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21st Century Diplomacy: Ballet, Ballots and Bullets

The Muscarelle Museum of Art at the College of William & Mary and Diplomatic Courier to Unveil Photography Exhibit

Washington, D.C. (May 14, 2014) -- On May 30, 2014, the [Muscarelle Museum of Art](#) and the [Diplomatic Courier](#) will open *21st Century Diplomacy: Ballet, Ballots, and Bullets*, an international photography exhibition curated by Kathryn H. Floyd, visiting instructor at the College of William & Mary.

The works in this exhibition will explore important social questions as they relate to diplomacy, such as: What is diplomacy? Is diplomacy art? Is voting or protesting (or protesting with violence) an art form?

21st Century Diplomacy: Ballets, Ballots, and Bullets features established photographers, as well as up-and-coming talent from the William & Mary students.

A selection of artists featured includes:

- Sebastian Rich, world-renowned conflict photographer
- Ben Barber, journalist, photographer, and consultant
- Skip Kaltenheuser, contributing photographer
- Katy Kobzeff, contributing photographer
- Oscar Lehner, contributing photographer
- Mazen Mahdi, photojournalist covering the Middle East
- Akanksha Mehta, photographer covering South Asia
- Nathan Meyer, contributing photographer
- Vibhu Pande, contributing photographer
- Maggie Ybarra, photojournalist covering the drug war in Mexico

The vibrant and haunting photographs of these talented journalists capture the subtleties of diplomacy. The images explore worldwide social issues that are exemplified in film by showing scenes that include women who find refuge in dance, a person struggling to survive in Syria, and carnival floats satirizing politicians.

“Bringing the *Diplomatic Courier*’s photographers to the Muscarelle is a rare opportunity for Virginians and the William & Mary community to see up-close the complexities of international relations. In many of these images, you look into a person’s eyes and connect with their soul. In other photographs, it is as though you are standing right there watching alongside the artist,”

explains Kathryn H. Floyd, visiting instructor in the government department at the College of William & Mary.

“At *Diplomatic Courier* it is our mission to connect the establishment in foreign policy to the public and the next generation of diplomats. With this exhibition we have embarked on a journey to showcase the subtleties and nuances of what is global diplomacy: from ravaged-by-civil-war Syria to prima ballerinas in Argentina dealing with a different struggle. Through all this we wish to bring to the public and the William & Mary community global issues that demand local attention,” comments Ana C. Rold, editor-in-chief of *Diplomatic Courier*.

“Powerful photographs have changed the course of human war. This exhibition looks at women, more specifically, in areas of conflict and at times, the unflinching realism can be both difficult and uplifting and extremely important.” said Aaron De Groft, director and chief executive officer of the Muscarelle Museum of Art.

The exhibition can be followed on social media with @diplocourier, @photocourier, and #photodiplomacy.

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About *Diplomatic Courier*

Diplomatic Courier is the global affairs magazine that connects the diplomatic and policy establishment to the next generation of leaders in diplomacy and foreign policy. The *Diplomatic Courier* publishes six print issues per year, as well as weekly online content and a daily blog, [On Point](#). The *Diplomatic Courier* is an independent publication both in its voice and its organization. Publishing opinions from all political spectrums, the Courier adheres to the ideals of freedom of expression, individualism, and fair and balanced journalism.

About the Muscarelle Museum of Art

The Muscarelle Museum of Art is located at 603 Jamestown Road on the campus of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va. For more information, call 757-221-2700 or visit www.wm.edu/muscarelle.