

## About The Artist

Stephen Dupont was born to Danish parents in Sydney Australia, 1967. He is a photographer whose passion is photographing people and things that are disappearing from our world and areas of global change. Drawn towards places of conflict and with an eye for compassion, he likes to capture both moments of beauty and devastation in life.

A true believer in the art of 'Real Documentary Photography' as depicted by the Robert Frank school of thought, Dupont is a consummate nomad with his camera, his first solo trip around the world being at age 18. His influences include by the work of Don McCullin, W.Eugene Smith, Robert Capa and Josef Koudelka.

Dupont's life as a photographer began in 1989 when he covered the historical Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia for Playboy Magazine. This opened a road of mostly personal journeys throughout Asia, where he worked on photo essays in Sri Lanka, Thailand, The Philippines, Burma, Indo-China and Australia.

In 1992, at the age of 24, Dupont re-located to London. Whilst based there, he focused on covering the world's trouble spots, earning an international reputation in this field. As the war raged in Bosnia, Dupont was drawn to the stories not shown in the media spotlight, but just as important internationally. He travelled and photographed crises in Angola, Rwanda, Burundi, Zaire, Somalia, India and Afghanistan.

In 1994 he was selected as one of the ten most-promising young documentary photographers internationally and was invited to participate in the first World Press Photo Master Class held in Holland. By 1997 he had based himself in Paris where he joined the photo agency Contact Press Images, of which he is still a member. In 1999 he relocated back to Sydney, where he currently lives.

In 2000 Dupont was a founding member of the first festival of photojournalism in Australia: *REPORTAGE- A Celebration of Australian Photojournalism*. He has won many international photography prizes including World Press Photo and Pictures of the Year International. His work has been exhibited in London, Paris, New York, Sydney, Tokyo and at Perpignan's Visa Pour L'Image Festival.

In between assignments Dupont mainly focuses on long-term personal book and exhibition projects. He has two published books, *STEAM – India's Last Steam Trains* and *FIGHT*. Books on East Timor and Afghanistan are currently in production.

He works on assignment for The New Yorker, Newsweek, GQ, French and German GEO, Le Figaro, Liberation, The Sunday Times Magazine, The New York Times Magazine, Stern, Time, The Financial Review Magazine and Vanity Fair.

More of Stephen Dupont's work can be seen on his website – [www.stephendupont.com](http://www.stephendupont.com)

## AWARDS

2004

Sasakawa Sports Foundation Award Japan – SSF Special Prize *Sumo*  
Sportel Monaco Prize – Best Illustrated Sports Book *LUTTE*

2001

Pictures of the Year International – Third Prize Sport's category *Cuban boxer*  
Pictures of the Year International – Third Prize Magazine Photographer of the Year USA

2000

Pictures of the Year International – Award of Excellence Sport's feature category *Sumo Wrestlers*  
Communication Arts Annual Awards – Award of Excellence *East Timor*  
Pictures of the Year International – Second prize Sport's Stories *Australian boxer Anthony Mundine*  
Pictures of the Year International – Third Prize Feature Stories category *Tibet*

1999

Pictures of the Year International – Award of Excellence Best Photographic Book *STEAM-India's Last Steam Trains*  
Pictures of the Year International – Third Prize Sport's Stories category *Horse Racing Australia*

1998

World Press Photo – Third Prize Sport's Stories category *Gambia's Wrestlers*  
Sasakawa Sports Foundation Award Japan – Best Culture Photograph *Gambia's Wrestlers*  
Pictures of the Year International – First Prize Sport's Stories *Australian Aborigines in Sport*  
Pictures of the Year International – First Prize Feature Stories *Afghan leader Massoud*  
Pictures of the Year International – Second Prize Sport's Action category *Aboriginal Rodeo*  
Pictures of the Year International – Second Prize Sport's Stories *Women's Soccer in China*  
Pictures of the Year International – Third Prize Issue Reporting category *Baku Azerbaijan*

