

PHOTO EXHIBITIONS

THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

THE HUMAN COST OF AGRO-TOXINS - PABLO PIOVANO

"Bodies, our bodies, as stripped land.
Stripped of shape, water, and life.

Gazing eyes that pierce deep into whomever sees them.

Pablo Piovano has achieved an unusually realistic depiction of the ravaged land that also became of the human beings living in terrains flooded with poisons (some of which are even banned in other countries), which make up the majority of the arable lands in Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Southern Brazil.

Transgenic events addicted to agrotoxins invaded our lands and colonized our bodies.

That is what extractivism does: it extracts, extirpates, and expropriates... minerals, water, nutrients, life.

It does this in the mountain range, the seas, the fields, the bodies, transforming human beings into externalities.

Pablo saw it, felt it, and portrayed it.

The Human Cost of Agrotoxins should be a compulsory piece to see for those whose decisions transform human beings into expendables." Damián Verzeñassi. Rosario, April 2016.

FARMERSEEDS OUTLAW ? - GÉRALD DE VIVIÉS

Today, most of the regulations governing the sale and exchange of seeds favour industrial agribusiness.

In France, as in many countries, legislation actually makes « outlaws » of farmers who save and exchange seeds with each other.

Gerald's pictures try to engage the public about this system to change it.

SEEDS OF FREEDOM - NAVDANYA

We are today in the midst of a battleground for two very different approaches to agriculture. One is the agro ecological approach based on the use of local, open source traditional seeds based on biodiversity and living in harmony with nature. The other is the mechanistic world of an industrial system based on monocultures, one-way extraction and the use of pesticides, poisons and GMOs, and where chemical cartels compete to take over our agriculture and food systems, destroying our ecosystems along the way.

Communities across the world are rising up to protect their sovereign right to seed freedom, their right to healthy and nutritious food and their right to mould the kind of society in which future generations would want to live.

Photojournalist Manlio Masucci visited for Navdanya some of the communities of the Seed Freedom network: from the Bribri community of Talamanca, Costa Rica and the indigenous community of Otavalo, Ecuador to the women and farmers of the Navdanya network in Vidarbha, Maharashtra and Himalaya in India. It is the women, the indigenous communities, farmers, gardeners, the seed keepers and seed defenders that are keeping the seed free and shaping the future of our food and planet.

GLOBAL JUSTICE NOW

This photo exhibition tells a story of corporate power and its impacts on ordinary people. It's set in the Indian countryside of Maharashtra known as the 'cotton-belt.' India has been marred with tragedy over the past twenty years with nearly 300,000 farmers committing suicide.

Monsanto has a tight grip on cotton growing in India with a 90% market share in cotton seeds. Its business model shores up its control of agriculture as farmers become dependent on expensive seeds and chemicals. And countless people sadly testify to the devastating consequences - not just to livelihoods, but to lives, too.

But this is not just a story of tragedy. There are also stories of hope and resistance.

In India and Bangladesh there are positive alternatives to corporate-controlled seeds. In Bangladesh the community-led organisation, UBINIG has established an extensive seed saving network, which enables the exchange and preservation of a wide range of seeds. Seed diversity is key to maintaining biodiversity as well as building resilience to climate change and pests.