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**International Center of Photography Kicks Off World's Largest Photography Class**

New York, NY (June 16, 2014)—The International Center of Photography (ICP) is pleased to announce that we have joined the [Phonar Nation](#) collaborative, which will present the world's largest photography class this summer as part of the MacArthur Foundation's [Cities of Learning](#) initiative.

Phonar Nation is a free online photography class for youth, which can be taught and taken on a mobile device. The class, which is estimated to reach more than 250,000 students, was designed by award-winning photographer, National Teaching Fellow, and open education pioneer Jonathan Worth. His original #PHONAR (Photography and Narrative) class launched in 2009 and quickly attracted large audiences and notable guest lecturers. Worth says the Phonar Nation course is about "democratizing access to education and empowering youth to actively participate in their own representation." In the course, students learn to speak clearly through images and engage a connected audience.

ICP's Executive Director Mark Lubell says, "We are excited to be a part of Phonar Nation. ICP shares Jonathan's expansive view of photographic education, which includes visual literacy and digital fluency. These are essential 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, and ICP welcomed the opportunity to contribute to the project."

The online class will be accompanied by a physical component—the Phonar Nation Book-in-a-Box. The box features a selection of photography books curated collaboratively by the Phonar team with ICP's Stephanie Shuman Librarian Deirdre Donohue, along with ephemera from the artists and the artist files of the ICP Library and handmade journals. These materials—accompanied by lesson plans created by Lacy Austin and Carly Goldman from ICP's Community Programs team—encourage students to engage with the books and share their impressions in the journals. The Book-in-a-Box will travel to libraries, schools, and community centers across America that are participating in the Phonar Nation class through the Cities of Learning program.

Phonar Nation is presented in association with the University of California Humanities Research Institute, Digital Media and Learning Research Hub, Connected Learning Alliance, and Digital Youth Network. Phonar Nation's partners also include World Press Photo in Amsterdam and OgilvyOne in Hong Kong.

**ONLINE CLASS DETAILS**

**Sessions:** Phonar Nation includes five class sessions that each focus on a different aspect of photography and storytelling.

**Fee:** All classes are free.

**Access:** All five classes can be accessed anytime at [PhonarNation.org](http://PhonarNation.org). Those wanting to earn a digital badge or enter weekly contests should register through [pursuiter.com](http://pursuiter.com).

**Schedule:** Live class sessions take place on Mondays from June 23–July 21, 2014.

#### BOOK-IN-A-BOX TITLES

Bangert, Christoph. *Iraq: The Space Between*. Brooklyn, NY: PowerHouse Books, 2007.

Dekens, Peter. *Touch*. Breda, Netherlands: The Eriskay Connection, 2012.

Hirasawa, Kenji. *Celebrity*. London: Bemojake, 2011.

Kawauchi, Rinko. *Illuminance*. New York, NY: Aperture, 2011.

Mortensen, Viggo. *45301*. Santa Monica, CA: Perceval Press, 2003.

Sanguinetti, Alessandra. *The Adventures of Guille and Belinda and the Enigmatic Meaning of Their Dreams*. Portland, OR.: Nazraeli Press in association with Yossi Milo Gallery, 2010.

Sidibé, Malick. *La Vie En Rose*. Milano: Silvana, 2010.

Singh, Dayanita. *Privacy*. Göttingen : Steidl; London : Thames & Hudson, 2004.

Sternfeld, Joel. *On This Site*. Göttingen: Steidl, 2012.

Wenders, Wim. *Once: Pictures and Stories*. New York, NY : D.A.P./Distributed Art Publishers ; Munich : In Association with Schirmer/Mosel, 2001.

#### **About ICP**

The International Center of Photography (ICP) is the world's leading institution dedicated to the practice and understanding of photography and the reproduced image in all its forms. Through our exhibitions, educational programs, and community outreach, we offer an open forum for dialogue about the role images play in our culture. Since our founding, we have presented more than 700 exhibitions and offered thousands of classes, providing instruction at every level. ICP is a center where photographers and artists, students and scholars can create and interpret the world of the image within our comprehensive educational facilities and archive. Visit [www.icp.org](http://www.icp.org) for more information.

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