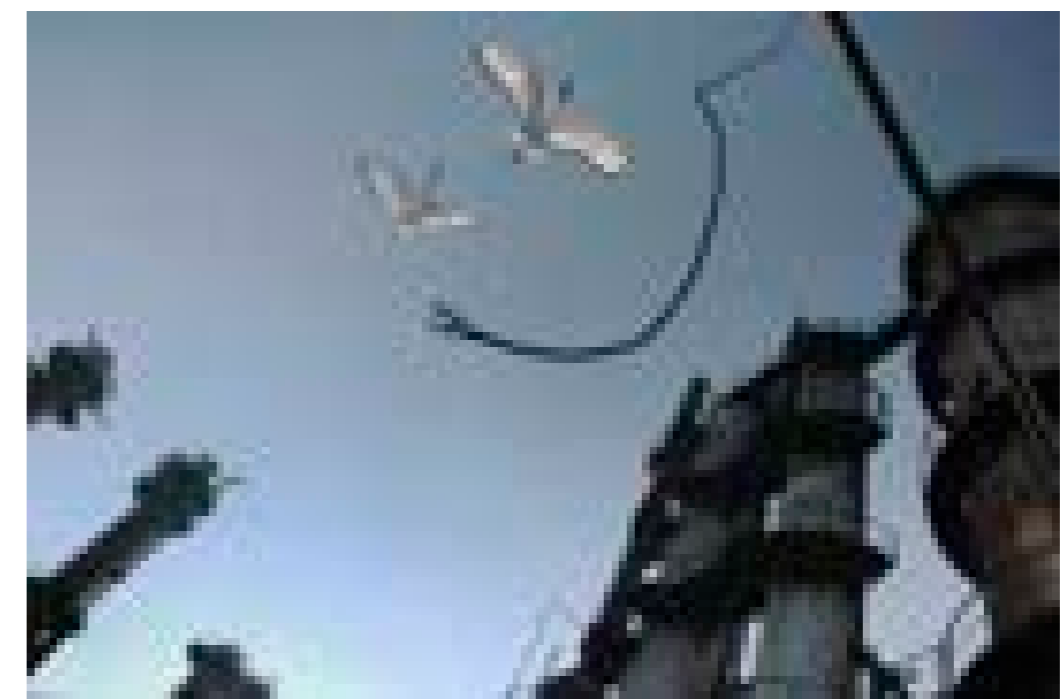
### International photography contest for youth, 2012

Following the awareness-raising actions aimed at the young generations, Reza partnered with NGO IDEA (International Dialogue for Environmental Action) and launched an e-learning project with an international photography contest. The purpose of this event was to raise children's awareness of major environmental issues and more generally encourage them to look at the world from a different angle through the use of photography, on the theme "I love nature. I fear pollution."

Outcome of the first Children's Eyes On Earth contest:

- 500 000 visits to the website [www.childreneyesonearth.org](http://www.childreneyesonearth.org)
- 60 000 visitors located in 170 countries
- 256 press mentions in major media outlets of 40 countries (The Guardian, NouvelObs, Der Spiegel, L'Express, The Telegraph, CNN International, BBC Persian)
- 4000 photos submitted by 1200 young photographers from 91 countries.

The names of the six winners of this prestigious contest have been revealed:



**1st prize:** "SOS!" by Anastasya Vorobko, 8 years old, Russia.

**2nd prize:** "Emergency Exit" by Juan Carlos Canales, 14 years old, Spain.

**3rd prize (equal):** "Fields of Green" by Bianca Stan, 14 years old, Romania, and "Morning at Situ Gunung" by Michael Theodric, 10 years old, Indonesia.

**Special prize:** "In The Wind" by Sophie Vela, 14 years old, France.

**Public vote prize:** "The Last Breath" by Kseniya Saberzhanova, 17 years old, Russia.



# HUMANITARIAN COMMITMENT

## EDUCATION FOR PEACE

## ACTIONS

1983

### AFGHANISTAN

Photo training program for Afghan refugees in Pakistan during the Russian invasion.



1985

### SOUTH AFRICA, CAPETOWN

During the first riots and strikes for the liberation of Nelson Mandela, photo training program for the youth of the Townships.



1986

### PHILIPPINES

During the elections that marked the fall of Ferdinand Marcos, photo training program for local journalists.



