

**Can you describe a few of your trigger mechanisms that make you want to stop and shoot?**

Beautiful light makes me stop, even when I'm not photographing. And a beautiful African woman, I'm often very impressed by their elegance.

**How strong of a connection do you have with your subject matter and can you describe that connection?**

I need to have a connection if I enter the personal space of someone. I wouldn't feel good to just enter and intrude if I don't show respect. Be an "engaged observer" like Ed Kashi mentions.

**What are your recurring themes?**

Mainly humanitarian photography, drought, farmers, hospitals, refugees, ex-child soldiers, refugees, cultus.

**What is the distance to your subject you are most comfortable with while working?**

I like to work close to the subject, but I have learned to take some distance to include more of the context, to tell the story better in one picture. For me it used to be more easy to come close to my subject, than to stay far.

**What is your favorite Focal Length or Field of View?**

18 mm on a Fujifilm (28 mm full frame)

**What camera are you working with currently?**

2 x Fujifilm X-T2

**How do you see the relationship with your camera? Is it a friend, tool or whatever?**

It's a tool, which I love. It becomes a part of me, an extension when I am working.

**Do you have a preference for Black & White or Color? Please explain why.**

I love b&w, but my work requires colour, so I have a lot in my portfolio in colour. I love both for their own qualities. In bnw I love the contrast, and the way bnw simplifies an image to take your attention to the main

subject. In color I love subtlety, even tones with a pinch of color.

**Are you self taught, educated or a little bit of both?**

Both

**How do you feel about being photographed?**

I don't like it, so I understand the people who don't like it :-)

**Do you like to work by yourself or to have someone with you? Please explain why.**

I like to have an assistant who is proactive, to help with the lighting and to share the feeling of 'yes', we did it! I like to share the excitement of shooting. Usually I work with a team of people. Photographing itself, I do on my own, it's too much if two photographers are shooting one subject, don't think the person would be at ease. And I want to have a direct connection with the subject. I often learn a little bit of the local language, that I don't need to rely on my translator and be more intimate (?) more close, with the people I photograph.

**Do you listen to music while you are shooting? How do**







***you feel the music enhances the visual experience?***

No music, since I work mainly in the field, I talk to the people or I am quiet, sometimes when I feel a big harmony, I start to sing during shooting and that often creates a very relaxed atmosphere. (even though my singing isn't great)

***Do you have a preference for images as an analog or as a digital state?***

I love the look and feel of analogue photography, but for the moment I only work digital. I use the presets of Mastin Labs, which are very good for film simulation. They offer a perfect platform for people who like to combine shooting film and digital seamlessly.

***Where in the world are you located?***

I moved recently to Cape Town for the moment with my husband. It's the best place on earth. I always wanted to live in Africa, but I was afraid i would miss access to technology. Here is the perfect mix. And there's also a mixture of all races, which for me is the ultimate harmony in living.

***Where is your favorite place to work?***

I love Africa, mainly Uganda and Ethiopia. But recently Honduras and Ecuador caught my heart as well. Myanmar is also one of the countries I felt immediately at home.

***When you're feeling somewhat slow or lost, how do you find your way back to find inspiration to get working again?***

I don't know that feeling, I always have ideas, and never enough time. People are my inspiration.

***Do you exhibit your work in any form?***

Sometimes I get selected for exhibitions, (in print), I show my work since recently on Instagram and I am working on a new website,... available soon! (or maybe out when this article is published!)

***Do you go to exhibitions or do so on the web?***

I don't go enough to exhibitions. So I look for work of others on their website, and I check Instagram on a daily basis. It's a source of inspiration. I only started this year on Instagram, and I learn a lot from what other photographers show.

***Do you collect other photographers work?***

Since we are living a pretty nomadic life, we don't own many things. I have some photo books, which I have shipped to Cape Town. They make me

feel at home together with my diatonic accordion and my husband.

***How do you feel about the current state of photography?***

Photography is getting very widespread and accessible, and producible by everyone. It has never been this popular. There is a lot of banal pictures produced every day, but also an enormous amount of great work. I think the level of photography is very high and someone can learn much quicker to make good photographs than before. I feel that photography also receives much more attention than before, and good photographers are getting acknowledgement on radio, magazines etc.

***How satisfied are you in your current state of photography and what would you like to improve upon?***

I am still learning everyday, and am not yet at the level I would like to. It's a motivation to wake up every morning. I hope one day I will be happy with the level I have reached.

***Can you describe how you judge the success or failure of your work?***

I think it's a success if I can transpone a feeling, an atmosphere. I like to make a connection and show a real emotion. Sometimes I don't get a lot of time and if I manage to get this connection with the person very quickly and make beautiful work, I am very satisfied. In external success, of course, it's very nice to receive likes, and comments. Especially when I feel that people mean what they comment on my work.

