

PRIX PICTET HUMAN—THE WORLD'S LEADING AWARD FOR PHOTOGRAPHY AND SUSTAINABILITY—TRAVELS TO TERN GALLERY AND CENTRAL BANK OF THE BAHAMAS, IN NASSAU

10 November – 22 November 2023 Tern Gallery, Nassau 27 November – 15 December 2023 Central Bank of The Bahamas, Nassau













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TERN Gallery and Central Bank of The Bahamas, Nassau, Bahamas, are thrilled to be partnering with Pictet Group to host the latest Prix Pictet. The prize is the world's leading award for photography and sustainability, founded in 2008 by the Pictet Group with the goal of harnessing the power of photography to draw attention to the critical issue of global sustainability. To date, there have been ten cycles of the award, each with its own theme highlighting a particular facet of sustainability, a topic at the forefront of concern to all Caribbean peoples.

Prix Pictet *Human* showcases the work of twelve outstanding photographers shortlisted for the tenth cycle of the award. Their work constitutes a powerful exploration of the various facets of the theme *Human*. In their own unique way, each of the shortlisted photographers explores our shared humanity and the vast spectrum of our interactions with the world. The shortlisted portfolios span documentary, portraiture, landscape, and studies of light and process, and explore issues ranging from the plight of indigenous peoples, conflict, childhood, the collapse of economic processes, to the traces of human habitation and industrial development, gang violence, border lands, and migration. Their work evaluates our role as stewards of the planet and sheds light on the critical issues of global sustainability, the central concern of the Prix Pictet since its inception fifteen years ago and one aligned with the interests of the people of The Bahamas, a low lying seabound nation threatened by rising sea levels and ever- strengthening catastrophic weather systems, as well as many of the other issues noted above.

Prix Pictet regularly tours to the world's leading museums and this year is not different: the exhibition *Human* will tour through 2024 and 2025 at major spaces in Zürich, Istanbul, Dublin, Bangkok, Munich, San Diego, Singapore, and Stockholm. With an office in Nassau, this is the first time Pictet has chosen to

exhibit a selection of the finalists in The Bahamas, where artworks by the short-listed photographers will be exhibited at TERN Gallery, at The Island House, and at Central Bank of the Bahamas Art Gallery, in Downtown Nassau. Both spaces agreed that the topics touched on themes relevant for Caribbean people, who are on the forefront of the effects climate change, among other issues broached by the artists, such as food insecurity, forced migration, exploitative labour, human trafficking and the decline of natural resources due to development or rapacious environmental practises.

At a ceremony in September of this year at the Victoria & Albert Museum to open the first exhibition of the international tour, Indian photographer Gauri Gill was announced as the winner of the Prix Pictet *Human*, receiving the prize of 100,000 Swiss Francs. Gill was selected from the shortlist of twelve photographers by the prize's independent jury. Gill's work emphasises her belief in working with and through community, in what she calls 'active listening'. For more than two decades, she has been closely engaged with communities in the desert of western Rajasthan, Northern India and for the last decade with Indigenous artists in Maharashtra.

The shortlisted photographers are:

Hoda Afshar, Iran Gera Artemova, Ukraine Ragnar Axelsson, Iceland Alessandro Cinque, Italy/Peru Siân Davey, UK Gauri Gill, India Michał Łuczak, Poland Yael Martínez, Mexico Richard Renaldi, US Federico Ríos Escobar, Colombia Vanessa Winship, UK/Bulgaria Vasantha Yogananthan, France

For more than 40 years Ragnar Axelsson has charted the dramatic changes in the lives of the indigenous people, landscapes and environments on the fringes of the habitable world. A concern for the lives and disappearing homelands of the indigenous people of the Andes mountains informs the work of **Alessandro Cinque**. **Gauri Gill** spent more than two decades photographing the joy, pain and tenderness woven into the fabric of some of those who eke out a living in the remote desert region of Rajasthan, India. Federico Ríos Escobar provides agonised glimpses of South American children whose parents have elected to join the hazardous migrant voyage through the almost impassable stretch of jungle on the Colombia-Panama border known as the Darién Gap. Michał Łuczak documents the indelible marks the once-great mining industry has left on the landscape of Upper Silesia, Poland. Gera Artemova's visual diary opens with the Russian bombardment of her hometown, Kyiv, Ukraine, on February 24, 2022. Vasantha Yogananthan's work is filled with the dreams and despair of the post-Hurricane Katrina generation of children in New Orleans, USA. Vanessa Winship creates carefully composed portraits of schoolgirls from the Turkish borderlands. The strange, otherworldly Iranian islands of Hormuz, Qeshm and Hengam are the touchstone for Hoda Afshar's work. Yael Martínez's pierced photographs were made in the wake of the disappearance of family members, victims of the violence that is part of daily life in the Mexican state of Guerrero. Richard Renaldi and Siân Davey both focus on the garden as a place of hope and reconnection in their work, a place that serves both as a metaphor for the human heart and a potential source of harmony.

The independent Jury for Prix Pictet Human is:

Sir David King, FRS (Chair)

Founder and Chair, Climate Crisis Advisory Group

Philippe Bertherat

President, MAMCO (Musée d'art modern et contemporain), Geneva

Jan Dalley

Arts Editor, Financial Times

Duncan Forbes

Head of Photography, Victoria and Albert Museum, London

Funmi Iyanda

Creative Director, OYA Media, Lagos and London

Sally Mann

Winner, Prix Pictet Fire, 2021

Jeff Rosenheim

Joyce Frank Menschel Curator in Charge of Photographs The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York To accompany the exhibition, Hatje Cantz are publishing a book featuring the shortlisted photographers together with a selection of outstanding images from a wider group of those nominated for the award. The publication features essays by the historian David Christian and writer Meehan Crist and an interview with photographer Sebastião Salgado, the great champion of humanitarian photography, by Michael Benson, the Director of the Prix Pictet.

Find out more about the Prix Pictet at: www.prix.pictet.com

About the Prix Pictet

The Prix Pictet is the world's leading award for photography and sustainability. It was founded in 2008 by the Pictet Group with the goal of harnessing the power of photography to draw global attention to critical environmental issues. To date, there have been ten cycles of the award, each with its own theme highlighting a particular facet of sustainability.

Entry is through nomination. The Prix Pictet maintains a global network of over 300 nominators, who include critics, curators, and other specialists in the visual arts. Nominators are asked to recommend portfolios that have the power and artistic quality demanded by the prize. Since the Prix Pictet's inception, more than 5,000 photographers have been nominated, all of whose work in one way or another testifies to the fragile state of our planet.

From the nominees, an independent jury selects a shortlist of those whose work is considered artistically outstanding and presents a compelling narrative related to the theme of the cycle. After an assessment of the shortlisted artworks in an exhibition setting, the jury chooses a winner, who receives a prize of 100,000 Swiss Francs.

An exhibition based on a selection from each shortlisted artist's portfolio then tours up to a dozen locations worldwide, bringing their work to a wide global audience. Until now, the Prix Pictet has staged over 120 exhibitions in more than forty-five cities globally.

The nine previous winners are: Benoit Aquin (*Water*, 2008), Nadav Kander (*Earth*, 2009–10), Mitch Epstein (*Growth*, 2011), Luc Delahaye (*Power*, 2012–13), Michael Schmidt (*Consumption*, 2014), Valérie Belin (*Disorder*, 2015–16), Richard Mosse (*Space*, 2017–18), Joana Choumali (*Hope*, 2019–20) and Sally Mann (*Fire*, 2021–22).

For questions relevant to the Nassau exhibition, please reach out to:

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