

RITA LEISTNER

(b. 1964, Scarborough, Ontario)

EDUCATION

1999-2000 Certificate in General Studies, The International Center of Photography, New York
 1988-1990 M.A. Comparative Literature, The University of Toronto
 1983-1988 B.A. French, English, History, The University of Toronto

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *The Tree Planters*, Two Rivers Gallery, Prince George, BC, Canada
- 2018 *El Proyecto Edward Curtis*, Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades, BUAP (Benemérita Universidad Autónoma), Puebla, Mexico
- 2017 *The Tree Planters* and *One Tree at a Time* (video), Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 2016 *Buscando a Marshall McLuhan en Afganistán: del teléfono inteligente al paladio*, Centro de Fotografía de Montevideo, Uruguay
Levant Trilogy: Lebanon, Israel, Palestine, 2006 - 2015, Fotofestiwal Łódź, Poland
- 2015 *Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan: From Smartphone to Palladium*, Photoville 2015, Brooklyn, NY, USA
Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan: From Smartphone to Palladium, The Dylan Ellis Gallery, CONTACT Photography Festival Feature Exhibition, Toronto, Canada
Miklat: The Bomb Shelter Project and the short film *Miklat*, The Galleries of the Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, Israel
- 2014 *À la recherche de Marshall McLuhan en Afghanistan— book in Translation*, Gallery Pierre Léon, L'Alliance française de Toronto, Canada (courtesy the city of La Rochelle)
Portraits-paysages de guerre: Liban, Festival Allers-Retours, Musée Albert Kahn, Paris, France
Le Projet Edward Curtis, Le Musée du Nouveau Monde, La Rochelle, France
À la recherche de Marshall McLuhan en Afghanistan, Carré Amelot Centre Culturel, Ville de La Rochelle, France
- 2013 *The Edward Curtis Project*, The Great Canadian Theatre Company and The National Arts Centre of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
The Edward Curtis Project, feature exhibition, *Ecocentrix: Indigenous Arts, Sustainable Acts*, Presented by the Indigeneity in the Contemporary World Project and the European Research Council, The Bargehouse, London, England.
- 2010 *The Edward Curtis Project*, Feature Exhibition of the Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad of the 2010 Winter Olympics, North Vancouver Museum, Canada
- 2009 *The Last Lumberjacks / Les dernier bûcherons*, Pierre Léon Gallery, L'Alliance française de Toronto, Canada
My Space, focus on residents of the Downtown Eastside, from *The Edward Curtis Project*, W2 Community Media Arts Flack Block Gallery "pop up exhibition", Vancouver, Canada
- 2007 *Portraitscapes of War (1): Lebanon, 2006*, The Photo Passage at Harbourfront, Toronto, Canada
- 2006 *The Women of al Rashad*, Gallery Gachet, World Mad Pride Festival, Vancouver, Canada
- 2003 *Crazy Horse in Iraq and Kuwait*, The Stephen Willey Gallery, Savannah, USA
- 1999 *What Then? Portraits of Cambodia*, The Foreign Correspondents Club of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

ART FAIRS

- 2022 The Photography Show Presented by AIPAD: *The Tree Planters* and *Enchanted Forests*, Stephen Bulger Gallery
- 2019 Art Toronto: *The Tree Planters* and *Enchanted Forests*, Stephen Bulger Gallery (solo)
- 2018 Photo Doc Paris: Invitée d'honneur avec *The Tree Planters* (solo)

