

# news release

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## “THROUGH THE LENS” AT MANDARIN ORIENTAL HYDE PARK, LONDON

**Hong Kong, 18 March 2015** – [Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London](#) is delighted to announce their partnership, 80 at 80, with Olympus, who in celebration of their 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, commissioned award-winning photographer John Nassari to take a series of 80 behind the scenes pictures at the iconic hotel in Knightsbridge. This is the first collaboration of its kind for any London hotel.

The photographs will be exhibited for the first time on Friday 15 April at an exclusive invite-only event at the Ballroom of Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London, before moving for a two week public installation at the Art Bermondsey Project Space.

During the 10 month project John Nassari was granted unprecedented access to the hotel’s departments, capturing moments of everyday life at Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London. The project allowed Nassari to immerse himself, while remaining unobtrusive to the hotel’s operations. This gave him a unique opportunity to experience the essence of the hotel and showcase every element of the staff’s commitment and dedication to Mandarin Oriental’s legendary service.

With a long and diverse career in photography, Nassari utilised his reportage style skills to chronicle the staff at Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London throughout 2015. To represent the hustle and bustle of the back of house environment, the pictures have been rendered black and white at post-production. Whilst the pictures of the front of house staff which Nassari describes as depicting the “very high standards of presentation using precision and formality,” are showcased in colour.

Commenting on the photographic project, Gérard Sintès, General Manager at Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London explains, “We were thrilled to welcome John Nassari, an Olympus Visionary, to be part of our Mandarin Oriental family for the duration of this 10 month project. It is indeed an honour to have the opportunity to showcase not only the front of the house, which is what our guests see, but also the backbone of the hotel, highlighting how all departments work together in harmony to create the renowned legendary service synonymous with Mandarin Oriental.”

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### **About John Nassari**

John Nassari first became interested in photography at the tender age of 13 when his stepfather gave him his first camera. After earning a degree in advertising photography from the then University of Arts in 1991, he pursued a career in advertising and editorial photography. His work has been seen in prestigious galleries such as the Pantheon Gallery, Cyprus, The Town House Gallery, Egypt, and the National Portrait Gallery. John has been selected to exhibit at the National Portrait Gallery on three separate occasions while vying for the prestigious Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize. John's diverse career has cultivated his unique ability of capturing moments and emotions in beautiful ways, a skill that perfectly translates into his wedding photography. For information please visit: [www.johnnassari.co.uk](http://www.johnnassari.co.uk).

### **About Olympus UK:**

As a worldwide leading manufacturer of optical and digital precision technology, Olympus provides innovative solutions for state-of-the-art medical systems, digital cameras as well as scientific solutions. The company's award winning products are instrumental in detecting, preventing and healing illness, driving scientific research and documenting life with artistic freedom. In the hands of its customers, Olympus' high-tech products help to make people's lives healthier, safer and more fulfilling. For information please visit: [www.olympus.co.uk/cameras](http://www.olympus.co.uk/cameras)

### **About Art Bermondsey Project Space:**

Creative Director; Mike von Joel

The future program and details of forthcoming events can be found at [www.olympusimagespace.co.uk](http://www.olympusimagespace.co.uk)

Contact details: Art Bermondsey Project Space 183 – 185 Bermondsey Street London,

SE1 3UW Email: [abps@project-space.london](mailto:abps@project-space.london) Tel: 0203 441 5858

Open: Monday to Friday 11am to 6pm, Saturday 11am to 4pm.

### **About Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London**

With bustling Knightsbridge on its doorstep and leafy Hyde Park at its rear, Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park is London's most prestigious address. Blending sumptuous guestrooms

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with a world-leading spa and a stylish bar, it is the definitive destination for a luxury escape. And with two award-winning restaurants including Bar Boulud, London and Dinner by Heston Blumenthal, the first London restaurant for one of the UK's most renowned chefs, Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park stands at the culinary centre of the capital.

### **About Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group**

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is the award-winning owner and operator of some of the most luxurious hotels, resorts and residences. Having grown from a well-respected Asian hotel company into a global brand, the Group now operates, or has under development, 46 hotels representing 11,000 rooms in 24 countries, with 21 hotels in Asia, nine in The Americas and 16 in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. In addition, the Group operates or has under development, 15 *Residences at Mandarin Oriental* connected to its properties.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download in the [Photo Library](#) of our [Media](#) section, at [www.mandarinoriental.com](http://www.mandarinoriental.com).

Visit [Destination MO](http://www.mandarinoriental.com/destination-mo/) (<http://www.mandarinoriental.com/destination-mo/>), the online version of [Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group](#)'s bespoke publication, *MO*. News about our award-winning hotels, the best dining experiences, spa treatments, travel retreats and interviews with the Group's celebrity fans is now just a click away. Further information is also available on our [Social Media](#) channels.

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