

## CAPTURE

Stuart Redler's eye for the playfulness, beauty and poignancy of everyday scenes around the world lends itself to images that draw attention to shared human experience while highlighting cultural singularities. His juxtapositions of people and place, rendered in black and white, nonetheless highlight the abundant colour of life on earth

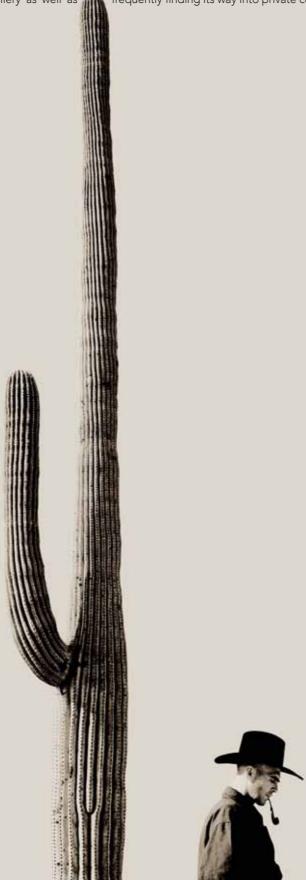


Dogon stilt walkers of Mali, West Africa, take a moment's respite. 'Dogon are an ethnic group who live along a rocky escarpment near the city of Bandiagara,' Stuart reveals. 'They have strong religious traditions and are known for their mask dances - with each mask dedicated to an ancestor - as well as wooden sculptures and mud architecture, the largest of which is the Great Mosque of Djenné.'

## STUART REDLER

Growing up on a Somerset farm gave London-based photographer Stuart a robust, honest and humorous view on life. His quietly observant images, always in warm black and white, are often quirky but always empathetic and sensitive to cultures and the human condition. At home with both the dynamic and the delicate, the urban and the pastoral, his curiosity has led to a career of global travel, and the resulting, award-winning

work is displayed in the National Portrait Gallery as well as frequently finding its way into private collections and publications.



Expertly composed, the sculptural arm of a saguaro cactus is reflected in the cowboy's pipe in a pitch-perfect scene from Phoenix, Arizona. Stuart shares: 'Saguaro grow in the Sonoran Desert in Arizona, south-eastern California and Sonoro, Mexico. They live for between 150 and 200 years. They often grow over 15m tall but don't start growing arms until they're around 50 (if at all).'



Top left: palm frondescence in Haller Park, Mombasa, Kenya. 'The nature park was a limestone quarry between 1954 and 1971 before it was rewilded. Today, it has numerous plants and animal species including buffalo, oryx, porcupine, crocodile and giraffe,' says Stuart.

Right: a woman carries a bundle of totora reeds on Lake Titicaca, Peru. Stuart explains: 'Totora is used to build boats, houses and the floating islands on the lake. The islands are made by stacking layers of the reeds; there are around 120 in total, having first been built around 500 years ago in response to attacks from the growing Inca empire.'

Bottom left: 'In India, 50 per cent of people in rural areas commute to work by bike, and Hero, the largest bicycle manufacturer, produces around 20,000 bikes per day,' says Stuart. Here, a cyclist takes a break along the way.







Top: swallows on the wire in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. They will fly north for summer, but, says Stuart, 'due to global warming, some won't return.'

Bottom: a brush seller rests awhile en route to market near Antananarivo, Madagascar. 'The bristles are made of Madagascar, a type of piassava,' says Stuart.



Above: Many Indian households lack access to running water. Stuart explains that, 'in Rajasthan, the job of fetching water usually falls to women,' and in this image, a girl balances a water container on her head. Although the government has made major improvements to safe water provision in the past five years, 'around 200,000 people die annually due to poor water quality,' he says.

To see more of Stuart's work head over to his Instagram account @stuartredler or visit his website *stuartredler.com* where you can also buy prints.