ICP AND SOCIAL CHANGE

FACT SHEET

ICP declared 2017 the “Year of Social Change”—a period during which its exhibitions and programming will all support this vision. Since its founding in 1974, ICP has been focusing on social issues by using images to educate and change the world.

EXHIBITIONS

Since 1974, ICP has presented 255 (and counting) exhibitions exploring issues tied to social change, including Magubane’s South Africa (1978), Roman Vishniac: A Vanished World (1984), Perfecting Mankind: Eugenics and Photography (2001), and Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self (2004). (Full list available.)

ICP SCHOOL

Keeping the legacy of “concerned photography” alive, the ICP School offers a diverse curriculum, including eight to ten classes on social justice per semester, to students in both the Full-Time and Continuing Education programs. Current classes include: #NotNormal: A Postfactual Field Guide to Photography and Activism, More Than a Witness: Photographic Activism, and The Photojournalist: How to Survive and Succeed. (Full list available.)

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

ICP is offering more than a dozen events focused on social change in the first quarter of 2017. Designed to educate and engage, these lectures, panels, and workshops explore timely topics in photography and visual culture. (Full list available at icp.org/events)

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Harnessing the power of photography as a way to spark social change, ICP Community Programs empower young people from diverse backgrounds to express themselves and to investigate identity and society via documentation of personal experience. By providing students with the authority and opportunity to document their own stories and those of their communities, ICP strives to create a more equitable and socially engaged arts community.

CURRENT EXHIBITION

Perpetual Revolution: The Image and Social Change (on view through May 7, 2017) is the second exhibition to be presented in the new ICP Museum (located at 250 Bowery) and the inaugural show of ICP’s “Year of Social
Change.” It explores how image production, display, and distribution have the potential to simultaneously report and create social change, and to foster epic social and political transformations. This examination is undertaken through the lenses of six topics: #BlackLivesMatter, climate change, gender fluidity, the refugee crisis, terrorist propaganda, and the right-wing fringe and the 2016 presidential election.

ABOUT ICP

The International Center of Photography (ICP) is the world’s leading institution dedicated to photography and visual culture. Cornell Capa founded ICP in 1974 to preserve the legacy of "concerned photography”—the creation of socially and politically minded images that have the potential to educate and change the world—and the center’s mission endures today, even as the photographic medium and imagemaking practices have evolved. Through its exhibitions, school, public programs, and community outreach, ICP offers an open forum for dialogue about the role that photographs, videos, and new media play in our society. To date, it has presented more than 700 exhibitions and offered thousands of classes at every level. ICP brings together photographers, artists, students, and scholars to create and interpret the realm of the image. Here, members of this unique community are encouraged to explore photography and visual culture as mediums of empowerment and as catalysts for wide-reaching social change. Visit icp.org/concerned to learn more.