



**SPECIAL EXHIBITION:**  
**THE PLEASURES AND SORROWS OF WORK**

An exhibition of photographs and texts from *The Pleasures and Sorrows of Work*, the bestselling book by philosophical author Alain de Botton, is on show at the Museum of the History of Science (Oxford).

**The Pleasures and Sorrows of Work** showcases 16 photographs taken by documentary photographer Richard Baker as he followed Alain de Botton on his research trip for the book. The images are juxtaposed with specially-selected extracts from the book.

Richard Baker's dramatic and humorous photographs show some of the more unusual places and ways in which people choose to spend their working hours. The images, featuring places and spaces from logistics hubs and rocket launch sites to airplane 'graveyards' and even a biscuit factory, offer a novel perspective on the modern workplace.

Dr Stephen Johnston, Assistant Director of the Museum of the History of Science, curated the exhibition. He said "The big challenge was selection: Richard Baker created more than 600 images for the book project and just 16 have been chosen for the exhibition. So there were difficult decisions, but it was also a delight to be able to pick out some of the particularly striking and beautiful images which were not published in the book."

**The Pleasures and Sorrows of Work** will run until Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September and admission is free. The framed photographs and texts are on sale.

**[Ends]**

## **Notes to Editors**

### **The Pleasures and Sorrows of Work**

Texts by Alain de Botton

Photographs by Richard Baker

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**Short listing:** An exhibition of photographs by Richard Baker with texts from Alain de Botton's *The Pleasures and Sorrows of Work*.

For exhibition enquiries, images or interviews, please contact Laura Ashby:  
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### **Museum of the History of Science**

Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3AZ

[www.mhs.ox.ac.uk](http://www.mhs.ox.ac.uk)

### **Opening hours:**

Tuesday – Friday: 12.00 – 17.00

Saturday: 10.00 – 17.00

Sunday: 14.00 – 17.00

ADMISSION FREE

**All exhibition images are for sale**, and prices range from £285 to £575 (a full price list is available at the Museum).

Information about the **photographer** can be found here:

<http://www.bakerphoto.demon.co.uk/>

Information about the **writer**, including bibliography can be found here:

<http://www.alaindebotton.com/>