

LOUIE PALU

(b. 1968, Toronto, Canada)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 2020-Present MFA Candidate Maryland Institute College of Art, Low-Residency Program in Studio Art, Class of 2023
- 2006 Canadian Forces HEFAT Training, Canada
HEFAT Training Centurion Risk Assessment Services, UK
- 1991 Summer Scholarship program Allied Independent Colleges of Art (A.I.C.A) New York, USA
- 1987-91 Graduate, Ontario College of Art, Toronto, Canada. Certificate earned A.O.C.A.

RELATED EXPERIENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

- 2019-Present National Geographic Explorer
- 2015-Present Founder & Curator of Archive 192
- 1991-Present Independent documentary photographer
- 2018-2019 Elected Board Member Frontline Freelance Register (volunteer position)
- 2001-07 Staff Photographer, The Globe and Mail, Toronto, Canada
- 1991 Intern to photographer Mary Ellen Mark, New York, USA
- 1987-88 Intern Gallery 44 Center for Contemporary Photography, Toronto, Canada

SELECTED SOLO SHOWS

- 2022 “Cage Call”, Ryerson Image Centre, Toronto, ON
“Distant Early Warning”, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD, USA
- 2021 “Distant Early Warning”, Audain Art Museum, Whistler, BC
- 2019 “Arctic Passage” SXSW Art Installation Program, Harry Ransom Center, Austin, TX
“Distant Early Warning”, Visa Pour l’Image, Festival of Photojournalism, Perpignan, France
“Distant Early Warning”, McMichal Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, ON
- 2017 “Garmsir Marines”, Click Photo Festival outdoor installation, Battle Park, UNC Chapel Hill, USA
- 2013 “Mira Mexico”, Kinsman Robinson Galleries, Toronto, Canada
“The Fighting Season”, Bluesky Gallery, Portland, Oregon, USA
“The Fighting Season”, Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, Canada
“Cage Call”, Art Gallery of Sudbury, Sudbury, Canada
“The Fighting Season”, Sol Mednick Gallery, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
- 2011 “The Fighting Season”, Honfleur Gallery, Washington DC, USA
“The Fighting Season”, Kinsman Robinson Galleries, Toronto, Canada

- 2006-07 “Cage Call”, Griffin Museum of Photography, Winchester, Massachusetts, USA
 2006 “Cage Call”, Simon Fraser University, Teck Gallery, Vancouver, Canada. Curated by Bill
 Jefferies
 “Cage Call”, Bluesky Gallery, Portland, Oregon, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 “We Are Story: The Canada Now Photography Acquisition”, The Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto
 2022 World Press Photo (toured and & published worldwide)
 2019 “Arnold Newman Prize for New Directions in Portraiture”, Griffin Museum of Photography,
 Winchester, MA
 “Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition”, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, Washington,
 DC
 2017-18 “The Outwin 2016: American Portraiture Today”, A touring exhibition created by the
 Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery which travelled to: Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art
 in Kansas City, Art Museum of South Texas in Corpus Christi, Tacoma Art Museum and
 Ackland Art Museum at UNC Chapel Hill
 “(un)expected *families*”, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
 “Face of Battle”, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, Washington DC, USA
 2017 “Conflict and Consequence”, Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, USA
 2016 “Outwin Boochever Portrait Exhibition”, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery,
 Washington DC, USA
 2014 “Guns without Borders in Mexico and Central America”, Worcester Art Museum, curated by
 Nancy Burns
 “Mira Mexico”, selected for the F Book Show in Tokyo, Japan
 Leopold Godowsky Award, Photographic Resource Center, Boston University
 2013 “Unfolding Images”, photo book exhibition. Contemporary Arts Center, PhotoNOLA festival
 New Orleans, USA
 “The Gender Show” George Eastman House, Rochester, USA. Curated by Alison Nordstrom and
 Jessica Johnson
 “Clash”, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario. Curated by Andrea Cunard
 Sondheim Artscape Prize Finalists Exhibition, The Walter’s Art Museum, Baltimore,
 Maryland, USA
 International Photobook Dummy Award. Milan MIA Milan Image Art Fair, Dublin Photo Ireland
 Festival, Paris Le Bal, Kassel 6th Fotobook Festival.
 Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition Exhibition, Smithsonian, National Portrait Gallery,
 Washington DC, USA.
 2012-14 “WAR/PHOTOGRAPHY: Images of Armed Conflict and Its Aftermath”, Curated by Anne
 Wilkes Tucker
 Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Annenberg Space for Photography, Corcoran Gallery of Art,
 Brooklyn Museum.
 2012 “Soldier, at Ease”, Houston Center of Photography, Houston, USA
 2011 International Discoveries, Fotofest, Houston, Texas, USA
 “Metropolis: City Life in the Urban Age”, Noorderlicht Gallery, Groningen, Netherlands and
 Museum of Architecture in Tallinn, Estonia
 “IN REVIEW: WAR”, with Ed Grazda, Lucian Perkins and Christopher Sims curated by Kevin
 Miller, Southeast
 Museum of Photography, Daytona State College, Daytona Beach, Florida, U.S.A.
 Sondheim Artscape Prize Finalists Exhibition, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland,
 USA

