

## Guest Lecture: Ron Haviv Children of Darfur

Friday October 19, 2007



Beacon High School  
Washingtonville High School  
Beacon Community Center afterschool program

# VII Biography

Award-winning photojournalist Ron Haviv has produced some of the most important images of conflict and other humanitarian crises that have made headlines from around the world since the end of the Cold War.



A co-founder of VII, whose work is published by top magazines worldwide, including: Fortune, The NY Times Magazine, Time, Vanity Fair, Paris Match and Stern. He has published two critically acclaimed collections of his photography -- Blood and Honey: A Balkan War Journal, and Afghanistan: On the Road to Kabul – and has contributed his wide-ranging body of work to several other books.

With a special focus on exposing human rights violations, he has covered conflict and humanitarian crises in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, Russia and the Balkans. Most recently, he has documented wars in Darfur and the DR Congo.

His often-searing photographs have earned Haviv some of the highest accolades in photography, including awards from World Press Photo, Pictures of the Year, Overseas Press Club, and the Leica Medal of Excellence. He regularly lectures at universities and seminars, and numerous museums and galleries have featured his work, including the United Nations, The Louvre and The Council on Foreign Relations.

Haviv has been the central character in three films. National Geographic Explorer's Freelance in a World of Risk explores the hazards inherent in combat photography. The Serbian-made documentary Vivisect explores Serbian reaction to the Blood and Honey exhibit. Eyes of the World, which has featured in film festival worldwide, examines Haviv as a witness to war. In addition, Haviv has spoken about his work on The Charlie Rose Show, NPR, Good Morning America, ABC World News Tonight, CNN, MSNBC and The Best Damn Sports Show Ever.

\*VII derives its name from the number of founding photo-journalists who, in September 2001, formed this collectively owned agency. Designed from the outset to be an efficient, technologically enabled distribution hub for some of the world's finest photojournalism, VII has been responsible for creating and relaying to the world many of the images that define the turbulent opening years of the 21st century.

## Q & A: Crisis in Darfur

### What has happened in Darfur?

Since early 2003, Sudanese government forces and militia called Janjaweed have been engaged in an armed conflict with rebel groups called the Sudanese Liberation Army/Movement (SLA/SLM) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). As part of its operations against the rebels, government forces waged a systematic campaign of ethnic cleansing against the civilian population who are members of the same ethnic groups as the rebels. Sudanese government forces and the Janjaweed militias burned and destroyed hundreds of villages, caused tens of thousands of civilian deaths, displaced millions of people, and raped and assaulted thousands of women and girls.

As of September 2007, approximately 2.2 million displaced people live in camps in Darfur and more than 200,000 people have fled to neighboring Chad, where they live in refugee camps. In addition to the people displaced by the conflict, at least 2 million additional people are considered conflict-affected by the UN and many need some form of food assistance because the conflict has damaged the local economy, markets, and trade in Darfur.

Rebel allegiances have shifted and split since the conflict began, most notably in November 2005, when the SLA split into two factions. As of September 2007, there are more than a dozen splinter factions of the SLA and JEM. The rebel movements are broadly divided into the few groups supporting the May 2006 Darfur Peace Agreement and the majority of others who have refused to sign the agreement.

### What is happening in Darfur now?

In early 2005, the number of government attacks on civilians decreased, partly because the majority of targeted villages were already destroyed and their inhabitants displaced from the rural areas. Since late 2005, however, the situation has dramatically worsened, particularly after the May 2006 Darfur Peace Agreement.

Today, the situation is transforming from a highly destructive armed conflict between rebels and the government into a violent scramble for power and resources involving government forces, pro-government Janjaweed militia, various rebel and former rebel factions, and bandits. Between January and July 2007, more than 200,000 people were displaced, many of them for the second or third time.

The Government of Sudan in late 2006 and 2007 renewed its bombing campaign, striking areas purportedly under rebel control in North Darfur on an almost daily basis. Government-backed militias have attacked the civilian population in West, South, and North Darfur, including in camps for internally displaced persons. Residents of North Darfur have increasingly complained about abuses carried out by forces aligned with former rebel leader Minni Minawi, who signed the Darfur Peace Agreement in May 2006. These abuses against civilians, as well as clashes between SLA/Minawi fighters and rebel groups, have also caused substantial displacement, especially of people from Korma and Tawila, to various displaced persons camps in the area. Fighting among Arab groups since January 2007 has left more than 200 people dead and forced thousands to flee.

On July 31, 2007, the United Nations (UN) Security Council, with the consent of Sudan, agreed to deploy a peacekeeping force of up to 26,000 international military and police personnel in Darfur. This will be a combined African Union and UN hybrid force (UNAMID) mandated to take over from the beleaguered AU peacekeeping mission, AMIS, which has been operating in Darfur since 2004. The new mission will be equipped with greater resources to protect civilians and humanitarian workers, and to oversee implementation of a tenuous peace agreement. The Sudanese government has insisted that the peacekeeping force be composed primarily of troops from African countries; however it is clear that technical, logistical, and other resources will be needed from non-African countries.

## **Museums & Galleries**

Photography-Now  
The International Center of Photography  
Museum of Modern Art  
Fovea Exhibitions  
Danzinger Projects  
401 Projects  
Powerhouse Arena

## **Inspiration**

VII Photo  
MediaStorm- Multimedia Pieces  
Magnum Photos  
PBS- American Photography: A Century of Images  
FiftyCrows

## **Organizations**

American Society of Media Photographers (ASMP)  
National Press Photographers Association (NPPA)  
Student Photographic Society

## **Seminars/Festivals/Conferences**

Visa Pour l'Image  
Pingyao International Photojournalism Festival  
Women in Photojournalism  
Southwestern Photojournalism Conference  
Northern Short Course  
Flying Short Course  
Southern Short Course

## **Workshops**

Maine Photographic Workshops  
Photography at the Summit  
Santa Fe Workshops  
Missouri Photo Workshop  
Stan Kalish Workshop  
Mountain Workshops  
Sports Shooter Academy  
Truth With A Camera  
Multimedia Bootcamp  
Visual Edge

## **The Business of Photography**

US Copyright Office  
NPPA: Business Practices Toolkit  
Advertising Photographers of America (APA): Business  
FotoQuote  
Poynter  
Rob Galbraith

## **Contests**

Altpick Awards  
World Press Photo  
Photographer of the Year  
College Photographer of the Year  
NPPA's Best of Photojournalism  
White House News Photographers Association

## **Photography Tips**

MediaStorm  
Nikon.net  
betterphoto.com  
Photo.net  
Digital Photography review

## **Books**

The Photograph- Graham Clarke  
Photojournalism - Ken Kobre  
Photographic Lighting- John Child  
Criticizing Photographs- Terry Barrett

## **Online Magazines**

Digital Journalist  
PDN/pdnEDU  
BlueEyes Magazine

## **Magazines**

American Photo  
Communication Arts  
Blind Spot Magazine  
Aperture

## **Blogs**

American Photo Blog  
washingtonpost.com multimedia blog  
Photo Business News & Forum  
A Picture's Worth  
A Photo A Day  
PhotoColumn  
Dan Heller's Photography Business Blog

## **Online Communities**

A Photo A Day  
SportsShooter  
LightStalkers