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media release



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**The School of the International  
Center of Photography presents  
*Life in Motion***

**Opening Reception:**

December 8, 2011, 6:00 pm–8:00 pm  
Remarks at 6:30 pm

**Exhibition on view at the Rita K. Hillman  
Education Gallery:**

December 9 through March 18, 2012  
Monday–Sunday, 10:00 am–6:00 pm  
1114 Avenue of the Americas at 43rd Street  
New York, NY 10036

**Happy Families International Center, Inc.**, the International Center of Photography (ICP), and the Artist Foundation will present *Life in Motion*, a unique photo exhibition of 50 images from 10 students' work created to raise awareness about disabled children who are unable to live a fulfilled life due to their physical limitations. This project was created by Happy Families International as part of its "I Want to Walk" program, which is dedicated to helping orphaned children obtain their dream of walking. For some children this means physically being able to walk, while for others "walking" also means being able to leave the orphanage and achieve their goals.

The objective of this photo exhibit is to draw the public's attention to these children, whose opportunities are very limited. Our whole life is motion, but that means something different to everyone. To some, motion is a spiritual or professional development, to others motion means traveling; but to some people—motion is a dream of simply being able to walk freely.

"It is very hard to be an orphan, it is even harder to be an orphan with special needs. *Life in Motion* gives these children a chance to express who they are and to show what they can do in spite of their disabilities. It is a step forward for them to connect with the world outside of the orphanage walls. They are different, but aren't we all?" said Founder and Producer of the *Life in Motion* project, Natasha Shaginian-Needham, M.D., Executive Director and Co-Founder of Happy Families International Center, Inc.

"The beauty and strength in these children's hearts and souls galvanized these 10 fellows to work determinedly to make a powerful and compassionate social document that demonstrates that photography can make a difference in people's lives," said Alison Morley, Chair of ICP's Documentary Photography and Photojournalism Program, who took part in organizing the exhibition.

The images were taken by five ICP students, who were led by renowned photographer Ed Kashi, together with five students from The Rodchenko Moscow School of Photography and Multimedia. In order to truly bond and understand these children, the students were brought to different orphanages and rehabilitation centers in Russia, where they spent time with the children, watching them play and interacting with them.

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“It was inspiring to watch these young photographers work in the challenging conditions of the orphanages, make intimate and heartfelt connections with the children and produce beautiful work. I was also touched to see how this group of 10 photographers, from such diverse places and circumstances, came together as one to produce advocacy work for the benefit of the charity,” said Kashi.

The photographs on display in the gallery are for sale and all proceeds will benefit Happy Families International.

### About the Photographers and Their Work



**Nancy Borowick** is a documentary photographer based in New York City. Nancy is a graduate of ICP’s Documentary Photography and Photojournalism Program and holds a degree in Anthropology from Union College. Over the last seven years she has worked with children as both a teacher and as a photojournalist, focusing mainly on water programs and child trafficking in West Africa.



**Brian Driscoll** is a photographer based in New York City. He is a 2010 graduate of ICP’s Documentary Photography and Photojournalism Program. During his tenure at ICP, Brian was awarded the Director’s Scholarship and was accepted to the Eddie Adams Workshop. He is recognized as an emerging talent at Getty Reportage.



**Nastya Golovenchenko** is a photographer and videographer based in Moscow. She is a graduate of The Rodchenko Moscow School of Photography and Multimedia and has a Bachelor of Arts in Law. From 2008 to 2010 Nastya participated in several collective exhibitions. Her spectrum of work combines art-documentary photography and video mixed in new media projects. Recent work concentrates on the everyday life of people in Moscow and in small Russian towns.



**Tatiana Ilina** is a freelance photographer based in Moscow. When she was 20 years old, she took up photography after a long-lasting interest in cinema. Since then she has studied in various photo schools and worked as a freelance photographer. In 2006 she received a Master of Arts in Journalism from Moscow Independent Ecology and Politology University. She is currently studying documentary photography at The Rodchenko Moscow School of Photography and Multimedia.



**Eric Michael Johnson** is focused on documenting recurring social and political issues, both at home and abroad. He is a 2010 graduate of ICP’s Documentary Photography and Photojournalism Program. Currently under contract for the *New York Times*, he photographs for programs like “The Neediest Cases,” which brings together donations with participating social welfare agencies.

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**Giacomo Perasti** is a 2010 graduate of ICP's Documentary Photography and Photojournalism Program. Since graduation he has become a freelance photographer, working in North Africa, Europe and the Middle East (Egypt, Tunisia, and Lebanon).



**Anastasia Rudenko** is a documentary photographer. She was born in South-Kazakhstan region in 1982. In 2008, photography became a compromise between her two opposing interests: math and art. Currently, she is based in Moscow and studying at The Rodchenko Moscow School of Photography and Multimedia. In May 2011, she traveled to Nelidovo in the Tver region of Russia to photograph the Rehabilitation Center. "There are five children in the rehab. Fate has not been merciful to all of them. But they all have the same dream—to have a family," she says.



**Mae Ryan** is a documentary photographer and videographer based in Los Angeles. She is a graduate of ICP's Documentary Photography and Photojournalism Program and received a Bachelor of Science from Stanford University in Architectural Design.



**Nikita Shokhov** studied at The Rodchenko Moscow School of Photography and Multimedia. He is interested in the problems of young people today, and is especially concerned about the current complicated political situation in Russia. "In my opinion, Moscow becomes the epicenter of national absurdity. I put all this in the background of my creative works as I use the genre of critical documentary photography," he says.



**Sofia Tatarinova** is a documentary photographer based in Moscow. She is a graduate of Vadim Gushchin's Photoschool and The Rodchenko Moscow School of Photography and Multimedia. Sofia has taken part in a number of group and personal exhibitions in Russia and is a member of the Russian Photographer Union. "The project turned out to be significant in my photographic life. First of all, it showed me the part of our world unknown to me before, and still unseen by most people. These children are common children, like others, they just need a bit more attention. This is what I tried to show in my photographs," she says.

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## About Happy Families International Center, Inc.

Happy Families International Center, Inc. (HFIC) is a New York State-licensed nonprofit humanitarian organization with the mission of helping orphaned children lead better lives. It offers ongoing assistance and is committed to finding homes for orphaned and abandoned children. The HFIC “I Want to Walk” program is dedicated to orphaned children with missing limbs and helps make their dream to walk come true by providing prosthetics. “I Want to Walk” provides support and education, helping children to leave the orphanages and take their first steps to a new life.



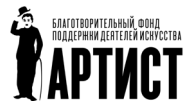
## About ICP

The International Center of Photography (ICP) was founded in 1974 by Cornell Capa (1918-2008) as an institution dedicated to photography that occupies a vital and central place in contemporary culture as it reflects and influences social change. Through our museum, school and community programs, we embrace photography’s ability to open new opportunities for personal and aesthetic expression, transform popular culture, and continually evolve to incorporate new technologies. ICP has presented more than 500 exhibitions, bringing the work of more than 3,000 photographers and other artists to the public in one-person and group exhibitions and provided thousands of classes and workshops that have enriched tens of thousands of students. Visit [www.icp.org](http://www.icp.org) for more information.

Special thanks to Flotek, Transaero (Official Transportation Partner of the *Life in Motion* project), the Renaissance Moscow Hotel, the Restaurant Mari Vanna-Ginza Project, Social Mavens, the Venta Group, Arts+Business Partners, the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, and the Dorothea Haus Ross Foundation for their ongoing support of *Life in Motion* and the “I Want to Walk” program.



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