

MY HOME: A Walk Through Children's Memories of Darfur

Exhibit Statement



“Home” is a word that evokes images of safety and comfort. Thinking of home usually brings a smile. The faces of the children of Darfur light up when they tell the story of what home used to be. They miss it. When they tell the story of what happened to their homes—on that fateful day that changed their lives forever—they get serious and even detached, their dark eyes lost in their memories. Their current homes are tents.

MY HOME is a multimedia experience. The children's voices, faces, and drawings tell their horrific stories. They also show the beauty and resilience of children who continue to play, learn, and grow. Against all odds, they keep dreaming and hoping for a day when they can walk back home to build a stronger Darfur.

The conflict in Darfur has killed hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians and displaced millions. The children of Darfur have seen horrors no child should ever see. Over 3,400 villages have been attacked by the Government of Sudan and the Janjaweed, the militia they arm and support. Most of these villages, the homes of children and their families, have been completely burnt to the ground. The United States has declared what is happening in Darfur, genocide.

About the Curator: i-ACT

i-ACT is a small, grassroots team dedicated to putting a face on the numbers of dead, dying, and displaced while creating mutually enriching relationships between those in danger and those willing and able to act, fostering a new culture of participation.

i-ACT seeks to empower individuals within communities, institutions, and governments to take personal responsibility to act on behalf of those affected by genocide, mass atrocities, and crimes against humanity.

i-ACT visits the refugee camps on the Chad-Darfur border on a regular basis. All the children artists and the ones seen and heard through the MY HOME walk are friends.

Contact

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Exhibit: MY HOME: A Walk Through Children's Memories of Darfur

Curator: i-ACT by [Stop Genocide Now](#)

Artists: Refugee Children from Darfur, Sudan

Photographers: i-ACT Team Members: Gabriel Stauring, Katie-Jay Scott Stauring, Yuen-Lin Tan, Eric Angel, Ian Harrington, Stacey Martino

SUMMARY

MY HOME: A Walk Through Children's Memories of Darfur takes you through children's journeys, a walk from a home that was destroyed—where family and friends were killed, and which now is only in their memories—to a home that is supposed to be temporary—where they stand in lines for handouts, and which gives them a new name: refugee.

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SCOPE

Primary Pieces

- 18 Free Standing Bamboo Stands connected by African prints (outside Los Angeles there is an option to mount African prints and exhibit pieces on gallery walls rather than shipping bamboo stands)
- 15 Children's drawings (pencil, marker, crayon) on 12x12" canvas squares mounted on 16 x20" canvas frames
- 10 Photos printed on Large Canvas (2 at 20x30; 4 at 24x36; 2 at 20x24; 1 at 16x24; 1 at 16x20)
- 3 Collage-like Frames with stories and photos of life in the refugee camps
- 4 Framed drawings on paper (sizes between 8x10-16x24)

Audio/Visual

- 4 Mini DVD players looping video hung on bamboo stands
- 1 Large projector/screen or flat screen/dvd combination showing video
- 2 Sound Stations

Interaction

At the end of the exhibit, visitors will have the opportunity to contribute to MY HOME. Visitors will take a photo of themselves with the iconic HOME image from the exhibit and have it added to a collage of all other visitors of MY HOME displayed in an moving screen frame. The target number of visitors to be included in the collage is 3,477, which is the total number of villages damaged or destroyed by violence between February 2003 and December 2009 in Darfur.

IMAGES

View samples of the canvas drawings made by Darfuri children and photographs [here](#).

INSTALLATION

We are aware that gallery and alternative spaces are unique and individual. We will work with individual galleries and host organizations to create a cohesive flow in your space, with the aim of creating personal connections and inspiring action.

What You Provide

- Indoor, open space that totals at least 40x40. The space doesn't need to be a square since the free standing bamboo stands and African fabric create the walls of the exhibit. The idea is to create a walk, so unique spaces can work.
- Screen or wall for projection. Ideally, the gallery could provide a computer or dvd player and projector, but arrangements can be made.
- 2 Tables for literature and interactive aspect of MY HOME would be appreciated
- Floor reinforcements, sand bags, or heavy objects for bamboo stands (for exhibits outside the LA area)
- 5-7 Extension cords (for exhibits outside the LA area)
- Ideal length of exhibit is 1-3 weeks in one location, especially those outside the Los Angeles area.

ACCOMPANYING PRESENTATION

i-ACT team members are available to provide a presentation during the opening reception, as part of a larger program or a VIP presentation. The gallery or host group can organize an event that fits their audience, and our team can adapt. The presentation can be in the form of a multi-media presentation with additional footage and photographs about life as a refugee and Darfur, Sudan, a hands-on workshop on genocide prevention and the anti-genocide movement, or as part of a panel or open-forum discussion.

MY HOME Contact

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