Often I get personal messages, that's really heartwarming. When I get an award, that's of course super nice, but it doesn't touch me that much, I rather think I got lucky, cause there's so many good work out there.

***What would you be doing now if you had not picked up the camera?***

I would be a dancer. And maybe still be an architect, but a very unhappy one!

***If you would like to make a closing statement, we'd love to hear what you have to say.***

Stay true to yourself and always show respect.

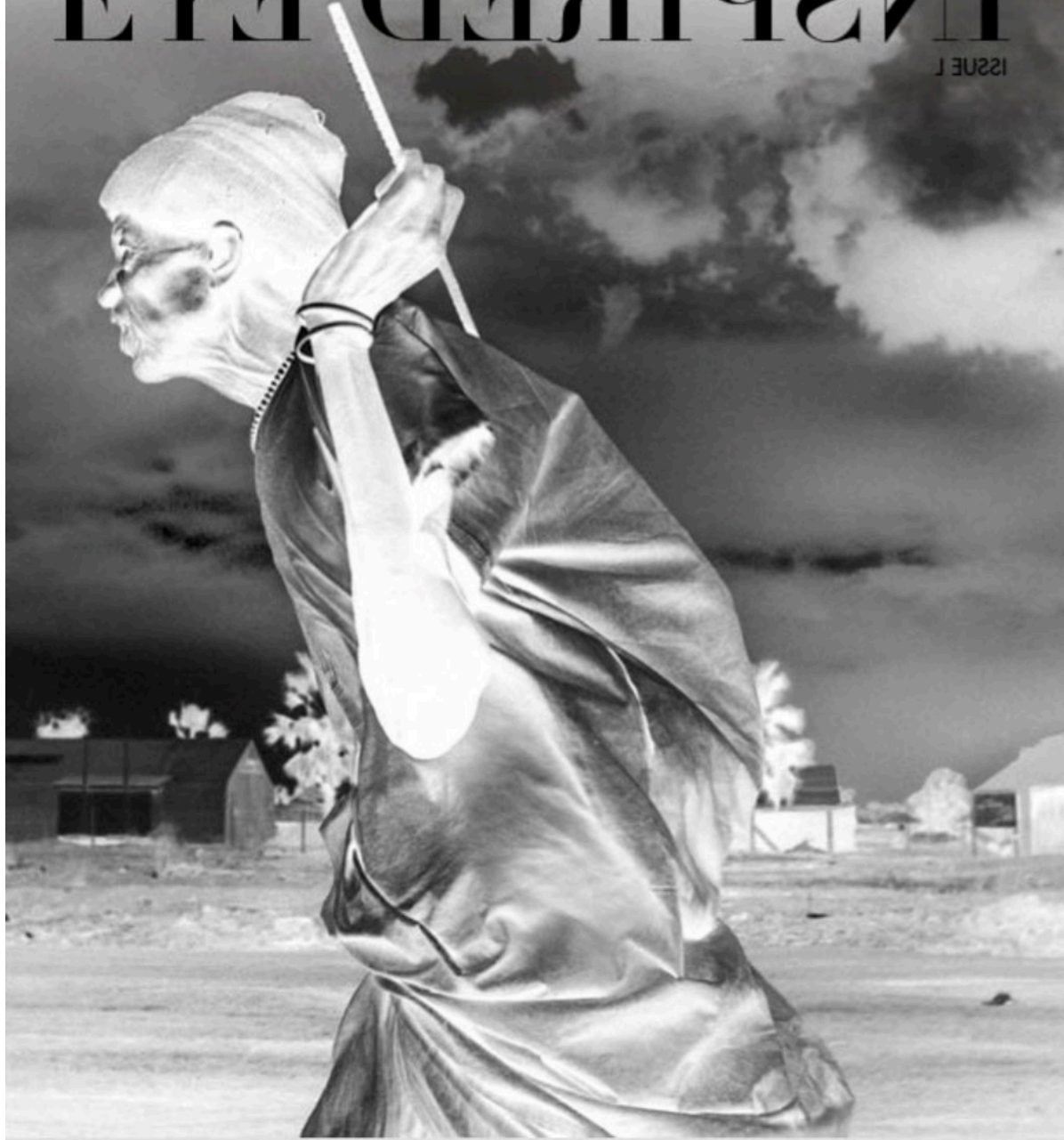


 SITE

DEVELOPING THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S EYE, HEART AND MIND

# INSPIRED EYE

ISSUE 1



TO INSPIRE AND TO BE INSPIRED BY ALL OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY COMMUNITY