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COPEN HAGEN PHOTO FESTI VAL

Copenhagen Photo Festival 2018 · June 7-17 The revelation of this year's three main themes

2018 marks the 9th time Copenhagen Photo Festival is held, and this year the festival's events are categorized by three overall themes: Framing society, Framing vision and Framing identity. Together these themes form the frames around the festival's strong exhibitions that work ideologically, aesthetically and identity-seeking.

Countless of great experiences await when Copenhagen Photo Festival takes place for the 9th time, this June. The exhibitions can be experienced all over Copenhagen, and the center of the festival is Photo City, which is placed in the area around Gasværksgrunden at Østerbro –consisting of the spectacular electrical substation, Understationen, reused as a gallery space, as well as the outdoor area.

Director of the festival, Maja Dyrehauge Gregersen, says the following about this year's programme:

“Copenhagen Photo Festival's vision is to strengthen our ability to consider photography as a form of expression by curating, informing, debating and engaging. The activities and events offered in the programme are both international seminars and workshops for children and teenagers, and the exhibitions range from fine art photography to war documentary and digital exhibitions. To this, we have added a long range of other activities, which connects the audience to photography.”

This year the programme will be divided into three main categories, which can now be revealed:

- **Framing society:** *Exhibitions, which ideologically puts society on the agenda. Politics, ideology and cultures.*
- **Framing vision:** *Exhibitions, where the medium sets the framework. Aesthetics, technique and medium.*
- **Framing identity:** *Exhibitions, where the individual person is in focus. Individual, existence and identity.*

Below is a list of what to look forward to experiencing in these three categories:

True to tradition you can experience The Censored Exhibition during the festival. The exhibition consists of carefully curated photography, which has been sent in by no less than 449 applicants from 55 different countries during the exhibition's open call – a new record for the festival.

The jury behind The Censored Exhibition 2018:

- Balder Olrik, visual artist (DK)
- Johan Vikner, Exhibition Manager at Fotografiska (SE)
- Markus Hartmann, publisher and curator at Hartmann Projects (DE)

The three main themes:

Framing society

Exhibitions, which ideologically puts society on the agenda. Politics, ideology and cultures.

- **The Warzone Freelance Project / The Battle for Mosul**
Copenhagen Photo Festival houses the world premiere of this exhibition, which through the work of a number of leading freelance war photographers portrays the expulsion of Islamic State from Mosul. Exhibited along with the photographs are a number of cultural artefacts. The exhibition is shown at Copenhagen Photo Festival's spectacular container city at Gasværksgrunden.
- **Prasiit Sthapit / Change of Course**
In the unique surroundings behind Østre Gasværk Copenhagen Photo Festival presents the prominent Nepali photographer Prasiit Sthapit for the first time in Denmark. *Change of Course* is an innovative photographic documentary project, which poetically portrays the life and landscape surrounding the Narayani River, which runs directly through, and radically changes the disputed territory between Nepal and India.
- **Martin Thaulow / Postcard from ...**
With his portraits exhibited in the public sphere Martin Thaulow, founder of Refugee Today, seeks with his exhibition *Postcards from ...* to change how the victims of the migration crisis' are seen as individual people and not just refugees on the run. Martin Thaulow has through the past 3 years travelled to different places within and outside EU, where he has portrayed migrants, where they live; On the streets, in camps and in asylum centres. Despite this, he has brought a long a transportable studio and photographed on a monochrome background.
- **Global Art Gallery / Henrik Brahe**

Through archeological traces Henrik Brahe creates a completely unique documentation of the migration crisis' consequences for the individual refugee. The project was created as part of an archeological expedition to Mesopotamia.

- **Seminar at The Royal Library – The National Museum of Photography, Saturday the 9th of June**
“My Place” – what does it mean to belong somewhere from an existential and humanitarian point of view? We discuss the question based on three very different exhibitions about life in places affected by war and conflict by respectively Kent Klich, Prasiit Sthapit and the photographers from the Warzone Freelance Project.

Framing vision

Exhibitions, where the medium itself is on the agenda. Aesthetics, Technique, Media.

