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Ami Vitale



Photojournalist, filmmaker and *National Geographic* magazine contract photographer Ami Vitale has traveled to more than 100 countries, bearing witness not only to violence and conflict, but also to surreal beauty and the enduring power of the human spirit.

Throughout the years, Ami has lived in mud huts and war zones, contracted malaria, and donned a panda suit—keeping true to her belief in the importance of “living the story.”

In 2009, after shooting a powerful story on the transport and release of one the

world's last white rhinos, Ami shifted her focus to today's most compelling wildlife and environmental stories. *Instyle* Magazine named Ami one of fifty Badass Women, a series celebrating women who show up, speak up and get things done.

She is a five-time recipient of World Press Photos and published a best-selling book, *Panda Love*, on the secret lives of pandas. Vitale was the subject of the Mission Cover Shot series on the National Geographic Channel as well as another documentary series featuring Madagascar. She lectures for the National Geographic LIVE series, and she frequently gives workshops throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia.

She is a founding member of Ripple Effect Images, an organization of renowned female scientists, writers, photographers and filmmakers working together to create powerful and persuasive stories that shed light on the hardships women in developing countries face and the programs that can help them. She is also on the Photojournalism Advisory Council for the Alexia Foundation.

“ Ignorance of each other's stories leads us to assume we know them, and so we maintain perceptions of differences based on our own preconceived notions. ”



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To view more of Ami's photography, visit her website at www.amivitale.com and blog at www.amivitale.com/blog/.

Check Ami out on social media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Wikipedia](#).