DIGITAL STORYTELLING

- 2017 *From Janet with Love* ("Legacies 150" Interactive) The National Film Board of Canada. photography by Rita Leistner, written by Helene Klodawsky. 2018 World Press Photo Digital Storytelling Award Winner.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *WANDERLUST, Around the World in 80 Days*, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 2021 *Female in Focus*, El Barrio Artspace, New York, NY
- 2019 *Imago Mundi—Great and North*, Onsite Gallery, Toronto, Canada
From Janet with Love, World Press Photo Exhibition Digital Stories, Amsterdam, and other cities around the world
- 2017 National Film Board of Canada Legacies 150, *From Janet with Love*, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, Canada
National Film Board of Canada Legacies 150, *From Janet with Love*, Canadian Museum of Immigration, Halifax, Canada
- 2013 *Portraits by Iconic Canadian Photographers*, *Maclean's Magazine*, CONTACT Photography Festival, Toronto, Canada
- 2012 *Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, The Photographic Arts Federation of Turkey, Gaziantep, Turkey
Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq, The Photographic Arts Federation of Turkey, Ankara, Turkey
- 2011 *Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, The Photographic Arts Federation of Turkey, Istanbul, Turkey
Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq, The Photographic Arts Federation of Turkey, Sulleymaniya, Iraq
- 2009 Selections from *The Edward Curtis Project*, The Annenberg Space for Photography, Los Angeles, CA
Mother and Daughter, PX3 Prix de la Photo, Paris, France
Selections from *The Edward Curtis Project*, HOST Gallery, London, England
- 2008 *Iraq Through the Lens of Vietnam*, The Brighton Photo Biennial, England
Battlespace: Unrealities of War, Gallery FCB, New York, NY
Bienvenue, La maison de la culture Frontenac, Montreal, QC
- 2007 *Know War!*, The George Eastman House International Museum of Photography, Rochester, NY
Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq, Odegaard Library, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq, American Public Health Association National Conference, WA
Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq, Aughinbauch Gallery, Messiah College, Grantham, PA

- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, East End Arts Council, Riverhead, NY
- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, Atlanta Photography Group, Atlanta, GA
- 2006 *Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, Elaine L. Jacob Gallery, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, CRASHarts, Phoenix, AZ
- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, Orange County Community College, Middletown, NY
- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, CONTACT Photography Festival, Lennox Contemporary, Toronto, ON
- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, University of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, AZ
- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, The Photographic Gallery, New York, NY
- Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, The Redux Gallery, New York, NY
- 2005 The Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery Biennial, Kitchener, ON
- 2003 *American Women Wrestlers*, Visa pour l'image, Perpignan, France
- 2001 *The Last Jews of Vilnius with Love Bomb*, Live Art Space, Toronto, ON

BOOKS

- 2021 Leistner, Rita, *Forest for the Trees: The Tree Planters*. Interview by Don McKellar. Manchester, UK: Dewi Lewis Publishing
- 2014 Leistner, Rita, *Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan*. Foreword by Julian Stallabrass. Bristol, England: Intellect Books, 2014.
- 2010 Clements, Marie and Rita Leistner, *The Edward Curtis Project: A Modern Picture Story*. Vancouver: Talon Books, 2010.
- 2005 Abdul-Ahad, Ghaith, Kael Alford, Thorne Anderson and Rita Leistner, *Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*. Foreword by Philip Jones Griffiths. Vermont: Chelsea Green, 2005.

FEATURE ARTICLES of PHOTOGRAPHS and WRITING by Rita Leistner

- 2021 Leistner, Rita, "Levant Trilogy," *Exile: Engaging and Eclectic Words and Art*, No. 43.3 January 2021.
- 2019 Leistner, Rita, "Ils plantent jusqu'à 6000 arbres par jour," *Geo France*, mai, 2019.
- Leistner, Rita, "The Tree Planters," (visual feature) in Hutton, Jane, Daniel Ibañez and Kiel Moe eds. *Wood Urbanism*. New York: Actar, 2018.
- Leistner, Rita, "Heroes of the North: What Rita Leistner's photographs of tree planters tell us about Canada," *The Globe and Mail*, May 2018.
- 2014 Leistner, Rita, "Embedded with Murders," (essay + photos) in Stallabrass, Julian, ed. *Memories of Fire: Images of War and the War of Images*. London: Photoworks, 2013.
- Leistner, Rita, "Portraits paysages de guerre au Musée Albert-Kahn," *L'oeil de la photographie*, 26 juin 2014.

