

PORTFOLIO

Dániel Halász

Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design
Doctor of Liberal Arts in Multimedia Art

KU Leuven - LUCA School of Arts
Philosophy of Doctor in the Arts

2025

CV

Dániel Halász is a PhD in the Arts researcher at KU Leuven / LUCA School of Arts and a DLA doctorate candidate at the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design Budapest. He is a Visiting Professor at Central European University Vienna and Sopron University. Previously, he was a tenured lecturer in the BA and MA programmes at the Visual Arts Institute of Eszterhazy University, a guest lecturer at the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and a teaching assistant at the International Center of Photography in New York City.

He graduated with an MFA Photography in 2011 at the Moholy-Nagy University of Art Budapest and an MA Scandinavian Studies at the Eötvös Loránd University. He also studied at the Glasgow School of Art with a scholarship. Since graduating, he participated in group exhibitions in Belgium, Canada, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Russia, and the US. Daniel won the Google Photography Prize in 2010 and his most recent work was shortlisted for the Esterhazy Art Award 2019, won the Budapest Photography Grant and a Robert Capa Grand Prize Fellowship in 2020.

born 1981 in Hungary
lives and works in Vienna, Austria

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EDUCATION

2021 -	KU Leuven / LUCA School of Arts , Brussels, Belgium PhD in the Arts (double degree, expected completion in 2025) Dissertation title: Documenting Resistance - Photographic Representations of Resourcefulness in Hungary's Smallest Rural Communities Photobook title: We Are All Birds, We Are Not Human
2019 -	Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design , Budapest, Hungary Doctorate of Liberal Arts in Multimedia (double degree, expected completion in 2025)
2006 – 2011	Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design , Budapest, Hungary Combined BFA & MFA, Photography (graduated in July 2011) Thesis: Using the public sphere in the service of art // Preparation for the persecution of art
2009	Glasgow School of Art , Glasgow, United Kingdom Fine Art Photography, exchange study grant
2003 – 2005	London School of Economics and Political Science , London, United Kingdom Development Studies, Management
2001 – 2006	Eötvös Loránd University , Budapest, Hungary Combined BA & MA Scandinavian Studies, Cultural Management (graduated in July 2018)
1999 – 2000	University of York , York, United Kingdom Sociology and Economics

TEACHING

2024 -	Visiting Professor // University of Sopron, Sopron, Hungary
2023 -	Visiting Professor of Photography // Central European University, Vienna, Austria
2020	Tenured Lecturer // Eszterhazy University, Eger, Hungary Guest Lecturer // Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Budapest, Hungary
2019	Lecturer // Eszterhazy University, Eger, Hungary Module Leader and Mentor // Milestone Institute, Budapest, Hungary
2016 - 2017	Teaching Assistant // International Center of Photography, New York, NY

LANGUAGES

English	C1 level (International Baccalaureate Diploma)
German	C1 level (Goethe-Institut ZMP)
Hungarian	Native
Norwegian	C1 level (MA Scandinavian Studies)

AWARDS

2019	Capa Grand Prize 2020 // Fellowship Esterhazy Art Award 2019 // Shortlist Budapest Photography Grant // Winner
2017	Reclaim Photography Festival // RPS Award
2016	Head On Portrait Prize - Museum of Sydney // Semi-Finalist
2015	International Photographer of the Year Awards // Honorable Mention
2011	NEU/NOW Festival for graduating young artists // Selection
2009	Imagine a New World - European Commission Photo Prize // Winner Fotomuseum Winterthur - PLAT(T)FORM 10 // Nominee International Photography Awards // Selection Google Photography Prize // Winner
2008	Epson Art Photo Award // Winner, Best Class

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

2019 – 2023	Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design // research grant
2014	Studio of Young Photographers // field research in New York City
2010	Rodschenko School of Photography , Moscow House of Photography // workshop in Russia
2009	Glasgow School of Art // Erasmus scholarship in Scotland
2008	Bauhaus University Weimar // Art/Bauhaus scholarship in Germany
2005	Universitetet i Bergen // scholarship in Norway Vraa Hojskole // scholarship in Denmark

