

# Internationale Photoszene Köln Festival

WE  PHOTOGRAPHY

Press Release dated 1 April 2025

## Invitation to the Press Conference on 15 May 2025 at 10 a.m.

Venue: The Photographic Collection/SK Stiftung Kultur, Im Mediapark 7, 50670 Cologne.

The Photoszene Festival is set to take place at ninety-nine locations in the city from 16 May until 15 June. In addition to the six exhibitions in the curated core programme at nine locations, ninety more museums, institutions, galleries and art spaces will be participating in an eclectic photography-themed exhibition trail throughout the urban area. As before, the principle of participating and sharing is a significant feature of the Internationale Photoszene Köln. With this year's edition of the Festival, the Internationale Photoszene Köln has set off on the path towards becoming more sustainable, more inclusive and more diversity-sensitive. Therefore, in many areas measures have been taken to make this intention a reality – first and foremost a provision of the programme in Simplified Language (digital and analogue). We refer to these measures separately in the programme.

## Opening: On 16 May 2025 at 7 p.m., the Festival will be formally opened in Museum Ludwig!

With today's press release we are providing you with an overview of the programme and inviting you warmly to the **Press conference on 15 May at 10 a.m.** in Die Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur with concluding press tour on the Festival's main programme. Please register for the press conference at [presse@photoszene.de](mailto:presse@photoszene.de)

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## The Photoszene Festival's programme

The principle curated core programme comprises Artist Meets Archive, for which five international artists – Marta Bogdańska, Elena Efeoglou, Andrés Galeano, Pauline Hafsia M'barek und Jimmi Wing Ka Ho – worked with five of Cologne's archives and collections and develop Festival exhibitions out of their research at the Kölnisches Stadtmuseum, the Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum, Museum Ludwig, Cologne Cathedral and the Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur, as well as a group exhibition arising from an Open Call with the theme of "Feelings & Photography", which will reflect the topic area of feelings in and through photography. In addition, photography's great diversity is demonstrated by numerous participating exhibitions. Alongside that, there is a comprehensive supporting programme comprising artist talks, tours, workshops and a symposium on Feelings in Photography in partnership with the Academy of Media Arts Cologne.

## Photo Pavillon. Temporäres Haus der Fotografie

A four-week temporary use spectacularly transforms the Moeller fabric pavilion in Cologne city centre into a photo pavilion. Temporary House of Photography. As a lively festival centre, the 'Feelings & Photography' exhibitions, which are part of the main curatorial programme, and the exhibition by Marta Bogdańska in collaboration with the Cologne City Museum will be shown here. The Photo Pavilion will be enriched with a photo book fair, a photo book shop, a café and community space with events and guided tours, and the Thousandfold Photobook Fair will also take place on the opening weekend of 16/17 May with a variety of exciting, current, international photo books. The Photo Pavilion is made possible by funds from the Cologne City Disposal Fund, which was set up by the City of

Cologne, Cologne Business and the Federal Ministry of Housing, Urban Development and Building.

Photo Pavillon. Temporäres Haus der Fotografie, Hahnenstr. 8, 50667 Cologne (Stoff-Pavillon Moeller), 16 May – 15 June 2025, Mon-Sun. 11 a.m.–8 p.m.

## **Artist Meets Archive #4**

### **Pauline Hafsia M'barek: Entropic Records im Museum Ludwig**

17 May – 9 November 2025

Based on the Agfa advertising archive in the Museum Ludwig, Pauline Hafsia M'barek examines the materials that make up photography, and the chemical processes behind it. The artist draws attention to the medium as a sensitive object, which requires protection against light, warmth and voracious insects. In space-consuming installations she weaves together historical photographs, toxic documents, microscopic examinations and material experiments. In doing so she steers the gaze onto the fragile balance between conservation and decay as well as the constant interchange between image and museum surroundings.

### **Marta Bogdańska: Footprints on the Sands of Time in the Kölnisches Stadtmuseum and Photo Pavillon. Temporäres Haus der Fotografie**

17 May – 15 June 2025

The issue of anthropocentrism and the marginalization of non-human animals is inherent in every archive. Can we nevertheless reshape memory and re-tell history from the animals' perspective? Marta Bogdańska invites onlookers to question their own knowledge and perspectives. With the aid of various artistic strategies she opens up new ways of reading the Photographic Collection of Cologne's City Museum, in order to foster an empathic attitude towards our animal companions in history-writing.