1989

### SUDAN

With UNICEF, Benevolent launch of a campaign for the vaccination of children.



1990-91

### AFGHANISTAN

Consultant for the United Nations for the reconstruction of the Northern provinces.



1993

### FRANCE, STAINS

Photo training program for the association «Femmes dans la Cité», in support to women's empowerment



# HUMANITARIAN COMMITMENT

## EDUCATION FOR PEACE

1994

### FRANCE, AVIGNON

«Mouvements d'Images», training youth who had great difficulties to integrate the professional world.



1995

### RWANDA

«Lost Children's Portraits», with UNICEF and the Red Cross. During the exodus following the genocide, the refugees were trained to photograph 12,000 children who had lost their parents. Nearly 3,500 were reunited.



1996

### FRANCE, PIERREFITTE

«Objectifs Métiers». Photo competition for the youth of a deprived neighborhood to help them integrate the professional world.



1997

### AZERBAIJAN

Training program for photographers. With UNICEF, launch of a book on the children. Creation of a school for the refugee children



1999-2000

### BANGLADESH

Photo training program at the Patshala Institute of Journalism with World Press Photo.



2001-2003

### CHINA

Three-year-long masterclass program at Beijing University of Journalism



# HUMANITARIAN COMMITMENT

## EDUCATION FOR PEACE

2001-2010

### AFGHANISTAN

Creation of Aina, a non-governmental organization, the first of its kind. In the last decade it has: Trained thousands of Afghan women and men in visual media. Published a magazine for children distributed for free throughout the country. Launched a radio for women by women. Created independent photography and video units.



2006

### SRI LANKA

Following the actions of Aina, launch of a magazine for children with Solidarité Laïque.



2006

### UGANDA

National Geographic Photo Camp with the International Medical Corps, a photo training program for 60 adolescent refugees in Rwanda.



2007

### MAROCCO

With «Agrisud», an agriculture NGO, training the sheperdesses of remote communities in photography and storytelling.



2009

### JORDAN

National Geographic Photo Camp with the International Medical Corps, a photo training program for Palestinian and Iraqi adolescent refugees.



# HUMANITARIAN COMMITMENT

## EDUCATION FOR PEACE

2010

### **ETHIOPIA**

Teaching local visual media professionals. Workshop with 24 Ethiopian teenagers from 12-17 years old and 6 selected young photographers from different parts of the world, winners of the the photo contest organized by Unicef with the partnership of the World Photography Organisation and sponsored by Sony.



2009-2012

### **SICILY, ITALY**

In early 2009, a pilot project was launched to train in visual arts hundreds of teenagers from Librino, one of the poorest suburbs of Sicily.



2012-2013

### **TOULOUSE, FRANCE**

Along with his exhibition, Reza offered local photographers and 38 children from Reynerie (a disfavored neighborhood) a workshop on visual language.



2012-2014

### **FRANCE**

Reza is committed to conducting long-term workshops in 9 French cities as part of the Booster project in partnership with the Unis-cités association. The project aims to train in visual media and communication young people who have dropped out of school and participate in community volunteer work.



