



## IMAGINE: REFLECTIONS ON PEACE The VII Foundation

**Photographers** : Sir Don McCullin, Nichole Sobecki, Roland Neveu, Gary Knight, Jack Picone, Ron Haviv, Gilles Peress, Stephen Ferry, Nicole Tung. **Essays** : Padraig O'Malley, Marie O'Reilly, Pedrag Peđa Kojović, Elizabeth D. Herman, Richard Goldstone, Samantha Power, Jonathan Powell. **Journalists** : Gary Knight, Jon Swain, Robin Wright, Philip Gourevitch, Anthony Loyd, Monica McWilliams, Avila Kilmurray, Jon Lee Anderson, Margerita Martinez, Fiona Turner. **Personal Stories** : Mira Sidawi, Dyline Umunyana, Sophary Sophin, Elvis Garibovic.

### TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

Bound book, limp cover  
17 x 24 cm, portrait  
Printed on high-quality uncoated fine papers  
200 photos

B&W and color photos  
English version

**408 pages**  
**Price VAT included : 45 €/39 £**  
**ISBN : 978-2-490952-09-0**

### EXHIBITIONS

- September 15th - Opening event International Red Cross Museum, Geneva - Exhibit from September 16th - January 10th 2021
- September 17th: Hemeria event, Paris
- October 5th - November 1st: Bayeux festival with Imagine Exhibition

The VII  
Foundation

# VIIIF

### The Authors

Founded in 2001 by Gary Knight and Ron Haviv, **the VII Foundation** is an independent nonprofit media and education organization. It was established to secure support for documentary practice that addresses complex social, economic, and human rights issues, as well as for vocational media and journalism education.

### The Book

In 2018, the VII Foundation asked more than a dozen renowned reporters and photojournalists to revisit countries with which they had become achingly familiar during times of brutal conflict. The task was to see peace through the prism of their journalistic experience; to survey familiar towns and villages; to reconnect with women, men, soldiers, civilians, statesmen, and students who had survived the conflict or grown up in the postwar society; to discover what the lived experience of "peace" feels like. To augment this reportage, we sought input from academics and peacemakers. And we invited citizens of those countries to give their very personal narratives, in their own voices. Hard edges were not softened nor unpalatable impressions deleted. We wanted to show the truth as seen and experienced by those that lived and those that reported on seemingly intractable civil wars in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Lebanon, Northern Ireland, and Rwanda.

**The result is *Imagine: Reflections on Peace*—a curation of searing images and trenchant essays that show both micro and macro views of peace, with its uneven degrees of economic success, political stability, and social harmony.**

***Imagine: Reflections on Peace* is a beautifully designed and bound book of 408 pages, with accompanying exhibitions, published in both English and French, Fall 2020.**

- **6 civil wars that have marked History: Lebanon, Cambodia, Rwanda, Colombia, North Ireland, Bosnia**
- **Gathered for the first time, contributions from internationally renowned personalities on the theme of peace**
- **An overview of peace processes: what worked, or not**
- **Unprecedented deciphering of the challenges of peace**
- **Unpublished stories from victims and witnesses, testimonies from their lives today**
- **Reflections and analysis on justice, the role of women and the diplomacy to be implemented to build lasting peace**
- **A major educational tool for young generations**

### PRINTING

Hemeria is associated with Printmodel®, and benefits from the excellence of a unique know-how in image reproduction on printed media.

### SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSABILITY

Hemeria has decided to use only noble materials for its production and in particular paper from sustainably managed forests and produced in accordance with FSC and PEFC standards, in order to limit the footprint of its activity on the environment. This quest for high quality goes hand in hand with an environmentally responsible approach: thanks to the ReforestACTION initiative, a tree is planted for each book bought online on hemeria.com.



« Peace in every country has a distinct shape and hue, but these reports, analyses, and first-person accounts revealed some common elements that can hinder reconciliation and growth, as well as others that can help build the road to an empowered and stable society. We want to understand those elements. »

Gary Knight



## Cover, back

Throughout history we exalt peace as a human achievement, and justly so. But the reality of peace is flawed. For the men and women who live in the post-conflict societies of our time, the rewards of peace are elusive. When peace is so easy to imagine, why is it so difficult to get right?

That is the question behind *Imagine: Reflections on Peace*. In this stunning collection, world-renown journalists and authors take us into societies that have suffered searing conflict—and survived. Photographic essays make the stakes during war and peace grippingly palpable. Compelling backstories about negotiations, tales of survival, and accounts of the search for inner peace make the big picture personal. *Imagine* offers a rare glimpse into the unvarnished story of peace, a window into what it takes for societies and individuals to move forward after unspeakable brutality.

