

December 10, 2007

NAME

ADDRESS

Dear

With your generous assistance, the Chazen Museum of Art proudly presented *Small Arms – Children of Conflict: Photographs by Michael Kienitz* from September 8 through October 28, 2007. While the exhibit was on view at the Chazen, over 7,700 people visited the museum. Michael Kienitz gave an opening night lecture to a capacity crowd of 212 attendees, and over 500 visitors attended the celebratory reception that same evening.

Michael also participated in lectures and gallery talks that were coordinated with city-wide events. As part of the Chazen's participation in Downtown Gallery Night, he gave a lecture entitled, "From Pixels to Archival Photography" to an audience of 65 on October 5. He also talked with visitors in the gallery on October 13th for Arts Night Out, and the following day, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Book Festival, he signed books and lectured on "A Personal Look at *Small Arms – Children of Conflict*" for 139 people.

Michael provided guided tours for four of the seven elementary, middle, and high school groups that visited the exhibition. Educational events also took place outside of the museum. A teacher at Spring Harbor Middle School in Madison made the exhibition the focus of each of her 6th grade Social Studies classes. The artist visited the school and gave presentations to 86 students. Michael worked with college-aged students, leading a group of honors students from Edgewood College on an exhibition tour. A lecture by the artist and a reception capped off a program for 132 students from Chadbourne Residence College at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In addition to these school groups, 22 non-school groups also took docent-led tours of the exhibition.

The exhibition received extensive positive media coverage in print, on television and radio, and on the web. Wisconsin State Journal, Capital Times, Isthmus and Progressive Magazine all ran pieces on the exhibition. On October 8, Michael was interviewed by Susan Siman for WISC-TV's "Live at Five" program. He also conducted radio interviews with Larry Meiller of Wisconsin Public Radio, Matt Rothschild and Stuart Levitan on WXXM "The Mic" (92.1 FM), Tony Castañeda on WORT (89.9 FM) and John "Sly" Sylvester on WTDY (1670 AM). Reviews of the exhibition were posted in blogs by Paul Soglin (waxingamerica.com) and Nadine Goff (nadinegoff.blogspot.com).

People who viewed the exhibition were consistently amazed by its beauty and poignancy. Comments like these were common: "Fantastic exhibition; very honest, sincere and emotionally evocative," and "Absolutely incredible and heart-rending!" For many visitors, the photographs were reminders of current political conflicts: "In Africa, India, Nepal and other parts of the world - we still see such destitute situations of life," and "Thank you for this transformative exhibit. Tragically these children represent the child of today-in Iraq, Afghanistan, etc."

I greatly appreciate your contribution to the Chazen for this exhibition. Your financial participation in the presentation played an important role in the project's success and popularity. Thank you for your involvement.

Sincerely,

Russell Panczenko
Director