

PRESS KIT



Peshawar, Pakistan, 1984. © Steve McCurry

EXHIBITION | THE WORLD OF
STEVE McCURRY

FROM 09.12.2021 TO 29.05.2022

MUSÉE MAILLOL | PARIS | www.museemailol.com

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IMAGES

All images from this press kit are available through Ingrid Cadoret ou Claude Unger.

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CIVITA
Mostre e Musei

"Travelling and photographing, seeing the world in which we live: I can't imagine a better way of living this life that has been given to us."

- Steve McCurry -

Over 150 photographs by renowned American photographer Steve McCurry exhibited in Paris.

SUMMARY



© Steve McCurry

Uttar Pradesh,
India, 1983

CONCEPT OF THE EXHIBITION	6
ITINERARY	8
GAME BOOKLET	9
STEVE MCCURRY	10
ANECDOTES	12
STEVE MCCURRY AND HIS WORK	20
THE EXHIBITION PARTNERS	22
TEMPORA	
CIVITA	
MAILLOL MUSEUM	
PRACTICAL INFORMATION	24

Al Ahmadi oil field,
Kuwait, 1991



CONCEPT OF THE EXHIBITION

The World of Steve McCurry presents more than 150 large-format photographs. It is the largest and most complete retrospective dedicated to the American photographer. Composed of iconic photographs and new unpublished works, McCurry's images are known for their humanity, dignity, compassion, elegance, and proportion.

The exhibition, designed by Biba Giacchetti, takes us on a long journey from Afghanistan to Southeast Asia and from Africa to Latin America. This vast and fascinating body of work always retains the human element that made his celebrated image of the Afghan Girl so powerful.

Steve McCurry, self-described storyteller, achieves his goal of allowing the observer to interpolate their own meaning from his images in order to provide the opportunity to examine and explore one's own meaning of causality, time, space, and identity.

He does not shy away from the brutality of war and violence, but also embraces humanity in all of its manifestations, which includes the elegance of the ordinary.

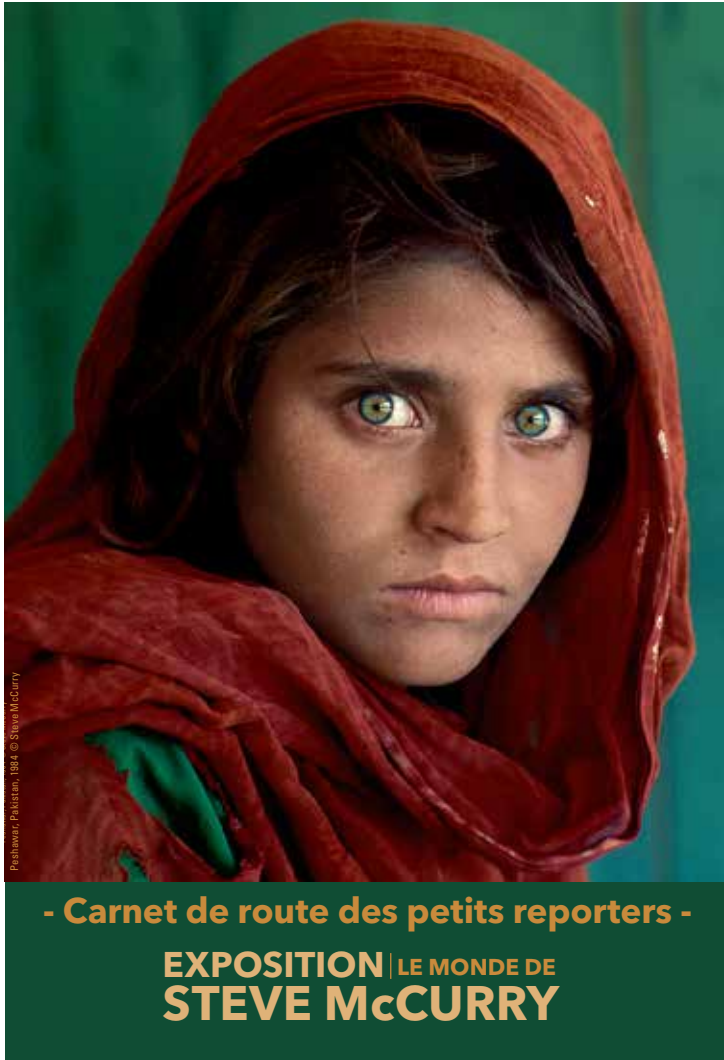
The scenography by Peter Bottazzi immerses the visitor in a labyrinth of images that guides them towards one discovery after another. Here, there is no chronological or topical order, but rather the visitor is encouraged to stray into McCurry's world and see through his eyes.

