

NEWS RELEASE

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FRED JONES JR. MUSEUM OF ART
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA - NORMAN
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WITH PHOTO

Photography Exhibition Spotlights Global Women's Issues at FJJMA

NORMAN — A new exhibition of photography by Phil Borges at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art sheds light on gender issues worldwide. *Stirring the Fire: A Global Movement to Empower Women and Girls* opens to the public Saturday, April 13.

The photographs featured in the exhibition depict the stories and lives of women across the world, highlighting the common themes among the very different environments in which they live. *Stirring the Fire* is sponsored by *World Literature Today*, the University of Oklahoma's award-winning magazine of international literature and culture. The exhibition opens in conjunction with the magazine's 2013 Puterbaugh Festival, April 9 through 12.



"Since the earliest daguerreotypes, photographs have transformed the way we see ourselves, one another and the world around us," said R.C. Davis-Undiano, *WLT* executive director. "Going back millennia, writers have also transformed our ways of encountering the world. Looking through the eyes of writers and photographers, prepare to be astonished by the power of what images and words can accomplish together."

The Puterbaugh Festival is a part of a 40-year tradition through which *WLT* brings world-class writers to the OU campus for an international symposium, public talks and engagement with students and the general public. This year's events will include multiple opportunities for the local community to interact with the featured speakers and experience the festival's theme of gender equality. The full festival schedule is listed on the Puterbaugh website, puterbaughfestival.org.

“Stirring the Fire gives the museum an incredible opportunity to collaborate with *World Literature Today* on this very important exhibition of photography by renowned artist Phil Borges,” said Ghislain d’Humières, the director of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art. “This exhibition is as educational as it is impacting. I hope visitors are able to connect with the striking images of the women portrayed in Mr. Borges’ works.”

The *Stirring the Fire* opening reception will be preceded by a media slam presented by OU School of Art and Art History students at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9. Faculty will select 12 students to present photography, video, performance art and more. The students’ work will then be featured as a virtual exhibition on the museum’s website.

A roundtable discussion on photography also is scheduled in conjunction with the exhibition at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 11, followed by a gallery talk with photographer, Phil Borges at 11:30 a.m. Guest speakers include Borges; photographer Yousef Khanfar; Todd Stewart, associate professor of photography and associate director of the OU School of Art and Art History; Andrew Strout, professor of photography at the OU School of Art and Art History; and Mark White, the Eugene B. Adkins and Chief Curator of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art.

Both events are open to the public with no admission charge. The exhibition closes July 28.

Borges will present a guest lecture about the exhibition and gender issues preceding the Association opening reception at 6 p.m., Friday, April 12. Following the lecture, current Association members and their guests are invited to attend the opening reception, co-hosted by the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art and *WLT*, at 7 p.m.

Association members with Metro Arts Circle benefits are invited to bring their guest (age 21 and above) to an after party at LOCAL restaurant, 2262 West Main St. in Norman, at 9 p.m. More information about these and the museum’s other events is available on the museum website, www.ou.edu/fjjma.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located in the OU Arts District on the corner of Elm Avenue and Boyd Street, at 555 Elm Ave., on the OU Norman campus. Admission to the museum is complimentary to all visitors, thanks to a generous gift from the OU Athletics Department. The museum is closed on Mondays. Information and accommodations on the basis of disability are available by calling (405) 325-4938 or visiting www.ou.edu/fjjma.

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IMAGE CREDIT

A new photography exhibition at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art focuses on international women and gender issues. *Stirring the Fire* opens April 13 and includes this photograph, *Humaria*, which was taken in Afghanistan.

Phil Borges (U.S., b. 1942)

Humaria, 2005

Chromogenic print, 24 x 20 in.

Used with permission from the artist.