

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

***Collected Shadows* - an exhibition of photographs from the Archive of Modern Conflict to be shown for the first time in the UK**

A Hayward Touring exhibition from Southbank Centre, London

Opening at Void, Derry, Saturday 12 August - Saturday 7 October 2017, then touring

Collected Shadows, an exhibition of photographs from the extensive collection of the **Archive of Modern Conflict (AMC)** will be shown in the UK for the first time, organised by Southbank Centre's **Hayward Touring**. Opening at Void in Derry before embarking on a national tour, *Collected Shadows* offers a rare glimpse into the AMC's extraordinary holdings of more than eight million images. First established twenty-five years ago as an archive of vernacular photographs and ephemera relating to the First and Second World Wars, the AMC has since expanded to encompass a plethora of subject matter. Curated by **Timothy Prus**, Director of the Archive of Modern Conflict, *Collected Shadows* presents a selection of 200 photographs, including works by renowned photographers **Robert Frank, Brassai, Bert Hardy, Marketa Luskacova, Bertha Jacques, Eugène Atget** and **Walker Evans** alongside a vast array of images by unknown and amateur photographers.

Spanning the history of the medium from the 1850s to the present day, *Collected Shadows* displays a great variety of photographic techniques from early albumen prints and cyanotypes to silver gelatin prints and polaroids. Cross-cultural as well as trans-historical, this hugely diverse selection includes press images of major historical events, such as aerial photographs of war and an atomic bomb trial in Tahiti in 1970, astronomical images, such as Victorian studies of the surface of the moon and early-twentieth century photographs of comets; early ethnographic images; film stills; and personal snapshots.

Through unexpected juxtapositions and associations across time periods, geographies and techniques, the exhibition roams over themes of the earth, fire, air, and water, complemented by divinity, astrology, and flight.

Curator **Timothy Prus** writes: *'The areas covered in this show are more than eclectic. In one moment we will be in the Pacific Ocean of the 19th century and the next in outer space. African kings rub*

shoulders with 19th century botanical images printed in the beguiling cyanotype blue. Icebergs sit next to studies of cabbage leaves. Still, the salon style hang establishes connections between these most disparate worlds. The viewer is encouraged to find their own meanings. Ultimately it is the people in the photographs that drive the spectacle and engage us with the diversity of their humanity.'

The exhibition is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue, supplemented with a newly commissioned essay by the writer and critic **Brian Dillon**.

Roger Malbert, Head of Hayward Touring, said: *'The Archive of Modern Conflict is an incredible resource, of great interest to contemporary artists. In recent years, it has collaborated with the Hayward Gallery on their exhibition The Great Refusal in 2013, and we are pleased to have worked together again to bring this marvellous exhibition, which has previously been presented in Paris, San Francisco and Toronto, to the UK for the very first time.'*

The exhibition will open at Void, Derry on Saturday 12 August before touring to **Stills: Centre for Photography** in Edinburgh; **The Edge**, University of Bath and **Peninsula Arts**, Plymouth University.

ENDS

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Listings information:

Collected Shadows: The Archive of Modern Conflict

Void, Derry, Saturday 12 August - Saturday 7 October 2017, then touring

Tuesday – Saturday 11.00am – 5.00pm. Admission Free.

Tour details

Void, Derry, 12 August – 7 October 2017

Stills: Centre for Photography, Edinburgh, 2 February – 8 April 2018

The Edge, University of Bath, 20 April – 16 June 2018

Peninsula Arts, Plymouth University, 6 July – 1 September 2018

NOTES TO EDITORS

Hayward Touring

Hayward Touring at Southbank Centre is a contemporary art organisation producing exhibitions that tour to galleries, museums and other publicly-funded venues throughout Britain. Hayward Touring collaborate with artists, independent curators, writers and partner institutions to develop imaginative exhibitions that are seen by up to half a million people in over forty five cities and towns each year, to ensure that contemporary art reaches the widest possible public across the UK.

About Southbank Centre

Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre, occupying a 17 acre site that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. Southbank Centre is home to the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as The National Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. For further information please visit www.southbankcentre.co.uk. Southbank Centre is carrying out vital restoration work on the Hayward Gallery, Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room to make the buildings fit for future generations to enjoy, more information can be found here: letthelightin.southbankcentre.co.uk

Archive of Modern Conflict

The Archive of Modern Conflict is an organisation and independent publisher which holds a growing collection of over eight million photographs collected from diverse sources all over the world. The archive has been part of exhibitions at Tate Modern (2015), Hayward Gallery Project Space (2013) and Paris Photo (2012). Their publications, often produced in collaboration with contemporary artists such as Broomberg & Chanarin, have won or been shortlisted for prizes including the Dali International Photography Festival Best Book Award (2011), the Grafik Design Awards (2010), the Rencontre d'Arles Historical Book Prize in both 2008 and 2009, and the New York Photo Fair Awards (2008).

About Void, Derry

Void is a contemporary art space located in Derry. Northern Ireland. With up to 5 exhibitions per year showing the work of established international and Irish artists, Void has established an international reputation for its wide-ranging and challenging exhibition programme. Void exists to present the contemporary visual arts and to support artists, through a programme of exhibitions, related educational and outreach activities from a national and international perspective. A key element to the gallery is the Void Engage programme, which places participation, engagement and learning at the heart of Void, making contemporary visual art accessible to visitors of all ages.