



KENYA

Tribal lives

Photographer **John Kenny**



"In recent years I've been visiting remote corners of Africa to document tribes that maintain their heritage. I met this *moran* (Samburu warrior, *left*) at a cattle market near Merille, north Kenya: he would have been guarding the cattle

from raids from neighbouring tribes. I found a clearing and we draped a white background to shade him and create more diffuse lighting. After showing him the picture, he was surprised at his own image; I was sure he felt portrayed as a true warrior, and was enjoying seeing it for himself for the first time.

I met the young girl (*right*) near the banks of Lake Turkana. I was struck by her confidence and the intensity radiated through her eyes. I found her quite mesmerising. I had stumbled across her among some market stalls with her mother, whose permission I sought to photograph her. She smiled at her image and inspected it intensely: I think she was very taken by how she appeared to the world."

John's Africa portraits are on display and for sale at the 3 Bedfordbury gallery (www.capitalculture.eu) in London's Covent Garden, 21 Sept-2 Oct. www.john-kenny.com

