



**CASE Art Fund Announces Inaugural Benefit
Photography Creating Change
Honoring Shahidul Alam with the
2021 Humanitarian of the Year Award
Friday, November 5, 2021
- Updated Information -**



Muhammed Muheisen, *Zahra, Victims of War*, 2016 Muhammed Muheisen, *Hayat- Victims of War*, 2014

Photographer, writer, curator, and human rights activist Shahidul Alam is the first recipient of CASE Art Fund's Humanitarian of the Year Award. Making the CASE for children's rights through photography, CASE Art Fund, based in Chicago and Oslo, was established in 2018 by gallerists Catherine Edelman and Anette Skuggedal. The nonprofit organization advances social awareness of children's human rights through collaborative photographic projects, exhibitions, installations, public programs, and events.

Due to recent COVID developments, the award presentation will now take place during CASE's inaugural Photography Creating Change benefit on Friday, November 5, 2021, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. CST, at the Catherine Edelman Gallery, 1637 W. Chicago Avenue, Chicago.

The event will also feature the premier of “Passengers” (2021), A Moment in Time/ Still I Rise Production. Executive Producer: CASE Art Fund, producers: Mimi Chakarova and César Dezfuli. The short film explores CASE Photographer Cesar Dezfuli’s poignant and ongoing multimedia project about 118 young refugees rescued from a boat drifting in the Mediterranean Sea. Benefit tickets start at \$100 per person. To purchase tickets and learn more about the event, please visit: [CASE Art Fund’s Photography Creating Change Benefit](#).

“I’m delighted to be recognized by CASE Art Fund as the recipient of its first Humanitarian Award. As someone who is passionate about children’s rights, I look forward to working long term with the organization,” said Shahidul Alam.

Alam’s upcoming collaborative events with CASE Art Fund include:

Saturday, September 11, 10-11 a.m. CST, online via Zoom

CASETalks: “Art as Activism” - Shahidul Alam in conversation with Morten Krogvold.

CASE Art Fund supports internationally established and emerging fine art photographers whose compelling bodies of work reflect their strong commitment towards social justice with a focus on children's human rights. In just three years since its founding, CASE has produced five photographic exhibitions, collaborated with more than 17 photographers, partnered with over 23 organizations, and funded over 17 fellow nonprofits.

Photographers working with CASE Art Fund are: Shimon Attie, Alejandro Cartagena, Keith Carter, Turjoy Chowdhury, Binh Danh, Floriane de Lassée, Cesar Dezfuli, Omar Imam, Nora Lorek, Alessio Mamo, Ruben Martin de Lucas, Gideon Mendel, Andrea Motta, Muhammed Muheisen, Emeke Obanor, Tine Poppe, and Lisa Ross.

Collaborating in non-traditional ways, CASE promotes and raises funds for both its photographers and the charities they champion through [BriefCASE](#), a limited-edition collection of photographs by CASE photographers. They are for purchase exclusively through CASE with 50% of the proceeds donated to a nonprofit organization chosen by the photographer, 25% for the photographer, and the remaining 25% for CASE.

[CASETalks](#) presents a monthly online dialogue between a BriefCASE photographer and a curator or educator via Zoom, in which the artist reflects on their work and the humanitarian issues addressed.

[ShowCASE](#) is the final presentation of projects by CASE photographers via exhibitions and educational programs. Project themes have included the plight of unaccompanied refugee and asylum-seeking children detained along the U.S.-Mexico border.

About Shahidul Alam



Shahidul Alam. © Rahnuma Ahmed

A *Time* magazine Person of the Year in 2018, photographer, writer, curator, and human rights activist Shahidul Alam obtained his PhD in chemistry from London University before taking up photography. His photographs have been exhibited at museums including MoMA, Tate Modern, and the Centre Georges Pompidou.

Returning to his native country of Bangladesh in 1984, Alam campaigned to bring down its autocratic ruler, General Hussain Muhammad Ershad. In August 2018, he was detained for peacefully expressing his views against the Bangladesh government's repressive practices. In pursuit of social justice, he founded award-winning Drik Picture Library (1989), an independent media agency that promotes work by Bangladeshi image-makers; the Pathshala South Asian Media Institute (1998), South Asia's first school of photography; and Chobi Mela (2000), Asia's first international photography festival.

He co-established the international photo agency Majority World. Alam's photo-based community building initiatives in Bangladesh have also included a training program for disadvantaged children (who are all now media professionals) and the first women photographers collective. As a new media pioneer, Alam helped introduce email to Bangladesh in the early nineties.

About CASE Art Fund

CASE Art Fund's mission as a nonprofit organization is to raise awareness about children's human rights through the support and exhibition of photography.

CASE's vision is to be at the forefront of presenting photographs that inspire and create a positive impact on social awareness, human rights, and children's education. Photographic projects are exhibited in non-traditional ways in public spaces as well as at art fairs and at other cultural venues.

CASE works with organizations, both local and international, to help effect change. This commitment is long term and serves as the backbone for all projects that are funded.

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