

WOMEN'S EYE ON PEACE II

Women in over 40 countries submitted more than 650 images in response to the question 'How do you see peace?'



CELEBRATING WOMEN'S IMAGES OF PEACE FROM AROUND THE WORLD

It's the second time IWDA (International Women's Development Agency) has organised a *Women's Eye on Peace* photographic exhibition. Proudly sponsored by AusAID, a selection of images is open for public view in both Melbourne and Sydney.

Suzette Mitchell, Executive Director of IWDA says, 'It's inspiring to have so many beautiful images from such a diverse range of women. Each image is accompanied by the photographer's uplifting story of peace.'

Contributions have come from aid workers, travellers, students, volunteers as well as professional photographers.

All photographs are for sale. Funds raised will support IWDA's work with women building peace in Fiji.

The first *Women's Eye on Peace* exhibition in 2004 raised thousands of dollars for women working for peace in Afghanistan.

WOMEN'S EYE ON PEACE II EXHIBITION

Sofitel Melbourne
7 December 2006–28 January 2007
25 Collins Street, Melbourne

Sotheby's Sydney
1–8 February 2007
118–122 Queen Street, Woollahra

IWDA (International Women's Development Agency) is an Australian non-profit organisation creating positive change for women. IWDA funds projects in partnership with local organisations in Asia and the Pacific, giving priority to women suffering poverty and inequality. IWDA also works in partnership with AusAID.

For more information visit <www.iwda.org.au> or email peace@iwda.org.au or phone 1300 661 812.

Prayer flags, Nepal. PHOTO: Athene Currie
It seems prayer flags are everywhere in the Himalayas, particularly at a village entrance, a pass or highest point. The flags are worn by the icy wind, and with each gust a prayer of peace is blown to the world.



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[1] Connected by friendship, Papua New Guinea. PHOTO: Debra Plueckhahn
Peace is a feeling of connectedness. Taken in the remote highlands, this photograph has always touched me. There is a feeling of intimacy expressed in the knowing smiles of the two women. They seem self-contained within the moment. There is a sense of peace in their shared understanding and binding warmth.

[2] Gifu kids, Solomon Islands.
PHOTO: Mandi Meldrum
Shy and inquisitive, these little girls are no different to kids worldwide. I felt privileged to be part of their life that day. The children are the future and every opportunity must be taken to build peace for them.

[3] Peace of mind, China.
PHOTO: Katherine Morton
I met Drolma and Tashito while travelling on the Tibetan Plateau. Their daily struggle for survival is shared by millions of children across the world. They live on the margins of a peaceful existence – with no education, yaks or health care and little food. Peace of mind comes when they know that they will eat that day. It also comes with friendships.



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[4] Curious hope, Sri Lanka.

PHOTO: Melissa Bruce

It was Sunday morning in Galle and couples were scattered around the place. This couple captured my attention because they chose a bench looking directly out to sea. Only a couple of years before the sea had robbed so many of their lives and loves. Black cats are sometimes considered a symbol of bad luck but there is something innocent and playful about this one and the couple in the picture. Innocence is a divine form of peace.

[5] Untitled, Kenya.

PHOTO: Lucy Hackworth

Cooperating is the only way. These two were trying to build a large pile of dirt. After arguing over the shovel they discovered the easiest – or only – way to achieve their goal was for each to hold an end of the shovel and carry the dirt across together. Partnership in action!