“These searing images and moving essays teach us much about the lessons of history, the costs of war, and the overlooked challenges of lasting peace. The honesty and introspection of the contributors also reminds us that the gaps that exist between peoples can be bridged; wounds can be healed; hatreds can be dissolved; and the once unthinkable can become reality—if there is a willingness to pursue dialogue and embrace our common humanity. *Imagine: Reflections on Peace* is a timely and important call to action.”

— **Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright**

“Powerful, persuasive, and forensic, this book will open your eyes, challenge your assumptions, and deepen your understanding of war and the people who survive it.”

— **Angelina Jolie, UNHCR Special Envoy**

“For anyone who has consumed narratives of war and violence, who has gazed into the whirlpools of history, who craves beautiful writing and life-changing images, *Imagine* is an essential book.”

— **Mark Danner, author of *Spiral: Trapped in the Forever War***

This magnificent collection of photography and narrative gives us a searing portrayal of war-torn places in the aftermath of violence. The result is a stirring meditation on peace as an unfinished project, precariously poised between memory and forgiveness.

— **Michael J. Sandel, Political Philosopher, Harvard University and author of *Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?***

## Essays by:

Jon Lee Anderson  
Martin Fletcher  
Elvis Garibovic  
Justice Richard Goldstone  
Philip Gourevitch  
Elizabeth D Herman  
Chris Klatell  
& Gilles Peress  
Gary Knight  
Pedrag Peda Kojović  
Anthony Loyd  
Margarita Martinez  
Monica McWilliams &  
AvilaKilmurray  
Padraig O'Malley  
Marie O'Reilly  
Jonathan Powell  
Samantha Power  
Mira Sidawi  
Sophary Sophin  
Jon Swain  
Dydine Umunyana  
Robin Wright

## Photographs by:

Stephen Ferry  
Ron Haviv  
Gary Knight  
Don McCullin  
Roland Neveu  
Gilles Peress  
Jack Picone  
Nichole Sobeki  
Nicole Tung

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### Cambodia (1969-1991)

**Roland Neveu** (portfolio), **Gary Knight** (portfolio), **Jon Swain** *Fragile As a Flower*, **Sophary Sophin** *Excavating the Past, Imagining a New Life*, **Gary Knight** (portfolio)

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### North Ireland (1968-1998)

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## Lebanon Then (1976, 1982)

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by Don McCullin

I went running with the first wave. It was evening and raining hard. They all wore hoods. We stopped behind a low wall and watched people being shepherded out of a hospital for the insane. People came to the windows of one wing. One of the Falange fighters shouted and when he didn't get a proper answer he shot a burst of automatic fire into the window.

There was the same snip-snap of sniper bullets in the morning. Everyone seemed to have shrunk in the center of Karantina. An old American truck, like a Dodge pick-up, was brought up with a huge 50mm machine gun mounted on it. The Falangist on top was pouring out fire indiscriminately.

It was more than frightening, it was catastrophically fearful, like the dawn of a new dark age. I photographed, and went on photographing.

I had pictures that would tell the world something of the enormity of the crime that had taken place in Karantina.

Don McCullin, *Unreasonable Behaviour* : The Updated Autobiography, London: Jonathan Cape, 2015



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Lebanon

Reportage



Pages 24-25. Palestinians flee attack. Up to 1,500 Palestinians died in the Karantina massacre by Christian Falangist gunmen. Beirut, Lebanon, 1976

Pages 26-27. Young Christians with the body of a Palestinian girl. Beirut, Lebanon, 1976

"Further down the same road we heard strumming. A young boy was playing a lute ransacked from a half-burnt house. The boy was strumming it among his mates, as if they were at a picnic among almond groves in the sun. In front of them lay the body of a dead girl in puddles of winter rain.

"My mind was seized by this picture of carnival rejoicing in the midst of carnage. It seemed to say so much about what Beirut had become. Yet to raise the camera could be one risk too many.

"Then the boy called over to me. 'Hey, Mistah! Mistah! Come take photo.'

"I was still frightened but I shot off two frames quickly. This, when it's published, will crucify this lot, I thought."

Don McCullin, in *Unreasonable Behaviour: The Updated Autobiography*. London: Jonathan Cape, 2015

Pages 28-29. West Beirut under Israeli bombing, Lebanon 1982

"Cities never die. You can bomb cities flat and they will come back and live because of the tenacity of the people and the basic will to survive. I saw some horrendous crimes against humanity in Beirut-bombing and shelling and killing. It just makes people more resilient."

