

His photographs ‘give voice’ to vulnerable people world-wide



Manuel Delgado has had to experience **living in a garbage dump** or a **refugee camp** to be able to **photograph** these situations and expose them to the world.

The graduate in **Communications from Tec de Monterrey** is currently working as a **photographer** for **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**.

*“Those **pictures** are used for **financial reports and social media** to encourage **more investors** to **support the cause**. My photos give **voice to those communities**,” Manuel told **CONECTA**.*



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The **Tec graduate** has visited **more than 45 countries** to document everything from **environmental issues** to working with vulnerable groups.

His work can be risky on certain occasions (he was once assigned a military escort so he could take his photos) but he continues to do so and thereby contributes to different causes.

*“The most **gratifying thing** is knowing that **my photos make a difference**. That’s the **main reason** I keep going,” he pointed out.*

“My photos give voice to those communities.”

https://www.instagram.com/manuel_delgado_photography/

PHOTOGRAPHING REALITY

Manuel has documented cases in countries with **vulnerable communities**, such as **Ghana, in Africa**.

There, he spent **whole days** photographing **people living** in precarious conditions **in the largest garbage dump in the city**.

*“**You have to have the stomach to take those pictures**. They’re places that are **full of violence, addictions**, and you have to document **people’s reality**. You have to put your feelings to one side,” he added.*



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Similarly, he recalled when he visited **Mynamar** the Asian country also known as Burma, just **2 years after** that country had come under a **military dictatorship**.

*“It was a **region in the mountains**, where the refugees **had no nationality, no electricity, no water, but addictions were rife**.*

“They had to **assign a military escort for me to work** and we had to return at night to **avoid the tigers and elephants that came out of the jungle**,” he recalled.

The **Tec graduate** mentioned that when he visits these places, **he doesn’t just take photographs**, but also **gives direct support as a volunteer** and participates in the life and **traditions** of these **communities**.

His work has led him to become part of the **[NGO Photographers Alliance](#)**, an **organization** committed to **ethical and humanitarian photography**, where he **offers courses** and documents the **work of NGOs**.



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PHOTOGRAPHY AND TRAVEL: THE BEGINNING OF EVERYTHING

Manuel has been interested in photography from an early age. He remembers the moment his dad brought a **camera home**.

Traveling is another of his passions, which was began during his **studies** at the **Tec**, when he went to a **course in the Czech Republic**, which sparked a desire to **learn about other cultures**.

“That was what sparked me off. I wanted to know more and find out about other cultures. It opened my eyes to a world I hadn’t seen before,” he said.

After graduating, he decided to **travel, intending to photograph 12 countries in Asia**, including Indonesia, Thailand and Laos.

It was on that trip he decided his work as a photographer would be about more than illustrating his travels, which led him to what he’s doing now with **NGOs**.



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Manuel currently also works for the **Trivago travel company**, based in **Düsseldorf, Germany**, as a **Corporate Social Responsibility manager**.

He is **certified by the Düsseldorf Photography Federation**, and his work was recently included in the [Düsseldorf Photo Weekend](#).

<http://www.photo-picturesque.com/>

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