- 2012 Leistner, Rita, "Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan," 12-part series (essay + photos), in the *Literary Review of Canada On-Line*, Winter 2012.
- 2007 Leistner, Rita and Timothy Dylan Wood, "Hanging the Past — Exploring the relationship between photography and state narratives at Cambodia's Tuol Sleng Museum of Genocidal Crime," (essay + photos) in *Idea&s—The Arts and Science Review*, University of Toronto,, Spring, 2007.
Leistner, Rita, "War Stories: Portraitscapes of Lebanon," in *The Walrus*, September 2007.
Leistner, Rita, "The Last Lumberjacks," in *The Walrus*, March 2007.
- 2006 Leistner, Rita, "Portraitscapes of War: Lebanon 2006," in *The Australian Photojournalist*, 2006
Leistner, Rita, "The Women of Al Rashad," (text + photos) in *The Walrus*, Winner of Gold Medal, Words and Pictures category, Canadian National Magazine Awards.
- 2005 Leistner, Rita, "The Road to Najaf," (photo + article) in *Idea&s— The Arts and Science Review*, University of Toronto, Spring 2005.
Leistner, Rita, "Death is our Business: The Gravediggers of Najaf during the Siege," (photos + text) in *COLORS 63: FRONTIERS*, Winter 2004/2005.
- 2004 Leistner, Rita, "The Burning Tip of the Spear: Embedded with Crazy Horse in Iraq," (article + photos) Cover Feature in *The Walrus*, February 2004. Honourable Mention for 6 Canadian National Magazine Awards including Portrait Photography, Investigative Journalism, Personal Journalism, and Photojournalism.
Leistner, Rita, "Kurdish Express," (photos + article) in *Outpost*, July/August 2004.
- 2003 Leistner, Rita, with text by Amy Kayishian, "Mama Said Knock You Out," (photos) in *Bust*, Spring 2003.
- 1997 Dandy, Gavin, Rita Leistner and Matthew Ross, editors, "Screefers: The Tree Planters of Canada," in *Canadian Geographic*, Spring 1997. Introduced by Rita Leistner. Winner of Gold Medal, Words and Pictures category, Canadian National Magazine Awards. (The article was based on an exhibition of works and writings by and about tree planters, collected and exhibited by Leistner, Dandy and Ross in Toronto in 1995 at a bar on College Street in Toronto Canada).

EXHIBITION CATALOGS

- 2018 Mraz John and Rita Leistner, *El Proyecto Edward Curtis: Una historia moderna de imágenes descolonizadoras.* Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades, Puebla, Mexico.
- 2015 Maor, Haim and Rita Leistner, "Miklat," in *Shelters*, The University of Beer Sheva, Israel, 2015.
- 2014 Leistner, Rita, "Portraits-paysages de guerre," in *Les âmes grises: récits photographiques d'après-guerre* (French). Festival allers-retours, Musée Albert Kahn, 2014.

REVIEWS BY RITA LEISTNER

- 2018 Leistner, Rita, Review of *La Batea*, by Stephen Ferry and Elizabeth Ferry, for *The Photobook Review*, Issue #014, Spring 2018.
- 2016 Leistner, Rita, "La sensación en los ojos de Elsa Medina," in *Elsa Medina*, Mraz, John, ed., Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades, Puebla, Mexico.
- 2014 Leistner, Rita, "Television Wars." Review of Michael Maclear's *Guerrilla Nation: My Wars In and Out of Vietnam*," in the *Literary Review of Canada*, Spring 2014.

ANTHOLOGIES (chapters in)

- 2022 Collage: Women of the Prix Pictet, Since 2008. Prix Pictet Ltd. Ed., Berlin: Gestalten.
2018 Leistner, Rita, "Photography Goes to War," in Neumüller, Moritz, ed. *The Routledge Companion to Photography and Visual Culture*, London: Routledge, 2018.