Don McCullin, in *Don McCullin*, by Simon Baker and Shoair Mavlian. London: Tate Publishing, 2019

Page 30 top left. Palestinian men over the age of 14 rounded up by Christian gunmen. Within hours the men in this photograph were all murdered and their bodies burned. Karantina, Beirut, 1976

Bottom left. Palestinians beg for mercy from Christian gunmen. Karantina, Beirut, 1976

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Lebanon

Reportage



IMAGINE

Northern Ireland

NORTHERN IRELAND

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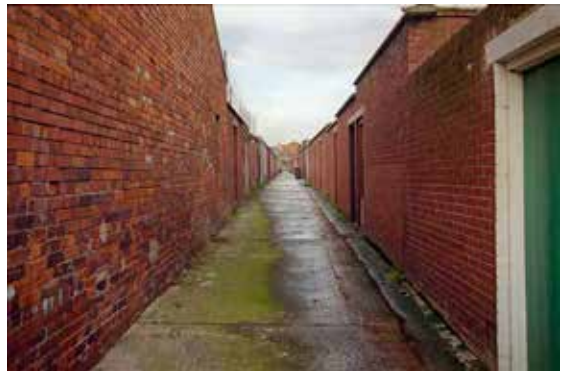
Martin Fletcher  
**Peace without Harmony**

Gilles Peress  
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Text by Chris Klatell  
with Gilles Peress

Monica McWilliams  
and Avila Kilmurray  
**The “Hen Party”**



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Northern Ireland

Reportage



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## British Contributors



Photo by: Jack Hill

**Martin Fletcher**

Martin Fletcher has had a long career at *The Times* of London. He was Belfast correspondent, Europe correspondent based in Brussels, and, for eight years, Washington correspondent and bureau chief. He was appointed foreign editor for the paper in 2002. The British Press Awards named him Feature Writer of the Year in 2015.



Photo by: Chris Harris

**Anthony Loyd**

Anthony Loyd is a British foreign correspondent for *The Times* of London and has been reporting from war zones since 1993, when he first traveled to Bosnia. He recently won four awards for his reporting from Syria. He has written a memoir from his time in Bosnia, *My War Gone By, I Miss It So*.



Photo by: Paulo Nunes dos Santos

**Monica McWilliams and Avila Kilmurray**

Monica McWilliams and Avila Kilmurray are activists and academics who fought for and won a seat at the peacemaking process in Northern Ireland. McWilliams is a professor of women's studies at the University of Ulster, and Kilmurray is the director of the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.



Photo by: Roger LeMoyné

**Don McCullin**

Sir Don McCullin is well established in the canon of photography; his work covers all the major late 20th-century conflicts. His lens shows life from the perspective of the disenfranchised and the dispossessed, the civilian casualties of war and the victims of social injustice. McCullin has won multiple awards and was the first photojournalist ever to be awarded a CBE.

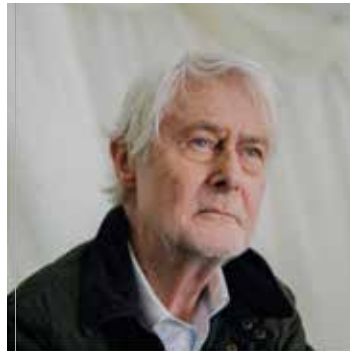


Photo by: Greenpeace

**Padraig O'Malley**

Padraig O'Malley is an Irish peace negotiator and is the John Joseph Moakley Distinguished Professor of Peace and Reconciliation at the University of Massachusetts Boston. He concentrates on bringing understanding to divided societies and is the author of several prize-winning books on Northern Ireland.

**Jonathan Powell**

Jonathan Powell was the chief of staff to British Prime Minister Tony Blair from 1997 to 2007 and the chief British government negotiator on Northern Ireland for the Good Friday or Belfast Agreement. He is currently director of Inter Mediate, a UK-based NGO working on conflicts around the world.



Photo by: Justin McKie

**Jon Swain**

Jon Swain was the only British journalist on the ground in Phnom Penh when it fell to the Khmer Rouge in April 1975. The British Press Awards named him Journalist of the Year for his coverage of that event. Roland Joffé's Oscar-winning film *The Killing Fields* depicted him as a character. He was a staff correspondent for many years at *the Sunday Times* of London.