### **Andrés Galeano: X-DBA-00408 in Cologne Cathedral, Dreikönigensaal**

17 May – 15 June 2025

Andrés Galeano takes us along on an unusual mission. This follows a cathedral stone that travelled into space with the ESA astronaut Alexander Gerst in 2014 and is now kept in Cologne's cathedral construction archive. Appropriating archival working methods, Galeano traces the "life story" of the special stone fragment. As he does so he happens upon its wondrous properties, which throw up questions concerning auratization as well as the fragility of things.

### **Elena Efeoglou: Realität und Fiktion verschwimmen – August Sander trifft auf KI in the Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur**

17 May – 13 July 2025

Elena Efeoglou takes a look at selected portraits from the August Sander archive. In particular, she subjects the photographer's iconic Work People of the 20th Century to closer scrutiny. With the assistance of her own fictional stories and AI-generated images, she devises new imaginative narratives about the portrayed persons' lives. By tracing the impact of the historical photographs, Efeoglou reflects cross-medially on the narrative potential of photography and Artificial Intelligence.

### **Jimmi Wing Ka Ho: Invisible City im Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum**

17 May – 5 October 2025

How visible is a city's past? Jimmi Wing Ka Ho traces the history of the Chinese metropolis Qingdao, which was under German occupation between 1898 and 1914. Based on historical images from the RJM archive, he investigates the traces of the city's violent colonial reshaping and the associated narratives still handed down to this day. The photographs and video works created on location open up diverse – sometimes conflicting – angles and cause the boundaries between archival memory and personal experience to flow into each other.

## **Feelings & Photography in the Photo Pavillon. Temporäres Haus der Fotografie and the Kunsträume am Ebertplatz**

What role can photography play in engagement with feelings and what role do feelings play in contemporary photographic concepts?

Feelings arise – just as with photography – in an in-between, in interaction with the world. However, in the relationship between body and mind, in the confrontation with reality, and in the tension between idea and reality, they are often not in harmony with how we would wish such a world to be. The “Feelings & Photography” Open Call by the Internationale Photoszene Köln dealt, this year, with questions on what causes us to feel in the world and what powerful role the medium of photography can play along the way. For knowledge is power – but feelings are mightier.

From striving for happiness, terrifying vampires, through the feelings of a person under capitalism, pictures of protest to deeply ecstatic states; from the recording of the vanishing, through passion, identity and utopian love: the works in this group exhibition engage impressively with the various dimensions of human emotional worlds. Curated by Jan Borreck and Donja Nasserli.

Participating artists: Shirin Abedi, Elvo Axt, Janosch Boerckel, Hanieh Bozorgnia, Cihan Çakmak, Jasper Yi Cao, Lisa Domin-Alouane, Ronja Falkenbach, Yuki Furusawa, Maximilian Glas, Samuel Henne, Jonas Höschl, Atsushi Kakefuda, Bokeum Lee, Luise Marchand, Nina Mokhtarbaf, Diego Moreno, Ricardo Nunes, Aslı Özçelik, Andrea Palášti, Roxana Rios, Stefanie Schroeder, Joanna Szproch, Marcel Top

### **Symposium**

#### **Another State of Mind. What we Feel – What we See – What we Do.**

16 May 2025, 3 p.m.–6 p.m. and 17 May 2025, 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln. Symposium of the Internationalen Photoszene Köln in partnership with the Academy of Media Arts Cologne (KHM) on the exhibition “Feelings & Photography” & “To Dwell in the Same Time and Space” in the context of the Photoszene Festival Cologne

What findings does photography deliver concerning people’s feelings? How can feelings be recorded photographically – or generated visually? Together with invited international artists, scientists, curators and teachers, the power of feelings may be reflected on in the image and on the basis of the image. Where do their potentials and risks lie? On the Friday, the focus lies on the generation of emotions in the digital and generative pictorial world. Alongside current scientific talks on photography’s expression of emotion, on the Saturday curators will tell of their experiences in dealing with emotions and exhibition practice. Students from the KHM will exchange views about feelings as a catalyst for artistic practice in times of multiple crises with speakers whom they have invited.