OTHER ACTIVITIES

2023	Jury Member // Budapest Photography Grant, Capa Photography Center, Budapest, Hungary
2022	Jury Member // MA Photography Graduation, Moholy-Nagy University of Art, Hungary Educational Officer // HackYourFuture, Brussels, Belgium
2015	Photographer and videographer // Gulu Youth Development Association, Gulu, Uganda
2013 – 2015	Board Member // Studio of Young Artists’ Association, Budapest, Hungary
2012 – 2014	Senior Photo Editor // Envato, Melbourne, Australia
2009 – 2011	Art Director // Laboratory Group Partner of JungvMatt, Budapest, Hungary
2006 – 2008	Editor of Digital Photography Section // Origo Deutsche Telekom, Budapest, Hungary

EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)

2023	3 rd Work-in-Context Symposium // Moholy-Nagy University of Art, Budapest, Hungary On The Road // Három Holló, Budapest, Hungary
2022	Edgeland // Három Holló, Budapest, Hungary Borderland // BAC Art Lab, Leuven, Belgium
2021	Borderland // Corinthian International Photography Festival, Greece Borderland (solo) // Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Hungary
2020	You Were Never Really Here – Capa Grand Prize 2020 // Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Hungary
2019	Esterhazy Art Award 2019 // Ludwig Museum Budapest, Hungary The Walls // Drei Raben, Budapest, Hungary The Walls // Debrecen, Gyor, Nyiregyhaza, Szeged, Bankito Festival, Hungary
2018	585.000 m2 // Erzsitt Jewish Historical Archive, Budapest, Hungary Delete the future forever // Hungarian University of Fine Arts, Budapest, Hungary Golden Boundaries // Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest, Hungary
2017	Family // Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg, Russia 585.000 m2 // Jerusalem Biennale, Jerusalem, Israel 585.000 m2 // KlezKanada, Montreal, Canada
2016	EuroPhonia – public space// London, UK 585.000 m2 // WhiteBox, NYC, USA I sleep to wake up, I get up to lie down // Studio Gallery, Budapest, Hungary
2015	Patron // Studio Gallery, Budapest, Hungary
2014	NYC //Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest, Hungary Contemporary Hungarians // Brooklyn, NYC, USA
2013	Inditek Temateka // Labor Gallery, Budapest, Hungary
2012	New members // Studio Gallery, Budapest, Hungary
2011	Take the money and run (solo) // Lumen Gallery, Budapest, Hungary Preparation for the persecution of art // Ponton Gallery, Budapest, Hungary Family, Notice // Studio Of Young Photographers, Budapest, Hungary
2010	Homo politicus // Photokina 2010, Cologne, Germany Imaginary Diary // PhotoEspaña 09, Madrid, Spain Imaginary Diary // 21st Photobiennale, Thessaloniki Museum of Photography, Greece Imaginary Diary // Hungarian House of Photography, Budapest, Hungary Imaginary Diary // European Commission Representation, London, UK
2009	Imaginary Diary // Contretype Contemporary Photographic Art Centre, Brussels, Belgium Camp 165 Watten // Photomeetings Luxembourg Camp 165 Watten // Saatchi Gallery, London, UK Friends // Contemporary Photography Biennale, Dunaujvaros, Hungary The Danube Delta // Bucharest, Romania
2008	Night of the Museums – slideshow // Hungarian House of Photography, Budapest Art against discrimination // Tuzrakter, Budapest Epson Art Photo Award // Art Cologne, Germany

REFERENCES

Ábel Szalontai / DLA professor / Head of the Doctoral School / MOME Budapest
Tímea Antalóczy / PhD associate professor / MOME Budapest
Bart Geerts / PhD associate professor / KU Leuven - LUCA School of Arts
Gábor Arion Kudász / DLA associate professor / Head of MA Photography / MOME Budapest
Oksana Sarkisova / PhD professor / Chair of Visual Theory and Practice Specialization / CEU Vienna
Vlad Naumescu / PhD professor / Head of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology / CEU Vienna
Jeremy Braverman / Head of the Media Hub / CEU Vienna

FALU

2024-25

In East-Central Europe, rural life collapsed after 1989 with the dissolution of the collective farms, the influx of agricultural products from the West, and finally the integration into the European Union. In Hungary, the rural is especially on the periphery: one city, Budapest is accountable for over 39% of the national income.

