

**For immediate release**

***We Make the Path by Walking*, by Paul Gaffney**

*A photobook of landscapes that explore the meditative nature of walking, Paul Gaffney's first publication has been nominated for the 6<sup>th</sup> International Photobook Festival and shortlisted for the European Publishers Award for Photography.*

***“Walking is by its nature both rhythmic and physical and it slows down the mind and it allows you to see and connect with your surroundings in a different way.”***

Irish photographer Paul Gaffney's newly-published book, *We Make the Path by Walking*, is an evocative visual exploration of long-distance walking as a form of meditation and personal transformation. To create this body of work, Gaffney walked more than 3,500 kilometres throughout Spain, Portugal and the south of France, stopping to capture images that struck him as he passed.

Gaffney says: “My intention was to create a series of quiet, meditative images, which would evoke the experience of being immersed in nature and capture the essence of the journey. The images seek to engage the viewer in this walk, and to communicate a sense of the subtle internal and psychological changes which one may undergo while negotiating the landscape.”

*We Make the Path by Walking* moves through varied landscapes and terrains, capturing subtle details in the seemingly simple. There is a mood of contemplative solitude throughout. A careful use of sequencing, editing and design techniques builds a pace and rhythm that elicits a sense of flow and movement throughout the images. In this way, the images invite the viewer to participate in the journey, while leaving enough space for personal imagination and experience.

The only text to accompany the 40 serene landscapes is the short poem, “Wanderer, there is no path”, by Spanish poet Antonio Machado. The book takes its title from a line in the poem, which suggests that what is most important is the awareness of one's own path, what is learned from it and how one grows from the experience making that path for each other.

The book's understated size creates an intimate viewing experience, and the use of uncoated matte paper enhances the natural feel of the photos. Swiss binding enables the book to lie flat when open so that double page spreads can be more fully appreciated. Large images are used sparingly to produce a more striking impact and create a greater sense of immersion in the landscape.

*We Make the Path by Walking* has been nominated for the 6<sup>th</sup> International Photobook Festival in Kassel, Germany, and was shortlisted for the prestigious European Publishers Award for Photography. It has been shown in Ireland, the UK, France, South Africa, and in Italy as part of the Cortona on the Move Festival. One of the photographs was selected as the main promotional image for the 2013 Photolreland festival, and was used for the cover of festival's *New Irish Works* book. Gaffney's work was recently selected by Brian Griffin for a one-day solo show at the renowned Flowers Gallery in London as part of its annual Artist of the Day series.

*We Make the Path by Walking* is available now to order from [www.paulgaffneyphotography.com](http://www.paulgaffneyphotography.com)

**Designed & Edited by** Paul Gaffney

**Publication:** Self-published, Dublin, Ireland, July 2013

**Edition size:** 1,000 copies (including 50 special editions with a limited-edition print)

**Number of images:** 40

**Format:** 78 pages, 21cm×16cm, Swiss-bound (exposed spine) softcover, with photo-illustrated slip case

**RRP:** €23 (Special edition €TBC)

**ISBN:** 978-0-9926004-0-2



**For immediate release**

**Contact:**

E-mail: [paulgaffneyphotography@gmail.com](mailto:paulgaffneyphotography@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.paulgaffneyphotography.com](http://www.paulgaffneyphotography.com)  
Telephone: +353 86 6077586

**Paul Gaffney** is a Dublin-based artist who has recently completed an MFA in Photography at the University of Ulster in Belfast. He will commence his PhD in photography at the University of Ulster in September 2013.

