Tunisia, 1961. Presidents Tito and Bourguiba on the way from the harbour to the residence in Tunisia.

13 November 2017 – 8 April 2018

Long Gallery, Pitt Rivers Museum

www.prm.ox.ac.uk
This exhibition presents a selection of photographs showing Marshal Josip Broz Tito taken during official visits to various African countries in the post-war period. The Yugoslav leader visited the continent regularly from the 1950s to further diplomatic relations and establish bilateral trade deals, and to foster support for Yugoslavia’s regime during a time of political entrenchment in Europe but considerable change in Africa. Recording a perspective on the Cold War little known or acknowledged in the West, the photographs highlight Tito’s meetings with African leaders and his interaction with the people and cultures of these countries, as well as showing moments of leisure, especially during major tours of 1961 and 1970.

‘Tito in Africa: Picturing Solidarity documents Marshal Josip Broz Tito’s state tours of Africa from the mid-1950s to the late 1970s. Tito aimed to win African support for Yugoslavia’s Non-Aligned Movement in the name of anti-colonialism and socialist solidarity, and several well-known Yugoslav photographers recorded Tito’s well-publicised visits to socialist-leaning African countries, ranging from Algeria to Zambia. Yet these were not stiff propaganda photos of conventional international diplomacy, but rather were rich and revealing moments of first-time cultural encounters between leading figures of the so-called Second and Third Worlds. The images show the Yugoslav head of state and his wife engaging with the leaders and cultures of these host countries in informal and quite unusual ways, recording special moments of interest during those visits: touring archaeological sites, factories and places of historic significance, safari hunting, observing dance and music performances, meeting labourers in their workplaces, and greeting children in traditional costume. As such they offer an alternative picture of Cold War cultural relations between developing nations from different continents and traditions.’ – Prof. Paul Betts

‘SOCIALISM GOES GLOBAL’
The exhibition is an outcome of the international research project ‘Socialism Goes Global: Cold War Connections Between the “Second” and “Third Worlds”, 1945–1991’ based at the University of Exeter, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. It draws on the collections of the Museum of Yugoslavia, Belgrade, which holds photographs produced by the Cabinet of the President of the Republic between 1947 and 1980. A new book of the same title, Tito in Africa: Picturing Solidarity, is published to coincide with the exhibition.
Guinea, 1961. From the parade of military, youth and pioneers held in honour of President Tito in Kindia Region.

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For more information, please visit www.prm.ox.ac.uk/Tito_in_Africa