- **Marta Pohlmann-Kryszkiewicz / Natural Forms**
German photographer Marta Pohlmann-Kryszkiewicz is one of the most promising talents from the Academy of Fine Arts in Leipzig. In *Natural Forms*, which is exhibiting in the shut down substation, she investigates the remains of consumer culture through a number of monumental almost abstract photographs.
- **Jessica Backhaus & Emil Salto**
Copenhagen Photo Festival is presenting the renowned, German photography-based visual artist, Jessica Backhaus, for the first time in Denmark. She will exhibit in an artistic dialog with Danish visual artist, Emil Salto. The exhibition is based on the concept of memory, which is portrayed visually and conceptually through the original use of the photographs' elements of light and time. The exhibition is supported by Danish Arts Foundation (Statens Kunstfond.)
- **Sculptural Landscapes**
The Nordic Group exhibition depicts landscapes in the broadest sense of the word, with focus on the abstract and sculptural. The exhibition is supported by the Nordic Culture Fond.

Framing identity

Exhibitions, where the individual person is in focus. Individual, existence and identity.

- **Fotografisk Center / The Log Lady – Ulla Jokisalo and Hilla Kurki**
Two notable Finnish visual artists from two different generations join forces through an artistic dialogue in this exhibition, which deals with themes such as gender, identity and... needlework.
- **Carlsberg Byens galleri og kunstsalon / Chris Verene: The Self-Esteem Salon**

American Chris Verene exhibits work based on his performance: *The Self-Esteem Salon*. The idea was to create a safe space, where people could realize their fantasies in front of a camera, to bring awareness on the importance of being self-confident as a person. Former participants in Verene's performances count regular people as well as famous celebrities such as Sarah Jessica Parker, Matthew Modine and Harmony Korine.

- **Dana Balajovsky / What it is to be somebody?**

Copenhagen Photo Festival has invited the young Argentinian talent, Dana Balajovsky, to exhibit in Photo City. *What it is to be somebody?* is a poetical journey into the mind, where melancholia, longing and separation create the foundation for artistic and existential considerations about identity.

- **The Theater Museum in The Court Theater / Interpretations**

The Theater Museums has invited five notable Danish photographers (Jan Grarup, Ole Christiansen, Miriam Dalsgaard, Jens Juul and Tune Andersen) to take part in the exhibition *Interpretations* by portraying five notable cultural figures (Ghita Nørby, Suzanne Brøgger, Bent Fabricius Bjerre, Medina and Nikolaj Hübbe).

- **Auction event in Photo City – take a piece of art home with you**

If you are interested in art, but not born with a silver spoon in your mouth, you have the opportunity to make a bargain, when Bruun Rasmussen Auctioneers leaves Bredgade and moves into Understationen to auction off selected works from The Censored Exhibition – at extremely fair prices. We close this year's festival with an auctioning event, where it is possible to have a drink as well, before going home with your newly purchased piece of art. Sunday on June the 17th at 4pm.

Facts about Copenhagen Photo Festival 2018

COPENHAGEN PHOTO FESTIVAL takes place at 50 venues and exhibition spaces all over Copenhagen with satellite exhibitions in Odense, Aarhus and Scania, from June 7th to June 17th. The programme contains 55 exhibitions with three main categories FRAMING SOCIETY, FRAMING VISION, FRAMING IDENTITY. Furthermore the visitors have the exceptional opportunity to experience a variety of workshops, photo-based culinary experiences, an auction event, film and photo by night, an exhibition in the metro, insta-walks, talks, handmade photobooks and much more.

The center of the festival, Photo City, is a total experience in unique locations with 10 exhibitions distributed between the rustic "Understationen" at Nyborggade 13 and the surrounding Gasværksgrund behind Østre Gasværk Theater, where the container city of the festival has been placed in the terrain, and it is possible to go on a photo safari in the wilderness. Photo Stage offers film screenings, sounds walks and many other activities in these spectacular settings.

COPENHAGEN PHOTO FESTIVAL takes place the the 9th time in collaboration with a long line of art- and cultural institutions. Every year around 250 photographers and artists from all over the world contributes to the festival programme. Copenhagen Photo Festival's vision is to strengthen our ability to consider photography as a form of expression by curating exhibitions, informing, debating and engaging the audience in the many facets of photography.

For further information, please contact

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