

**PRESS RELEASE**

**SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED FOR WORLD'S TOP PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE**

The shortlist of twelve photographers selected for the seventh Prix Pictet, *Space*, is announced at the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris today, Thursday 10 November 2016.

The photographers are:

**Mandy Barker** [b. 1964, UK] based in Leeds  
**Saskia Groneberg** [b. 1985, Germany] based in Munich  
**Beate Guetschow** [b. 1970, Germany] based in Berlin and Cologne  
**Rinko Kawauchi** [b. 1972, Japan] based in Tokyo  
**Benny Lam** [b. 1967, Hong Kong] lives and works in Hong Kong  
**Richard Mosse** [b. 1980, Ireland] based in New York City and Ireland  
**Wasif Munem** [b. 1983, Bangladesh] based in Dhaka  
**Sohei Nishino** [b. 1982, Japan] based in Tokyo  
**Sergey Ponomarev** [b. 1980, Russia] based in Moscow  
**Thomas Ruff** [b. 1958, Germany] based in Düsseldorf  
**Pavel Wolberg** [b. 1966, Russia] based in Tel Aviv  
**Michael Wolf** [b. 1954, Germany] based in Hong Kong

The work of the 12 finalists will be shown in an exhibition opening at the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) in London on **4 May 2017**, when the winner of the CHF 100,000 Prix Pictet will be announced by Prix Pictet honorary president Kofi Annan. The Prix Pictet *Space* exhibition will be open to the public from 6 to 28 May 2017.

Now in its seventh cycle, the Prix Pictet was founded by the Pictet Group in 2008. Today the Prix Pictet is recognised as the world's leading prize for photography. The award focuses on a theme that promotes discussion and debate on issues of sustainability. The prize of 100,000 Swiss Francs is awarded for a body of work that addresses most powerfully the theme of the award, which for this cycle is *Space*.

The Jury for Prix Pictet *Space* is: Sir David King (Chair), UK Foreign Secretary's Special Representative for Climate Change; Valérie Belin, photographer, Laureate of sixth Prix Pictet; Martin Barnes, Senior Curator, Photographs, V&A; Philippe Bertherat, former managing partner, Pictet Group; Jan Dalley, Arts Editor, *Financial Times*; Dambisa Moyo, economist and author; Sebastião Salgado, photographer; Wang Shu, architect.

Sir David King, Chair of the Jury, said today: "The works presented for this edition of the Prix Pictet were of an exceptionally high standard. The range of creative response by the some 700 photographers nominated for the award was truly remarkable. Reviewing work of such quality and diversity was no easy task, but no less fascinating for that. After a long debate we arrived at a shortlist of twelve artists. On behalf of the jury I should like to congratulate each of them. We very much look forward to reviewing their work at the V&A next year."

Each cycle of the Prix Pictet tours the world, including exhibitions in over a dozen countries annually, bringing the work of the shortlisted photographers before a wide international audience. The Prix Pictet is also published in book form, with detailed documentation of the work of each of the shortlisted photographers, together with images from the wider group of nominees and essays by leading writers on the theme of the prize.

The six previous laureates are Benoît Aquin (*Water*), Nadav Kander (*Earth*), Mitch Epstein (*Growth*), Luc Delahaye (*Power*), Michael Schmidt (*Consumption*) and Valérie Belin (*Disorder*).

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### **Notes to Editors**

#### **Mandy Barker** [b. 1964, UK]

Series: *Beyond Drifting: Imperfectly Known Animals*, 2015

Mandy Barker studied MA Photography at De Montfort University. She has received international recognition for her work involving marine plastic debris with her ongoing series, SOUP, having been published in over 25 countries including *TIME*, *The Guardian*, *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian*, for Greenpeace and on CNN. Barker's work has featured in group exhibitions worldwide including The Photographer's Gallery, London, The Aperture Foundation, New York, and The Science and Technology Park, Hong Kong. Her work has also been exhibited as part of the Syngenta Photography Award Exhibition 2015, FotoFest 2016 Biennale, Singapore International Photography Festival (SIPF) and Noorderlicht 2016 Photofestival ARENA, Museum Belvedere, The Netherlands. She will be exhibiting at UNSEEN Amsterdam where she has been nominated for the Meijburg Art Commission 2016. Barker has received many awards including as a winner of the LensCulture Earth Award 2015 and winner of the International Photography Award (IPA) 2014 in the Environmental Professional category.