Between 2018 and 2024, as part of my doctorate research, I visited the tiniest villages of Hungary, settlements with a population below 100, looking for everyday practices of resilience and resourcefulness. I traveled over 16.000 kilometers, visiting over 80 villages, listening to the stories of residents and using the camera as a microscope, documenting people, the built environment, objects and landscapes.

Exhibitions

2022 BAC Art Lab, Leuven, Belgium.

2020 Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest, Hungary.

2019 Ludwig Museum, Budapest, Hungary.

Fellowship Winner - Robert Capa Grand Prize 2020.

Shortlisted - Esterhazy Art Award 2019.





Nincs itt semmi. *There is nothing here.*
Nincs iskola, nincs bolt, nincs kocsmá. *No school, no grocery store, no pub.*
Még a templom is bezárt. *Even the church had to close.*







Magyarország 3155 településének 91 százalékában *In 91 percent of Hungary's 3,155 settlements*
ötezernél kevesebben laknak *fewer than five thousand people live,*
és 166 falu lakossága száznál is kevesebb. *and 166 villages have fewer than one hundred residents.*









Márciustól december elejéig kint vagyok a kertbe.

From March until early December, I'm out in the garden.

Reggel fél ötkor kelünk. *We get up at half past four in the morning.*

A legközelebbi város 24 km.

The nearest town is 24 kilometers away.

Itt bolt nincs, buszjárat nincs, autónk nincs.

There's no store here, no bus service, and we don't have a car.

Amikor meghalt a férjem, el kellett adnunk azt is.

When my husband died, we had to sell that too.

A lakók fele nyugdíjas vagy segélyből él,
hogy hogyan boldogulnak, azt senki sem tudja,
legkevésbé ők maguk.

Az egyetlen munka itt a közmunka, havi 50 ezerért.
Ehhez viszont jóban kell lenni a polgármesterrel.
Sokan félnek nyíltan beszélni,
nehogy elveszítsék még ezt az utolsó kapaszkodót is.

*Half the people are retired or live off benefits,
how they manage nobody knows,
least of all themselves.*

*The only job here is communal work for 140 euros a month.
To get it, you must stay on the mayor's good side.
Many fear speaking openly
and losing even this lifeline.*







A mostani fiatalokat nem is lehet.. nem akarok senkit se bántani, *You can't even... I don't want to offend anyone,*
de hova lehet őket számítani? *but what can we count on the young people for these days?*
A számítógépet nézik, *They stare at the computer,*
meg ide mennek, oda mennek... *they're always off here and there...*
a számítógépből nem lehet megélni. *you can't make a living from a screen.*
Melyik fiatal fogja meg a kapát? *Which young person is going to pick up a hoe?*
Azt se tudja sok, melyik a kapa. *Most don't even know what a hoe is.*









Tényleg mondjam? *Should I really say it?*
Sosem volt ilyen rossz a szegényeknek. *It has never been so bad for the poor.*
Túléltem én rezsimeket: *I've survived many regimes:*
Horthy nacionalizmusát, Rákosi kommunizmusát, *Horthy's nationalism, Rákosi's communism,*
Kádár állami szocializmusát, *Kádár's state socialism,*
de a mostani vezetés mind közül a legrosszabb. *but the current leadership is the worst of all.*
Ha tehetnék, Dunába lőnék a szegényeket. *If they could, they'd shoot all the poor into the Danube.*

Minden kő, minden fa emlékezik; *Every stone, every tree remembers;*
mi vagyunk azok, akik felejtünk. *we are the ones who forget.*