SELECTED MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS (photographs published in)

Newsweek, Time, Rolling Stone, The Walrus, The New York Times, Italian Vanity Fair, GEO France, Colors, Maclean's, The Australian Journal of Photojournalism, Ideas, The Globe and Mail, The Toronto Star, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Libération, Le Monde, The Daily Mail, The San Francisco Chronicle, Outpost, The Phnom Penh Post, The Cambodia Daily, Up Here, Alphabet City, BUST, The Wallstreet Journal, Mother Jones, Adbusters, The Bund Editorial (China), The Financial Post, Bagnews, Daily Kos, The Digital Journalist, ZUM: Revista de Fotografia (Brazil), The Los Angeles Times, Le Courrier International (Paris), Nouveau Projet (Quebec),

FILM and VIDEO

Forest for the Trees (2021) Feature Documentary Film. Run time: 91 minutes. Producer, Director, Director of Photography.

Official Selection 2022 — REEL Recovery Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA
DCEFF Festival Favourites Encore Series, Washington, DC
Be The Change Film Series, Collingwood, ON, Canada
DOQUUMENTA MX, Querétaro, Mexico
Montauk Film Festival, Montauk, NY
Guadalajara International Film Festival, Mexico
Green Film Festival of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
Blue Mountain Film Festival, ON, Canada
Victoria Film Festival, Victoria, Canada
Transitions Film Festival, Australia
Salt Spring Film Festival, Salt Spring Island, Canada
Colorado Environmental Film Festival, Golden, CO
Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital, Washington D.C.
Yellowknife International Film Festival, Yellowknife, Canada
Official Selection 2021 — DOC NYC, New York, NY
DOXA Documentary Film Festival, Vancouver, BC

Enchanted Forests Time-lapse Animation Video Works (2019)

6 individual works. Durations vary depending on exhibition design, from 30 seconds to two minutes.

One Tree at a Time (2017) Video. Run Time 18 minutes.

Miklat (Documentary Short) (2013) Run Time 14 minutes. Producer, Director, Cinematographer. Edited by Darby MacInnis.

Festival Screenings:

Official Selection 2014 — American Documentary Film Festival, Palm Springs, CA
Official Selection 2014 — Winnipeg Reel to Real Film Festival, Winnipeg, MB
Official Selection 2013 — Bend River Documentary Film Festival, OR
Official Selection 2013 — Chagrin Falls Documentary Film Festival, OH

Official Selection 2013 — New Orleans International Film Festival, LA

The 21st Chromosome by Kirsten Johnson (2014) (23 minutes) Director of Photography
Audience Favourite 2nd Place, Official Selection 2015 — Cinema Touching Disability, TX
Official Selection 2015 — ReFrame, Peterborough International Film Festival, ON
Official Selection 2014 — Hamilton Film Festival, Hamilton, ON

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 Recommended but not awarded, Canada Council for the Arts Media Grant, *Forest for the Trees*.
- 2017 Finalist, Robert Gardner Photography Fellowship, Harvard University
- 2016 Recommended but not awarded, Canada Council for the Arts Next Chapter Grant, Multimedia, *Bushwork: Loggers and Tree Planters in Canada and the Future of Canadian Trees*
- 2012 Shortlist, Massey Fellowship, University of Toronto
Victoria University Conference Grant, “The Pictures from Syria” web conference co-produced by Rita Leistner and Webby Award-winning Bagnews (now known as, Reading the Pictures)
Associate Fellow, Victoria University in the University of Toronto (2012 -2017)
- 2010 Canada Council for the Arts, Visual Arts Grant for *Portraitscapes of War II: Israel*
- 2009 Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Grant, *Les dernier bûcherons / The Last Lumberjacks* at the Alliance Française, Toronto, ON
- 2007 Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad, 2010 Winter Olympics, Arts Partners in Creative Development Project Grant for *The Edward Curtis Project* with Marie Clements.
- 2006 Shortlist, Carter Foundation for Mental Health Journalism Fellowship
- 2005 Ben & Jerry’s Foundation Grant to tour *Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*
- 2003 Canada Council for the Arts, Exhibition Travel Grant to attend Visa pour l’image, France
CNN bursary with Rory Peck Trust, Media Training in Conflict Zones
- 1990 Grant for graduate studies in Comparative Literature, University of Toronto