- 2010 “Warzone”, organized by Noorderlicht. Project exhibited in the New York Photo Festival, an installation in the Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam and at the Noorderlicht gallery in Groningen, Netherlands
- 2009 Visa Pour l’Image, International Festival of Photojournalism, Visa d’or Daily Press Exhibition, Perpignan, France
New York Photo Festival, selected as a Feature Artist for exhibition “Home for Good”. New York, USA
CONTACT Photography Festival, featured artist, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. War Zone Graffiti from Afghanistan series installation in alleys with graffiti around city
Hearst Photography Biennial Award Exhibition, Hearst Tower, Alexey Brodovitch & Hearst Galleries, New York, USA
- 2008 Voies Off Fringe Festival, audiovisual projection of Guantanamo Bay work, Arles, France.
“SLAGUE – L’histoire d’un mineur ”, Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada
Multi-media collaboration using projection of Cage Call images for play. From a French translation of Spitting Slag by Mansel Robinson. Performed in Québec, Ontario and New Brunswick.
“New on the Wall: Recent Photography Acquisitions”, Portland Art Museum, Portland, Oregon, USA
“Zhari-Panjwai: Dispatches from Afghanistan”, Dalhousie University Art Gallery, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Print installation with audio, curated by Peter Dykhuis. Exhibited in conjunction with Craig Barber's work, Ghosts in the Landscape: Vietnam Revisited, as part of the symposium, The Politics of Remembering: Stories to Pass on at the University of King’s College, sponsored by the Finnish Centre of Excellence
- 2007 Prix de la Photographie Paris, Galerie 13Sevigne, Paris, France
“Witness: Know War/Know Genocide”. Photographs from the Eastman House collection depicting war from 1855 to the present. George Eastman House International Museum of Film and Photography, Rochester, New York, USA. Curated by Alison Nordstrom.
- 2006 “The Thousand Words of Photojournalism ”, The Canadian Commission for UNESCO and Canadian Newspaper Association, Constitution Square II, Ottawa, Canada
Visa Pour l’Image, International Festival of Photojournalism, Visa d’or Daily Press Exhibition, Perpignan, France
Centrum för Fotografi, with Neil Goldstein and Nathalie Latham, Stockholm, Sweden. Curated by Curator Gunilla Muhr, digital projection of Cage Call.
FotoGrafia International Festival of Rome, Hadrian's Temple, Rome, Italy, digital projection of Cage Call
- 2005 Recent Acquisitions from the Library and Archives of Canada, Gatineau Presentation Centre, Gatineau, Quebec, Canada. Curated by JoAnne Stober
Ping Yao International Photography Festival, Ping Yao, China. Curated by Jim Dooley
Annual Focused exhibition, Photographic Center Northwest, Seattle, Washington, USA. Curated by Mary Virginia Swanson
Vital Signs: Focus on Young Photographers, George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film, Rochester, New York, USA. Curated by Alison Nordstrom. Group show with Bremner Benedict, Peter Holzhauser, Eirik Johnson, Chris McCaw, A. Leo Nash, Lori Nix, Ken Rosenthal, Lisa Klapstock, Johannes Hepp, Astrid Kruse Jensen and Simon Norfolk
7th Internationale Fototage, Mannheim/Ludwigshafen, Wilhelm-Hack-Museum, Ludwigshafen, Germany. Curated by Tina Schelhorn
- 2004 Visa Pour l’Image, International Festival of Photojournalism Visa d’or Daily Press Exhibition and work also selected for evening slide show, Perpignan, France
Humanity Photo Awards Exhibition, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China, UN Pavilion including 2005 EXPO in Japan and UNESCO headquarters Paris, France

