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[Version française ci-dessous]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation Names Shortlisted Photography Entrants

- *Finalists selected from record number of worldwide submission.;*
- *Renowned photographers Reza Deghati and Stanley Greene on selection committee.*

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Visuals on request

ARLES, FRANCE (5 JULY 2012) — At one of the most important photographic summer arts festivals in the world, the 43rd Les Rencontres d'Arles, *The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation for Documentary Photography & Film* announced today the top twelve international photographic entries to its 2012 foundation grant. Selected from a record breaking 262 submissions from around the globe, this year's social documentary finalists photographed issues ranging from 'the effects of the economic crisis in the lives of Portuguese Kalé,' to 'the origin of inequality and violence in Brazil.'

"Les Rencontres d'Arles is definitely a very fitting place to hold this important announcement," said Manuel Rivera-Ortiz, President & Founder of the group. *"This festival, like this city, like our photographers, is very inspiring. During this festival such incredible talent coming from all walks of life, culture and agency surrounds you constantly. Magnum Photos is even holding their annual members meeting here this year. This year will be very difficult for us arriving at a winner. We have received so many phenomenal entries all so worthy and ever so human."*

The winning submission of the 2012 Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation grant will be awarded US\$5000 to be utilized for the production or completion of a social documentary project. Final selection will take place in Paris next week. Paris is home to

the foundation's current Executive Director and Board of Trustee member Mr. Didier de Faÿs who is the co-founder of 24h.com and Photographie.com.

"I am thrilled with our applications," explains Mr. de Faÿs. "The prize — dedicated to socially concerned photographers around the world — is so important in its use of images to describe the world around us and to inspire us all to a call for action."

This year's selection committee includes, amongst others, two highly respected international documentary photographers, Mr. Reza Deghati, and Mr. Stanley Greene.

"We are honored to have Mr. Deghati and Mr. Greene on the selection committee," said Mr. Rivera-Ortiz. "As legends in their own right, they serve as an inspiration for all photographers and truly embody the aspirations of the up and coming social documentary photographers that our foundation aims to support."

The twelve selected projects that move on to the final round of judging are:

1. **Marie Baronnet** (France): "Crossing the Line" proposes to explore social and political issues around the clandestine crossing of the border separating the USA from Mexico;
2. **Stephen Dock** (France): "Being Touareg" will reveal the nomadic life of the Touareg in northern Mali, their traditions, and socio-economic difficulties;
3. **Maxim Dondyuk** (Ukraine): Intends to document patients suffering from gastrointestinal tuberculosis in the former countries of the USSR;
4. **Laura El-Tantawy** (United Kingdom): "In the Shadow of the Pyramids" wants to explore the essence of Egyptian identity in a time when Egypt is searching for itself;
5. **Christophe Gin** (France): "The Gateway of the Eldorado" will track the clandestine immigration from Brazil to French Guiana, the new European Eldorado;
6. **Diego Ibarra** (Argentina): "The Curse of Insanity" will unveil the invisible wounds of war and the mental health crisis in Iraq;
7. **Samuel James** (USA): "Niger Delta" aims to provide an intimate and nuanced visual narrative of the ongoing struggle for power, land and oil in Nigeria's Niger Delta, Africa's largest and most polluted oil-producing region;
8. **Gustavo Jononovich** (Argentina): "Richland Project" will depict over-exploitation of natural resources in Latin America and the resulting long-term negative effects, both human and environmental;
9. **Jérémie Jung & Virginie Terrasse** (France): "Tasiilaq: An Adolescence in Kalaallit Nunaat" will follow two Inuit teenagers in Greenland in their daily lives while exploring the high suicidal rate of young Inuit;
10. **Sebastian Liste** (Spain): "The Brazilian Far West" proposes a project to create a visual map of the origin of inequality and violence in Brazil documenting violent disputes over land;
11. **Mário Macilau** (Mozambique): "The Saliency of Street" will cover the destiny of street children in various African countries (Angola, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Kenya and Congo) who work as domestic servants in homes, laboring behind walls of workshops, hidden from view in plantations;
12. **Antonio Pedrosa** (Portugal): Proposes to show the effects of the economic and social crisis on the Kalé gypsy community in Portugal.

