



GIVING BACK: PROMINENT FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY DEALERS CAMPAIGN FOR CHILDREN'S HUMAN RIGHTS



Cathy Edelman ©Paul Elledge

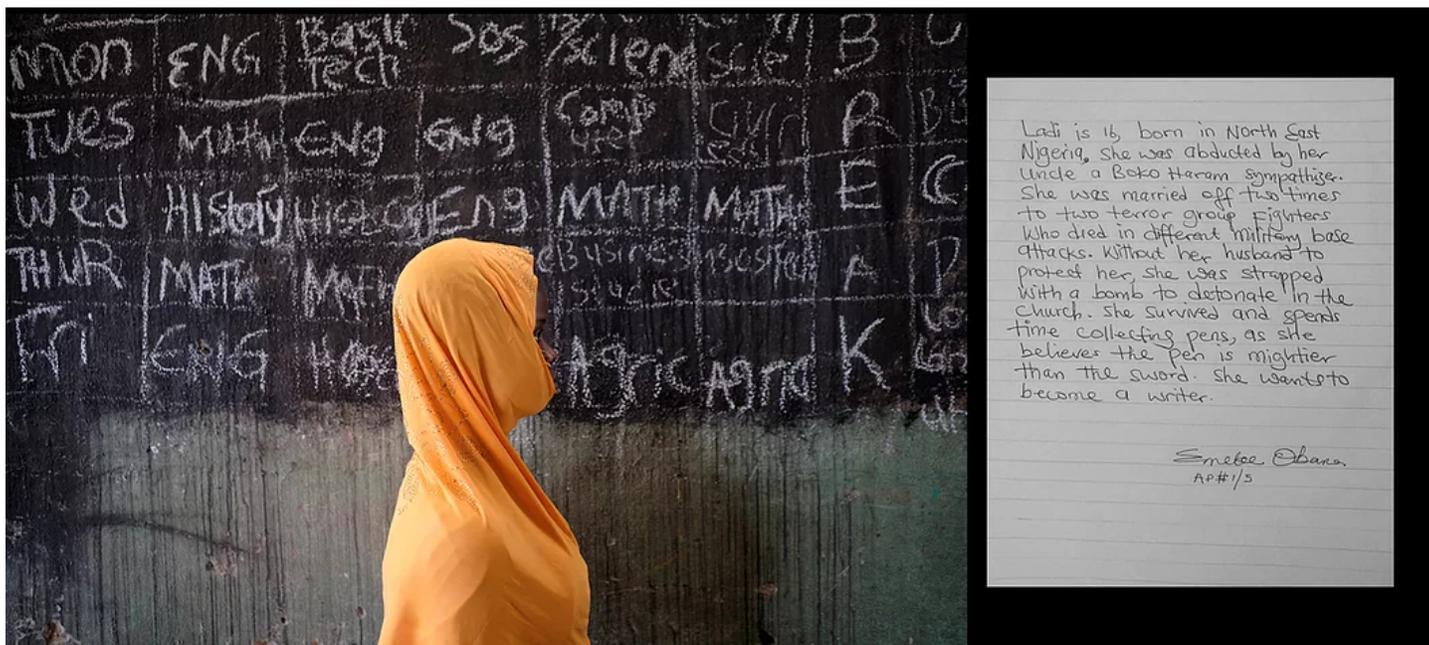


Anette Skuggedal ©Marianne Gaptjern Ravn

CHICAGO, IL (October 5, 2021) — In 2018, two successful gallerists, Catherine Edelman in Chicago and Anette Skuggedal in Oslo, decided that they wanted to give back. They teamed up and started nonprofit **CASE** Art Fund, harnessing what they knew best – the power of photography – to call attention to the need for children’s human rights. Over the last three years, **CASE** has produced five photographic exhibitions, and has partnered with 19 photographers and more than 25 organizations. Upcoming events include an inaugural benefit featuring the premier of a short film about Cesar Dezfuli’s work with refugees, the presentation of the Humanitarian of the Year Award to Shahidul Alam, and talks with leaders in the photography and human rights fields.

