

2017 Auckland Festival of Photography explores ‘Identity’ theme in diverse times

Some of the world’s best photojournalism features in 2017’s Auckland Festival of Photography (1-24 June).

“The 2017 programme is unpacked at a time which sees the world of photography mirroring the shifting sands of ‘Identity’” says festival director Julia Durkin. “Our centrepiece identity-theme covers personal, gender, national, local explorations, which are supported by an excellent line up of Talking Culture treats, an amazing line-up of Satellite exhibitions across the region, and our invitation to create new images for Nikon Auckland Photo Day on June 10.”

The international cornerstone of AFP’s ‘Identity’ exhibitions and Talking Culture programme is a measure of AFP’s success in building relationships, including as a founding member of the Asia Pacific Photoforum. The breadth of photography on show at a range of venues also shows AFP’s success in harnessing Aucklanders’ enthusiasm to reflect their city’s diversity in exhibitions and events like Nikon Auckland Photo Day.

The international calibre of AFP 2017 is evident in the Identity themed exhibitions at the Silo 6 - curated by Bangladeshi artist, curator activist and photographer Shahidul Alam, with artists work from Nigerian J.D. Okhai Ojeikere, Kim Hak (Cambodia) Dina Goldstein (Canada), Shahria Sharmin (Bangladesh), Çağdaş Erdoğan (Turkey), Pushpamala N (India) and at 24 core exhibitions in Auckland galleries and public spaces. AFP 2017 features nearly 50 Satellite exhibitions throughout the region and boasts 15 Talking Culture’ events featuring leading international practitioners from Thailand, Singapore, the United States, Japan, Australia, as well as new work by Janet Lilo for the Annual Commission by Baker+Douglas.

“The Auckland Festival of Photography is in its 14th year and our commitment to sharing great photography with our audience is undimmed,” says Julia Durkin. “Photography is something everyone can relate to and take part in as a creative and personal means of expression, this can be seen through the incredible support by New Zealand photographers across the entire programme, from the leading artists such as the recently passed icon Marti Friedlander, Laurence Aberhart, Mark Adams, to the emerging stars of Maori + Pacific photography, with Grant Apiata, Russ Flatt, Tanu Gago, Terry Klavenes, Emily Mafile’o, Natalie Robertson, Raymond Sagapolutele, Sililga Setoga, Pati Solomona Tyrell, Tuafale Tanoa’i aka Linda T in *Ata Te Tangata* and the all female historic exhibition, *Real Pictures* with Sue Gee, Megan Jenkinson, Marie Shannon, Deborah Smith and Jenny Tomlin.

As part of AFP’s ongoing support for New Zealand photography, there is a new festival award, ‘The Spirit of Motion’ by Mazda. This cash award is open to entry by any New Zealand photographer exhibiting in this year’s AFP. Entries open on 18 April and close on 22 May.

“Once again AFP is leading with innovative ways to offer acknowledgement and reward to the artists and photographers in New Zealand.” Julia Durkin says.

“AFP is a significant photographic event in the Southern Hemisphere and the New Zealand winter calendar. We’re confident Aucklanders will again engage with the largest free visual arts festival in the region, to see innovative and important work, and engage in the most accessible art form of our times.”

For more information and interview opportunities, please contact:

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Full details of AFP 2017 are available at

<http://www.photographyfestival.org.nz/programme/index.cfm>

Auckland Festival of Photography 2017 Funding partners:

Auckland Council, Foundation North.

Festival Sponsors:

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