

**For Immediate Release****CHRONICLES OF A PAST LIFE – BOMBAY (1970s – 80s)****Photographs by Pablo Bartholomew****Opening Reception on Saturday, 14th January, 2012**On view till 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 (Extended till 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2012)

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**ARTIST STATEMENT**

Intrinsic to my growing up, Bombay offered me and thousands of others like me who arrived before and those who followed as economic refugees, the opportunity to be cradled and mentored professionally. It gave friendship, food and shelter and the chance to be discovered, the chance to become someone.

Having escaped bureaucratic Delhi, leaving behind my troubled teenage life, I found acceptance in this city not for whose son I was but for my skills and talents and of what use they could be to others. This propelled me to try to find myself both economically and in my work.

I look back with warmth and gratitude at what the city offered me. It was with a grudging reluctance I left the city in the mid 1980s; the death of my father and trouble brewing in the north of the country beckoned me as I entered the world of journalism. Unfortunately, this marked the end of the documentary phase of my work as I started to work as a journalist and had to turn to colour, abandoning the world of black and white.

The *Chronicles* are connected to *Outside In: A Tale of 3 Cities*, my body of work, which consists of my inner world of friends and family. It roughly spans the same years, the 1970s and 1980s, but is more a manifestation of my outer world; my associations with the city and its people, known and unknown.

This exhibition is a way of paying my dues to this city and its people. Often I'd wandered aimlessly through the streets hoping to discover its many parts, bit by bit, day by day, month by month, always amazed by the infinite visual joy in each discovery of this place that came to be called home.

Pablo Bartholomew

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## **BIOGRAPHY**

Born in 1955, Pablo Bartholomew is a self-taught photographer. He was awarded the first prize by World Press Photo in 1975 for his series on morphine addicts. In 1984 he won the World Press Photo 'Picture of the Year' award for his iconic image of the Bhopal gas tragedy. As a photojournalist he has documented societies in conflict and transition for over 20 years and has been widely published in international magazines: *New York Times*, *Time*, *Life*, *Newsweek*, *Business Week*, *National Geographic*, *Geo*, *Der Spiegel*, *Figaro Magazine*, *Paris Match*, *Telegraph*, *The Sunday Times Magazine*, *The Guardian*, and *Observer Magazine*. His photographs have been exhibited at international photography festivals: *Chobimela*, Dhaka, Bangladesh (2006), *Angkor Photo Festival*, Siem Reap, Cambodia (2006), *Nooderlicht Photo Festival*, Netherlands (2006, 2007), *Month of Photography*, Tokyo, Japan (2007) and *Les Rencontres d'Arles*, Arles, France (2007). Group exhibitions include *Private Spaces Public Spaces* at Newark Museum, USA (2007), *Where Three Dreams Cross* at Whitechapel Gallery, London (2010) and at Fotomuseum Winterthur, Winterthur, Switzerland (2010). Pablo Bartholomew lives in Delhi.