AWARDS

- 2022 Mountain Image Book Award, Banff Mountain Film and Book Competition, Banff, AB
Nominee, Best Cinematography in a Feature Length Documentary, 2022 Screen Awards
Audience Favourite Feature Award, 2022 Victoria Film Festival, Canada
Spirit of Activism Award, 2022 San Francisco Indie Fest Green Film Festival, CA
Finalist, Best Environmental Film, 2022 Guadalajara International Film Festival, Mexico
Opening Night Film, 2022 Planet in Focus Film Festival, Toronto, Canada
Human Ecology Prize, 2022 SUNCINE Environmental Film Festival, Barcelona, Spain
- 2019 Nominated, Chosen for Catalogue, The Prix Pictet, HOPE, “The Tree Planters”
- 2018 World Press Photo Digital Storytelling Award, *From Janet with Love*, for The National Film Board of Canada
Nominated, Best Photo Storytelling, Canadian Digital Publishing Awards, *From Janet with Love*
- 2016 Nominated, The Prix Pictet, SPACE, “The Tree Planters”
- 2015 Finalist, The Dorothy Lee Award for Outstanding Scholarship in the Ecology of Culture — for *Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan*
Finalist, The Lewis Mumford Award for Outstanding Scholarship in the Ecology of Technics — for *Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan*
Shortlist, The Marshall McLuhan Award for Outstanding Book in the Field of Media Ecology — for *Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan*

- 2009 PX3 Prix de la Photo Paris – 3rd Place, Portraiture for “Mother and Daughter”
The Design Club of Canada – Award of Merit for “Portraitscapes of War: Lebanon, 2006,” in *The Walrus*
- 2008 Canadian National Magazine Awards – Honourable Mention, Photojournalism, “Portraitscapes of War: Lebanon, 2006,” in *The Walrus*
- 2007 The Design Club of Canada – Gold Award for “The Last Lumberjacks,” in *The Walrus*
American Photography 23 – Winner, Fine Art category, for “Portraitscapes of War: Lebanon, 2006”
Applied Arts Magazine - Winner in Photojournalism category, for “Portraitscapes of War: Lebanon, 2006”
- 2006 Canadian National Magazine Awards – Gold Medal, Words and Pictures for “The Women of al Rashad,” in *The Walrus*
Canadian National Magazine Awards – Honourable Mention, Photojournalism, for “The Women of al Rashad,” *The Walrus*
Canadian National Magazine Awards – Honourable Mention, Photojournalism, for “The Road to Najaf,” in *Idea&s — The Arts and Science Review*, University of Toronto
- 2005 Nominated for Courage in Journalism Award, International Women’s Media Foundation
Canadian National Magazine Awards – Gold Medal, Portraits, for “Sisters in Arms,” *Maclean's*
Canadian National Magazine Awards – Honourable Mention, Portraits, for “The Burning Tip of the Spear,” in *The Walrus*
Canadian National Magazine Awards – Honourable Mention, Words and Pictures, for “The Burning Tip of the Spear,” in *The Walrus*
Canadian National Magazine Awards – Honourable Mention, Investigative Reporting, for “The Burning Tip of the Spear,” in *The Walrus*
Canadian National Magazine Awards, 2005 – Honourable Mention, Politics and Public Interest, for “The Burning Tip of the Spear,” in *The Walrus*
NPPA, Best of Photojournalism, First Prize, Recurring Magazine Feature: for “Sisters in Arms,” in *Maclean's*
The Design Club of Canada, Honourable Mention, for “The Road to Najaf,” in *Idea&s — The Arts and Science Review*, University of Toronto
- 1997 Canadian National Magazine Awards, Gold Medal, Words and Pictures for “Screefers - The Treeplanters of Canada,” Rita Leistner, Dandy, Gavin, Ross Matthew eds. in *Canadian Geographic*