Néha félek magamtól a hirtelen természetem miatt. *Sometimes I'm afraid of myself because of my short temper.*
19 évesen megszúrtam egy boxost, nyolc évet kaptam. *At 19, I stabbed a boxer and got eight years.*
Most a fiam ül valami drogügy miatt. *Now my son is in prison for something drug-related.*
Amikor meglátogat, mindenki reszket tőle. *When he visits, everyone trembles at the sight of him.*
120 kiló csupa izom. *120 kilos of pure muscle.*
Egyszer indulatból megvette *Once, in a fit of rage,*
egy mobil halárus teljes készletét, autóval együtt. *he bought a mobile fish vendor's entire stock, car included.*







Mindig nővér szerettem volna lenni egy kórházban. *I always wanted to be a nurse in a hospital.*
Aztán meghalt a nővérem *Then my sister died, and since*
és azóta én nevelem a gyerekeit. *then I've been raising her children.*







30 éve költöztem ide Svájcból.

I moved here from Switzerland 30 years ago.

Ott nem engedhettük meg magunknak ezt az életmódot.

We couldn't afford rural life there.

Most, rengeteg csalódás után, a lovaimmal foglalkozom.

Now, after many disillusionments, I focus on my horses.



Te vagy az első utas ezen a járaton, *You're the first passenger on this bus line*
mióta elkezdtem itt dolgozni úgy egy hónappal ezelőtt. *since I started the job a month ago.*









„Miért vagyunk mi mások?”, kérdem.

“Why are we different?” I ask.

„Mert nem vagyunk idevalósiak”, mondja anyám. *“Because we’re not from here,” my mother says.*

„Akkor mi is zsidók vagyunk?”, kérdi a nővérem. *“Then we’re Jews too?”*

„Azok leszünk”, válaszolja anyám.

“We’ll be,” she replies.







Megyünk és hallgatunk. *We walk and remain silent.*
Huszonhárom év van köztünk. *Twenty-three years between us.*
A huszonhármat nem lehet osztani. *Twenty-three cannot be divided.*
A huszonhárom csak magával osztható. *Twenty-three can only be divided by itself.*
Meg egyel. *And one.*





HALÁSZ Dániel



2020 Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest, Hungary

BORDERLAND

2019-20

"It is a borderland between Budapest and something else. This is what Dániel Halász's Borderland photo series presents – the transition zone, so that the transition itself also becomes the experience. His photos were taken in Budapest, but far from the must-see sights, fabulous historical monuments, the troubled and wise Danube, and the swarming passers-by of the Andrásy Avenue. They were shot in largely unknown places and situations, from where it is just a leap to get to somewhere else, on foot and in thought. Halász explores the geographical and virtual peripheries of the capital [...] through progressive associations and hyper-leaps, a non-linear imaginary journey can be traveled along the Budapest frontier. Meditating on said direction signpost, the century-old wears of a landmark and its "Budapest capital 1882" inscription, the idleness of a transport vehicle peeking out from behind a fence, an airplane's destination flying in the sky above Ferihegy, and the now-spiritual resident of a marble doghouse erected in a pet cemetery, the viewer of Borderland oscillates between various virtual locations and a rarely depicted Budapest, where the Chain Bridge can only be seen as a showcase sticker."