ITINERARY

The visit begins with a selection of black and white photographs, taken by Steve McCurry between 1979 and 1980, during his first journey to Afghanistan when he entered in disguise, guided by a group of Mujahidin who were fighting the Soviet and Afghan Army. On one visit to a Pakistani Refugee camp he met and photographed Sharbat Gula, whose portrait has since become an iconic image.

The visitor then enters the labyrinth of images which form the heart of the exhibition. We encounter a variety of varying ages, cultures, and ethnic groups. With approximately fifty of the photos included in the audio guide, the visitor can listen to Steve McCurry explaining the story behind his photographs with compelling anecdotes.

The end of the visit is dedicated to videos in which McCurry describes his travels, his experiences and his concept of photography.



GAME BOOKLET

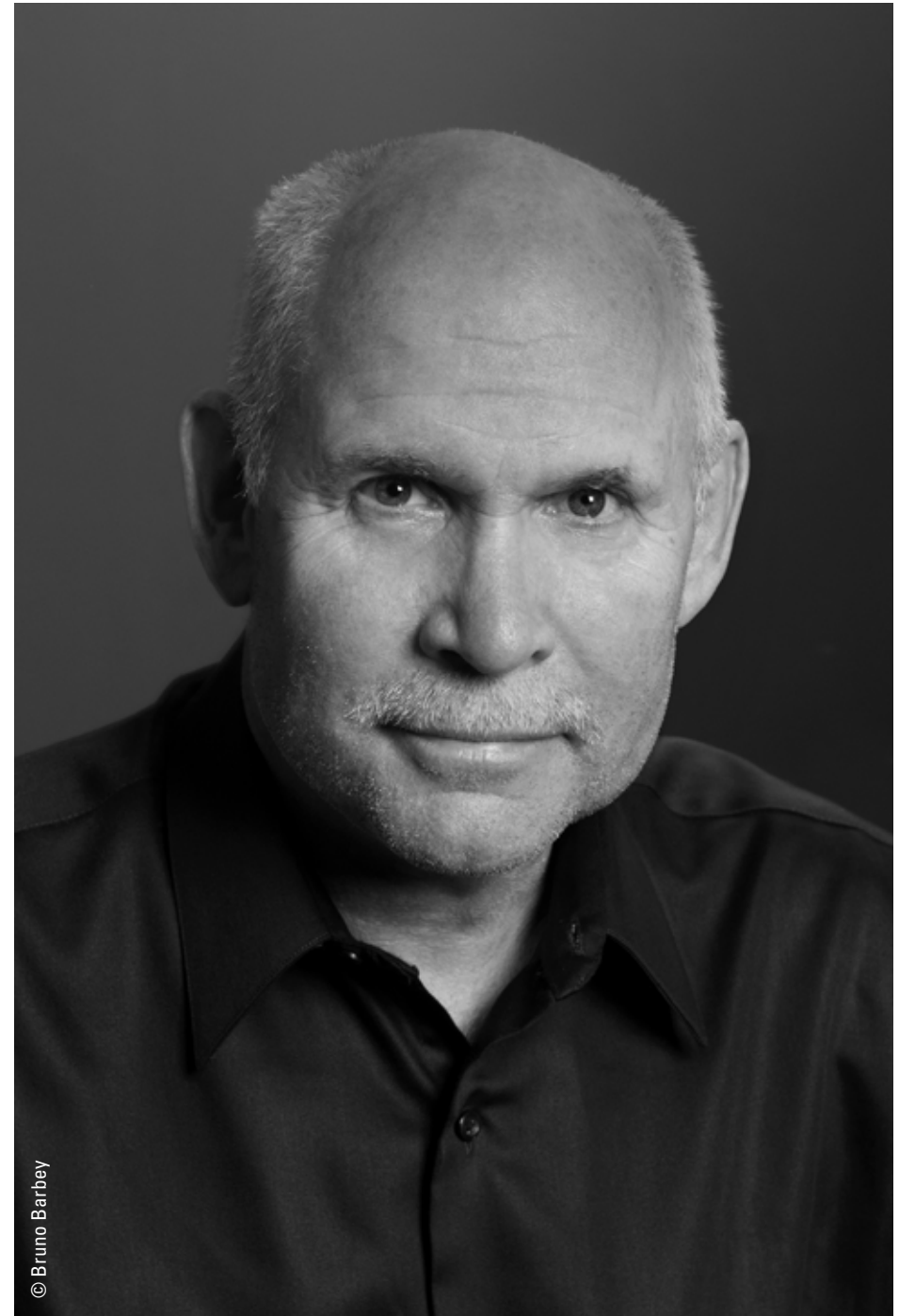
Game booklets (only available in French) are distributed at the entrance to children depending on their age (under or over 6 years old).

