

Media Release  
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## THE FACES OF AFGHANISTAN TELL A POWERFUL STORY

Brisbane Powerhouse presents

### **Axe Me Biggie** An exhibition by Stephen Dupont

**Stephen Dupont**, *World Press Photo* and *Walkley* award winning photojournalist, provides a portal into the world of Kabul, Afghanistan, when he brings his stunningly unique exhibition, **Axe Me Biggie** to Brisbane Powerhouse from **Tue 4 – Sun 30 Aug 2009**.

While in Kabul in 2006, Stephen made a series of extraordinary portraits by a dusty roadside using a Polaroid Land Camera and an old chair and curtain backdrop borrowed from a local photographer.

Dupont's portraits capture the faces behind the request 'Axe Me Biggie', which is a basic Anglo-phonetic translation of the Dari for 'Mister, take my picture!' Dupont heard this phrase many times during his visit.

Both sympathy and caution are aroused through his honest photography of the suffering and compassion of the Afghan people and he hopes to open a window into not only these individual lives, but the lives of others.

Axe Me Biggie is especially unique in that it consists of twenty silver gelatin mural prints, hand printed by Chris Reid from Blanco Negro, a rarity in this age of digital photography. The exhibition will also include a continuous video installation and presentation of the making of Axe Me Biggie.

Stephen was caught up in a suicide bombing on his last visit to Afghanistan, in 2008, however he still continues his courageous work as a photojournalist. In fact, Stephen is about to go back to Afghanistan on assignment for Newsweek.

Stephen will be embedded with the US Marine Corp on the biggest Marines operation since the Vietnam War, in the Helmand Province as part of US President, Barack Obama's new strategy.

**Axe Me Biggie** can be seen throughout Brisbane Powerhouse from **Tue 4 – Sun 30 August 2009**. This is a **FREE** event.

-ENDS-

<b>Date</b>	Tue 4 – Sun 30 August 2009
<b>Time</b>	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat & Sun 10am-4pm + During Performance Times.
<b>Venue</b>	Brisbane Powerhouse
<b>Tickets</b>	FREE
<b>Bookings</b>	07 3358 8600 or <a href="http://brisbanepowerhouse.org">brisbanepowerhouse.org</a>

**For further information, images and interview opportunities please contact  
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