

ELEPHANT ROOM, INC.  
ART GALLERY

**Elephant Room, Inc. presents “Portraits of Afghanistan” by Ivan Lo**  
*A photographic portrait of daily Afghan life over the past five years*

Chicago IL, September 22, 2011 -- Almost one month after the ten year anniversary of 9/11, American citizens in Chicago will be given a chance to understand the Afghan people in their everyday lives through photographs taken by Ivan Lo. The series, Portraits of Afghanistan, is a documentation of daily Afghan life over a span of five years and is a reflection of Lo’s personal experiences in Afghanistan. The photographs also show a side of this war-torn nation often overlooked by western media.

Lo specializes in documenting humanitarian projects as well as the daily life of the communities that they serve. He is actively seeking to continue using his photography for worthy causes in the developing world and beyond. “First and foremost, I want to help others. One way is to use my photographs to fight injustice and spur social change,” said Lo.

Gallerist, Kim L. Atwood met Ivan Lo several months ago after he contacted her in regards to the possibility of displaying some of his work. “As Ivan began showing me his photography from around the world, I couldn’t tear myself away from the images or from his stories. He is not only impressive in his ability to photograph people comfortably in their surroundings, but he truly cares about the work that he does and has a vested interest in helping to create societal improvements for them.” - Kim L. Atwood

The series, *Portraits of Afghanistan* will be exhibited October 4th through November 12th at Elephant Room, Inc. located at 704 S Wabash Ave in Chicago. There will be an opening reception on Friday, October 14th from 6:30 to 9:00pm and an artist talk on Wednesday, October 19th at 5pm.

**About the artist**

Ivan Lo is a photographer partnered with numerous NGOs (non-governmental organizations) whose projects range from medical care to agricultural development. He is also physically disabled and living with a rare type of leukemia. Since 2005 he has photographed for NGOs in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Kenya, Taiwan, the Dominican Republic, India and the United States. For more information visit [www.ivanlo.com](http://www.ivanlo.com)

**About Elephant Room Inc.**

Elephant Room, Inc. is an art organization that works with mainly local under-represented artists and designers in all types of mediums. They have a retail art gallery where artists can sell their work and retain a majority of the sale. Elephant Room frequently holds art events, talks, parties, workshops, etc. Elephant Room is interested in working with the local community and finding more ways to become involved with other art events while continuing to be a great art resource in the South Loop.

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