#### **Speakers and guests:**

Dr Thomas Spies (media scientist and media artist)

Dr Roland Meyer (Digital Cultures and Arts, University of Zurich)

Stefanie Schröder (artist, Leipzig)

Dr Geraldine Spiekermann (art historian, University of Potsdam)

Nadine Isabelle Henrich (curator, Haus der Photographie, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg) in conversation with Roxana Rios (artist, Leipzig)

Dr Sophie-Charlotte Opitz (curator, Bucerius Kunstforum, Hamburg) in conversation with Yuki Furusawa (artist, Subame-City, Niigata, Japan) and Bokeum Lee (artist, Bucerius Kunstforum, Hamburg).

Sophie-Charlotte Opitz (Curator, Bucerius Kunstforum, Hamburg) in conversation with Yuki Furusawa (Artist, Subame-City, Niigata, Japan) and Bokeum Lee (Artist, Dortmund)

Christin Müller (Independent curator, Leipzig)

Emily Winkelsträter & Paulina Akbay (Students, KHM Cologne) in conversation with Maria Hlavajova (Art historian, Utrecht) and Cihan Çakmak (Artist, Berlin)

Dr. Anne Potjans (literary scholar, HU Berlin) in conversation with Rebecca Racine Ramershoven (artist, Cologne)

**Moderation:** Jan Borreck (curator, Internationale Photoszene Köln) and Andreas Langfeld (artistic-scientific assistant, Academy of Media Arts, Cologne)

The symposium is free of charge.

**Registration is however requested: > [anmeldung@photoszene.de](mailto:anmeldung@photoszene.de)**

Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln, Filzengraben 2, 50676 Cologne

## **Portfolio Review**

18 May 11 am - 3 pm, Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum, Library

As part of the Photoszene Festival, we are once again offering a portfolio review where you can show your work to renowned photography experts. They will give you constructive feedback on visual language, concept and presentation as well as tips on the further development and strategic positioning of your work. Each reviewer will be offered 20 minutes:

### **We are looking forward to the following guests:**

Mirelva Berghout (curator Amsterdam)

Nadine Isabell Henrich (curator, Haus der Photographie, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg)

Daria Tuminas (curator Fotodoks Utrecht)

Fleurie Kloostra (curator Melkweg Amsterdam)

Bettina Lockemann (researcher/author specialising in photo books)

Valeria Posada Villada (University of Amsterdam)

Anna Spindeldreier (freelance photo editor, WirtschaftsWoche)

**Target group:** artists and photographers of all levels of experience.

**Costs:** You can book single slots for 35€, 2 slots for 65€, 3 slots for 90€ incl. VAT.

**Registration:** We are happy to accept your registration with the name of the desired reviewer at [portfolioreview@photoszene.de](mailto:portfolioreview@photoszene.de). We will try to fulfil your request as best we can, guaranteeing at least 1 desired reviewer when booking 3 reviews. As soon as the exact timeslot is fixed, we will inform you!

## **NEXT! Festival der jungen Photoszene**

The NEXT! Festival of the Young Photoscene is entering its fifth round. This year's format by and for children and young adults will take place parallel to the Photoszene Festival from 16 May to 15 June 2025 at the Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum in Cologne. The motto of this year's Open Call and the fifth edition of the festival is 'What do you see and what do I see?' - a celebration of individual and young perspectives. For the first time, the festival will be accompanied by a youth board: Five young people between the ages of 18 and 26 will design the programme, develop the Open Call, form the jury and curate the group exhibition. NEXT! is supported by the RheinEnergie Stiftung Kultur and the Annelie und Uwe Hoffmans Stiftung. In addition to the Internationale Photoszene Köln, the organising consortium consists of the SK Stiftung Kultur, the Deutsches Kinder- und Jugendfilmzentrum and the jfc Medienzentrum.