#### **Saskia Groneberg** [b. 1985, Germany]

Series: *Büropflanze*, 2012

While primarily focusing on photography and book design, Saskia Groneberg also incorporates other media such as video and installation into her artistic work. Groneberg studied at the State Academy of Art and Design, Stuttgart and the State Academy of Fine Arts, Leipzig. She won the German Photography Talent Prize „gute

aussichten\_new german photography“ in 2012 and received a special mention at the Fotomuseum Winterthur Plat(t)form in 2013. She was nominated for the Luma Rencontres Dummy Book Award at Les Rencontres de la Photographie, Arles in 2015. In April and May 2016 she was invited to participate in an artist residency programme of the Goethe-Institut Bangalore in India. Her work has been shown at Haus der Photographie, Deichtorhallen Hamburg, Museum Marta Herford, University of Cologne, Goethe-Institut Chigago, Goethe-Institut Washington DC, Goethe-Institut Bangalore and others.

**Beate Guetschow** [b. 1970, Germany]

Series: *S Series*, 2004-9

Beate Gutschow was born in Mainz, Germany in 1970 and now lives in Berlin and Cologne. She studied at Hochschule für bildende Künste, Hamburg with Bernhard Johannes Blume and Wolfgang Tillmans, experimenting with painting and video as well as photography. Her most recent exhibitions include *The future will never arrive* at Hessel Museum of Art at Bard College (New York) and *Gärten der Welt*, Museum Rietberg, Zurich. Her works are in the collections of Berlinerische Galerie, Guggenheim New York, Kunsthaus Zürich, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Prizes, awards and residencies include Stiftung Kunstfonds Bonn (2011), Nirox Foundation Johannesburg (2008), Ars Viva, Berlin (2006) and Stipendium Villa Aurora, Los Angeles (2001).

**Rinko Kawauchi** [b. 1972, Japan]

Series: *Ametsuchi*, 2012

Born in 1972 in Shiga Prefecture Japan, Rinko Kawauchi is winner of the 27th Kimura Ihei Award for her photographic books *UTATANE* and *HANABI*. Additional awards and accolades include the 2009 Infinity Award awarded by the International Center of Photography; Ministry of Cultural Affairs Newcomer of the Year 2012; the 29th Shashin no Machi Higashigawa Native Japanese Artist Award 2012. Major solo exhibitions include *AILA + Cui Cui + the eyes, the ears* at Fondation Cartier pour l'art Contemporain, Paris (2005); *The Photographers' Gallery*, London (2006); *AILA + the eyes, the ears* at Hasselblad Centre, Göteborg (2007); *Semear* at Museu de Arte Moderna de Sao Paulo (2007); *Cui Cui* at Vangi Sculpture Garden Museum, Shizuoka, Japan (2008); *Illuminance* at Gallery at Hermès, New York (2011); *Illuminance, Ametsuchi, Seeing Shadow* at Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography (2012); *Rinko Kawauchi - Illuminance* at KUNST HAUS WIEN GmbH (2015). Notable group exhibitions include *Rencontres d'Arles* (2004); *Foto España*, Madrid (2006); *Collection of the Fondation Cartier pour l'art Contemporain* at the Museum Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan (2006); *Blooming: Brazil-Japan Where are You* at the Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Aichi Prefecture, Japan (2008); *New Documents* at the Brighton Photo Biennial 2010, (2010); *Bye Bye Kitty!!! Between Heaven and Hell in Contemporary Japanese Art* at the Japan Society, New York, USA (2011) and *Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal*, (2011). Her most recent solo exhibition, *Rinko Kawauchi: The river embraced me*, was showcased at Contemporary Art Museum, Kumamoto in 2016.

