

Internationale Photoszene Köln e.V.

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Photoszene Relaunch 2014

The starting shot for Photoszene 2014 has been fired by the new four-member team with the Supporters Edition: works by 19 renowned photographers and promising newcomers have been on sale since mid-December. Proceeds will be shared with the artists; Photoszene will use the money as necessary starting capital for activities in photography's jubilee year, for the programme has many new features. A fundamental aim is to reposition Photoszene: as a platform, it is intended to become a permanent stakeholder and contact partner for photography in Cologne. A lively Internet presence, an app and a bilingual magazine will be important pillars of the new concept. The foundations for this will be laid by co-operations with major Cologne-based cultural institutions and important protagonists in the photography field. The aim is to offer visitors interested in photography the first and ideal port of call in the city of Cologne and, that way, to put Cologne back in the focus as a magnet for photography creators and enthusiasts.

The Photoszene Festival – featuring a considerably more extensive programme than in previous years – is set to begin on 19 August with an opening event and will run until the end of September. The main week of events will be, as usual, from 16-21 September, in parallel with photokina.

What's it about?

With the overarching WallPaper theme, Photoszene would like to invite all participating exhibitors and artists to tackle the following issues concerning the (re)presentation of photography: What presentation forms are available for photography? Is the conventional exhibition format still contemporary? What importance has the photobook assumed for the artist, curator, collector or gallery owner? Which presentation medium succeeds in adequately formulating visual contents?

In addition to the photography specialists from Cologne's cultural scene, international photography experts will also be invited to Cologne. Curators, critics and artists are asked to visit the extensive programme of exhibitions and, through their vote, to offer the public a personal orientation through the programme (Professional Choice). The recommendations will be put across to visitors in the form of exhibition paths. This way, many an insider's tip could be uncovered and commended to a broad public.

When's it starting?

Relaunch of Photoszene on 19 August!

Photoszene will be delighted to present the new format of the Photoszene Magazine, the current website and a considerably expanded smartphone app on 19 August 2014, the 175th birthday of photography, at the grand opening of the PhotoBookMuseum on the grounds of the Carlswerk, a historical industrial site in Köln Mülheim.

A photo project is being planned as an opening event in partnership with the PhotoBookMuseum: in reference to Chargesheimer (Köln 5 Uhr 30), it will draw a photographic portrait of Cologne. All Cologne residents, along with renowned photographers, are called on to

photographically record their everyday reality on 19 August 2014 at 5:30 in the morning.

What's happening, where?

As the photo exhibitions in the urban area open one by one and are announced via the Photoszene Internet platform, the next photographic high point will draw near during the photokina fair week from 16 – 21 September: the main events week of the Photoszene Festival, with an attractive programme of events comprising a portfolio review, symposia, lectures, interviews and, of course, a participants' party.

There will be two festival centres during photokina, one to the left, one to the right of the Rhine: The PhotoBookMuseum on the Carlswerk site in Köln-Mülheim and the Museum of Applied Art, Cologne in the city centre.

Each of the partner establishments is going to be turned into the place to be, as it hosts one event during the festival week. The idea is to boost the co-operation partners' events, thus visitors will be offered a concerted programme at different exhibition sites. For example, a portfolio review is being planned in collaboration with the Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur.

Using the tried and tested Photographer's Night format, the series of events will be launched at the Museum of Applied Art, Cologne (MAKK). The Photographer's Night has been regarded for years as a particular festival highlight. Following the great successes in 2006/08/10 and 2012, this year the 5th Photographer's Night is promising to be even more dazzling to mark the 175th birthday of photography.

Further events are under preparation in partnership with Museum Ludwig, the Forum für Fotografie and the PhotoBookMuseum at the Carlswerk.

Photoszene Magazine

One important pillar of Photoszene's activities is a dedicated, bilingual and twice-annually published magazine. In its design it is vaguely reminiscent of a newspaper, but is produced to a considerably higher quality at the same time. It is light and modern and offers plenty of space for a textual confrontation with medium of photography in all its facets. The magazine reflects developments in museums and galleries just as much as in society, and it intends to shed light on these developments with scientific and academic essays by well-known authors and experts. Portfolios by young photographers are of course part of the package, along with discussions about exhibitions, and the debating and examination of phenomena and influences from popular culture. The guiding idea at the same time is that the magazine is not only a medium, but above all a lively component of the photography scene.

Photoszene Supporters Edition

Among other factors, realisation of the events is also contingent upon sales of the Edition. Works by the following 19 artists have been available for acquisition on the Internet site www.photoszene.de since December 2013. Prices range between €280 and €1140.

Peter Bialobrzeski, Boris Eldagsen, Albrecht Fuchs, Andreas Gefeller, Boris Becker, Oliver Sieber, Katja Stuke, Irina Ruppert, Michael Lange, Petra Wittmar, Tamara Lorenz, Chris Durham, Linn Schröder, Matthias Jung, Wolfgang Zurborn, Frank Breuer, Tobias Zielony, Pepa Hristova and Anna Vogel.

Photoszene Festival!

Planners of photo exhibitions to be put on show between 19 August and 30 September can register them from February onwards via festival@photoszene.de.