

## CONTACT/S:30

THE ART OF PHOTOJOURNALISM

**PATRICK ARTINIAN, KIRSTEN ASHBURN, JANE EVELYN ATWOOD, ALEXANDRA AVAKIAN, NADIA BENCHALLAL, DAVID BURNETT, DEBORAH COPAKEN, NICK DANZIGER, J.B. DIEDERICH, STEPHEN DUPONT, GIORGIA FIORIO, CHUCK FISHMAN, FRANK FOURNIER, MATT FRANJOLA, GIANFRANCO GORGONI, LORI GRINKER, HALE GURLAND, AFRIM HAJRULLAHU, SEAN HEMMERLE, JAMES HILL, KENNETH JARECKE, YUNGHI KIM, ANNIE LEIBOVITZ, LI ZHENSHENG, LIU HEUNG SHING, DON MCCULLIN, DILIP MEHTA, OLIVIER REBBOT, ALON REININGER**

### Curated by Robert Pledge

Marking the 30th anniversary of leading photojournalist agency Contact Press Images, the exhibition *Contact/s 30: The Art of Photojournalism* offers a rare insight into the making of some of the most iconic news images of the past three decades. Thirty giant contact sheets, each containing a now-famous image, reveal the sequence of events before and after the selected moment giving a fresh insight into both the circumstances of the shoot and the decisions made in editing.



Contact Press Images was launched out of New York City in 1976 by photojournalists Robert Pledge and David Brunett and has since gone on to become one of the worlds top photojournalist agencies. The Contact photographer's journalistic mission, both implied and explicit, is to reaffirm human rights, the necessity of questioning authority and the sense that history itself is a battleground.

In the past 30 years Contact photographers have documented an era that saw the end of Apartheid, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the dismantling of the Soviet Empire, revolution in Central America, the opening up of China, genocide in Africa, ethnic tension in the Balkans, the birth of the Internet and the War on Terror.

This exhibition is not just about the now famous content of the images, but highlights the art of creation and selection, as curator, Robert Pledge notes: "As the world has now fully entered the digital age, it is doubtful that a show of this type will exist in thirty years. Contact sheets...are fast disappearing, destined to become artefacts of photographic history along with tin plates and glass negatives".

IMAGE © Annie Leibovitz 1980 Courtesy of Contact Press Images

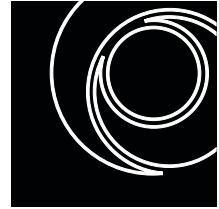


IMAGE © Alexandra Avakian *Fall of the Berlin Wall, West Berlin, Germany, November 1989* Courtesy of Contact Press Images



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