BOOKS (about)

Kalina Kukielko-Rogozńska, *Współczesna wojna na fotografiach Rity Leistner*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Szczecińskiego, Szczecin 2021, ISBN 978-83-7972-438-3. (*Contemporary War in Rita Leistner's Photographs*, Szczecin University Press)

DOCUMENTARY FILM (about Rita Leistner)

One Picture at a Time (2016) Run Time 9 minutes. Produced and Directed by Sarah Martin. (A short documentary film about Rita Leistner and *Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan*)

RADIO AND TELEVISION (Interviews with)

- 2017 “An Acclaimed War Photographer Turns Her Lens on Canada’s Tree Planters,” VICE VIDEO, Oct 2017
 CBC Metro Morning with Matt Galloway, “The Tree Planters,” Nov 14, 2017
 ICI Radio Canada Y a pas deux matins pareils, avec Marjorie April, “Homage aux planteurs d’arbres,” Nov 10, 2017
- 2014 Public Radio International, Produced by Stephen Snyder, “New Photos from Iraq Trouble Photographer Who Covered the Last War,” June 20, 2014
 TVO The Agenda with Steve Paikin: Panelist, “War Through the Lens”
- 2013 TVO The Agenda with Steve Paikin: Panelist, A Picture's Worth
- 2011 "Photography and Activism: Rita Leistner," *Canadian Art*, Web Features, Fall 2011
 "Photographers: Rita Leistner," *Canadian Art*, Web Features, Spring 2011
- 2010 RCI (Radio Canada International) (Vancouver) Rita Leistner, *Le Projet Edward Curtis*
- 2008 RCI (Radio Canada International), Macadam, Rita Leistner, *Les derniers bücherons*
- 2007 RCI (Radio Canada International) Rita Leistner, *Portraits-Paysages de guerre*
- 2005 CBC Television, The HOUR with George Stroumboulopoulos— Rita Leistner in Iraq
 ABC Television, The Mix — Kael Alford and Rita Leistner interviewed about *Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*
 TVO with Steve Paikin — Rita Leistner in Iraq
- 2004 CBC Radio, The Current with Anna Maria Tremonti — “The Women of al Rashad”
 CBC Radio, Toronto Here and Now, with Matt Galloway — “Crazy Horse in Iraq”

INTERVIEWS AND PROFILES (about) in books, magazines and on-line

- “Infinite distance: Rita Leistner and Don McKellar’s night journeys in locked-down Toronto”, by Rita Leistner and Don McKellar, *The Globe and Mail*, October 2021
- “Photography is Where I Live,” Rita Leistner in *Exile: Engaging and Eclectic Words and Art*, No. 43.3 January 2021.
- “Where We Are Now: Stories from an Accelerated Culture: A Conversation with Rita Leistner,” by Bill Kouwenhoven, *Afterimage*, January 2018.
- “Interview avec Rita Leistner, Invitée d’honneur” PHOTO DOC PARIS FOIRE 2018, par Jean-Pascal Billaud, May 2018.
- “Everyone Cries in the Cut Block,” by Kerry Manders, DROOL (blog), October 2017.
- “Marshall McLuhan, Green Lantern and the War in Afghanistan,” by Diana Kuprel, in the University of Toronto Alumni Interviews, February 2014.
- “Rita Leistner, Photographe,” par Cyril Mounier, *Artes Magazine*, le 27 février, 2014.
- "Rita Leistner," Interview by Michael Kamber with photographs by Rita Leistner in Kamber, Michael, ed. *The Untold Stories from Iraq: Photojournalists on War*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2013.
- ReFramed: “In Conversation with Rita Leistner,” by Barbara Davidson, in *The Los Angeles Times*, July 18, 2012.
- “Look Closely: Award-winning photojournalist Rita Leistner shines a light on North American native communities,” by Jason McBride, in *U of T Magazine*, Winter 2010.
- "Shadows and Light—The piercing perspectives of photojournalist Rita Leistner," by Chantal Braganza, in *The Ryerson Review of Journalism*, Summer 2009.
- "Going to War with Crazy Horse," by Sonia Verma, *The Toronto Star*, January 2004.
- "Rita Leistner," The Hampson Interview by Sarah Hampson, *The Globe and Mail*, June 5th, 2003.

