

WORLD-RENOWNED PHOTOGRAPHER SEBASTIÃO SALGADO BRINGS ICONIC PHOTOS TO SUNDARAM TAGORE SINGAPORE

Exhibition title: **Sebastião Salgado**

Exhibition dates: **May 20 – July 6, 2014**

Private preview with the artist: **Tuesday, May 20, 6 – 9 pm**

Contact us: **+65 6694 3378**



Man Praying in the Sand Dunes in Maor, Tadrart. South of Djanet, Algeria, 2009, gelatin silver print, 70.8 x 72.8 inches/180 x 185 cm © Amazonas Images

Singapore, May 1, 2014 — For his first solo gallery exhibition in Singapore, Sebastião Salgado, one of the world's most respected photographers, presents iconic black-and-white images spanning twenty years of his career. More than twenty-five photographs from the *Genesis* series will be on view, as well as works from five other series, including *Workers* and *Migrations*.

Salgado has made it his life's work to document the impact of globalization on humankind. In the past three decades he has travelled to more than one hundred countries for his photographic projects and devotes years to each series in order to grasp the full scope of his topic.

In his *Workers* and *Migrations* series, Salgado captures the fragility and fortitude of the human spirit and infuses empathy and respect for his subjects. His prints lay bare some of the bleakest moments of modern history. In *Workers* (1986-1993), his images tell the story of firefighters in Kuwait's oil fields; canal workers in Rajasthan, India; gold miners at Serra Pelada, Brazil; and countless other impoverished individuals. *Migrations* (1993-1999) documents the mass displacement of people across thirty-five countries as a result of social, political, economic and environmental disparities.

Genesis, a series that was eight years in the making, comprises hauntingly beautiful photographs of majestic landscapes, serene wildlife and ancient civilizations untouched by modern society. Salgado made more than thirty-two trips, capturing remote realities and paying homage to unspoiled nature: surreal icebergs in Antarctica, the isolated Zo'é tribe in Brazil, monumental crevices in Arizona's Grand Canyon, and Africa's native animals in Kafue National Park, Zambia.

A selection of photographs from the *Genesis* series has also been published in a book of the same title by Taschen.

Sebastião Salgado is Brazilian-born and based in Paris. He was born in Aimorés, in the state of Minas Gerais, in 1944. In 1963, Salgado moved to São Paulo and trained as an economist. It was not until the early 1970s, after his wife loaned him a camera, that he embarked on a career as a photographer, eventually settling in Paris. Salgado says given his childhood and background in economics, it was only natural that he become a photographer gravitating toward humanistic themes.

Salgado has had numerous exhibitions in influential museums around the world, including the *Genesis* exhibition on view now at the National Museum of Singapore (through July 2014). His work has been the subject of solo shows at the Barbican Gallery, London; the International Center of Photography, New York; the Corcoran Gallery, Washington, DC; the Photographers' Gallery and the Natural History Museum, London; and the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. His work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Chicago Art Institute; the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; and the Los Angeles Country Museum of Art.

Among his many honors, Salgado has been named a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and an honorary member of the Academy of the Arts and Sciences in the United States. Since the 1990s Salgado and his wife, Lélia Wanick Salgado, have been restoring a 676-hectare portion of the Atlantic Forest in Brazil. In 1998 they founded the nonprofit Instituto Terra, an organization focused on reforestation and environmental education. In recognition of Instituto Terra, in 2012 Mr. and Mrs. Salgado received the e-award in Education by Instituto-E in partnership with UNESCO and the City Hall of Rio de Janeiro as well as the Personalidade Ambiental Prize from the World Wildlife Fund, Brazil.

Established in 2000 in New York, Sundaram Tagore Gallery is devoted to examining the exchange of ideas between Western and non-Western cultures. We focus on developing exhibitions and hosting not-for-profit events that encourage spiritual, social and aesthetic dialogues. With spaces in Singapore, Hong Kong and New York City (in Chelsea and on Madison Avenue), Sundaram Tagore Gallery was the first to focus exclusively on the rise of globalization in contemporary art. The gallery represents painters, sculptors and photographers from around the world. They each work in different mediums and use diverse techniques, but share a passion for cross-cultural dialogue. The gallery is renowned for its support of cultural activities—including poetry readings, book launches, music performances and film screenings—that further its mission of East-West exchange. In a world where communication is instant and cultures are colliding and melding as never before, our goal is to provide venues for art that transcend boundaries of all sorts.

For more information on the exhibition, email singapore@sundaramtagore.com or call +65 6694 3378.