# HUMANITARIAN COMMITMENT

## EDUCATION FOR PEACE

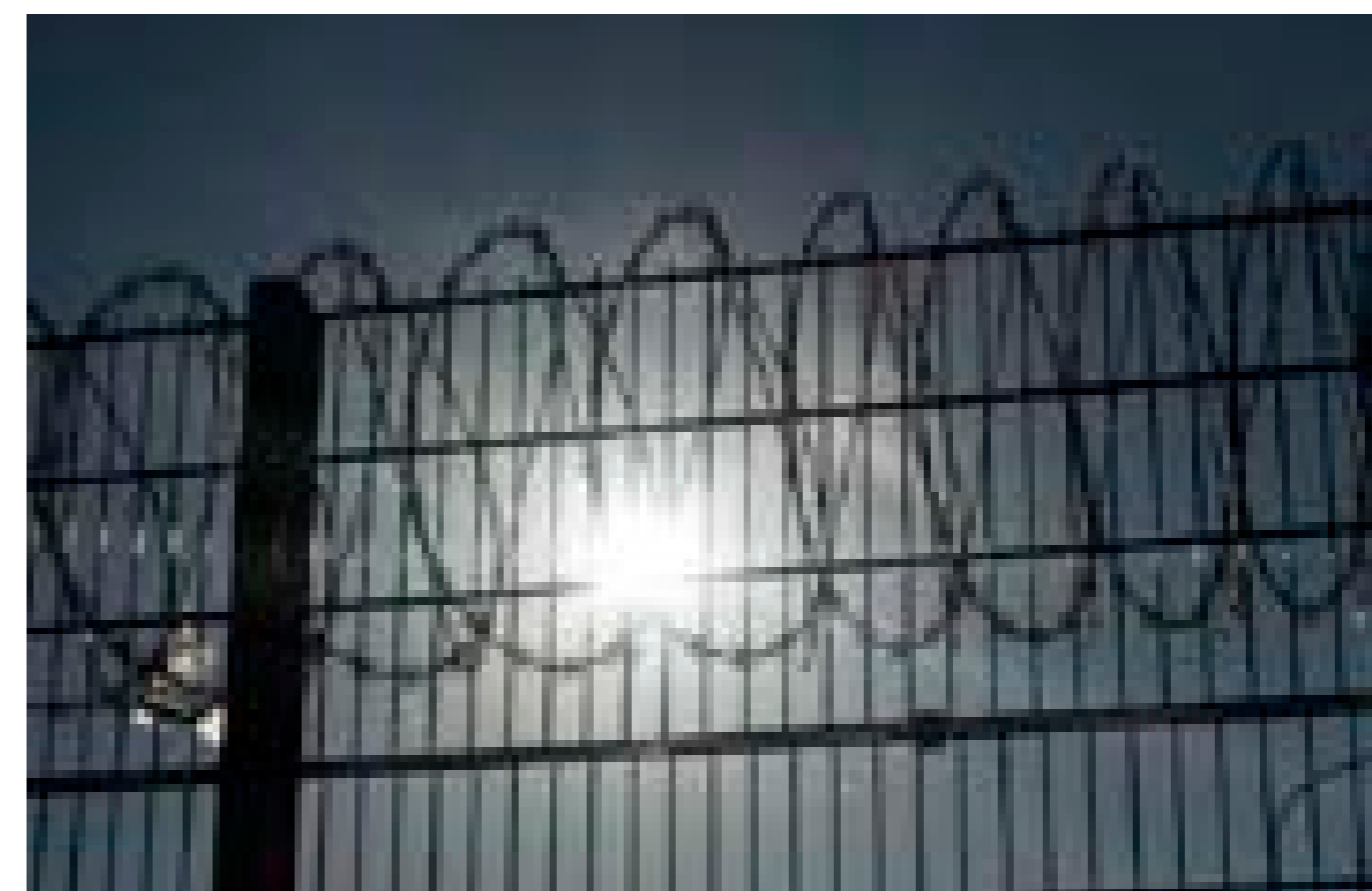
2013  
**ETHIOPIA  
LA RÉUNION ISLAND**

In partnership with “Ravine Blanche Autofocus”, launching of an introductory photography seminar to local youths, which allowed them to create and share their own stories.



2014  
**MAISON CENTRALE, PRISON IN ARLES, FRANCE**

Sponsored by the Preface association, Reza held a workshop at the Arles prison on photography and the language of images for seven students – all with extensive sentences – studying for their professional baccalaureate.



2014  
**VALLEY OF AIT BOUGMEZ  
IN MOROCCO**

Reza’s Visual Academy was part of the Rencontres Photographiques Berbères program, working with ten students from the Tabant boarding school, helping them to become actors in and tellers of their own stories.



2014  
**BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY, RAMALLAH, PALESTINE**

Reza gave courses in journalism to the students of Birzeit University in Ramallah. Along with other professionals, he also conducted several photography workshops, providing technical and theoretical training on the language of images.





# HUMANITARIAN COMMITMENT

## EDUCATION FOR PEACE

2015

### **NEW ZEALAND**

Launch of a photography training program in a school for young Maoris, who are often ostracized by New Zealander society.



2013-2017

### **IRAQI KURDISTAN SYRIAN REFUGEE CAMP**

Launch of the Exile Voices project with UNHCR. Launch of the project "Exile Voices" with UNHCR. Photography training for young Syrian refugees. From passive victims, they are transformed into active storytellers and actors in their own destinies.



