

# MOPLA

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**INAUGURAL MONTH of PHOTOGRAPHY LA (MOPLA)  
Announces EXHIBITIONS that EXPOSE  
EMERGING and ESTABLISHED PHOTOGRAPHIC TALENT  
APRIL 2009**

**--PRESENTED BY THE LUCIE FOUNDATION--**

**March 10, 2009** (Los Angeles, CA) - The inaugural Month of Photography Los Angeles (MOPLA) will debut this April 2009 with lectures, workshops, and projections. MOPLA will showcase a vibrant display of talent in an array of photographic exhibitions. Both emerging and established photographers will be seen in conventional and non-traditional venues. These unique exhibitions have an ingrained sense of social impact while accurately reflecting the vision of the photographer. As an inclusive event, MOPLA aims to inspire and engage the professional, enthusiast, emerging artist and collector, both young and seasoned. This effort will organize and galvanize the already thriving photography and art community in LA.

The visual and stimulating celebration of these artists and their work will be on display during the month of April. Below is a look into a few examples of the many exhibitions that MOPLA is bringing to our Los Angeles community next month:

**Markus Klinko and Indrani, *ICONS*** (APRIL 21, Pacific Design Center 7 – 10 pm.)

Ticket information at [www.monthofphotography.com](http://www.monthofphotography.com)

The world premiere of the **Markus Klinko and Indrani *ICONS*** exhibit is the first solo exhibition by the celebrity and The iconic imagery of Markus Klinko and Indrani ranges from the playful to the erotic. Celebrities clamor for the opportunity to be the subject in front of their camera. Mariah

Carey, Beyonce, Jennifer Lopez, Pamela Anderson, Kate Winslet and hundreds of others have been the focus of these images.

The duo is the subject of a new Bravo docu-series entitled *Double Exposure*. *Double Exposure* (working title) follows photographers Klinko and Indrani, along with high-end stylist GK Reid, giving viewers a taste of the fast-paced world of high fashion and celebrity photography. Their first exhibition, *ICONS*, will feature a specific body of work that showcases some of the world's most recognizable faces. **Indrani** describes the exhibit as..."In a world where authenticity is an autograph and reality a genre of TV, our images provide society a mirror to reflect upon its ideals and devotions. With this exhibition we seek to encourage viewers to question, what makes these individuals so beloved? What do they represent for each of us, what roles have we assigned them to play, that they inspire such passions in us? Why do we as a society raise them up to be larger than life, blur the lines between fantasy and reality, admiration and obsessive cult behavior, appoint them as deities for public consumption, then rip them apart if they reveal human frailties? As they shine so brightly, we hope that *ICONS* will inspire its viewers to also reflect upon the long shadows cast." A portion of the proceeds from sales of these photographs will benefit **Keep A Child Alive**, an organization dedicated to providing life-saving anti-retroviral treatment, care and support services to children and their families with HIV/AIDS in Africa and the developing world by directly engaging the global public in the fight against AIDS. [www.keepachildalive.org](http://www.keepachildalive.org)

**Tim Mantoani, *Behind Photographs* (April 7, Pacific Design Center, 6 – 9 pm)**

Shooting 20x24 Polaroids of famous photographers as they hold their most iconic pictures, this interesting layered concept both juxtaposes and celebrates the creation and its creator. It is a rare chance for the viewer to be influenced by the original photograph, the interpretation of the artist himself as well as the combination of these elements forming the final photography itself. These photographs tell a story completely unique in its multifaceted layers and is a visual and mental pleasure for its appreciators. **Tim Mantoani** photographed over 150 individuals and MOPLA will be showcasing a specific sampling of this tremendous project. Our version of the Behind Photographs will feature master shooters such as **Julius Shulman, David Hume Kennerly, Douglas Kirkland** and many others based in Los Angeles.

**Photo District News, *Emerging 30 Show* (April 7, Pacific Design Center, 6 – 9 pm)**

**Photo District News** published their annual March issue that features the tenth class of 30 new and emerging photographers. **PDN** states their three goals for 'PDN's 2009: 30' is, "To provide emerging artists with a sorely needed venue to exhibit their images, to create a reliable resource for the photo community to seek out these talents, and to engage other aspiring photographers in thinking about what it takes to succeed in this profession." This exhibition will showcase the work

of these 30 up-and-coming photographers and will help to achieve and progress **PDN's** mission in supporting this fresh and exciting talent like Justin Maxon – winner of the Lucie Awards' IPA Deeper Perspective of the Year 2008, snow boarding photographer Cole Barash, New Delhi based Adam Ferguson, Macau born Brooklyn based Flora Hanitijo, World Press Award winner Jeff Hutchens, IPA award winner Lucas Zarebinski, and the rest of the emerging 30 for 2009.

