



## *Colin McPherson – Photographer & Visual Artists*

### *curriculum vitae*

I was born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1964 and was given my first camera at the age of 13. After school I began working for newspapers and magazines both on staff and for the past 25 years independently. I work regularly on commission for the *Independent* and *Independent on Sunday*, the *Guardian*, *Le Monde* and a number of other high-profile publications. I am a contributing editorial photographer with *Corbis* and a founding member of the *Document Scotland* collective. I relocated from Scotland to Merseyside in 2004. Much of my recent work revolves around longer-term Arts projects which have resulted in both collective working and solo exhibitions.

My work has been reviewed and published extensively both at home and abroad.

Projects and exhibitions (selected from over 20 solo and group exhibitions):

- 2015 *When Saturday Comes* Headline exhibition at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh as part of Document Scotland's show entitled *The Ties That Bind*, four projects looking at contemporary life in Scotland.
- 2014 *Ravenscraig* Exhibition at Street Level Gallery, Glasgow as part of Document Scotland show entitled *Common Ground*, which looked at the country during the independence referendum period.
- 2014 *A Fine Line* Year-long project exploring Scotland's border with England in the run up to Scotland's Independence referendum that year. The resulting work shown at Impressions Gallery, Bradford.
- 2013 *A41 Project* Major project staged in collaboration with The Equality Trust and funded by Arts Council England looking at how to visually represent issues around inequality in our society ([www.facebook.com/A41project](http://www.facebook.com/A41project)).
- 2012 *Charming Beijing* Short residency, publication and exhibition in China as part of a group project with British and Chinese photographers working in Beijing and London celebrating the cities' Olympic links.
- 2011 *Proof Principle* Year-long artist residency at Unilever plc's Research and Development facility, Port Sunlight, resulting in exhibitions on-site and at the Bluecoat, Liverpool.
- 2010 *Artist residence* Short creative residency and artist exchange in the run-up to the city of Kosice, Slovakia being one of the European Capitals of Culture the following year.
- 2009 *Argyll Rhapsody* Project working with high school pupils across Argyll, facilitating photography workshops and curating exhibition of the work made.
- 2008 *Mersey Road* Year-long commission from the Mersey Basin Campaign to commemorate 25 years of economic regeneration based around the river basin, culminating in a touring exhibition across England.
- 2007 *Amazon Footprints* Commission by Howies clothing company to photograph damage and destruction of Amazonian Rainforest along a section of highway through the jungle and its impact on local people and communities.

- 2006- *Berlin Now & Then* Ongoing project looking at the changes through two decades in Germany's capital city, from the perspective of an artist with close family and social ties to Berlin.
- 1995- *Catching the Tide* Landmark project spanning over a decade documenting Scotland's last remaining wild salmon fishermen. The work has been published and exhibited internationally and resides in a number of important photography collections and archives.

#### **Television:**

- 2005 *Catching the Tide* Television documentary on Colin McPherson's long-term project documenting the last salmon netmen of Scotland. Broadcast on Scottish Television and on TV and at film festivals around the world.

#### **Selected book publications:**

- 2015 *The Cistercian Monks of Nunraw Abbey*  
Cafe Royal Books, England
- 2008 *Home Grown – food champions of England's northwest*  
Bluecoat Press, Liverpool
- 2007 *Mersey – the river that changed the world*  
Bluecoat Press, Liverpool
- 2000 *Jeckes – Israel's German Jews tell their story*  
Böhlau Verlag, Köln

#### **Other:**

In October 2012, I co-founded Document Scotland, a collective of internationally-acclaimed photographers dedicated to chronicling the social, cultural and economic life in Scotland and of Scots in the diaspora ([www.documentscotland.com](http://www.documentscotland.com)).

I was one of the originating partners of Look - the Liverpool International Photography Festival, and served as Chair of the Board of Directors from 2008-13. ([www.lookphotofestival.com](http://www.lookphotofestival.com)).

I am a trained facilitator with Photovoice, an international NGO which delivers community photographic projects around the world. I have undertaken a number of educational workshops and presentations, including as a guest speaker at the 150th anniversary conference of the Royal Photographic Society in September 2003.

My photography has been purchased by private collectors and institutions such as the National Galleries of Scotland, the Navigator Foundation, the Royal Bank of Scotland, the Northern Lighthouse Board, the Museum of Scotland and Stockport Gallery.

*For further information, please visit*

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