

Masterclass with Jonas Bendiksen in Venice  
Join Magnum photographer Jonas Bendiksen for this unique workshop in  
Venice, with book publisher Stuart Smith from GOST



24, 25, 26 September 2019  
Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore  
Venezia

Magnum and the Fondazione Giorgio Cini are very proud to launch applications for a unique programme whereby students will participate in an immersive project development masterclass in an intimate group setting.

Led by Magnum photographer Jonas Bendiksen, whose recent body of work explores the mechanisms of faith, the workshop will focus on belief and ritual. Bendiksen will work with participants who want to develop photographic projects relating to these thematics. In his latest book, *The Last Testament*, co-published by GOST books and Aperture, Jonas Bendiksen chronicles seven men who all publicly claim to be the biblical Messiah returned.



Jonas Bendiksen Followers of Vissarion arrive in the innermost Vissarionite village of Obitel Rassveta during a Christmas pilgrimage. For them Christmas is January 14th, the birthday of Vissarion

“I’ve always been interested in reading the Bible and other religious texts. Faith has always been a bit of a mystery to me, one that I’ve always found fascinating to explore [...] People who believe in a God that takes a personal interest in humans’ lives seem to look upon the universe from a different perspective than non-believers. In a similar way, I wanted to touch and feel what a world where Christ has returned would be like.”

Co-organized by the Centre for Comparative Studies of Civilisations and Spiritualities of Fondazione Giorgio Cini, and hosted in the beautiful Island of San Giorgio Maggiore, the participating photographers will have the opportunity to develop their personal project and get feedback from Magnum photographer Jonas Bendiksen and book publisher and designer Stuart Smith.

They will also benefit from guest lectures from Magnum specialists, anthropologist of religion and photographer Manoël Pénicaud (CNRS-IDEMEC), and sociologist of religions Francesco Piraino (KU Leuven – Cini). Organized into intensive sessions of lectures, discussions, practical exercises, and group portfolio reviews – this workshop will help you to develop your individual project objectives and give you insight on how to edit and publish photo books. Through individual mentoring and wider discussions on the contemporary editorial environment, the masterclass will contextualize and shape the vision of each involved photographer and define the process of conceiving and executing a long-term project. Working with the archive of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, the participants will also get the opportunity to develop their editing skills during practical exercises led by the tutors.





Jonas Bendiksen Moses preaches to his flock during the wedding. Moses Hlongwane is known to his thirty or so disciples in South Africa as The King of Kings.

### **This workshop offers:**

- Practical advice and lectures from Jonas Bendiksen, Stuart Smith and guest speakers
- Group portfolio reviews including advice on existing work and professional development
- Magnum staff and guest guidance
- Individual project development tutoring
- Editing, designing and mentoring sessions for a coherent body of documentary work aimed at a book output
- Accommodation on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore

### **Language**

The workshop will be held in English



**Fees** €700 (incl. VAT) per workshop.

### **Selection and Requirements**

The workshop is open to 15 applicants and places will be allocated upon selection based on portfolio and personal statement. Magnum and the Fondazione Giorgio Cini Foundation offer one scholarship place for a student. Please email for more information [coline.plancon@magnumphotos.com](mailto:coline.plancon@magnumphotos.com)

### **For further Information:**

<https://www.magnumphotos.com/events/event/masterclass-with-jonas-bendiksen-in-venice/>