Kuta boat: The arrival of the fishing boats, Dolores ALVARADO, Bulgaria
ON THE GO
ASEF PHOTO BOOK
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Photo Book by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) showcasing works selected from the photo contest On the Go, undertaken by ASEF in 2015. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility the participants who contributed to the outcome of the project and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of ASEF, the European Union and the partnering institutions.

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Designer: Jimmy Low

Photographs on the cover
Front (right to left): St. Barabara by Jose Pedro MACEDO, Portugal.
Beijing Opera Trio by Kevin KASHA, Malta. Colours of Life by Sudipto DAS, India.

Back (left to right): Muddy Football by Chee Keong LIM, Malaysia.
Russian Wedding in Moscow by Didier BIZET, France.
Performer in Chinatown (London, UK) by Marlies Gabriele PRINZL, United Kingdom.

This photo book is co-funded by the European Union.
2016 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). On this occasion, the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), as the only institution created under the ASEM Process, presents a collection of photographs to visualise Asian and European perceptions of people on the move. The ASEF photo competition-cum-exhibition, aims to promote one of the key elements of ASEF’s mandate: better understanding between Asia and Europe through people-to-people connections.

The photographs selected for the exhibition were shortlisted from a photo competition, undertaken by ASEF in 2015. Photographers from 50 ASEM partner countries submitted over 1,500 entries capturing on-the-go scenes. The competition theme reflected the motion and pace of life in Asia and Europe, illustrating moments where we are different and yet, so alike.

The competition was judged by a panel of experts, chaired by LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore.

Photography is a powerful medium that can communicate ideas across borders and speak universally to a wide multi-cultural and multilingual audience. By inviting professional and budding photographers to portray Asians and Europeans in their daily life, we hope to highlight the diversities as well as similarities between the lives in the two regions.

The photographs are being exhibited in several capitals in Asia and Europe including Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, at the 11th ASEM Summit (ASEM11) in July 2016.
MESSAGE by Ambassador ZHANG Yan

2016 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). On this momentous occasion, the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), as the sole inter-governmental institution created under the ASEM Process, has presented a collection of photographs to visualise Asian and European perceptions of people on the move. This photo series is part of the On the Go photo competition-cum-exhibition organised by ASEF.

Photography is a powerful medium that can communicate ideas across borders and speak universally to a wide multi-cultural and multi-lingual audience. By inviting professional and budding photographers to portray Asians and Europeans in their daily chores, ASEF’s On the Go project hopes to highlight the diversities as well as similarities between the lives in the two regions. Through this photographic expedition, ASEF plays a unique role in promoting mutual understanding between Asia and Europe by connecting people-to-people through visuals.

The On the Go photography competition was open for participation across all ASEM member countries. Selected photographs from this competition are included in this photo book. Some of these photographs were first shown to the public at an exhibition during the 12th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting (ASEM FMM12) in November 2015 in Luxembourg. On the Go is part of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) 20th Anniversary celebrations. It will be hosted by ASEM member countries interested in the display and will culminate with an exhibition at the 11th ASEM Summit in July 2016 in Mongolia.

I sincerely thank all those who responded to ASEF’s invitation to engage with the On the Go photo competition and contributed their photographs. Without their active participation, the richness and high quality of this publication would not have been achieved. My gratitude also goes to our respected partners, the City of Luxembourg, which offered invaluable support in hosting the first exhibition in Luxembourg as well as LASALLE College of the Arts in Singapore, which provided distinguished expertise in leading the jury panel to select these photographs.

I hope you enjoy browsing through this book and connecting with the worlds portrayed in it.

Ambassador ZHANG Yan
Executive Director
Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
Photography signifies our inherent enquiry into the human condition. As a static pictorial container of movement, moment and passage of time, photography heightens and nurtures our senses and search for identity. The selected photographs in this publication are an aesthetic and anthropological celebration of life on the go in Asia and Europe. They are presented here as a universal language, that communicates beyond borders, despite the fact that all the photographs were created within diverse territorial, social, linguistic, historical and cultural contexts.