OTHER PRESS FOR THE TREE PLANTERS

- Maclean's*, January 2021
Urbania Magazine (Montreal), July 2019

La Presse, June 2019
GEO France, May 2019
Maisonneuve Magazine (Montreal), May 2019
National Geographic On-line, May 2019
9 Lives, January 2019
World Press Photo Instagram “takeover,” February 2019
Insight Magazine, Sotheby’s International, September, 2018
Nouveau Project, Spring, 2018
The Globe and Mail, May 2018
Afterimage: The Journal of Media Arts and Cultural Criticism, January 2018
Photo Life, November 2017
Blouin ArtInfo, October 2017
Lenscratch, October 2017
Artnet News, October 2017
Le Quotidien de l’Art, October 2017
Photo District News, October 2017
CBC English, October 2017
CBC French, October 2017
Toronto Life, October 2017
VICE Canada, October 2017
VICE Quebec, October 2017

REVIEWS AND CRITICAL ESSAYS (about)

“Forest for the Trees” (Book and Film)

European Photography #111, Summer 2022
The Photobook Journal, April 2022
“Rita Leistner’s Riveting Doc ‘Forest for the Trees’ opens Planet in Focus film festival”, *She Does the City*, October 11, 2022
“Forest For The Trees”, *Film Threat*, April 14, 2022

“The Tree Planters” (Exhibition)

European Photography #111, Summer 2022
The Photobook Journal, April 2022
“Rita Leistner’s Riveting Doc ‘Forest for the Trees’ opens Planet in Focus film festival”, *She Does the City*, October 11, 2022
“Forest For The Trees”, *Film Threat*, April 14, 2022
“Hope and Muscle,” by Prajakta Dhopade, *Maclean’s*, January 2021.
“Les pirates de la forêt,” by Jean-Pierre Bastien, *La Presse*, 30 juin, 2019.
“Seven amazing portraits of tree planters working in Canada’s remote backcountry,” by Jessica Bloom, *Toronto Life*, October 2017.

***The Edward Curtis Project* (Book and Exhibition)**

“Restaging Indigenous-Settler Relations: Intercultural Theatre as redress rehearsal in Marie Clements’ and Rita Leistner’s *The Edward Curtis Project*,” by Brenda Vellino, *Theatre Research in Canada*, 38.1. 2017.

“The Frozen Bodies of Edward S. Curtis,” *The Literary Review of Canada*, by Wanda Nanabush, April 2011.

“An Intervention into Native Identities Leads to More Questions,” *The Globe and Mail*, by Michael Harris, January 24, 2010.

Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan (Book and Exhibition)

“Rita Leistner’s *Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan*,” *Kultura Współczesna* (Contemporary Culture) journal (Poland), by Kalina Kukiłko-Rogozińska, 2018.

“Rita Leistner’s Quest for Marshall McLuhan,” *ARTORONTO*, May 16, 2015.

“Confessions of a Digital Naïve,” *Media and Culture Reviews*, July 16, 2014.

“Rita Leistner and Smartphone Photography,” *Chinese Photography*, June 2014.

“A New War a New Medium,” *Source: The Photographic Review*, by David Bate, London, Spring 2014

“First New Book of 2014 is a Doosie!” The International Center of Photography Library Blog, by Deirdre Donohue, January 2014.