1997

World Press Photo Awards – Second Prize Genera News category *Environment Protester UK*  
Pictures of the Year International – First Prize Sport's category *Gambia's Wrestlers*  
Pictures of the Year International – Third Prize Magazine Photographer of the Year USA

1996

World Press Photo – Second Prize Sport's Stories category *Turkish Wrestlers*  
World Press Photo – Second Prize Daily Life category *India's Last Steam Trains*  
La Revista Magazine International Award Spain – First Prize *India's Wrestlers*  
Observer Hodge Award UK – Second Prize *Africa's Refugees in Europe*  
Pictures of the Year International – Honourable Mention *Environment Protestor UK*  
Pictures of the Year International – Special Jury Prize canon Photo Essay Award *India's Last Steam Trains*

1995

World Press Photo – First Prize Sport's Stories Category *Indian Wrestlers*  
David Hodge Memorial Prize – Honourable Mention *India's Last Steam Trains*

1994

World Press Photo – Children's Jury Prize *Philippines*

## COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Victoria Australia  
State Library of NSW Sydney Australia  
Australian War Memorial Canberra  
Henry Buhl New York  
Rotterdam Photo Institute Holland  
Sasakawa Sport's Foundation Tokyo Japan  
Gunter Braus and Martin Wachter

## EXHIBITIONS

### Solo Shows

2004 March – *Wrestlers* Moores Building Contemporary Art Gallery Fremantle  
2003 November – *Kumbh Mela India* Point Light Gallery Sydney  
2003 May – *Havana Particular* Hill On Hargrave Gallery Sydney  
2000 April – *STEAM – India's Last Steam Trains* Lens Gallery Sydney  
1997 April – *STEAM – India's Last Steam Trains* Tom Blau Gallery London  
1995 October – *STEAM – India's Last Steam Trains* La Galerie Mise au Point Paris  
1995 September – *STEAM – India's Last Steam Trains* Visa Pour L'Image Festival Perpignan France

### Selected Group Shows

2005 – February – *Woman* Point Light Gallery Sydney  
2004 – October – *Wrestlers* (Sasakawa Sports Award) Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography  
2004 – October – *Wrestlers* (Amsterdam Photo 2004), Canvas International Art Gallery  
2003 – December – *HIV/AIDS in Thailand* (Positive Negative -An Exhibition exploring HIV/AIDS in the Asia Pacific region) A travelling exhibition around Australia.  
2003 – February – *Afghanistan* (Representing the Real Documentary Photography) Stills Gallery Sydney  
2002 – December – *Freestyle Bondi Beach Cole Classic* State Library of NSW Sydney  
2002 – June – *East Timor* (Behind Tears; Triumphant Voices) Central Post Office Melbourne  
2002 – February – *Afghan Women Behind the Veil* French Cultural Centre New York  
2002 – 2004 – *Afghanistan* (WITNESS-Australian Photojournalism) Australian Centre for Photography Sydney and regional galleries around Australia  
2000 – 2001 – *Aborigines in Sport* (Leica/CCP Documentary Award) Contemporary Centre of Photography Melbourne and regional Australian Galleries  
1999 – November – *Every Dog has Its Day* Photographica Gallery Sydney  
1998 – December – *Keep the Light on Human Rights* (Contact Photographers) Fujita Vente Museum Tokyo  
1998 – June – *Women's Soccer Around the World* (Contact Photographers) Cathedral Montpelier France  
1998 – *Gambia's Wrestlers* World Press Photo Amsterdam and Worldwide  
1996 – December – *Africa's Refugees in Europe* (David Hodge Memorial Prize) The Photographer's Gallery London  
1996 – *Turkish Wrestlers* World Press Photo Amsterdam and Worldwide  
1995 – December – *War in Angola* (For Amnesty International) Myers Gallery Melbourne Australia  
1995 – September – *STEAM – India's Last Steam Trains* (David Hodge Memorial Prize) The Photographer's Gallery London  
1995 – *Indian Wrestlers* World Press Photo Amsterdam and Worldwide  
1994 – *Aborigines Generation X* (World Press Photo Master class) Rotterdam Photo Institute Holland  
1994 – *Philippines* World Press Photo Amsterdam and Worldwide.