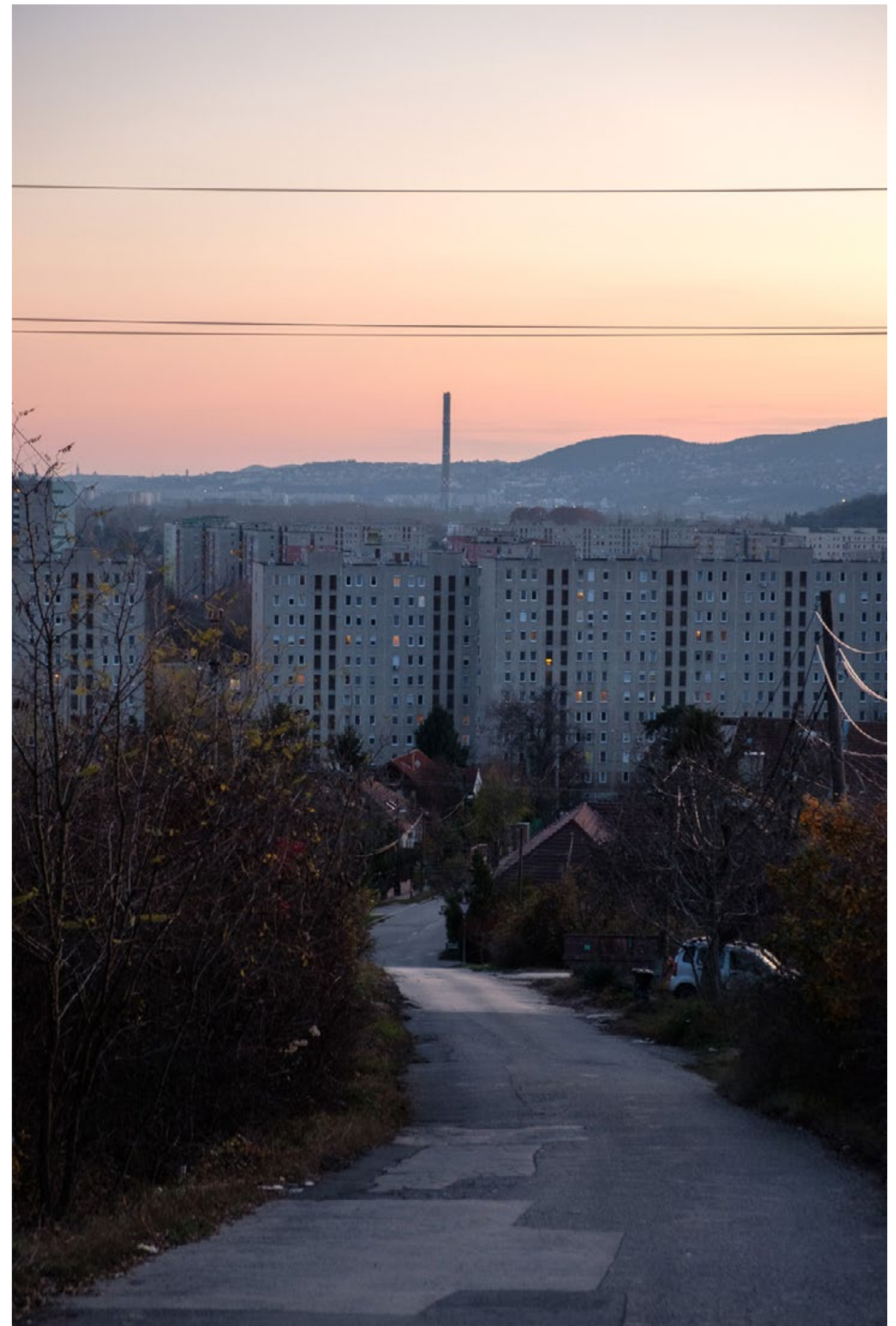
Excerpt from the photobook essay by Emese Mucsi

Exhibitions

2021 Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest. Curated by Emese Mucsi.

2021 Corinthian International Photography Festival, Greece.

Winner - Budapest Photography Grant 2019-2020.