- 1992 “The American Dream”, Center For Photography at Woodstock, Woodstock, New York, USA.
 1991 “Family Of Man Revisited”, Center For Photography at Woodstock, New York, USA. Curated by
 Larry Fink

COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario
 Australian War Memorial
 Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, New Haven, Connecticut, USA
 Burchfield Penny Art Center, Buffalo, New York, USA
 Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, Ontario
 Center of Creative Photography, Tucson, Arizona, USA
 George Eastman Museum, Rochester, New York, USA
 Harry Ransom Center, University Texas at Austin, USA
 Joan Flasch Artists' Book Collection, Chicago, Illinois, USA
 Imperial War Museum London, UK
 Library and Archives of Canada, Gatineau, Quebec, Canada
 Library of the Marines Corps, Archives and Special Collections Branch, Quantico, Virginia, USA
 Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA
 Museum of Civilization, Hull, Quebec, Canada
 Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Massachusetts, USA
 National Gallery of Art, Washington DC, USA
 National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
 Portland Art Museum, Portland, Oregon, USA
 Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington DC, USA
 Southeast Museum of Photography, Daytona State College, Daytona Beach, Florida, USA
 Visual Studies Photography, Tucson, Arizona, USA
 Worcester Art Museum, Massachusetts, USA

SELECTED CRITICAL REVIEWS + FEATURES

- 2022 “Photographer Shares His Experience Documenting ‘Washington on Edge’”, January 2022, by
 Jaron Schneider
 “Garmsir Marines”, Katalog
 “Militarization of North American Arctic”, Washington Post
 “A Striking Visual Foray into a Unique Moment in D.C. Metal Music History”, Washington Post
 2021 “Louie Palu: Distant Early Warning”, GUP Magazine, by Sophie Beerens
 “The slow-burning crisis that sparked the Capitol violence was right before our eyes”, National
 Geographic, by Robert Draper
 “Inside the U.S. Insurrection with a Nat Geo Photographer”, National Geographic, by Susan Goldberg
 “Documenting Washington on Edge”, National Geographic
 2020 “Pandemic Politics, Washington Post
 “Photographing Year Zero America”, Washington Post
 “Inside the Capitol”, National Geographic
 “Crisis that Sparked the Capitol Violence, National Geographic
 2019 “New Cold War”, September, National Geographic Magazine
 2018 “Louie Palu Front Towards Enemy”, Elizabeth Avedon Journal, March 12, 2018, by Elizabeth
 Avedon

- 2014 “Paper of Record”, Photo District News (PDN), Review of Mira Mexico, February 2014 Issue, New York NY, by Dzana Tsomondo
- 2013 “Mira Mexico”, Aperture Photo Book Review 5, Fall 2013, New York, USA, by Fred Ritchin
“The Art of War”, Canadian Art, Fall 2013 Issue, Toronto, Canada, by Noah Richler
- 2012 “Sudbury’s Image”, Prefix Photo, Issue 25 Land and Sea, Volume 13, Number 1, Published Spring 2012 Toronto, Canada, By Kenneth Hayes.
“LOUIE PALU: Postcards from the Heart of Darkness”, Photo District News Edu, Spring Page 39-42, New York, NY, USA, by Hal Stucker
- 2010 “Conflict”, May–September 2010 issue, Ciel Variable No. 85, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
- 2009 “Cage Call”, Visual Studies, Vol. 24, No. 2, September 2009, Reviewed by John Grady, Wheaton College, MA, USA
- 1999 “Primordial Monsters of The North”, The Gazette, February 20, Montreal, Canada, work reviewed by Bryan Demchinsky.
“Industrial Cathedrals of The North”, National Post, February 3, Toronto, Canada, work reviewed by John David Gravenor

SELECTED WRITING BY LOUIE PALU

- 2017 Palu, Louie, “War and Storytelling after 9/11: A Photojournalist’s Perspective”. eds. Hanna Meretoja and Colin Davis, Routledge Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Literature (Book 80, pages 267-280)
Palu, Louie, “Image Control in the Age of Terror”. Art as Political Witness, eds. Kia Lindroos and Frank Moller. Barbara Budrich Publishers