## BOOKS

### STEAM – India’s Last Steam Trains, Dewi Lewis Publishing UK (1999)

#### Background

This is an extraordinary photographic record of the last steam trains in India. Dupont captures not only India’s fascination for the steam engine but also the sense of past which will never be revisited. This is not simply a book for railway enthusiasts. These photographs also portray an industry on the edge of extinction, the pivotal role of the railways in Indian life and the drama of the Indian landscape.

#### Awards

1999 – Pictures of the Year International – Award of Excellence for Best Photography Book of the Year  
1996 – World Press Photo Awards – Second Prize for Daily Life Stories Category  
1996 – Pictures of the Year International – Special Jury Prize Canon Photo Essay  
1995 – David Hodge Memorial Prize, UK – Honourable Mention

### FIGHT, Marval Publishing Paris France (2003)

#### Background

A visual anthology of traditional wrestling around the world, Dupont spent a decade photographing wrestling in eight countries. Wrestling is the world’s oldest known sport and the most globally far-reaching. It is combat in its most primal form, pitting one man against another, in a contest of physical and mental domination. The project began in India and continued around the globe to Turkey, Gambia, Switzerland, USA, Mexico, Japan and Mongolia.

#### Awards

2004 – Sportel Monaco Prize/International Olympic Committee – *LUTTE Editions Marval*  
2004 – Sasakawa Sports Foundation Award Japan – SSF Special Award *Sumo Wrestlers*  
2000 – Pictures of the Year International – Award of Excellence *Sumo Wrestlers*  
1998 – World Press Photo Awards – Third Prize for Sport’s Stories Category *Wrestling in Gambia*  
1998 – Sasakawa Sports Foundation Award Japan – Best Culture Photograph *Wrestling in Gambia*  
1997 – Pictures of the Year International – First Prize for magazine Sport’s Story *Wrestling in Gambia*  
1996 – World Press Photo Awards – Second Prize for Sport’s Stories Category *Wrestling in Turkey*  
1996 – La Revista Magazine Award Spain – First Prize for *Wrestling in India*  
1995 – World Press Photo Awards – First Prize for Sport’s Stories Category *Wrestling in India*

### VIVA TIMOR LESTE, Trolley Publishing UK and Italy (due for publication at end of 2005).

A collaboration of diaries, stories and photographs on East Timor’s struggle for Independence by some of Australia’s leading writers and photographers. Designed and edited by Stephen Dupont.

## REVIEWS - LUTTE Editions Marval

### Le Photographe, March 2004

This imposing work abundantly illustrated with big format images will remain as testimony to traditions which, unfortunately, are disappearing, victims of a irreversible cultural "globalisation".

### Belgium, Vif/L'Express 20 February 2004

It lets you discover secret worlds, thousand-year-old events, through photos which try to extract the human element rather than just skim over the spectacular.

### Ulysse, March-April 2004

In sumptuous black and white, with the blacks muted and precise at the same time, Stephen Dupont shows the dreams and the suffering, the passion which casts young people in sudden outbursts of rage against each other.

### Le Monde February 2004

Photographed in all its aspects, this primitive clinch, both physical and metaphysical, sends us back to the rituals of the primeval sacrifices.

### En jeu March 2004

A splendid journey of initiation which, through beauty and power, serves to remind us that fighting with bare hands reflects societies just as much as it reveals the men.

### L'Express February 2004

From Japanese sumo wrestlers to the Greco-roman wrestlers of Mongolia, while passing by the university world champions of Iowa or the voo-doo combatants of Gambia, the Australian photographer Stephen Dupont has cast his lens over all continents, from 1994 to 2003, to bring back a "visual anthropology" of wrestling.