

Alec Soth's Archived Blog

June 26, 2007

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Filed under: [artists](#), [Magnum](#) — alecsothblog @ 11:39 pm

Magnum voted in three new nominees this year. I couldn't be happier with the excellence and diversity of this group:



[Alessandra Sanguinetti](#)

Born in New York, 1968. Currently lives and works in New York. Sanguinetti is a recipient of a Guggenheim Foundation fellowship and a Hasselblad Foundation grant. Her photographs are in major public and private collections, such as the Museum of Modern Art (NY), the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Her monograph, "On the Sixth Day", was published by Nazraeli Press in January 2006.



Jacob Aue Sobol

Jacob Aue Sobol studied photography at the European Film College in Denmark and the Danish School of Photographic Visual Art. His work has been exhibited at the Museum of Photography and the Fototriennale of Odense, the Harbourfront Center, Toronto, and the Falconer Gallery, Iowa, amongst others. He has won the 2006 World Press Photo Prize in the category of Daily Life Stories.



Mikhael Subotzky

Mikhael Subotzky was born on 15 September 1981, in Cape Town, South Africa. He graduated with a distinction, from the Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art), 2004.

25 Comments

1. i love the work of Alessandra Sanguinetti...it evokes such a somehow strange and beautiful atmosphere...

Comment by [CHRISCHA](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [2:35 am](#)

2. i'm very happy for the three of them, but in particular for Jacob! i already knew his work at some time ago and i love Sabine. and yes the prisons of mikhael are strong and the alessandra is beautiful (i always loved the word beautiful without any more explanation)

Comment by [nelson d'aires](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [7:32 am](#)

3. Congrats to all the nominees. I am especially excited about Alessandra's nomination, for many reasons, first and foremost being that her work is amazing.

Comment by [Jen Bekman](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [9:02 am](#)

4. Beautiful work indeed. As for Alessandra Sanguinetti, it is quite obvious that Lise Sarfati put a good word for her at the meeting. Welcome to them all! It is good to see that true talent is always welcome at Magnum!

Comment by [Martin B.](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [9:46 am](#)

5. Lise wasn't at the meeting.

Comment by [Alec Soth](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [10:03 am](#)

6. Alec, the guy who does the prison photographs: Mikhael Subotzky. And, I promise you, that was on the tip of my tongue.

I'm glad that Sanguinetti was voted in.

Comment by [Shane Lavalette](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [11:04 am](#)

7. The more I learn about Magnum, the more I am intrigued by its development as a photographer's agency (versus a photo agency). Great choices, all three. I knew Jacob and Alessandra's work already; fantastic. Congratulations.

Comment by [sean ross](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [12:18 pm](#)

8. I've been a huge fan of both Jacob and Alessandra's work since reading about them in separate issues of PDN. Glad to see Magnum has a bright future ahead. With nominees like these three we should all look forward to 60 more years of ground breaking work.

Comment by [Andrew Rhea](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [1:19 pm](#)

9. What happened to Trent Parke?

Comment by [Eliot](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [1:22 pm](#)

10. Denmark meets Daido - I love it!! Congrats Jacob!!!

Comment by [ff](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [2:33 pm](#)

11. Trent Parke and Mark Power became full members. Chris Anderson & Christina Rodero Garcia became associates.

See Trent and Chris celebrating [here](#)

Comment by [Alec Soth](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [2:52 pm](#)

12. Hello Mr Soth, please correct me if I am wrong in my statement. What I meant (sorry for my english) by Lise Sarfati putting a good word for Alessandra's work is part of a process usually happening prior to the meeting. Weeks, even months before the meeting, full Magnum members start lobbying for their favorites, calling, talking to other Magnum photogs when they meet, asking them to support such and such individual. I have had the pleasure of witnessing this lobbying when I was working as an assistant for a Paris based full member. I think it is an interesting behind-the-scene fact. I thought it was a tradition for Magnum photographers to support and defend the candidature of a new comer. If so, and if it is not too much indiscretion, I am curious to know who supported your candidature?