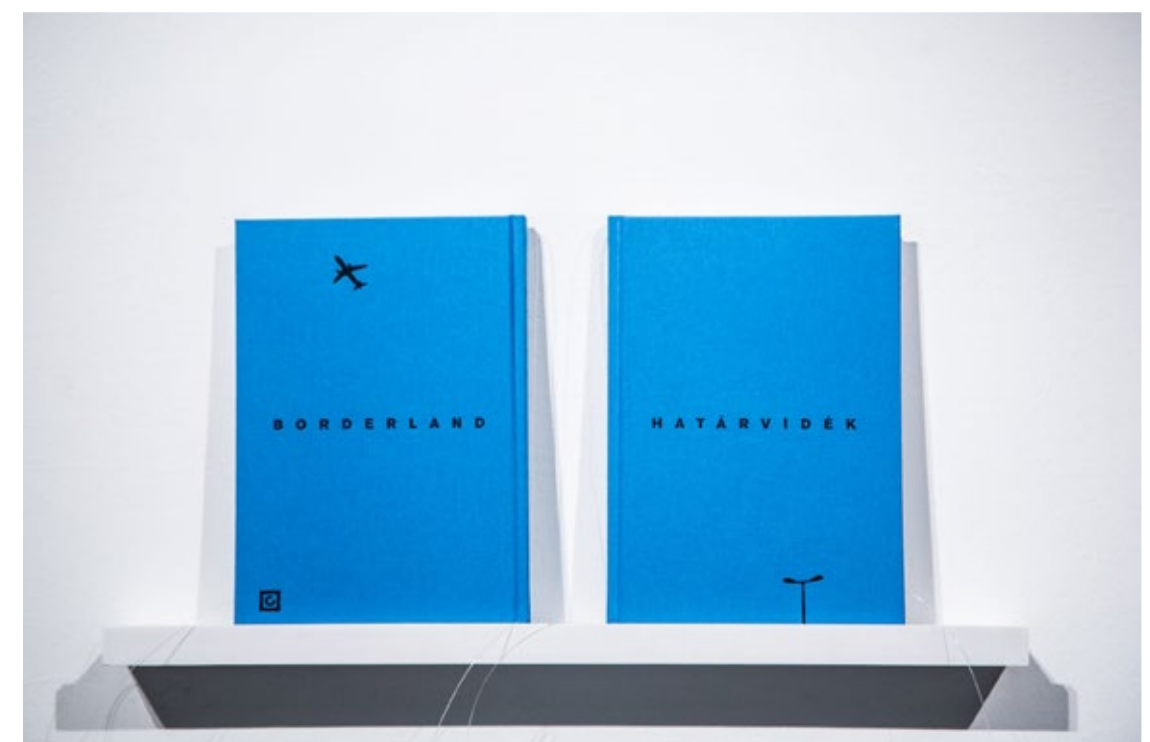












2021 Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest. Curated by Emese Mucsi

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

2015

In December 2014, I bought a one-way ticket and lived for almost a year in Uganda. During this period, I spent a month at a vocational boarding school in Gulu, which is run by a local NGO.

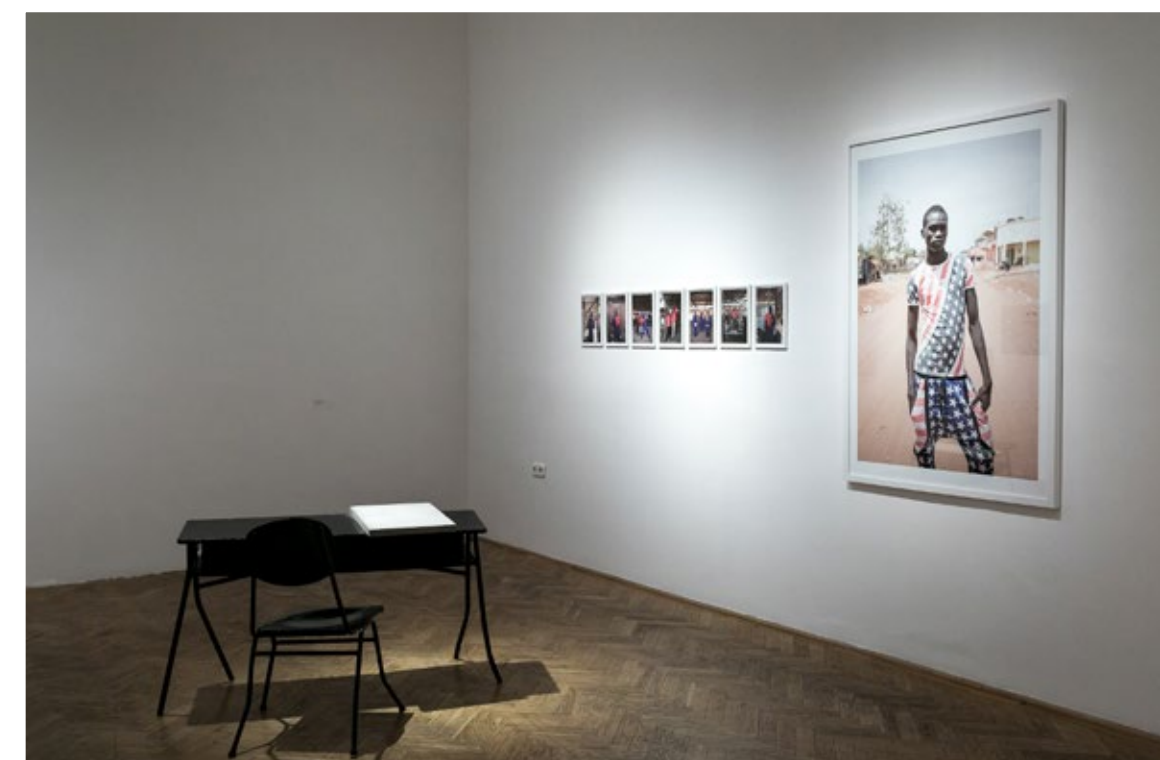
The Gulu Youth Development Association (GYDA) was established to address the effects of over 20 years of violent insurgency, forcing over a million people into displacement camps. With no formal schools in the temporary settlements, 70% of children missed out on education, leaving a significant skills gap in the region. The organisation is offering free vocational training in trades like metalwork, vehicle repair, tailoring, and construction. The program has trained over 8,000 youth, including refugees from Southern Sudan, equipping them to start businesses and support their families. Additionally, the organisation manufactures prosthetics, crutches, and wheelchairs, helping to heal the physical scars of war.

