“Progress requires pictures, because of the images that they conjure in one’s imagination.”

Sarah Lewis, *Vision & Justice, Aperture magazine 2016*

Dear Friend,

Has an Aperture publication inspired you in 2016—whether a photobook as a work of art, or reading Aperture magazine? I hope so. I owe you my profound gratitude as a supporter and follower of Aperture.

Aperture will always be known as the pioneering publisher of photography books, markers of excellence in the field, from Edward Weston’s *The Flame of Recognition*, Diane Arbus’s *An Aperture Monograph*, and Josef Koudelka’s *Gypsies* to Stephen Shore’s *Uncommon Places*, Nan Goldin’s *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*, and Bruce Davidson’s *Subway*.

2016 has been a banner year in which we continue to honor our founders’ mission of creating “common ground for the advancement of photography,” through:

- **Exploring photography** and the African American experience in *Vision & Justice*, released against a backdrop of the charged conversation around race in the United States.

- **Gaining new insights into the contemporary state of photography** from the Summer Open: *Photography Is Magic* exhibition, including work by over forty international artists, some of whom had never before exhibited in the United States.

- **Igniting educators and students to start a dialogue on political and social justice issues in photography**, through free online learning guides for books, such as: *Question Bridge: Black Males in America* and *Alex Webb and Rebecca Norris Webb on Street Photography and the Poetic Image*.

- **Bringing awareness to the evolving narrative of photography** at the annual *Paris Photo–Aperture Foundation PhotoBook Awards* at Paris Photo, attended by more than 60,000 visitors each year. *Libyan Sugar* by Michael Christopher Brown, Winner of the First PhotoBook, takes readers on a journey through the 2011 Libyan Revolution.

- **Learning about the history of our country and its natural resources** through the finest landscape photography in *Picturing America’s National Parks*; and exploring the legacy of racism and economic decline and its impact on small American towns in LaToya Ruby Frazier’s award-winning *The Notion of Family*.

In 2017, our publications, exhibitions, and programming will set you alight, from the first serious survey of the **photography of food**, to the vivid black dandy in photography, to the unique biography of eco-warrior-adventurer-photographer Michael “Nick” Nichols. Forthcoming exhibitions include new work by Alessandra Sanguinetti, Polaroids by Duane Hanson, and the 2016 Aperture Portfolio Prize Winner, Eli Durst. There’s going to be talks and roundtable discussions on how photography has shaped feminism from the *On Feminism* issue of Aperture magazine, featuring Nancy Princenthal on the 1970s feminist avant-garde, Eva Diaz on protest and visual politics, and Renée Cox on black feminist icons.

I ask you to help Aperture continue to provide artists and writers the platform to realize their vision and grow their practice, advancing the language of the medium, and working as agents of social change. The Aperture board of trustees and staff join me in thanking you for helping us move forward. Please make a tax-deductible donation to Aperture’s Annual Fund or get involved in our community as an Aperture Member.

Onward!

Chris Boot, Executive Director

December 2016