Comment by [Martin B.](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [5:04 pm](#)

13. What a choice with alessandra, the first time i saw her work i damn near almost wept!

Comment by [pj](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [6:22 pm](#)

14. Martin, I can't give you that information unless you know the secret handshake (or buy me a beer).

Comment by [Alec Soth](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [8:47 pm](#)

15. PJ said he almost wept when he first saw Sanguinetti's photographs. I agree.

I continued to think about her last solo outing at Yossi Milo for weeks after I first visited. <http://hungryhyaena.blogspot.com/2006/10/alessandra-sanguinetti-at-yossi-milo.html>

Actually, I'm still thinking about it. Incredibly beautiful work.

Comment by [Hungry Hyaena](#) — June 27, 2007 @ [11:08 pm](#)

16. Wow-an honor 2 all >In particular i heart mr.sobol and subotsky's fotografie.

Comment by [robert](#) — June 28, 2007 @ [12:00 am](#)

17. Sanguinettis pics are amazing! Wow.

Comment by [Mattia](#) — June 28, 2007 @ [3:34 am](#)

18. Excelentes trabajos, muchisima suerte para los tres!

Comment by [Christian Heit](#) — June 28, 2007 @ [12:14 pm](#)

19. Thanks for the news on Trent Parke. Congratulations to him and all those who got good news.

Comment by [Eliot](#) — June 28, 2007 @ [1:07 pm](#)

20. um...did anyone get bad news?

Comment by [aizan](#) — June 28, 2007 @ [9:23 pm](#)

21. Martin's point about lobbying is indeed correct. Sometimes though this can go against the candidate, as they appear too keen. Most of Magnum's potential new photographers usually visit a few photographers to meet them, and show them their work. It does help if the photographer is known. As is the case with Sobol and Sanguinetti, they both have books out, so this also helps people to get familiar with the potential new photographers. A short list of around 10/15 is prepared by the photographers from the 3 main offices, to be shown at the meeting. Maybe about 500 folios are received each year.

There is no question that Lise did not meet meet Sanguinetti, although I am sure she would have voted for her. When Alec applied there was immediate support from many photographers, including myself, as we welcome a diversity of approach, and recognised immediately that Alec was a photographer of some stature. We try and find the most exciting new talent within documentary, and this years new nominees demonstrate this very well.

Comment by [Martin Parr](#) — June 30, 2007 @ [1:08 am](#)

22. pleope i would like to watch in Magnumphotos :

Michael Ackerman
Nicholas Nixon
KADIR VAN LOHUIZEN
Gerard Uferas
Larry Fink
Rick Davila Wood
Philip Blenkinsop
Simon Norfolk
Platon

Comment by [jesus](#) — July 1, 2007 @ [2:42 pm](#)

23. Hi Alec, thanks for taking a look at the blog, pictures of downtown los angeles, anyway just to comment on Subotzky, wow the guy is so young, and how do you pull that off, access to such hard core places, brave guy!! S.A. has great shooters, I also really like Pieter Hugo, although dont really know to much about him, I thought his pics of Hyena Men of Nigeria really are incredible. Good material in that part of the wrld.
yours wrobertangell.

Comment by [wrobertangell](#) — July 2, 2007 @ [8:49 pm](#)

24. The Sanguinetti pictures look as the continuation of a story started by Mary Ellen Mark in "Amanda and Her Cousin, Amy Valdese, North California".

<http://www.pcnw.org/facultyPages/maryEllenMark/memark01.php>

Comment by [Jay Watkins](#) — July 12, 2007 @ [3:04 am](#)

25. great work jacob!
congrats and congrats!
with this photos we'll never walk alone (ah ah ah)

ciao

Comment by [alberto ramella](#) — September 3, 2007 @ [11:14 am](#)