**Benny Lam** [b. 1967, Hong Kong]

Series: *Subdivided Flats*, 2012

Hong Kong-based photographer Benny Lam graduated from the Ontario College of Art and Design, Canada. He is a member of HKIPP and works for multiple local and international brands and advertising agencies. Recently Benny has devoted his time to show, through photography, the condition of Hong Kong's fringe communities from affluent to fringe areas, from business to public areas. Awards and accolades include The Best Photography in HK4As Kam Fan Awards, the Communication Arts Award, Grand Prix in ADSA International Non-profit and Social Advertising Award, LongXi Awards, and Award of Excellence in Photography at Global Society for News

Design Awards. He has been published in *Archive*, *European Photography* and *Pro Photographer* and exhibited in the DOX Centre of Contemporary Art in Prague.

**Richard Mosse** [b. 1980, Ireland]

Series: *Heat Maps*, 2016

Richard Mosse earned an MFA in Photography from Yale University in 2008. He has exhibited at the Venice Biennale, Louisiana Museum of Contemporary Art, MCA Chicago, Irish Museum of Modern Art, the Kemper Museum, Bass Museum, Palazzo Strozzi, Musée d'Art Contemporain Montreal, The Nasher Museum, Kunsthaus Graz, Palais de Tokyo, UNSW Sydney, FOAM Amsterdam, The Photographer's Gallery London, FOMU Antwerp, Contact Photo Festival Toronto, 21st Century Minsheng Art Museum Shanghai, Kunsthalle Munich, Akademie der Kuenste Berlin, Portland Art Museum, Salaam Kivu International Film Festival Goma DRC, and others. Mosse is a recipient of the Deutsche Boerse Photography Prize (2014), Yale's Poynter Fellowship in Journalism (2014), the B3 Award at the Frankfurt Biennale (2013), an ECAS Commission (2013), Visual Arts Bursary from the Irish Arts Council (2012), Kuenstlerhaus Bethanien Residency (2012), the Guggenheim Fellowship (2011), and a Leonore Annenberg Fellowship (2008-2010). Mosse's new body of work, concerned with the journey of refugees and migrants across Europe, the Middle East and north Africa, has been commissioned by the Barbican Art Gallery and NGV Melbourne. This work will be exhibited in a solo show at the Barbican's Curve gallery in Feb 2017, and in the NGV Triennial in Autumn 2017.

**Wasif Munem** [b. 1983, Bangladesh]

Series: *Land of Undefined Territory*, 2014-15

Munem Wasif is a Dhaka based artist who investigates complex social and political issues through an artistic language which often employs stark black and white photography. His upcoming exhibitions include *Land of undefined territories* at the Gwangju Biennale and the Singapore Biennale and *In God We Trust* at Galerie-krinzinger (Vienna). Solo exhibitions include Dhaka Art summit, 247 Gallery (Paris), Gallery Clementine de la Feronniere (Paris), Musée du sel (La reunion) and Kunsthall Rotterdam. Grants and awards include Bengal Practice grant (2016), City of Perpignan Young Reporter's Award (2008), F25 International Award for concerned photography (2008) and Joop Swart Masterclass by World Press Photo (2007).

**Sohei Nishino** [b. 1982, Japan]

Series: *Diorama Map*, 2010-16

Born in Hyogo, Sohei Nishino began his *Diorama Map* series when he was still a university student at Osaka University of Arts. Since winning an Excellence Award at Canon New Cosmos Photography Award in 2005, Nishino has taken part in exhibitions including *Out of Focus* at the Saatchi Gallery in London (2012), Contemporary Japanese Photography vol. 10 at Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography in Tokyo (2012), *A Different Kind of Order: ICP Triennial* at ICP in NY (2013). He was recently awarded the Newcomer's Award at the Photographic Society of Japan Awards 2013. He was also selected as one of *Foam Magazine's* artists for Foam Talent Call 2013.

