

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*For more information, contact Sara Terry at
sara@theaftermathproject.org*

THE AFTERMATH PROJECT ANNOUNCES
2012 GRANT WINNERS AND FINALISTS

30 November 2010

The Aftermath Project is pleased to announce the winner of its \$20,000 2012 grant and the four 2012 finalists:

2012 Grant Winner:

Andrew Lichtenstein (USA) “American Memory,” a series of landscape photographs of important historical sites across America that are startling in their exploration of memory and conflict, and the intersection of the past and the present. At the core of Lichtenstein’s work is his belief that “the first step towards healing a deep wound is acknowledgement. Without that, it is impossible to move forward.” Among the many photos in Lichtenstein’s work-in-progress that impressed the judges was a photo of three women in Confederate-era dress seated on a bench at the exact bus stop where Rosa Parks began her historic ride in 1955, launching the American civil rights movement (the women were participants at a recent Confederate Flag rally in honor of the 150th anniversary of the inauguration of Jefferson Davies, the Confederate leader). The judges found Lichtenstein’s project to be a highly original take on aftermath issues, and also found his images to be sophisticated and thought-provoking.

2012 Finalists (in alphabetical order):

Christopher Capozziello (USA) – “For God, Race and Country,” a work-in-progress about “America’s first terrorist organization, the Ku Klux Klan,” and Capozziello’s exploration of why KKK members continue to believe in white supremacy. The judges were impressed by the access Capozziello has gained to his subjects, as well as the strength of his photos.

Michelle Frankfurter (USA) – “Destino,” a work-in-progress about the unprecedented wave of emigration by Central Americans to the US, triggered in the 1980s by bloody civil wars in the region. The judges were impressed with Frankfurter’s journey with these migrants in dangerous conditions on freight trains – and again, by the strength of her images.

Simon Thorpe (UK) – “Toy Soldiers,” a work-in-progress involving a creative partnership with a Sahrawi military commander – and Polisario soldiers from the 4th military region of Liberated Western Sahara and who Thorpe posed in the desert as life-size toy soldiers. The judges were impressed with the creativity of Thorpe’s concept and the surprising images that resulted.

Michael Zumstein (France) – “Bon Amis,” a project about the Ivory Coast’s journey to reconciliation after the post-election crisis of 2010-11. The judges were impressed with Zumstein’s portrayal of an Africa not often seen in the media – and by his strong compositions and sense of place.

This year, 183 applicants around the world applied for the Aftermath Project’s sixth year of judging, a nearly 15 percent increase in the number of applicants from the previous year.

A first round of screening was done in Los Angeles in mid-November by **Lesley Meyer** of the Annenberg Space for Photography, and **Sara Terry**, photographer and founder/director of The Aftermath Project.

Final judging took place on November 19, in Houston. The judges were Anne Wilkes Tucker, photography curator at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Stephen Mayes, director of VII; and Sara Terry.

The Aftermath Project 2012 grant is made possible by the generous support of the Foundation to Promote Open Society.

#####