Photography is a medium of communication, which can have powerful social implications. Photographers learn how to articulate this unique representation, as they investigate and channel the astonishing power of the photograph to induce universal emotion. Through a decisively captured photographic moment, a viewer in Europe can easily empathise with the joy of a child in Asia and vice versa. Universal themes in photography will reliably make millions of people around the globe experience thrill, fear and even terror, as well as invite them to weep, cheer, celebrate and laugh.

Looking at photographs has become such a common and familiar act for most that we have lost sight of how remarkable and significant the form of photography truly is. The photograph is granted the magic of capturing life itself. It influences the present by mirroring what has passed. It helps us find our way through seeing and experiencing the lives of others, at home and away. The photograph creates an inter-subjective space, where both the photographer and the viewer assemble and share responses to challenging experiences, which neither one may have visited in his or her own reality and existence. Observing the lives of people at home, and around the globe, through the lens of a talented photographer, helps us identify and negotiate our own emotions, memories, existence and being. Photographs are captured as if we might want to confirm our humanity and our ability to be compassionate, for the act of taking a photograph can often test our ability to empathise.

Photography has the power to compensate for a wide range of frailties that reside within our nature by reflecting them back to us, and informing us where we are, and who we are. Ultimately, photography is an inspirational source which prompts us to grow into wiser and more mature beings, whilst transcending beyond geopolitical boundaries, and uniting continents as one.

Gisli Snaer
Head of The Puttnam School of Film
LASALLE College of the Arts

Gisli Snaer is Head of The Puttnam School of Film, LASALLE College of the Arts in Singapore. He studied Film Directing at La Fémis in Paris, France since producing he’s directed award winning feature films, TV films, and TV commercials. Gisli is a member of the European Film Academy, and MDA & IDA InfoComm Media Masterplan Working Committee 4 in Singapore, and a member of the Directors Guild of Iceland.

Gisli has served as a member of the international jury at the 2002 Berlin International Film Festival Kinderfilmfest, the Aki Kurosawa Film Festival in Poland 2003, Singapore Creative Video Competition 2011, and 2014 Endeavours International Documentary Film Festival in Singapore.

FOREWORD by Gisli SNARE

Gisli Snaer
After 6 years of experience in the museum industry, Gwen Lee went on to pursue her first love for photography. Since then, she has tumbled down the rabbit hole into the wonderland of silver halides. Together with friends she founded a photo gallery named 2902 Gallery in 2008. However, curiosity got the better of her and resulted in a biennale photo festival in 2008, which is commonly known as Singapore International Photography Festival (SIPF), an international photography platform in Southeast Asia. For her daring vision, she received a Creative Talent Grant from the Creative Community, a government agency, and also an award from the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Trade for her contribution to the Singapore arts community.

Stefen is grateful to be a witness through his camera. He is well versed in minimal to full production setups, and he has proven his versatility by working across different genres in the industry in more than 30 countries. In his relatively short and intense career so far, he has garnered awards from the World Press Photo, National Geographic, Photographie de la Paris and has been featured by BBC, PDN, Foreign Policy and Le Lettre de la Photographie. He has also summited Mount Everest and was named by Nikon as one of Asia’s top photographers.

Stefen devotes his time to doing long term projects with a social conscience. Stefens is the co-founder of ‘The Poverty Line’, a global visual project that contextualises poverty. It was nominated for the Prix Pictet and won the Apec Photography Open Salon. The project has been exhibited in China, Malaysia, and Georgia, and presented at TED. He also serves as the photography director of ‘The Other Hundred’, a Hong Kong based social initiative.
Jury Selection

ON THE GO

Jury Selection
A boy in the trolleybus by Svetoslav DRAGANOV, Bulgaria

Light by Poki CHANG, China
Above the water by Regitze KARLSEN, Denmark

Afternoon playtime in Bandung by Min CHEN, France
Post-war meeting on the Kotor bay by Didier BIZET, France