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2022 World Press Photo Award for Long Term Projects
Hot Docs Official Selection for documentary Feature Film, “ZERO POSITION,” directed by Louie Palu, (85 min, Canada)
- 2020-22 National Geographic Society Emergency Fund for Journalists Grants
- 2019 Arnold Newman Prize for New Directions in Portraiture
National Geographic Explorers Grant
Elected to the Royal Canadian Geographic Society of Fellows
Best of Photojournalism, 1st Place Environmental Stories
Best of Photojournalism, 3rd Place Environmental Singles
Pictures of the Year International, Award of Excellence Issue Reporting Story
White House News Photographers Association, 3rd Place Pictorial
National Parks Artist In Residence Program, Gettysburg National Military Park
Visual Studies Workshop Artist Residency
“New Cold War” Winner Award of Excellence, 76th Picture of the Year Competition
- 2018 “Front Towards Enemy” Winner Book Category American Photography 34
Best of Photojournalism Award, National Press Photographers Association
- 2017 Pulitzer Center for Crisis Reporting Grant
Peter Reed Foundation Grant, New York, NY, USA
- 2016 John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship in Photography, New York, NY, USA
Harry Ransom Center Research Fellow in the Humanities at the University of Texas at Austin
- 2015 Milton Rogovin Fellowship from the Center of Creative Photography at the University of Arizona
- 2014 Doc Institute Breakthrough Program for Hot Docs, documentary film festival Toronto, Canada
- 2013 Leopold Godowsky Award, Photographic Resource Center, Boston University

- Silver Award for “Borderline”, a multimedia project produced with The Globe and Mail for best online-only article or series, Canadian Online Publishing Awards (COPAs)
 White House News Photographers Association, Pictures of the Year-Eyes of Time Contest, Washington DC, USA
 Three 1st places and one Award of Excellence
- 2012 Pulitzer Center for Crisis Reporting Grant, Washington DC, USA
 Aperture Prize Finalist, New York, NY, USA
 Canada Council for the Arts Visual Arts Grant
- 2011 National Magazine Award for portraiture
 Bernard L. Schwartz Fellowship, New America Foundation, Washington DC, USA. Two-year fellowship to study
 Mexican drug war at prominent U.S. public policy think tank
- 2010 Nominated for a National Newspaper Award for Spot News Photography in Afghanistan
 Alexia Foundation Photography Grant for World Peace and Cultural Understanding for a project on Kandahar, 2010 White House News Photographers Association, Pictures of the Year-Eyes of Time Contest, Washington DC, USA. 2nd Place International News
- 2009 Hearst Photography Biennial Award Winner, New York, NY USA
 White House News Photographers Association, Pictures of the Year-Eyes of Time Contest, Washington DC, USA
 Seven awards in multiple categories including: News, Picture Story and Best Portfolio Awards
 Aftermath Grant, Aftermath Foundation. Grant awarded to photograph and interview veterans of the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Vietnam
- 2008 Hasselblad Master Award, for Editorial Photography, Copenhagen, Denmark
 Best of Photojournalism Award, 3rd place Non-Traditional Photojournalism, National Press Photographers Association, USA
- 2007 Prix de le Photographie Paris, First and Second Prize in Photojournalism Category, Paris, France
- 2006 Winner, Critical Mass Book Award, Photolucida, Portland, Oregon, USA
- 2005 Silver Medal and Award of Excellence for photography spread, Society of Newspaper Design
- 2003 Canada Council for the Arts Visual Arts Grant
 Ontario Arts Council Visual Arts Grant

SELECTED BOOKS

- 2019 “A Field Guide to Asbestos”, Yoffy Press
- 2017 “Front Towards Enemy”, published by Yoffy Press, Atlanta, Georgia, USA
- 2010 War Zone, published by Noorderlicht, multiple photographers; Groningen, Netherlands
- 2008 Hasselblad Master Award Book, multiple photographers; published by teNeues, Germany
- 2007 “Cage Call: Life and Death in the Hard Rock Mining Belt”, Louie Palu, Charlie Angus; published by Photolucida; Portland, Oregon, USA.
- 2006 “Carte Blanche”, multiple photographers, edited by MaryAnne Camilleri; published by Magenta Publishing for the Arts; Toronto, Canada

FILM + MULTIMEDIA

- 2021 “Zero Position”, Director, 85 minutes, documentary theatrical, Summit Road Films
- 2016 “Road Through War”, Director, Producer, Director of Photography, feature length (19 minutes) documentary film on the war in Ukraine for theatrical and broadcast release made through the Bravo Factual Program

