

Grove Gallery presents exhibition of war photos by John Hoagland and Richard Cross

February 27, 1986

THE GROVE GALLERY PRESENTS A HOAGLAND/CROSS EXHIBITION OF WAR PHOTOS

The works of two photojournalists who died while on assignment in Central America will be presented in "Two Faces of War" at The University of California, San Diego's Crafts Center/Grove Gallery, from March 25-April 26. There will be a public reception from 6-8 p.m. on March 25.

"Two Faces of War" contrasts the photographic styles of John Hoagland, who was born in San Diego, and Richard Cross, nominated for a Pulitzer Prize by the Associated Press in 1980 for his work in Nicaragua.

Hoagland's photos arrest moments of combat, such as a Salvadoran soldier running across a street while under fire, and Sandinista soldiers patrolling Nicaragua's northern border in search of rebels.

Cross' photos plainly show the emotions of young soldiers and the fears of the populace. His photos of an 18-year-old Sandinista soldier, posed with an 87-year-old Sandino war veteran, and a photo showing the grief of a woman whose house was hit by rocket fire, display Cross' sensitivity to the victims of war.

Hoagland attended UCSD in 1965, where he experimented with painting, video and still photography. In 1970, he borrowed UCSD video equipment to film the Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles, an anti-war protest which escalated into a major riot. Hoagland's experience at the Los Angeles riot whetted his appetite for action photography. He decided to make it his career.

In 1979, Hoagland went to Nicaragua to photograph the Sandinista Revolution for the Associated Press. In 1980, Hoagland made El Salvador his headquarters, knowing his life would be in constant danger. There he photographed the war for Newsweek and United Press International.

In 1984 Hoagland was shot and killed while on assignment in El Salvador. Photos taken by Hoagland at the time he was shot will be part of the exhibition.

Cross, born in Kansas City, Missouri, graduated from Northwestern University, receiving a degree in journalism in 1972. His first job was staff photographer for the Worthington (Minnesota) Daily Globe.

In 1979 Cross went to El Salvador to photograph the Sandinista Revolution for the Associated Press. He left El Salvador to resume his studies at Temple University and the film center at the University of New Mexico. Cross later returned to Central America to carry out assignments for international news magazines and newspapers.

In 1983, while crossing the Honduras/Nicaragua border, Cross' car ran over a land mine and he was killed.

The UCSD Crafts Center/Grove Gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free parking is available on weekends.

Written by Mark Fisher

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