

# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • March 27, 2008

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## PROJECT COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Center proudly announces the winners of the fourteenth annual Project Competition.



*Singers, Mangyondae* © Hiroshi Watanabe

The annual Project Competition recognizes gifted and committed photographers working on long-term documentary projects or fine-art series. The selection committee reached a consensus on the First Prize and three Finalists. Each individual juror also selected a project to receive one of the three Juror's Choice awards. This year the winning projects were chosen from 774 submissions by a committee comprised of Charlotte Cotton, Curator of Photography, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA); Chris Pichler, Publisher, Nazraeli Press and Susan Scandrett, Creative Director of *Mother Jones* magazine.

In the jurors' statement, the committee concur, "We unanimously selected work that demonstrated active choices made by the photographer to represent what was of genuine interest to them."

In his project, *Ideology in Paradise*, first prize winner, Hiroshi Watanabe, expresses a sincere and long-term interest generated by disturbing stories he had heard about North Korea. Watanabe writes, "I felt uncomfortable and unsettled about our views and perceptions of North Korea. I was puzzled and intrigued, and I wanted to take a personal journey and see the country and the lives of the North Korean people with my own eyes."

### Project Competition Winners

**First Prize:** Hiroshi Watanabe, West Hollywood, CA; *Ideology in Paradise*

\$5,000 cash award, \$1,000 tuition voucher at the Santa Fe Photographic Workshops, Complimentary participation in Review Santa Fe, year-long Photographer's Showcase at [www.photoeye.com](http://www.photoeye.com)

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**Jurors' Choice:** Walter Astrada, Getxo, Espana; *Femicide in Guatemala*

Dean Hollowood, London, UK; *Still Closer*

Marvi Lacar, New York, NY; *Healing the Deepest Scars*

\$500 cash award, Complimentary participation in Review Santa Fe, year-long  
Photographer's Showcase at [www.photoeye.com](http://www.photoeye.com)

**Honorable Mentions:** Olivia Arthur, London, UK; *The Middle-Distance*

Alejandro Cartagena, Monterrey, Mexico; *Lost Rivers*

Brian Shumway, New York, NY; *La Chureca: Life Beyond the Trash*

### **ABOUT CENTER**

Center, the Point of Great Photography, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit membership organization that honors, supports and provides opportunity to gifted and committed photographers. The programs offered by Center bring exposure to worthy photographic images and strengthen the photographic community.

For additional information about Center, the competitions, and to view the winning work, go to [www.visitcenter.org](http://www.visitcenter.org)

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