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Internationally Acclaimed Photographer Ernesto Bazan to Give Lecture for Photographic Resource Center



Ernesto Bazan, *Girl Playing Bride in Havana*, 1993.

Ernesto Bazan: Bazan Cuba

Wednesday, October 24, 2012, 6:30 pm

BU College of Arts & Sciences, Room 522, 705 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA

Ernesto Bazan will discuss his award-winning *Bazan Cuba*, a book of black-and-white photography set in Cuba, where he lived, taught, and raised a family for more than fourteen years during the Special Period. Cuba's Special Period was marked by the withdrawal of Soviet support and its resulting severe hunger and economic deprivation. He will also discuss *Al Campo*, the sequel and counterpoint to *Bazan Cuba*, featuring searing yet intimate color photos grounded in the Cuban countryside, where he lived and shot among the farmers for five years. The resulting images resound with a singular, insider's point of view and unprecedented access for a photographer in Cuba. Bazan's work on the island has garnered him photography's highest honor, the W. Eugene Smith Award, as well as a World Press award, a Guggenheim fellowship, and a grant from Mother Jones. After speaking, Bazan will show two multi-media presentations directed by Juan de la Cruz based on his books.

Both *Bazan Cuba* (Spanish version) and *Al Campo* (English version) will be available for purchase during online registration or at the lecture. We will also have limited copies for sale of the English version of *Bazan Cuba*, which became a collector's item over a year ago. Very few copies remain for sale. Bazan will sign books after his talk.

Ernesto Bazan was born in Palermo, Italy in 1959. He received his first camera when he was 14 years old and began photographing daily life in his native city and in the rural areas of Sicily. Photography has been more than a profession: a true passion, a mission in his life. Bazan has published several books: *The Perpetual Past*, *Passing Through*, *The First Twenty Years*, *Island*, and *Molo Nord*. He has had exhibitions in Europe, Latin America, and the United States. His photographs have been collected by institutions such as the Museum of Modern Art and the International Center of Photography in New York; SFMOMA in San Francisco; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University; the South East Museum of Photography in Daytona, FL; the Fondazione Italiana della Fotografia in Turin, Italy; the Biblioteque Nationale in Paris, France; and the Musee Rattau in Arles, France. In 2002, Bazan created his own photographic workshops providing special emphasis on Latin America. Several hundred students have studied with him in the last six years. He currently lives in Veracruz, Mexico.

To see photographs from the Special Period in Cuba by Ernesto Bazan, visit:

<http://www.bazanphotos.com/specialperiod/>

To arrange an interview with Bazan, please contact:

Erin Wederbrook Yuskaitis at 617-975-0600 or ewyuskaitis@prcboston.org

About the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University

Founded in 1976, the Photographic Resource Center (PRC) at Boston University is an independent non-profit organization that serves as a vital forum for the exploration and interpretation of new work, ideas, and methods in photography and related media. The PRC presents exhibitions, fosters education, develops resources, and facilitates community interaction for local, regional, and national audiences. Cited by the Boston Globe as "one-stop shopping for the photo buff," the PRC's gallery hosts several exhibitions each year, emphasizing new ideas and trends in contemporary photography. Ranging from provocative theme-based exhibitions to the highly anticipated juried and student exhibitions, the PRC expands our understanding of the human experience through its stewardship of the photographic arts.

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