



**WIKTORIA WOJCIECHOWSKA
PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION
“SPARKS”
LATVIAN MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY
11.05. – 11.06.2017**

Photography exhibition “Sparks” featuring works by Polish photographer Wiktoria Wojciechowska will be exhibited from May 11 in Latvian Museum of Photography. This exhibition is a part of Riga Photomonth 2017 program.

“Sparks” is a series about the ongoing war in Ukraine. Portraits of young soldiers, created during individual conversations with each of them, form the backbone of this project. Their words show their motivations to join the fight, their will to protect their country, their doubts, their psychological problems, and their feelings of being misunderstood by society. The project also includes pieces made using different media, from documentary photography and videos to video art, collages, and installations. These artistic realizations let us confront our historical image of war with its contemporary reality. On the other side of the “Sparks” project is a series of narrations describing universal tales about being human, growing up, dying, or being determined by gender roles.

The author says: “I would like the viewers to identify with the people in my portraits, to feel some sympathy and think a little bit about what is happening in the world. I don’t really trust art as a tool to make change, but I really believe that it has the power to make people think or even sympathize with others. When you look at these faces, perhaps you can transmit your thoughts to these people.”

Wiktoria Wojciechowska is a photographer, visual artist. Winner of the Leica Oskar Barnack Newcomer Award 2015 – project “Short Flashes”; La Quatrième Image Young Talents 2015 and Humanity Photo Awards 2015 in the documentary category; IPA Awards 2015 – two Honorable Mentions. Her “Own place” series won the Photo Diploma Award 2013 – an international photographic diploma contest. She is currently completing the project “Sparks” in conflict-ridden areas in Ukraine. This ongoing project won the Portfolio Review at Krakow Photomonth 2015. She is nominated for the Joop Swart Masterclass 2016, and she took part in artist residencies in Reykjavik and Beijing and is the recipient of Prix de la Photographie 2016 from Fondation des Treilles. Her works have been presented at festivals in Arles, Paris, Lille, Minsk, Bratislava, Warsaw, Ljubljana, and Niort.

Riga Photomonth is an international photography festival that takes place in the capital of Latvia. Riga Photomonth explores and shows photography from Northern and Eastern Europe. The third edition of the Riga Photomonth will take place in 8 – 31 May 2017, offering 5 exhibitions and more than 10 events under the common theme “Facts and Clarifications”. For more information about the program, please visit Riga Photomonth website: www.rigaphotomonth.com.

EXHIBITION OPENING WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 11, 2017, AT 5.00 PM, AT LATVIAN MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY, MARSTALU STREET 8 (ENTRANCE FROM ALKSNAJU ST.)

On Friday, May 12, at 5.30 p.m. Latvian Museum of Photography in collaboration with Riga Photomonth invites you to a discussion evening and the exhibition “Sparks” viewing together with the author – Wiktoria Wojciechowska (Poland).

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND IN RIGA, MIGAWKI PROJECT, ZAİKS POLISH SOCIETY OF AUTHORS AND COMPOSERS, POLISH MODERN ART FOUNDATION, ŚRÓDMIEŚCIE DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF WARSAW, AND DESIGN AGENCY “PIECI EZERI”.