About the Foundation: The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation for Documentary Photography & Film is a 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit Organization committed to positive social discourse in underrepresented communities throughout the world by encouraging emerging and established photographers working in developing nations to keep their lenses fixed on the plight of the poor and disenfranchised. Headquartered in New York, with a presence in Paris and Zurich, the foundation is a charitable trust serving the international photographic community through exhibitions, publishing, grants, education and other curatorial projects.

Established in 2010, the foundation aims to encourage a new generation of photographers, armed with only a camera and a vision of a better world, to take to the streets every day and document humanity on the move. For additional information, please visit www.mrofoundation.org.

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[English version above]

POUR DIFFUSION IMMÉDIATE

La liste des finalistes de la seconde édition du Prix de la Fondation Manuel Rivera-Ortiz dévoilée

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Visuels sur demande

ARLES, le 5 JUILLET 2012 : La liste des finalistes de la seconde édition du Prix de la Fondation Manuel Rivera-Ortiz, un prix d'envergure internationale visant à financer un projet photographique socio-documentaire, a été dévoilée jeudi pendant les Rencontres d'Arles. Les finalistes ont été sélectionnés parmi 262 candidats provenant des cinq continents.

La liste des finalistes:

1. **Marie Baronnet** (France) : **Crossing the line** est une enquête sur les problèmes socio-économiques liés à la migration clandestine entre le Mexique et les États-Unis ;
2. **Stephen Dock** (France) : **Être Touareg** dévoilera les multiples conséquences sociales découlant du conflit au nord du Mali sur une population étrangère aux intérêts et à l'idéologie des bandes armées ;
3. **Maxim Dondyuk** (Ukraine) : Veut poursuivre un reportage sur les malades atteints de la tuberculose gastro-intestinale dans l'ensemble de l'ex-URSS ;
4. **Laura El-Tantawy** (Royaume-Uni) : **Dans l'ombre des pyramides** documente l'identité égyptienne après la récente révolution ;
5. **Christophe Gin** (France) : **Aux portes de l'Eldorado** met en perspective l'immigration clandestine du Brésil en Guyane Française, le nouvel Eldorado Européen ;

6. **Diego Ibarra** (Argentine) : **La fléau de la folie** s'intéresse aux cicatrices invisibles de la guerre en Iraq ;
7. **Samuel James** (USA) : **Le delta du Niger** abordera la complexité des luttes pour le pouvoir, le pétrole et la terre dans le Delta du Niger au Nigeria, l'une des régions productrice de pétrole les plus polluées du monde ;
8. **Gustavo Jonovich** (Argentine) : **The Richland Project** documentera la surexploitation des ressources naturelles en Amérique Latine, et l'impact négatif sur la santé humaine et l'environnement ;
9. **Jérémy Jung & Virginie Terrasse** (France) : **Tasiilaq, une adolescence à Kalaallit Nunaat** va suivre le quotidien de deux adolescents inuits au Groënland où le taux de suicide parmi les jeunes Inuits est très élevé;
10. **Sebastian Liste** (Espagne) : **Le Far-west brésilien** est un projet multimédia visant à révéler l'origine de l'inégalité et de la violence au Brésil, tout en documentant les conflits sur la possession des terres ;
11. **Mário Macilau** (Mozambique) : **La saillance de la rue** couvrira le destin des enfants des rues victimes des guerres et de l'exploitation dans plusieurs pays africains (Angola, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Kenya et Congo) ;
12. **Antonio Pedrosa** (Portugal) : Son projet portera sur les effets de la crise économique et sociale affectant la communauté gitane Kalé au Portugal.

Le lauréat sera sélectionné la semaine prochaine à Paris par un jury de professionnels comprenant entre autres Stanley Greene et Reza.

La fondation a recherché des projets originaux et à haute valeur artistique, offrant une perspective nouvelle sur l'une des problématiques majeures des pays émergents. Commentant la liste des finalistes, Manuel Rivera-Ortiz, Président de la fondation, a déclaré : « *La décision a été très difficile cette année. Nous avons reçu un très grand nombre de dossiers remarquables empreints d'humanité.* »

Pour Didier de Fayès, Directeur de la fondation, « *ce prix s'engage en faveur des photographes responsables qui utilisent la photographie pour parler du monde qui les entoure et pour agir. C'est un prix vivant, résolument en phase avec les photographes et leurs difficultés.* »

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