With their roadbook in hand, young reporters go chasing pictures through the exhibition, observing details and discovering countries.

STEVE MCCURRY

Born in Philadelphia in 1950, Steve McCurry started work as a photographer for a local newspaper. After two years he traveled to India and produced his first portfolio based on photos from that trip. After the publication of his first major work on Afghanistan, he collaborated with some of the most iconic magazines: Time, Life, Newsweek, Geo and many others. Sent to war zones, from Beirut to Cambodia, from Kuwait to the former Yugoslavia, Steve McCurry has always crossed the frontline to photograph conflicts across the world.

A member of the Magnum agency since 1986, he has on several occasions received prestigious awards. His most recent individual publications include: Afghanistan (2017), A Life in Pictures (2018), Animals (2019), In Search of Elsewhere (2020), and Stories & Dreams: Portraits of Childhood (2021).





© Steve McCurry

A sheperd in Wadi Rum.
Petra, Jordan, 2019

ANECDOTES

The spectacularly beautiful Wadi Rum, a vast desert valley in southern Jordan, is sometimes called the Valley of the Moon. Zalabia Bedouin live in this protected wilderness, successors to the ancient Nabataeans who built the pink sandstone city of Petra in the third century BC.



A few African baobabs, the last remains of tropical forests that once covered Madagascar, are still preserved for religious reasons, revered for their age and their ability to store water in times of drought; they are sometimes referred to as the Tree of Life. Here on the west coast of the island, some of the oldest trees on earth - capable of living for more than two millennia - watch as two young boys roll hoops.

Boys running with hoops along Baobab Avenue near Morondava, Madagascar, 2019.



© Steve McCurry

Havana,
Cuba, 2010

Within the original sixteenth-century city walls at the center of modern Havana lies La Habana Vieja - Old Havana. The narrow streets are densely packed with buildings, dark alleys, people and cars, like this vintage Russian Trebant, and painted in the dazzling colors characteristic of Cuba.



Nuristan,
Afghanistan, 1979

This group of Mujahidin stopped on a rocky ledge high in the mountains to watch and track a convoy of soldiers on the road below in Nuristan, Afghanistan.



© Steve McCurry

Kabul,
Afghanistan, 1992

Women shoppers dressed in the traditional burqa stand in front of a shoe shop in Kabul.

Hazara women mourn at a grave. Decades of war have produced two million widows who struggle to eke out a living to feed their children.



Bamiyan,
Afghanistan, 2007

Doves in front of Mazar-i-Sharif's 'Blue Mosque,' the Tomb of Hazrat Ali. The white doves are often fed by pilgrims that visit this holy site.



Mazar-i-Sharif,
Afghanistan, 1991

One of the most important lessons I've learned while working on stories in war zones and places riven with civil conflict, is that the drivers, translators, interpreters and fixers are essential to being able to do the work because these people have your life in their hands.

A wrong turn, a wrong conversation, a misstep can really be the difference between life and death. (video 2)

Some of my best pictures have happened as I was travelling to a particular place; and that destination has long been forgotten but those pictured along the way end up being memorable. (video 4)

STEVE MCCURRY AND HIS WORK



Papua New Guinea,
2017

When I arrive in a new location, I start to walk in the early morning and try to get lost in the moment. Suddenly a sort of magical thing happens where you start seeing pictures; you're relaxed, you're observing, you're almost in a meditative state. That's when the pictures start to reveal themselves; it's serendipitous; it's about chance encounters. (video 4)

The most interesting and successful pictures are ones that I care deeply about.

THE EXHIBITION PARTNERS

Tempora is a Belgian agency for the conception, management, promotion, administration and production of exhibitions, museums and cultural assets.

Founded in 1998, it is one of the leaders in the European marketplace. Tempora has designed, managed or produced exhibitions of international standing, notably: Dieu(x), modes d'emploi (Brussels, Madrid, Quebec, Ottawa, Paris, Warsaw...); Be Welcome (Atomium and Bois du Cazier) ; 6 milliards d'Autres (Brussels, Good Planet foundation) ; C'est notre Terre ! (Brussels) ; L'Amérique c'est aussi notre Histoire ! (Brussels) ; 21, rue La Boétie (Liège, Paris) ; Pompeii, the Immortal City (Brussels, Richmond, Spokane, Orlando, Québec) ; Hyperrealism Sculpture. Ceci n'est pas un corps (Liège, Brussels, Lyon) ; Warhol. The American Dream Factory (Liège) ; Antoine de Saint Exupéry. Un Petit Prince parmi les Hommes (Lyon, Brussels) ; Inside Magritte (Liège).