“Levant Trilogy: Lebanon, Israel, Palestine: 2006 to 2015” Exhibition

“Les âmes grises: récits photographiques d’après-guerre,” by Lorraine Rossignol, *Le Monde*, Paris, July 5, 2014

Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq (Book and Exhibition)

“You Weren’t Meant to See This,” by Stephen Gregory, *Rabble.ca*, May 16, 2006.

“The Treacherous Medium: Why Photography Critics Hate Photographs,” by Susie Linfield, *Boston Review*, Sept 2006.

“Unembedded,” in *Photo 8*, by Ruth Hedges, May 2006.

“Live from Iraq,” Review of *Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq*, by Nina Berman, *Alternet*, Dec 2005.

TEACHING POSITIONS

2010 – 2016 The University of Toronto. As Adjunct Professor, created original course,
“The Art and Purpose of Photojournalism and Documentary Photography.”

SELECT LIVE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (PANELS, PRESENTATIONS, ROUND TABLES)

2018 “Le monde des arbres,” In conversation with Booker Prize shortlisted author of *The Overstory*, Richard Powers, Festival America, Paris (Vincennes), France (Sept)

“Visions de l’Amérique,” Festival America, Paris (Vincennes), France (Sept)

Les planteurs d’arbres: In conversation with Annick Notter, Photo Doc. Paris (May)

2017 “From the Field to the Gallery Wall,” Phase One Stand Out Photo Forum, Toronto

“From the Battlefield to the Cut Block,” The University of Toronto

- “The Art and Science behind The Tree Planters exhibition,” with forester Sandy Smith and historian Mark Kuhlberg, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto
- 2016 “Buscando a Marshall McLuhan en Afghanistan,” Centro de Fotografía de Montevideo, Uruguay
 “Buscando a Marshall McLuhan en Afghanistan,” Roberto Mata Taller de Fotografía, Caracas, Venezuela
 “Buscando a Marshall McLuhan en Afghanistan,” Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico D.F.
 “Rita Leistner: Una Fotógrafa Comprometida,” Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico D.F.
- 2015 “The Virtual and the Physical,” with Fred Ritchin and Penelope Umbrico,” Photoville 2015, Brooklyn, NY, USA
 “From Smartphone to Palladium,” Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival, Toronto, ON
 “War and Representation,” with Brian Palmer and Sebastian Meyer, The School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
 The Bronx Documentary Center, New York
 “Rita Leistner,” Converge & Doc Media Lecture Series, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON
 “Levant Trilogy: Miklat and the Bomb Shelter Project,” The University of Beer Sheva, Israel
- 2014 “Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan,” (US) Book Launch, The International Centre of Photography, New York, NY
 “Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan,” Book Launch, The Northrop Frye Centre, The University of Toronto, Toronto, ON
 “Looking for Marshall McLuhan in Afghanistan,” University of Toronto Later Life Learning, Toronto, ON
 “Art and War,” with Michael Kamber and James Wellford, Spur Festival, Toronto, ON
 “Rita Leistner: Photographe engagée,” L’université de La Rochelle, France
- 2013 “Rita Leistner: An engaged photographer,” Sheridan College, Toronto, ON
 Keynote Speaker, Canadian Conference of College Photography Educators, Charlottetown, PEI
 “Iraq War—Ten Years Later,” Public Radio International Lecture Series, with Sebastian Junger, Bob Woodruff and U.S. Army Col. Ross Coffman, Boston, MA.

COLLECTIONS (public and corporate)

Two Rivers Gallery, Canada
 The Toronto Dominion Bank, Canada
 Comanche National Museum and Cultural Centre, Lawton, USA
 Imago Mundi Luciano Benetton Collection, Italy
 Le Musée du Nouveau Monde, La Rochelle, France
 The Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, Canada
 The George Eastman House International Museum of Photography, Rochester, USA
 The North Vancouver Museum, North Vancouver, Canada
 The National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
 The Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada
 The Toronto Dominion Bank, Canada

LANGUAGES

English: First language
 French: Mastery (CERFL rating C2)
 Spanish: Upper Intermediate (CERFL rating B2)