

RENCONTRES
PHOTO
GASPÉSIE

Press Release
For immediate release

Book Launch
Empreintes...10 ans de Rencontres

New Richmond, March 3, 2021 – Celebrating a decade of photographic activity at Rencontres de la photographie en Gaspésie, *Empreintes...10 ans de Rencontres* is launching on **March 15, 2021**.

This lavishly illustrated book grew from a desire to leave a tangible trace of ten years of compelling encounters, and to share the evolving adventure of the Rencontres de la photographie en Gaspésie. For the festival's artistic director Claude Goulet, who wrote the preface, "It is a great opportunity to promote the uniqueness of this visual arts event: the close connection between the exhibiting artists, the public and the works themselves."

Accounts by photographers who have participated in the Rencontres over the years make up an important section of the publication. "Some twenty photographers from different horizons were selected according to specific criteria, such as artist residencies, production of a book and frequent participation," explains publication director and author of the introduction Mona Hakim. "Their shared experiences are accompanied by their own works, mostly images created *in situ*. Works by photographers in residence and special projects are included as well."

The book also features in-depth texts by specialized authors: **Serge Allaire** discusses the place of photographic books in the history of photography and the current interest in this form of expression; **Alexis Desgagnés** reflects on the role of the Rencontres's Photographic Missions, with a look back at the exhibition *Acharné, acharné paysage*, the first edition of the Missions that he oversaw; and **André-Louis Paré** offers detailed insight into the many photographic projects and themes unfurled on the Gaspé Peninsula over a remarkable decade.

In its first ten years, Rencontres de la photographie en Gaspésie developed international networks, acquired additional spaces for creative work, added artist residencies and special projects to its program, and established a publishing house. Never before has the word *rencontres* (encounters) had such resonance.

Empreintes...10 ans de Rencontres. Éditions Escuminac, 2020, 144 pages.
Black-and-white and colour photographs.

Available at the Liber bookstore in Gaspésie located at 166 Perron Boulevard West, New Richmond, www.leslibraires.ca and at Le Port de Tête bookstore, 269 Avenue Mont-Royal Est, Montreal. Price: \$20.

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