

ARTS

Exhibit remembers past 20 years

Photos tell history in human images

By Layne Lakefish
Emerald Entertainment Editor

Dramatic memories. The downfall of the Shah. Bombings in Beirut. Deaths of innocent victims. From now until Dec. 26, the University's Museum of Art remembers and retells - photography style.

The events that have stunned and shaped our lives over the last 20 years come to life on campus as the museum and the journalism school present "Contact: Photojournalism Since Vietnam."

This critically acclaimed photography exhibit, which is sponsored by Canon and touring worldwide, features the award-winning photos of Contact Press Images photographers.

"The show is very dramatic," said Duncan McDonald, journalism associate professor. "It's 20 years of world history."

The show chronicles history and more. "It represents world events along with the commitment of these photographers to humanity," added Larry Fong, curator of this exhibit for the Museum of Art.

Contact Press Images is an agency founded in 1976 to emphasize the journalist in every photographer.

This particular exhibit features the work of seven current



copyright 1990 Alon Reininger/Contact Press Images, Okahandja, Namibia, April 1978
As part of the exhibit, this photo shows Herero women mourning the death of assassinated tribal chief Kapuuo.

Contact Press Images photographers as well as works contributed to the agency by other photographers.

"This show is the collective vision of famous photographers," McDonald said. "In this era of fast-food journalism, we are so busy and inundated with moving images and sound, this is a wonderful opportunity to reflect."

Each photo has its own dramatic story to tell, sometimes sad, sometimes violent, sometimes joyous. For this reason the exhibit has its own strong energy.

"The show is so dramatic," McDonald said. "It has noise and power. One moment you're seeing the bombings in Beirut and the next moment you're looking at the bodies of women in El Salvador after being raped

and murdered.

"I'm going to have to go see it two or three more times before I can really say I've seen the show."

Since the show opened in New York in March 1987, it has set attendance records and drawn media attention from the United States, France, Belgium, Greece, Switzerland, Canada, China and Chile.

High attendance also prevailed when "Contact: Photojournalism Since Vietnam" opened at the museum on campus Nov. 4. "The opening went great," said Fong. "We had 500 to 600 people come through the gallery which is a very good turnout for us. The average turnout is about 300."

The Museum of Art is open Wed. through Sun. from noon to 5.

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