“In today’s 24-hour news cycle, readers and viewers are bombarded with images of war, disaster, and human suffering to the point of leaving them unmoved. As gallerists who work with photography, we think fine art photography has the ability to inspire people to take action. We seek out and support incredible work selected from photographic projects with a single-issue focus that we feel will have a lasting impact,” notes Cathy Edelman.

“We decided that children need our help. There are numerous issues affecting children including access to education and the need for safety, which **CASE** Art Fund advocates for through photography,” says Anette Skuggedal



Emeke Obano, *Heroes: Ladi*, 16 years old, born in North East Nigeria, 2020. 12 3/4 x 28 1/2" pigment print. CASE Art Fund.

CASE works closely with photographers whose work reflects a strong commitment to children's human rights, and hosts collaborative programming including educational panels and exhibitions, along with timely social media and fundraising initiatives.

In-person and online events this October and November include:

CASE TALKS: "HEROES: THE GIRLS RESCUED FROM BOKO HARAM" - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 10-11 AM CST

Photographer Emeke Obano in conversation with Mark Sealy MBE, curator and cultural historian. Obano's photograph pictured above is from his "Heroes" series. It's one of two limited-edition Obano photographs exclusively for sale by CASE as part of its [BriefCASE](#) fundraising program. This is a free event with registration required. To register, click [here](#).

[CASE Talks](#), an online dialogue about an artist's work and the humanitarian issues raised, takes place the second Saturday of each month via Zoom, from 10-11 a.m. CST.

SHAHIDUL ALAM AT EAST-WEST UNIVERSITY - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 6-7:30 PM CST

Sponsored by EXPO Chicago, Shahidul Alam will discuss his life as an activist and photographer at East-West University, 816 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago. Alam is the first recipient of CASE Art Fund's Humanitarian of the Year Award; and *Shahidul Alam: We Shall Defy*, his first exhibition in Chicago, opens at Wrightwood 659 on October 8.

BENEFIT FOR CASE ART FUND - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 5-8 PM CST

CASE Art Fund's first-ever *Photography Creating Change* benefit (in person and online) honors human rights activist Shahidul Alam, premieres a short film about Cesar Dezfuli's work with refugees, and takes place at Catherine Edelman Gallery, 1637 W. Chicago Avenue, Chicago. Benefit tickets start at \$100 per person. To purchase tickets and for more information, please visit: [CASE Art Fund's Photography Creating Change Benefit](#).

“PASSENGERS” FILM PREMIERE - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Premiering at the benefit, “Passengers,” a 17-minute film co-produced by CASE, chronicles Spanish photographer [Cesar Dezfuli’s](#) compelling journey to find and follow up with 118 young refugees rescued from a boat adrift off the coast of Libya. He received the 2020 Sony World Photography Award in Portraiture for the photography portion of this long-term project. Here’s the link to the film preview: [Passenger trailer 2020 on Vimeo](#).

Notes Dezfuli, “I started this project in 2016 as a response to being fed up with the way migrants were being portrayed in the media. I had already been documenting migratory movements in other parts of Europe for two years, and when I had the opportunity to board that rescue boat in the Central Mediterranean, I made a personal commitment to show that reality and its protagonists in a different way. I never imagined that when I took those initial portraits at sea, the project would go so far, and that years later I would manage to find those people again.”

ABOUT CASE ART FUND

Founded by Catherine Edelman in Chicago and Anette Skuggedal in Oslo, CASE Art Fund’s mission as a nonprofit organization is to raise awareness about children's human rights through the support and exhibition of photography.

CASE's vision is to be at the forefront of presenting photographs that inspire and create a positive impact on social awareness, human rights, and children's education. Photographic projects are exhibited in non-traditional ways in public spaces, art fairs, and at other cultural venues. CASE works with local and international organizations to help effect change. This commitment is long term and serves as the backbone for all projects that are funded.

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CASE Art Fund [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)