Process by Alisa GILL, France

ASEF Photo Exhibition ON THE GO
Kaal by Emine AKBABA, Germany

The bride and the Würstelstand by Susanne STEINMASSL, Germany
Nothing to declare by Lars HUEBNER, Germany

Boys in Pamir Highlands by Lukas SCHUSTER-WOLDAN, Germany
Europe, seen in Georgia by Ulrich LUDAT, Germany

Balloon shooting at Marina Beach in Chennai by Sibylle FEUCHT, Germany
Moto by Juergen BEMIN, Germany

The nomads of Rajasthan by Roli MAHAJAN, India

ASEF Photo Exhibition ON THE GO
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Trampled habitat by Prabir TALUKDAR, India

Pray for peace by Sudipta Dutta CHOWDHURY, India
Job seekers by Galih PRADIPTA, Indonesia

Friendship by Mark CONDREN, Ireland
Olympic tourism by Francesco GALIOTTO, Italy

Untitled from Shaolin Kids series by Laura LIVERANI, Italy
On the Boat by Berta TILMANTAITE, Lithuania

Praying 13 by Chee Keong LIM, Malaysia
ASEF Photo Exhibition

People in tram in Krakow by Therese DEBONO, Malta

Narantuul market morning by Rentsendorj BAZARSUKH, Mongolia

ASEF Photo Exhibition ON THE GO
Learning together by Kyaw Kyaw WINN, Myanmar

Homework by Mar Lar WINN, Myanmar
Home by paddle by Jilson TIKI, Philippines

Shaw Boulevard Station Wink by Elmer Nev VALENZUELA, Philippines
Selfie generation by Alonso Ya. ISES, Philippines

One more trip by Andre BOTO, Portugal
The train of dreams by Pedro REZIO, Portugal

Fishing at dawn by Joao GALAMBA DE OLIVEIRA, Portugal
Bear proposal by Matjaž TANCIC, Slovenia

Removing by Alberto DIAZ, Spain

ASEF Photo Exhibition ON THE GO
Santa Claus by Mario DEL CURTO, Switzerland

Walk way to the crater by Patchapa WHITTAKER, Thailand
ASEF Photo Exhibition

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Photo by Vorachat SAE-OI, Thailand

Wired! by Larry HALLEGUA, United Kingdom
Where have all my old friends gone? By Giang PHAM, Viet Nam
Humble greatness by Rebecca POPE, Australia

A girl going to school by Anik RAHMAN, Bangladesh
Outdoor laundry Blues by Katerina VAITULLA, Czech Republic

ASEF Photo Exhibition ON THE GO
An evening with three “Halmeonis” by Rahul AIJAZ, Pakistan

Wedding dishes by Hedda SELDER, Sweden

ASEF Photo Exhibition ON THE GO
The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, economy, education, governance, public health and sustainable development.

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

Together with about 750 partner organisations ASEF has run more than 700 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 20,000 Asians and Europeans have actively participated in its activities and it has reached much wider audiences through its networks, web-portals, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

www.asef.org

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation established in 1996 to deepen relations between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and socio-cultural issues of common concern.

ASEM brings together 53 partners: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunel Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, the Lao PDR, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and Viet Nam plus the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Union.

www.aseminfoboard.org
LASALLE College of the Arts in Singapore is a leading tertiary institution in cutting edge contemporary arts and design education and practice. The college offers 31 undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in art, design, film, animation, fashion, dance, music, theatre, arts management, arts education, art therapy, and art history.

Its faculty is led by a community of award-winning artists, designers, educators and researchers, and their practice-led research sets LASALLE apart as an international centre of excellence. Critically acclaimed alumni form the core of the cultural and creative sectors in Singapore and increasingly internationally.

Founded in 1984 by De La Salle Brother Joseph McNally – a visionary artist and educator – LASALLE is a not-for-profit, private educational institution. LASALLE receives tuition grant support from the Singapore Ministry of Education. Its degree programmes are validated by Goldsmiths, University of London.

www.lasalle.edu.sg
Ladakh: The Dusk Riders, Mayur Bandyopadhyay, India