



IT IS WHAT IT WAS

13.12.12–09.01.13

It is What it Was

**MA Documentary Photography and Photojournalism
Final Show, London College of Communication**
<http://www.itiswhatitwas.co.uk>
13 Dec–09 Jan

Exhibition Opening hours 10am–5pm, Mon to Sat.
Closed for Christmas Dec 21–Jan 02

“This is a wonderful collection of projects by a motivated and united group of communicators from whom we shall be hearing a lot more in the future.”

—John Easterby, Course Leader.

The world is in flux.

The question of identity has troubled humanity for centuries, but now in a technological age of communication, economic crisis and rapid change we are confronted more than ever with the question: who are we?

Thirty-four emerging photojournalists from around the globe respond to this crisis in a variety of creative and thought-provoking ways. Spanning continents, ethnicities and personal boundaries, this exhibition showcases the height of photographic practise combined with the probing insight of quality documentary and first-class journalism. It comes as the conclusion to the internationally acclaimed MA Documentary Photography and Photojournalism course at the London College of Communication, and will take place from 13 December – 09 January.

A cohort of multi-award-winning image makers, this group addresses and challenges the question of identity in the modern world, with approaches ranging from the classically photojournalistic to the contemporary and conceptual, and will take introduce audiences to issues on the international stage, from the Occupy Movement in the US, to the intimate and personal, such as an insight into gender reassignment.

Course Leader John Easterby said: “As we approach the end of an extraordinary twelve month journey, I look at the work produced by the class of 2012 with a sense of wonder and admiration. With a central theme of identity the 2012 MA show, *It Is What it Was*, brings together the thoughts, ideas and observations of 34 exceptional photographers. Their stories are fresh and original and the manner in which they are presented to the public, contemporary and in some cases, ground breaking.



“Diverse as they are, the stories often reveal the similarities and connections that exist between us all. On one side of the world we see the Brazilian Gaucho community, and on the other, the Samurai Horse Warriors of Fukushima, each in their way fighting to preserve ancient traditions in the face of different threats.”

The exhibition will take place in the London College of Communication, an institution specialising in cutting edge media and communications, consistently producing outstanding talents in journalism.

Commenting on the advancing technology available to photographers, which will be showcased at the exhibition in the form of stunning images and multimedia projects, Mr Easterby continued: “Never before has the photographer enjoyed such freedom to draw on multiple resources to communicate. If this is the 5DMkII generation, then they have become much, much more than photographers who occasionally use a bit of sound and video.”

A world-leading course in photojournalism, this MA has produced world-class photographers and prize-winners, including Felicia Webb, Marcus Bleasdale, Anastasia Taylor Lind, Jordi Ruiz Cirera and Olivia Arthur.

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

For media enquiries and more information on the exhibition and photographers, please contact Course Leader **John Easterby** +44(0)7831 564 606 Or email: mail@itiswhatitwas.co.uk. For more information and to see examples of work please visit itiswhatitwas.co.uk.

The postgraduate programme has been running in various forms for over two decades. Its remarkable international reputation is measured by an exceptional track record of achievement and a truly multinational intake of students. Alumni have gone on to win major international awards including World Press Photo Awards (nine times), the Jerwood Photography Prize (six times), the Sunday Times Ian Parry Award (twice), Royal Photographic Society Postgraduate Bursaries (three), Winston Churchill Scholarships (four times), the Visa D’Or at the Perpignan Festival of Photojournalism (twice), Arts Council Awards (three times), the Eugene Smith Award, the Unicef Photographer of the Year Award, the European Book Publishers Award, The Guardian/Royal Photographic Society Joan Wakelin Award (twice), the Olivier Rebbot Award, the Sony Photographer of the Year Award, the F Award, the 3P Award, the Inge Morath Award, the Deutsche Bank in Photography (twice) and just this month, the Taylor Wessing award.

The London College of Communication is part of the University of the Arts London

LCC
Elephant & Castle
London SE1 6SB
Switchboard: +44 (0)20 7514 6500

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