**Sergey Ponomarev** [b. 1980, Russia]

Series: *Europe Migration Crisis*, 2015

Born in Moscow, Sergey Ponomarev worked for the Associated Press from 2003 before becoming a freelance photographer in 2012. He is best known for his photojournalism work depicting wars and conflicts in the Middle East including Syria, Gaza, Lebanon, Egypt and Libya as well as daily life and culture in Russia. He has been published in the *New York Times*, *Paris Match*, *Figaro*, *Stern*. Ponomarev was part of the *New York Times* team who won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for reporting on the Refugee Crisis in Europe. Other awards include World Press Photo, Pictures of the Year, Overseas Press Club and others.

**Thomas Ruff** [b. 1958, Germany]

Series: *ma.r.s.*, 2010-11

German photographer Thomas Ruff studied photography with Bernd Becher at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, where he subsequently served as Professor between 2000 and 2006. Recent solo exhibitions include *Object Relations*, Art Gallery of Toronto (2016); *Thomas Ruff*, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (2016); *Lichten*, S.M.A.K., Gent und Kunsthalle Düsseldorf (2014); *Thomas Ruff*, Haus der Kunst, Munich (2012). He has also exhibited at Tiefen, Kunsthalle Vienna, Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Lenbachhaus, München, Irish Museum of Modern Art in Dublin and Tate Liverpool. He took part in the German Pavilion at the 1995 Venice Biennale.

**Pavel Wolberg** [b. 1966, Russia]

Series: *Barricades*, 2009-14

Pavel Wolberg is a photographic artist and a former photojournalist living in Tel Aviv. Major museum solo exhibitions include Gemak Museum (The Hague), Tel Aviv Museum of Art, the Museum of Photography and Film Rochester, Ashdod Art Museum and Herzliya Museum of Art among others. Wolberg has also taken part in group exhibitions at the Venice Biennale, the Martin-Gropius-Bau, KIM-Kunst Im Tunnel, Düsseldorf, La collection Antoine de Galbert, La Maison Rouge, Paris, Jewish Museum, Amsterdam, Passage de Retz Paris, Krefeld Museum, Exit Art, New York and the Tel Aviv Museum of Art. His work is represented in the collections of TAMA museum of modern art, Tel Aviv, foundation Carmignac, Fond National d'Art Contemporain, France, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, The Jewish Museum, NYC, La Maison Rouge and Fondation A. de Galbert, Paris. He received the Leon Constantiner Prize for Israeli Photography in 2005 and the Sony World Photography Awards in 2011.

**Michael Wolf** [b. 1954, Germany]

Series: *Tokyo Compression*, 2008-10

The focus of German photographer Michael Wolf's work is life in mega cities. Many of his projects document the architecture as well as the vernacular culture of metropolises. Wolf grew up in Canada, Europe and the United States, studying at UC Berkeley and at the Folkwang School with Otto Steinert in Essen, Germany. He moved to Hong Kong in 1994 where he worked for 8 years as contract photographer for *Stern* magazine. Wolf's work has been exhibited in numerous locations, including the Venice Biennale for Architecture, the Sao Paulo Biennial for Architecture, Aperture Gallery, New York and the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago. His work is held in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Brooklyn Museum, Museum Folkwang, Essen and the German Museum for Architecture, Frankfurt, the Heritage Museum, HK. He has won first prize in the World Press Photo Award Competition on two occasions (2005 & 2010) and an honorable mention (2011). In 2010, Wolf was shortlisted for the Prix Pictet photography prize. He has published 29 photo books.