More information on www.tempora-expo.be

Civita Mostre e Musei is a cultural and creative company that has been a leading player in the promotion of Italy's cultural heritage for over 30 years. Its activities are focused in different areas: production and organisation of exhibitions, museum services, including the management of the Pinacoteca di Brera, and cultural planning.

In the exhibition sector, in particular, over the years it has developed skills covering the entire chain of production, organisation and promotion of an exhibition, both in Italy and abroad: among the others, Body and Soul, from Donatello to Michelangelo. Italian Renaissance Sculpture, an exhibition conceived by the Louvre Museum and held at the Louvre and at the Castello Sforzesco in Milan, the great Rubens exhibition at the Palazzo Reale in Milan and at the Western Art Museum in Tokyo.

Civita Mostre e Musei works proactively with cultural institutions in Italy and abroad, with public and private organisations, and is increasingly active at an international scale.

The **musée Maillol** is steeped in history.

Throughout the Middle Ages and up to the Renaissance, the land on which the Museum now stands had not yet been built on, and was part of a vast property belonging to a Benedictine Abbey founded in 543.

In 1739, the nuns of the Couvent des Récollettes graciously allowed the city to build a monumental fountain at the heart of the district.

Edme Bouchardon, sculptor of the King, created the majestic fountain of the Four Seasons which forms a magnificent forestage to the facade of the museum, and was built between 1739 and 1745 to the glory of the City of Paris. The ensemble was listed as a historic monument in 1862.

During the Revolution, the convent was closed and sold at auction. The different buildings were then owned by individual owners. In the 19th century, it was home to many famous figures, including the poet Alfred de Musset whose apartment was located on the first floor.

Painter Paul Jacques Aimé Baudry, a member of the Institut de France, occupied the large studio for a long period. This studio space was conserved during the renovation works of the museum. Opening onto the second floor it houses Maillol's life-size sculptures.

In 1951, the Prévert brothers opened a cabaret here, known as La Fontaine des Quatre Saisons, in the large columned exhibition hall on the ground floor. Boris Vian, was a regular, and penned *Le Déserteur* here; Francis Blanche presented his *Frères Jacques* sketches, and Yves Montand performed the poems of Prévert, set to music by Kosma. A plethora of young artists all started out here: Maurice Béjart, Guy Bedos, Pierre Perret, Jean Yanne, Philippe Clay, Jacques Dufilho, etc.

In 1955, Dina Vierny, the sculptor's model and collaborator, purchased and lived in an apartment in the building. Then, little by little, over the course of some twenty or so years, she managed to purchase all of the buildings. Following some fifteen years of renovation and construction work, under the eye of architect Pierre Devinoy, who had studied under Auguste Perret, the much anticipated institution was born that would house the works of Maillol.

The Musée Maillol opened its doors on 20 January 1995. Today, it presents the largest collection of the artist's works to the public and presents a complete overview of Maillol's creation, not just his sculpture, but also his paintings, drawings, ceramics and tapestry.

Srinagar,
Kashmir, 1996



OPENING HOURS

Every day: 10.30am - 6.30pm

Wednesday: until 10pm

Open on public holidays and during
French school holidays

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

RATES

Adult (from 26 years): 15€

Senior (from 65 years): 14€

Reduced rates: 13€

(student, youth (19-25), owner of an invalidity card and one accompanying person, job seeker, owner of the Pass Education)

Child (6 - 18 years): 10€

Child (< 6 years) : free

Group (>15 people) : 13€ /p

School group: 6€ /p

Family pack (2 adults + 2 children) : 44€
(+10€ per extra child)

Buy your tickets online on
www.museemailol.com

Audioguide (FR/EN/IT/NL) included

ACCESSIBILITY

Bus

39 63 68 69 83 84 86 87 70 94 95 96

RER

Ⓒ Musée d'Orsay

Métro

12 Rue du Bac

4 Saint-Sulpice

10 12 Sèvres-Babylone

Vélib

Raspail-Bac

Station n°07004, face au 2 bd Raspail

Parking Indigo Paris

Bac-Montalembert

Sèvres-Babylone

Invalides

ADDRESS

Musée Maillol

59 - 61 Rue de Grenelle

75007 Paris

FRANCE

The museum is fully accessible for visitors with a disability.

AN EXHIBITION PRESENTED BY



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



www.museemailol.com

