

“PHOTOGRAPHY ALLOWS YOU TO JUST GO OUT AND CREATE HOW YOU WANT, WHAT YOU WANT, WHEN YOU WANT. YOU’RE IN CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE. WHICH IS A DAMNED FINE PLACE TO BE.”

THIS IS JUST ONE OF THE ANSWERS OF THE GREAT NICK BRANDT TO THE QUESTIONS BY CLAUDIO ROSSETTI, VALENTINA NICOLE SCOTTI AND GIULIO SPERANZA, MEMBERS OF THE GRIGIO 18% ASSOCIATION, A PARTNER OF IMAGE IN PROGRESS

*If you work in photography and you also have always dreamed to ask some specific questions to some of the best photographers in the world, contact us!*

*info@edifore.com*

Born and raised in England, Nick Brandt studied Painting, and then Film in London. He moved to America in 1992 and directed many award-winning music videos for artists like Michael Jackson (Earth Song, Stranger in Moscow, Cry), Jewel and Moby.

It was while directing Earth Song, a music video for Michael Jackson, in Tanzania in 1995, that Nick fell in love with the animals and land of East Africa. Over the next few years, frustrated that he could not capture on film his feelings about animals, he began to realize that there was a way to achieve this through photography.

In 2000, Nick embarked upon his ambitious photographic project: a trilogy of books to memorialize the vanishing natural grandeur of East Africa. The first two parts of the trilogy have been published in *On This Earth* (2005), *A Shadow Falls* (2009), and *On This Earth, A Shadow Falls* (2010), combining the best photos from the first

two books). Since 2004, Nick has had multiple solo exhibitions worldwide, including in New York, Los Angeles, London, Berlin, Sydney, Munich, Brussels, and Paris. Nick photographs on medium format black and white film without telephoto or zoom lenses.

His work is a combination of wide-screen panoramas of animals within vast landscapes, and graphic portraits more akin to studio portraiture of human subjects from the early 20th Century, as if these animals were from a bygone era.

In one of his books, Nick explains: “I’m not interested in creating work that is simply documentary or filled with action and drama, which has been the norm in the photography of animals in the wild.

What I am interested in is showing the animals simply in the state of Being. In the state of Being before they no longer are. Before, in the wild at least, they cease to exist.

Elephant Drinking, Amboseli, 2007. Killed by Poachers, 2009 - © Nick Brandt, courtesy of Hasted Kraeutler Gallery, New York

