

## **TREVOR PAGLEN WINS THE DEUTSCHE BÖRSE PHOTOGRAPHY FOUNDATION PRIZE 2016**

2 June 2016

**Trevor Paglen** (b.1974, USA) has been awarded the *Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize 2016* at a special ceremony in The Photographers' Gallery this evening, Thursday 2 June 2016. The £30,000 award was presented by BBC journalist and HARDtalk presenter Stephen Sackur.

The Prize is awarded to a photographer of any nationality for their significant contribution to the medium of photography either through an exhibition or publication, in Europe between 1 October 2014 and 30 September 2015.

Paglen won for his exhibition *The Octopus* at Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany (20 June - 30 August 2015). Paglen's project aims to represent complex topics like mass surveillance, data collection, classified satellite and drone activities and the systems of power connected to them. Paglen's installation comprise images of restricted military and government areas, skylines showing the flight tracks of passing drones, sculptural elements and research assembled in collaboration with scientist, amateur astronomers and human rights activists. Through his work Paglen demonstrates that secrets cannot be hidden from view, but that their traces and structures are visible evidence in the landscape.

Trevor Paglen was chosen by jury members: David Drake, Director of Photographers' Gallery, Cardiff; Alfredo Jaar, Artist; Wim van Sinderen, Senior Curator at The Hague Museum of Photography; Anne-Marie Beckmann, Director, Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation and Brett Rogers, Director, The Photographers' Gallery as the non-voting chair.

The other shortlisted artists for the *Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize 2016*, each awarded £3,000, are: **Laura El-Tantawy** (b. 1980, UK/Egypt) for her self-published photobook *In the Shadow of the Pyramids* (2015); **Erik Kessels** (b. 1966, The Netherlands) for his exhibition *Unfinished Father* at Fotografia Europea, Reggio Emilia, Italy (15 May - 31 July 2015) and **Tobias Zielony** (b. 1973, Germany) for *The Citizen*, exhibited as part of the German Pavilion presentation at the 56th Biennale of Arts, Venice, Italy (9 May - 22 November 2015).

The *Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize 2016* is organised by The Photographers' Gallery and is on display until 3 July 2016. It will be followed by a presentation at the Deutsche Börse headquarters in Frankfurt/Eschborn from 1 September - 31 October 2016.

The Photographers' Gallery  
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Brett Rogers, non-voting Chair of the Jury and Director of The Photographers' Gallery said, on behalf of the jury: *The jury recognised Trevor Paglen's project The Octopus for its significant contribution to current issues that deal with the disquieting impact of the unseen aspects of technology on our daily lives. They acknowledged the depth of research and variety of approaches he has developed to deal with subjects ranging from government and military surveillance to drone*

*warfare. He successfully transforms these invisible means of control into compelling aesthetic objects and photographs, often referencing modernist paintings.*

Anne-Marie Beckmann, Director, Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation said: *We congratulate the winner of the Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize 2016, Trevor Paglen. It is our great pleasure to continue the long term-commitment to the Prize and our engagement in promoting contemporary photography with the newly established Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation. We are delighted to present one of the most renowned photography prizes under its new title.*

## Notes for Editors

### Trevor Paglen

Trevor Paglen's is an artist whose work spans image-making, sculpture, investigative journalism, writing, engineering, and numerous other disciplines. Among his chief concerns are learning how to see the historical moment we live in and developing the means to imagine alternative futures. Paglen's work has been profiled in the New York Times, Vice Magazine, the New Yorker, and Art Forum. In 2014, he received the Electronic Frontier Foundation's Pioneer Award for his work as a "groundbreaking investigative artist." Paglen holds a B.A. from U.C. Berkeley, an MFA from the Art Institute of Chicago, and a Ph.D. in Geography from U.C. Berkeley. [www.paglen.com](http://www.paglen.com)

### Laura El-Tantawy

Laura El-Tantawy was born in Worcestershire, England to Egyptian parents. Growing up between Egypt, Saudi Arabia & the US, her photography is inspired by questions on identity -- exploring social and environmental issues pertaining to her background. She started her career as a newspaper photographer with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and Sarasota Herald-Tribune (USA). She is a graduate of the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia (USA) with dual degrees in journalism & political science. Additional education includes an MA in Art & Media Practice from University of Westminster & Research Fellowship from the University of Oxford (UK). [www.lauraeltantawy.com](http://www.lauraeltantawy.com)

### Erik Kessels

Erik Kessels (b.1966) is a Dutch artist, designer and curator with great interest in photography. He has been Creative Director of communications agency KesselsKramer in Amsterdam since 1996 and works for national and international clients. As an artist Kessels has published over 50 books of his 'collected' images such as *in almost every picture* (2001-2015). Since 2000, he has been an editor of the alternative photography magazine *Useful Photography*. He has taught at Écal Lausanne, the Gerrit Rietveld Academy and at the Amsterdam Academy of Architecture. Kessels made and curated exhibitions such as *Loving Your Pictures*, *Use me Abuse me*, *24HRS of Photos*, *Album Beauty and Unfinished Father*. In 2010 Kessels was awarded with the Amsterdam Prize of the Arts and is often seen as the most influential creative of The Netherlands. [www.kesselskramer.com](http://www.kesselskramer.com)

### Tobias Zielony

Tobias Zielony was born in 1973 in Wuppertal, Germany. After studying Documentary Photography at the University of Wales, Newport, Zielony entered Timm Rauterts' class for artistic photography at the HGB Leipzig in 2004. In 2006 he received grants for New York and Los Angeles. Solo exhibitions followed at C/O Berlin (2007), Kunstverein Hamburg (2010), Folkwang Museum Essen, MMK Zollamt Frankfurt, Camera Austria Graz (2011), and Berlinische Galerie (2013). In 2014 he was selected for the German Pavilion at the Venice Biennial 2015. Tobias Zielony lives and works in Berlin. [www.kow-berlin.info/artists/tobias\\_zielony](http://www.kow-berlin.info/artists/tobias_zielony)