## **99. Exhibitions throughout the city**

A wide field of photographic topics is treated by participating exhibitions throughout the urban area. On feminist perspectives in international contexts, dealing with natural disasters, new insights into the oeuvre of great photographers, the fabulous world of AI, biography work by means of

photography and, of, course, the diverse forms of expression of the photobook, which always has particular pride of place in Cologne. The participating locations are:

5Uhr30 / Ecki Heuser, Ali Babas Teestube, Altes Pfandhaus, ÄNDERUNGSSCHREIBEREI, Art of Buna e.V., artbooks store, Asymmetric Bar, Atelier 506 Bürgerhaus Stollwerck, Atelier Anna E. Stärk, Atelier Colonia, Atelier für historische Fotografie, Atelier Gumprecht, Atelier Jorsiac, Atelier von den Steinen, August-Sander-Park, Köln, Ausstellungs- & Schauraum Ute Jalas, Ausstellungsraum Jürgen Bahr, Bunker K101, Büro Gestalten, CMG! (Claudia Mewaldt Galerie), CO<sup>3</sup> e.V., Concrete Wave Skateshop, Connection, Die Photographische Sammlung/ SK Stiftung Kultur, Edith-Stein-Archiv, ERCO Showroom, Forum für Fotografie, Fotoakademie-Köln, FOTORAUUM KÖLN, Galerie 0, Galerie Julian Sander, Galerie Lindemann, Galerie PETEL, Galerie Seippel, Galerie Smend, galerie ulf larsson, Galerie Wasser, Gemeinde Köln, Getriebe 147, GLASMOOG – Raum für Kunst & Diskurs, GOLD+BETON, Greven-Haus, Haarbühne, Hallmackenreuther, Hochbunker Elsaßstraße, ICA Cologne, icon, IDYLL, in focus Galerie - Burkhard Arnold, Italienisches Kulturinstitut, Japanisches Kulturinstitut, Jens Scholz Kunstauktionen, Kirchenatelier Link, Kölner Dom, Kölnisches Stadtmuseum, Kreissparkasse Köln, Kulturbunker Köln-Mühlheim, KulturKubus (Haus der Architektur Köln), Kunst- und Kultur Lokal Alte Feuerwache, Kunst- und Museumsbibliothek, Kunst-, Station Sankt Peter, Kunsthafen im Kunsthaus Rhenania, KunstKwartier 44, Kunsträume der Michael Horbach Stiftung, Kunstwerk Köln e.V., L.-Fritz-Gruber-Platz 1, LABOR, Leonardo Royal Köln - Am Stadtwald, Markanto Depot, Mauer, Moltkerei Werkstatt, Mouches Volantes, Museum Ludwig, NICO / BOHDE FENSTER, odoArt x Kunstnavigation, Photo Pavillon. Temporäres Haus der Fotografie, Postkartenladen der Buchhandlung Walther König, QVEST the room, Raum L3, Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum, Richas Digest, schaelpic photokunstbar im Atelier für Mediengestaltung, Showroom Fotografie Simone Klein, Studio K48, Studio Tahiti, Tanzmuseum des Deutschen Tanzarchiv Köln, The PhotoBookMuseum: THE BOX & BUNKERGARTEN, Van der Grinten Galerie, wobistdu, Zander Galerie.

You will find all exhibitions here: <https://www.photoszene.de/de/festival/#ausstellungen>

We will be happy to send you visual material on the exhibitions!

## Many thanks to our sponsors!

The Internationale Photoszene Köln is institutionally sponsored by the City of Cologne. In addition, the Artist Meets Archive programme is supported by the Kunststiftung NRW, the group exhibition 'Feelings & Photography' by the Landschaftsverband Rheinland and the Victor Rolf Foundation. As part of a diversity-sensitive and inclusive opening of the festival, the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and Aktion Mensch. The realisation of the Photo Pavillon. Temporary House of Photography is thanks to the City of Cologne, Köln Business and the Federal Ministry of Housing, Urban Development and Building. In addition, even more sponsors and cooperation partners are involved in the realisation of the festival. Many thanks to all our partners! A complete list of all sponsors and co-operation partners can be found here: <https://www.photoszene.de/de/photoszene/unsere-partner/>

### Press Service

Further press photos and press releases are available for download on the press page of the International Photoszene Cologne: <https://www.photoszene.de/de/photoszene/presse/> We look forward to a contribution in your media and the active sharing of our event information on your social media!

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