- 2015 “Kandahar Journals”, Director, Producer, Director of Photography, feature length (79 minutes) documentary film on the war in Kandahar, Afghanistan for theatrical and broadcast release
Produced in association with the Documentary Channel
- 2014 “No Safe Use”, directed a video short portrait for the award winning online piece examining victims of asbestos exposure in Canada
- 2013 “Crossing the line: Chronicling Mexico's drug war” photographer and sound recordist for award winning interactive online piece for The Globe and Mail
- 2009 “Unconventional Warfare”, directed, photographed and narrated 9-part documentary short film series on the frontlines in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Produced for The Atlantic Magazine online

FILM FESTIVALS

- 2022 Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, Toronto, Ontario
- 2016 Kandahar Journals, official selection for multiple festivals including Docs Barcelona, Dok Munich, DOKU.Arts Berlin and Festival Grand Prize winner at the Arizona International Film Festival and the Dziga Vertov Award for Best Feature Documentary
- 2007 AIACE-INVIDEO Festival, Cage Call selected as a multi-media projection to classical music soundtrack. Milan, Italy, Italy- Spazio Oberdan, San Gimignano, Italy- Sala Tamagni, Brussels, Belgium- Palais de Beaux-Arts

TEACHING, WORKSHOPS, LECTURES AND SYMPOSIUMS

Louie has been a coach at the National Press Photographers Multimedia Immersion Workshop, worked as an instructor at the Conflict Photography Workshops training journalists for hostile environments, a featured speaker at the National Press Photographers Northern Short Course multiple times and a coach at the Syracuse University Fall Workshop for photojournalism. Louie has been a recurring lecturer and tutor for several years at the London College of Communication MA in Photojournalism and Documentary Photography from 2015-2018.

Louie began teaching at the elementary school level in 1991 through to 1996 at the Upper Canada College Preparatory School in Toronto managing the after-school photography program. Louie developed the program, designed a new darkroom and added an additional instructor which Louie managed. He has lectured and given workshops internationally at high schools and post secondary institutions at every level including: George Washington University, George Mason University, University of Verona, University of Texas at Austin, University of Jyväskylä, Ryerson University, University of Toronto, American University, University of Manchester, Ontario College of Art and Design, Hamburg University, University of the Arts, Temple University, Syracuse University, Rochester Institute of Technology, San Francisco Art Institute, International Center of Photography, National Gallery of Canada, City University of New York, Duke University, University of North Carolina, University of Georgia, University of Arizona, Society of Professional Journalists, European Consortium of Political Research conference in Reykjavik, Iceland, Society of Photographic Education and many others.

PUBLICATION

Louie’s work has been published or featured in Canadian Art, Geist, The Walrus, Ciel variable, British Journal of Photography, Boston Globe, El Pais, La Repubblica, BBC, Al Jazeera, Der Spiegel, Al Arabiya, PBS NewsHour, The New Yorker, The New York Times, National Geographic, Daily Mail, Foreign Policy, Paris Match, TIME, Newsweek, The Atlantic, The Washington Post, The Toronto Star, The Economist,

NPR, VOA, Huffington Post, CBC, The Globe and Mail, Wall Street Journal, Sunday Times Magazine, Rolling Stone and many others. His work has also been featured in numerous books and catalogues on photography and on the PBS Learning Media Essential Lens series.

PERSONAL PHILOSOPHY

I was born in Canada to poor Italian Immigrant parents. My mother was a seamstress who worked on an assembly line at a sewing machine making coats while pregnant with me. My father was a stonemason who worked in construction. My parents were born before the Second World War and grew up witnesses to violence and human rights abuses. I grew up hearing stories of war, atrocities and poverty in my family and was taught to always be in touch with your roots. This became the basis of all my choices of subject matter as a documentary photographer. I believe that what I do is not a career, but a way of life and belief system. Consequently, I feel as though my role in the world as a photographer is to monitor power and document social political issues generally relating to human rights, poverty and conflict. I try to use the most simple of photographic approaches and equipment free of effects and gimmicks. I believe in ethically produced, straight forward, raw, unflinching images.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

White House News Photographers Association

Society of Professional Journalists

National Press Photographers Association

Frontline Freelance Register