Exhibition
2016 - 2017 at the Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest. Curated by Kata Oltai.









2016 - 2017 at the Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest. Curated by Kata Oltai

14 SHADES OF VOID

2014

Bernadett ALPERN – Daniel HALÁSZ

Digital C-prints, 50×60 cm
Video installation

In this project, we visited some of the major Hungarian figures of the New York art scene and interviewed them about their beginnings in the U.S. city and about their relationship with Hungary. Besides the portraits, we also made a video report, asking the artists what they missed from Hungary in New York. They got a minute to think about the answer.

The video only shows this one-minute silence.

Project participants: Tamas Banovich, Ágnes Berecz, András Böröcz, Anikó Erdősi, Rebecca Major, Miklós Müller, Marianne Nobovatzky, Jakab László Orsós, Klári Palotai, Shandor Hassan, Suzanne K. Walther, András Szántó, Mónika Sziládi, Tamás Vészi

Exhibition
2014 Home Away, Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest.



<https://vimeo.com/119935636>

2014 Home Away, Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest

FAMILY

2010



“These family portraits of ethnic Udmurts were taken in the Udmurt Republic of western Russia by Hungarian photographer Daniel Halasz. Sharp-eyed observers may notice that there is a recurring family member in all the photographs. In fact this is Halasz himself, sometimes with a child on his knee, looming over two elderly relatives or simply sporting a spiffy red neckerchief.

The starting point of Halasz’s project was the right-wing idea, widespread in his home country, that Hungarians originally came from the Ural region and spread from there to become the greatest and most feared warriors in Europe. Looking to create an ironic reflection on this idea, Halasz tried to find his supposed relatives among ordinary Udmurt families of the region. “Udmurts and Hungarians belong to the same family of Finno-Ugric people,” says Halasz. “Like the prodigal son in the Bible, I returned to the ancient land.” Depending on the setting, Halasz becomes a father, brother, uncle or son, temporarily older or younger. A wry take on questions of nationality and ideology becomes also an enquiry into the dynamics of family and the traditions of portraiture.”

text by Anastasiia Fedorova (The Calvert Journal)

Exhibitions

2017 Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg, Russia.

2011 Studio Of Young Photographers, Budapest, Hungary.

2010 Cultural House, Bashkortostan, Russia.

Winner, honorary mention – 2015 – International Photographer of the Year Awards











2010 Cultural House, Bashkortostan, Russia

www.danielhalasz.com

www.instagram.com/danielhalasz_photography