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Georgia Southern University Professor Wins International Photography Award

FEBRUARY 16, 2011

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Georgia Southern University Professor of Art Jessica Hines is making waves overseas with her recently published photographic portfolio, "My Brother's War," which earned grand prize in the 2010 Lens Culture International Exposue Awards.

Judges from the Paris-based international competition identified Hines' work as superior to more than 6,400 entries from photographers in 47 countries. As a result, her work was featured in the mass circulation Paris daily, *Liberation*, as a four-page interview accompanied by photographs. It will also be featured in full-scale exhibitions curated by New York Times Picture Editor Daphné Anglés in Paris, San Francisco and New York.

The award-winning portfolio chronicles the artist's personal journey to gain a better understanding of what happened to her brother during his days fighting in the Vietnam War. A native of St. Louis, Mo., Hines said her sibling's military service had a profound impact on his life and death and her photography shows more than just places associated with his tour; it's an expression of emotion that represents her own healing from his death and her desire to share his story with others in need of healing. She believes her work is both poignant and appropriate considering recent military conflicts around the world.

"I want people to understand what happens to families who lose loved ones to war. The suffering never ends; the loss is never repaired," said Hines, who chose photography as her medium because of its ability to capture reality. "In my brother's case and in my own now, the suffering is invisible to the eye. I use art to heal, teach, and help others who have had similar experiences."

Early in 2010, Hines teamed up with book designer, Elizabeth Avedon, to publish "My Brother's War," which also won Honorable Mention in the Editorial Category of Blurb's Photography Book Now: International Juried Competition. The same work earned her a place in Photolucida's Critical Mass Top 50 Art Photographers for 2010, as well as honorable mention and people's choice runner-up in PX3 Prix de la Photographie Paris. Her photography was recently exhibited at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington DC and has also appeared in *The New Yorker* magazine, *PDN Magazine*, various periodicals in China, Taiwan, Denmark, Russia, South Korea and many other publications around the world.

A professor of photography at Georgia Southern, Hines said her participation the Paris competition was inspired by her efforts to globalize art for her students. She utilizes a multidisciplinary, cross-cultural approach in her classes to enrich her students' perspective of art in relation to the world. In this spirit she has facilitated a study abroad trip through China and Vietnam and guided students through arranging three international exhibitions in each China, Vietnam and New Zealand.

Samples from "My Brother's War" and other projects can be seen on her website, www.jessicahines.com. To read more about her international award, go to: http://www.lensculture.com/winners_2010.html?thisPic=1.

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"O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree..." 🎄🎵#TBT to circa 1964, when a tree in front of the Williams Center was decorated for the holidays.



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