2015 - 2017

### **IRAQI KURDISTAN**

#### **ARBAT AND KABARTO REFUGEE CAMPS**

Reza launched 2 new training programs in camps in Iraqi Kurdistan, for youths aged 15-20.



2017

### **BAMAKO , MALI**

In Mali, a great number of orphans and IDP children live in deep poverty. Through the training workshop, some of them, who had lost their childish insouciance, developed a sense of resiliency while photographing their daily life.



## The Power of Image For Social Change

Development of local and international humanitarian projects to help those who are disadvantaged, with a particular focus on helping women. The key is to provide individuals with the means of becoming trained, informed and able to express themselves using the latest information and communication tools. The aim is to promote self-esteem and self-sufficiency in order to develop a solid and stable society.



Photograph by Nora Morad, 13 years old when the photography workshop was launched in the Syrian Refugee Camp, Kawergosk, Iraqi Kurdistan.

# LECTURES & CONFERENCES

Each year Reza is invited to lecture on his experience as a photojournalist and humanitarian actor in many international events. Festivals, meetings, conferences and seminars are occasions to share with the audience his commitment to visual education.



## **POWER OF IMAGE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE** **Northeastern Illinois University, USA,** **march 2011**

As a guest of honour at Northeastern Illinois University, Reza participated in a series of lectures on peaceful social change. He gave the audience an awareness on the present-day importance of visual communication tools for transmitting messages.



## **WISE - WORLD INNOVATION SUMMIT FOR EDUCATION** **The Annual Congress of the Qatar Foundation** **in Doha, in November, 2011**

During the annual summit meeting of the Qatar Foundation on Education, a debate was organised on the theme «Learning from Game Changers». The model of media education developed by Aina illustrates the fundamental role of informal visual education in building the world of tomorrow.



## **PHOTOGRAPHY FOR HUMANITY,** **BY E-LEARNING** **PhotoImage Brazil, Sao Paulo, august 2012**

Reza believes that photography is a universal language, which has an extraordinary ability to tell stories of human joy and human struggle. During this conference, Reza discussed the e-learning methods used to train young generation to become actors of their future.

# AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

1983

## **WORLD PRESS PHOTO**

«Daily life Stories» category, Amsterdam



1986

## **WORLD PRESS PHOTO**

«News Features Stories» category, Amsterdam



1996

## **UNICEF HOPE PRIZE**

International Festival of Photojournalism,  
Visa pour l'Image, Perpignan



2003

## **LIBER PRESS PRIZE**

Freedom of press prize  
Spain



2005

## **CHEVALIER DE L'ORDRE NATIONAL DU MÉRITE**

French award  
for distinguished services  
in a public or private capacity  
Senate, Paris



# AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2006

## **PRINCE OF ASTURIAS PRIZE**

Humanities and Communication for National Geographic society  
The Principality of Asturias, Spain



2006

## **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FELLOW**

Title awarded by the National Geographic Society  
The Fellows Program was established to encourage the flow between National Geographic and field experts. Fellows work on specific issues and provide expert consultation on National Geographic projects.



2006

**COLUMBIA SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM**  
**MISSOURI UNIVERSITY, USA**  
Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism



2008

## **ASHOKA FOUNDATION**

Senior Fellow  
For the creation of an innovating non-profit organization, Aina



2009

## **AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PARIS**

Honoris causa



# AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2009

## LUCIE AWARD

**Lifetime achievement in documentary**

Lucie Foundation

Lincoln Center of the Performing Arts

New York



2010

## INFINITY AWARD

**PHOTOJOURNALISM FROM THE ICP**

International Center of Photography,

New York City



2010

## HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

### SPECIAL MENTION

For the project «Flying from the nest»,  
a future training center in media studies  
for the Afghan children living in the street.



2013

## PHOTOGRAPHY APPRECIATION AWARD

Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

International Photography Award (HIPA), for

longstanding commitment to improvements

in the art of photography, 2nd edition, Dubai



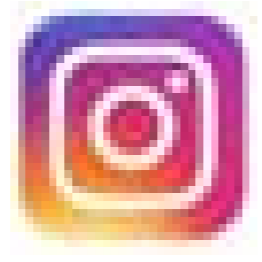
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