



## Nieuwsbrief Fotoschool Statief

*Utrecht, november 2021, nieuwsbrief 149 (3)*



### Juryrapport bij Paris Photo.

#### **Over het boek 'PLAY' van Eva Veldhoen.**

'A tower? A rocket? A skyscraper? Taking inspiration from her five-year-old son, Eva Veldhoen turns her camera lens on her child's toys to contemplate what play means for people of all ages. Her photobook *Play* is a collection of lively still life Lego constructions treated formally with white borders, but interspersed with full-bleed image details and brightly colored pages. Additionally, the book form lends itself to a sense of motion;

when flicking through the pages, some constructions appear to turn or operate. "This delightful book contains a heightened awareness of form and lines, a boldness of saturated colors that are beautiful like candy, along with a surprising elegance," regards [Emilie] Boone. Presented in large, fun type treatments, contributions of poems and creative writing also appear throughout the pages, complementing the energy, curiosity, and experimentation that this book celebrates.'

Eva zegt: 'Het boek lag er mooi bij en het was een feestje om op deze manier onderdeel van Paris Photo te zijn.

Play wordt nu bij 3 Parijse boekhandels verkocht (Delpire & co, Yves Lambert en Ofr.) en boekhandel Luma Foundation Bookshop uit Arles heeft er zes besteld.





ards

## First PhotoBook



- Al J Thompson
- *Remnants of an Exodus*
- Gnomonic Book
- Portland, Oregon, 2021
- Designed by Jason Koxvold
- [gnomicbook.com](http://gnomicbook.com)

*Remnants of an Exodus* presents a portrait of Spring Valley, a Caribbean immigrant community and suburb of New York City. Thompson settled here when his family moved from Jamaica to New York in the 1990s. For the past ten years, Thompson has returned to his hometown to photograph and try to better understand the double bind of gentrification and disintegration at work in the community. "There's a moment in the sequence where the tone shifts from wistful to foreboding, signaled by a red vellum insert, which lurks an image of a snake," says Martin. The tall, narrow trim size of the book is utilized to its full advantage as the images sit on each spread; the fluid placement of images successfully draws attention to the internal coherence of each photograph. "It's a very poetic, elegiac picture book," states Martin, "beautifully and elegantly designed."



- Eva Veldhoen
- *Play*
- Self-published
- Utrecht, the Netherlands, 2021
- Designed by Marjolein Heije
- [evaveldhoen.com](http://evaveldhoen.com)

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- Elliott Verdier
- *Reaching for Dawn*
- Dunes
- Paris, 2021
- Designed by Marion Denoual
- [dunes-editions.com](http://dunes-editions.com)

*Reaching for Dawn* is a sensitive reflection on the civil war that decimated Liberia. Elliott Verdier uses photography as a meditation on light, both aesthetically and metaphorically. "I was first drawn to the all-black cover and its silver silkscreen illustration, not a usual choice for a photograph book," says Boone. "The tonal range of the images inside is subdued but striking. The photographer makes us cognizant of the medium's aptitude in representing a theme or site through the careful choices made in the lighting and the subsequent printing of the images—one of the strengths of this book." The intentionally composed portraits suggest a level of collaboration between photographer and subject. First-hand accounts about the war are printed on semi-transparent vellum sheets, overlaid on images. A series of landscapes, interiors, and portraits in both color and black and white (sometimes printed in silver ink), emphasize details and the presence of light—or, alternatively, the absence of light.

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