**B+**, *GHOST NOTES* (April 7, Pacific Design Center, 6 – 9 pm)

*GHOST NOTES*, according to photographer B+, “is a “photo-album” that both documents and critiques music in its relation to the world. He continues, “Vinyl culture at the beginning of the new millennium is peculiarly positioned between being completely obsolete and forming the template for “the most important North American music since be-bop ----hip hop.” Hip-hop music is the meta-history of recorded music turned on its head and his images reflect that movement.

Seeing the rare and lost 45's as a living museum of our music, B+ finds that looking through these images can be a similar experience to listening to the echoes in between the beats of music. *GHOST NOTES* relies, in its basic construction, on ten years of consistent beat digging. It is littered with narratives within and around the subject. As opposed to ten years of photographs of hip hop, this is ten years of hip-hop photography.

**Mark Edward Harris**, *The AXIS OF EVIL (Inside North Korea, Inside Iran)* (April 7, Pacific Design Center, 6 – 9 pm)

**Mark Edward Harris**, whose photo essays, “are driven by a fascination with history and international politics”, create a visual portal into the culture and landscape of specifically, Iran and North Korea. Harris says, “I consider myself a student of history and incredibly fortunate to get up close and personal to the places that are in the news today and the history books tomorrow.” This exhibit will honor and expose the honest and exquisite nature of these places and people we rarely have the chance to see in this light.

**John Delaney**, *GOLDEN EAGLE HUNTERS of MONGOLIA* (April 7, Pacific Design Center, 6 – 9 pm)

After spending over 15 years as Master Printer working closely with such eminent photographers such as Bruce Davidson, Richard Avedon, Patrick Demarchelier, Steven Klein, Annie Leibovitz and Irving Penn, John Delaney's series “The Golden Eagle Hunters of Mongolia” has garnered him the prestigious International Photography Awards 2008 Discovery of the Year. This show follows his successful exhibit at the Farmani Gallery in NYC. Nobody knows exactly when man tamed the Golden Eagle of Central Asia. Genghis Khan is said to have had over 5,000 “eagle riders” in his personal guard. We do know that since the 15th Century, nomadic Kazakh tribes on

horseback with Golden Eagles have roamed freely across the borders of what is today Russia, China, Kazakhstan and Western Mongolia. History has also shown these legendary horsemen have long had their way of life threatened: the Bolshevik Revolution, Stalin's purges and China's Cultural Revolution drove roaming Kazakhs to the mountains and valleys of Mongolia, where they found refuge and freedom to live as they have for centuries. But at the dawn of the 21st Century, the nomadic way of life is once again in danger of being eradicated. Globalization and the encroachment of the West is irreversibly changing the eagle riders' way of life. Delaney's ongoing project is documenting these remarkable people before their traditions are lost forever. Delaney states, "With classic large format B&W portraits, I've tried to capture their pride and nobility. In the mountains, on horseback, I shot medium format B&W and color film to document the hunt and the vast beauty of Mongolia. The nomads warmly welcomed me and to them I am grateful. I am also honored to have observed their way of life in such an intimate and personal manner and hope my images do their traditions justice."

**About the Month of Photography Los Angeles (MOPLA)**

MOPLA's two-fold mission is to advance dynamic programming designed to engage and stimulate the photography community, as well as to present a comprehensive resource of exhibitions and events in April 2009. MOPLA is organized by the LUCIE FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit foundation dedicated to the celebration of photography.  
[www.monthofphotography.com](http://www.monthofphotography.com)

**About the Lucie Foundation**

The Lucie Foundation's three fold mission is to honor master photographers, discover and cultivate emerging talent and to celebrate the appreciation of photography worldwide. The photography communities from countries around the globe pay tribute to the year's most outstanding photographic achievements at the annual Lucie Awards ceremony. The Lucies recognize men and women whose life's work in photography merits the highest acclaim by their peers. The winners of IPA Photographer of the Year, the Discovery of the Year and Deeper Perspective Photographer of the Year are announced at the Lucies and are awarded cash prizes and statues. The Lucie Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable foundation.  
[www.luciefoundation.org](http://www.luciefoundation.org)