



PHOTO INDEPENDENT ANNOUNCES SPECIAL EXHIBIT “MYSTERIOUS BARRICADES” IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ARTIST AND MUSICIAN ANDY SUMMERS FROM *THE POLICE*

(Los Angeles, Calif., March 26, 2014) – Photo Independent, the first and only high-visibility art fair platform for independent photographers, welcomes artist and musician, Andy Summers as the Honorary Guest for its debut show taking place from April 25-27, 2014 at Raleigh Studios in Hollywood, CA. Titled “Mysterious Barricades,” the exhibition will feature a unique series of black and white photographs culled from the many cities Summers photographed over the past several years, from London to China. Summers will be the Guest of Honor at the Photo Independent Opening Night Preview benefitting the Los Angeles Art Association on April 25 from 7pm-10pm.

Summers cultivated his photographic practice on the road. Nights after concerts, he headed out into the hearts of Tokyo, Beijing, Singapore, London, or Rome, exploring the world with his camera in hand, capturing the unusual, the odd, the exotic, and the remarkable moment, and transforming his perception of these moments into his own artistic vision. In his unique visual interpretation, the changing environment and culture comes into focus as Andy Summers captures a raw moment, an immediate feeling, scaling the obstructing walls of culture and seeing into the essence of the other world. “My life is full of impulse and movement,” remarks Summers. “My guitar and camera are fixed instruments, the only constants in a world of change.”

Photo Independent will also feature a special exhibition of prize-winning works from The 2013 AX3 – American Aperture Awards, which resulted in more than one thousand entries from sixty-three countries. Top prizes were awarded to Catherine Nelson (Australia/Belgium) for Photographer of the Year, Kelsey Walsh (Australia) and Mattia Passarini (Italy) for Emerging Photographer of the Year, and Nettie Edwards for Mobile Photographer of the Year. Fifty-one winners by category will also be on view. Categories include Professional, Non-Professional, Student, and Mobile with prizes awarded to artists for photography ranging from abstract; advertising; architecture/cityscape; collage; conceptual/ experimental; documentary; fashion; landscape/nature; nudes; still life; street photography, and video/moving Images.

Photo Independent, a forum for direct exchange of ideas and contact between photographic artists, collectors and art professionals, will kick-off with Opening Night Preview benefitting the Los Angeles Art Association (LAAA). The 2014 edition of the art fair will also feature specialized programs in partnership with the Los Angeles Art Association and Art Nerd Los Angeles including: panel discussions, lectures, and docent tours. A vetted event, Photo Independent will feature forty national and international photographers including works by noted artists Philipp Scholz Rittermann (U.S.), Robert Tamara (The Netherlands), and Ian Provest (Australia), among others.

PHOTO INDEPENDENT

The International Exposition of Contemporary Photography

Presented by Fabrik Media, Photo Independent will take place on April 25-27, 2014 at Raleigh Studios Hollywood, 5300 Melrose Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90038. The 2014 Opening Night Preview Party will take place on Friday, April 25, 2014 from 7pm-10pm. Trade professionals and press are welcome to attend sneak-peak on Friday, April 25. A press preview will take place between 5pm-7pm, Trade professionals preview will take place between 1pm-5pm on Friday. To purchase tickets and see related benefits, please visit <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/photo-independent-art-fair-tickets-9369473347>.

For more information about Photo Independent, please visit www.photoindependent.com.

Andy Summers Bio:

In 1958, a young Andy Summers was gifted a broken guitar with a missing string – igniting a spark that would grow into a newfound obsession with music. Nearly two decades later, Summers would become leading guitarist for one of the most iconic and globally recognized rock bands in the world, *The Police*. Skyrocketing to success in the late 70's and 80's, Summers found himself at the center of constant media and public attention. As the subject of focus for worldwide photographers, Summers decided to utilize his creative artistry to turn the cameras back on the world. He began to witness the witnessing through the lens of his own camera and so ignited a new fascination with photography.

Under the pedagogy of Ralph Gibson, a long time friend and mentor, Summers' black and white images are culled from his life as a traveling musician. His photographs, a direct reflection of his everyday world, capture the tumultuous life of a rock star through the genius of eyes of a highly creative mind. The images of hotels, stadiums, fans, tour buses, and even, himself, are an impulsive reaction to his environment, capturing the raw moments of life on the road through playful and surreal images. Summers began to improvise with his camera as he did with his guitar.

Active in photography since 1979, Summers is also a celebrated author. His first book, *Throb*, published in 1983, paved his journey into being a serious photographer. By the time his third book, *Desire Walks the Streets*, published in 2010, he was confirmed and stamped as such. Summers is also a Doctor of the Arts and Chevalier des Arts et Lettres.