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National Geographic Photographer to Speak

03/13/2009



Renowned National Geographic photographer Jodi Cobb will finish the 2008-09 Lindenwood University Speaker Series with a talk on 21st century slavery at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, at Lindenwood's Spellmann Center.

The event will be in the Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room of the center, which is located on Lindenwood's main campus, 209 S. Kingshighway in St. Charles, Mo. Admission is free and open to the public.

Cobb specializes in large-scale, global stories exploring such topics as 21st-century slavery, as well as more intimate stories set inside closed and secret worlds. A staff photographer for National Geographic, she has worked in more than 50 countries, primarily in the Middle East and Asia.

Cobb was one of the first photographers to cross China when it reopened to the West, traveling 7,000 miles (11,000 kilometers) in two months for the book *Journey Into China*. She was the first photographer to enter the hidden lives of women of Saudi Arabia, welcomed into the palaces of princesses and the tents of Bedouins for a landmark article in 1987. And she was the first woman to be named White House Photographer of the Year.

For her book *Geisha: The Life, the Voices, the Art*, Cobb entered another world closed to outsiders, the geisha of Japan. She was also given special access to photograph inside a different sort of closed world, the Gore presidential campaign of 2000.

Cobb has produced numerous articles for National Geographic, including "This Thing Called Love," "21st-Century Slaves," "The Enigma of Beauty," and "Bahia: Where Brazil Was Born," and she has contributed to several National Geographic books.

Cobb has also photographed for the Day in the Life series of books and was a prime contributor to *Vietnam Veterans Memorial: The Wall, Here Be Dragons*, and *The Way Home: Ending Homelessness in America*. Her work was also featured in the book *Women Photographers* at National Geographic and its accompanying exhibitions.

The Lindenwood University Speaker Series, in its inaugural year, included a diverse line-up of 11 scholars, writers, journalists, scientists and entertainers. The series will return in fall of 2009; an announcement of speakers is forthcoming. For more information about the Jodi Cobb event or the series, call Paul Huffman at 636-949-4823.