

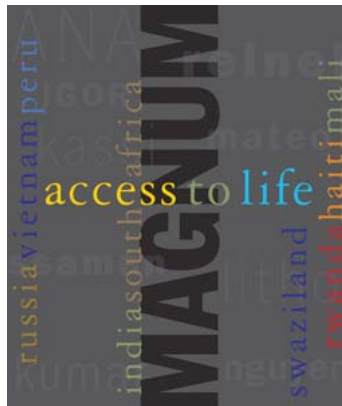


aperturefoundation

**PRESS RELEASE**

“This book shows AIDS treatment in all its complexity. Not all stories end well. Not all experiences are life-altering for those who go through them ... But AIDS treatment allows those struggles to go on. It brings life, and in doing so it brings hope. This is the message we can take away from these exceptionally poignant images.”

—From preface by Desmond Tutu



## ***ACCESS TO LIFE***

**WITH PREFACE BY DESMOND TUTU AND ESSAY BY JEFFREY D. SACHS**  
Co-published with Magnum Photos and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

**JONAS BENDIKSEN, JIM GOLDBERG, ALEX MAJOLI, STEVE MCCURRY,  
PAOLO PELEGRIN, GILLES PERESS, ELI REED, and LARRY TOWELL**  
document transformative effects of antiretroviral drugs on  
thirty individuals infected by HIV in nine countries

For the past 25 years, the AIDS pandemic has inflicted excruciating pain upon humanity, having ravaged the lives of millions of people around the world. Over the past few years, however, a quiet global revolution has enabled millions infected by HIV to live healthy lives through the free antiretroviral treatment program initiated by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

In *Access to Life*, (**Aperture, April 2009**) eight of the world's leading photojournalists, all members of Magnum Photos, follow thirty individuals in nine countries before, and four months after, they began the antiretroviral treatment, documenting the transformative effect on their bodies, their lives, and the lives of their families. Here are the faces, voices, and stories representing millions of people who would otherwise be dead if not for access to free life-saving drugs. But there are also the stories of those individuals for whom treatment came too late—showing how the fight to bring access to AIDS treatment is still a difficult one.



The Access to Life campaign, which includes an international traveling exhibition, functions as an axis for artistic, educational, and political responses to AIDS treatment. The exhibition will travel to Mexico City, Paris, Berlin, and Rome in 2009 and 2010.

This dream team of Magnum photographers was assigned to the following countries: **Jonas Bendiksen** (Haiti), **Jim Goldberg** (India), **Alex Majoli** (Russia), **Steve McCurry** (Vietnam), **Paolo Pellegrin** (Mali), **Gilles Peress** (Rwanda), **Eli Reed** (Peru), and **Larry Towell** (South Africa and Swaziland). In their interaction with the communities, the connections of these photographers extend beyond those directly suffering from AIDS, to include friends, children, parents, and significant others. In bringing all these people together for this project, *Access to Life* proposes that these citizens are united across political and geographic borders by their common struggle.

Each section of the book includes an introductory essay about the assignment penned by the artist, a snapshot of the country and its history with AIDS, and biographies on the people profiled. The poignant and powerful images, the centerpiece of the project, are accompanied by moving, personal quotes from the subjects themselves, and the individuals who help take care of them.

**DESMOND TUTU** (preface) is the former Archbishop of the Anglican Church in Cape Town, South Africa. He is a member of the UN advisory panel on genocide prevention and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984.

Professor **JEFFREY D. SACHS** (essay) is Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and Special Advisor on the Millennium Development Goals.

9 1/2 x 11 1/4 in. (24.1 x 28.6 cm)  
310 pages; 468 four-color and duotone images  
Hardcover with DVD; ISBN 978-1-59711-105-8  
\$49.95; £27.50; April 2009

**Aperture**—located in New York’s Chelsea art district—is a world-renowned non-profit publisher and exhibition space dedicated to promoting photography in all its forms. Aperture was founded in 1952 by photographers Ansel Adams, Dorothea Lange, Barbara Morgan, and Minor White; historian Beaumont Newhall; and writer/curator Nancy Newhall, among others. These visionaries created a new quarterly periodical, *Aperture* magazine, to foster both the development and the appreciation of the photographic medium and its practitioners. In the 1960s, Aperture expanded to include the publication of books (over five hundred to date) that comprise one of the most comprehensive and innovative libraries in the history of photography and art. Aperture’s programs now include artist lectures and panel discussions, limited-edition photographs, and traveling exhibitions that show at major museums and arts institutions in the U.S. and internationally.

**Contact:** Andrea Smith, Director of Communications, (212) 946-7111, [asmith@aperture.org](mailto:asmith@aperture.org)  
Christina Caputo, Publicist, (212) 946-7123, [ccaputo@aperture.org](mailto:ccaputo@aperture.org)