### The Photographers' Gallery

The Photographers' Gallery opened in 1971 in Great Newport Street, London, as the UK's first independent gallery devoted to photography. It was the first public gallery in the UK to exhibit many key names in international photography, including Juergen Teller, Robert Capa, Sebastião Salgado and Andreas Gursky. The Gallery has also been instrumental in establishing contemporary British photographers, including Martin Parr and Corinne Day. In 2009, the Gallery moved to 16 – 18 Ramillies Street in Soho, the first stage in its plan to create a 21<sup>st</sup> century home for photography. Following an eighteen month long redevelopment project, the Gallery reopened to the public in 2012. The success of The Photographers' Gallery over the past four decades has helped to establish photography as a recognised art form, introducing new audiences to photography and championing its place at the heart of visual culture.

[www.thephotographersgallery.org.uk](http://www.thephotographersgallery.org.uk)

### Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation

Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation", a Frankfurt-based non-profit foundation, promotes contemporary photography. The foundation activities focus on collection, exhibition and promotion. For instance, one of the key aims of the foundation is to expand the Art Collection Deutsche Börse. Deutsche Börse began to build up its collection of contemporary photography in 1999. Art Collection Deutsche Börse now comprises more than 1,600 works by over 100 international artists. The collection and a changing exhibition programme are open to the public.

The Photography Prize is a key project of the foundation. It is awarded in cooperation with the Photographers' Gallery London and will be presented this year under the new name Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize. Other focal points include promoting new talent, supporting exhibition projects of international museums and institutions, and the expansion of platforms for academic discussion about the medium.

#### **The Photography Prize History**

Founded in 1996 by The Photographers' Gallery, and now in its eighteenth year, the Prize has become one of the most prestigious international arts awards and has launched and established the careers of many photographers over the years. Previously known as the Citigroup Photography Prize, the Gallery has been collaborating with Deutsche Börse Group as title sponsors since 2005. With the newly established Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation, the Prize will be awarded this year under its new name, *Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize*. Winners of the *Deutsche Börse Photography Prize 2015* were Mikhael Subotzky and Patrick Waterhouse for their publication *Ponte City* (Steidl, 2014). Past winners include Paul Graham, Juergen Teller, Rineke Dijkstra, Richard Billingham and John Stezaker.

Champagne Pol Roger is the drinks sponsor for the *Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize 2016* Award Evening. With special thanks to House of St Barnabas.

#### **Visitor Information**

Opening times: Mon - Sat, 10:00 - 18:00, Thu, 10:00 - 20:00, Sun 11:00 - 18:00

Admission: free until noon (Mon - Sun) and then £3 / £2.5 concessions

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**DEUTSCHE BÖRSE PHOTOGRAPHY  
FOUNDATION PRIZE 2016  
15 APRIL - 3 JULY 2016**



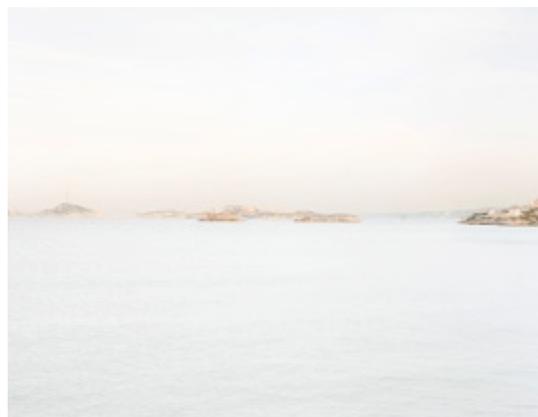
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Trevor Paglen  
*They Watch the Moon*, 2010  
© Trevor Paglen  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 2**  
Trevor Paglen  
*National Reconnaissance Office, Chantilly, Virginia* 2014  
© Trevor Paglen  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 3**  
Trevor Paglen  
*PAN (Unknown; USA-207)*, 2010  
© Trevor Paglen  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 4**  
Trevor Paglen  
*NSA-Tapped Fiber Optic Cable Landing Site, Marseille, France* 2015  
© Trevor Paglen  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 5**  
Trevor Paglen  
*Untitled (Reaper Drone)*, 2010  
© Trevor Paglen  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 6**  
Trevor Paglen  
*Globenet, NSAGCHQ-Tapped Undersea Cable, Atlantic Ocean* 2015  
© Trevor Paglen  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 7**  
*Trevor Paglen*, 2015  
© Trevor Paglen Studio  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 8**  
Laura El-Tantawy  
*Women of Tahrir*, 2013  
(28 June 2013, Cairo, Egypt)  
© Laura El-Tantawy  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 9**  
Laura El-Tantawy  
*Faces of a Revolution #7: Safeya's Tears*, 2012  
(22 February 2012, Cairo, Egypt)  
© Laura El-Tantawy  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 10**  
Erik Kessels  
*Unfinished Father*, 2015  
© Erik Kessels  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 11**  
Erik Kessels  
*Unfinished Father*, 2015  
© Erik Kessels  
Courtesy of the artist



**Image 12**  
Tobias Zielony  
*The Citizen*, 2015  
© Tobias Zielony  
Courtesy of KOW Berlin, Lia Rumma, Naples and the artist



**Image 13**  
Tobias Zielony  
*The Citizen*, 2015  
© Tobias Zielony  
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