



PRESS RELEASE
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November 2010

The MANUEL RIVERA-ORTIZ Foundation for International Photography
A CHARITABLE TRUST

The Board of Trustees, its President and Founder, are proud to announce the establishment of **The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation for International Photography** as a CHARITABLE TRUST under the Laws of the State of New York, based in Rochester, NY, with the generous support of Swiss Reinsurance Company Ltd, Zurich, Switzerland.

The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation for International Photography was set up to support underrepresented photographers, in particular from less developed countries, in four specific program areas: book publications, traveling exhibitions, awards and grants, and educational programs.

The Foundation looks to reward the dedication and determination of emerging photographers in countries chosen by its Board of Trustees, where the need for photography as a catalyst for change and social justice seems most pressing.

Biennially, up to five emerging nominees from one selected country will be invited to submit a predetermined portfolio of images from their body of work to be considered for an award. Following the selection of a winner (or winners) by our esteemed panel of judges coming from the field of photography in photo reportage, photojournalism and photo education, an exhibition and publication of the selected works will follow. Each portfolio will be reviewed thoroughly fairly and will be held to the highest standards known in this field using criteria stipulated in our application.

“Today most especially, humanitarianism pinnacles among the loftiest, most commendable of goals. Photojournalism, or people photography as I call it, itself undoubtedly encompassing humanitarian aspects in which the documenting of human suffering and human struggle in every corner of the world itself becomes pivotal. I see Photojournalism as a photographic act with major humanitarian implication.”—Manuel Rivera-Ortiz, Founder

The President and Board of Trustees of this foundation have appointed Marc Prüst as Executive Director. Mr. Prüst is based in Paris, France, and is responsible for the execution of the Foundation's goals.

For inquiries about the activities of this Foundation, bookings of Manuel Rivera-Ortiz for shoots or lectures, please contact the executive director of The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation for International Photography, Marc Prüst at m.prust@mrofoundation.org or +33 6 14 73 34 59
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