

Shifting Boundaries 3rd Edition of European Photo Exhibition Award has started

European
Photo
Exhibition
Award 03

Twelve European Photographers appointed to work on the topic «Shifting Boundaries»

Arianna Arcara (Italy), Pierfrancesco Celada (Italy), Marthe Aune Eriksen (Norway), Jakob Ganslmeier (Germany), Margarida Gouveia (Portugal), Marie Hald (Denmark), Dominic Hawgood (United Kingdom), Robin Hinsch (Germany), Ildikó Péter (Hungary), Eivind H. Natvig (Norway), Marie Sommer (France) and Christina Werner (Austria).

The European Photo Exhibition Award – epea for short – aims to create a free space where socially relevant topics concerning Europe are developed and discussed by talented photographers who live and work in Europe and who still are at an early stage of establishing themselves as professional photographers. The twelve appointed photographers will translate their observations, analyses and statements on a set and socially relevant subject into a photo essay. The results will be presented in a joint touring exhibition within Europe.

This initiative by the Körber-Stiftung (Germany), the Fondation Calouste Gulbenkian – Délégation en France (Portugal), Fondazione Banca del Monte di Lucca (Italy) and the Fritt Ord Foundation (Norway) aims to contribute to and to intensify dialogue within Europe. It also wants to support young European photographers at the beginning of their careers by providing international facilities.

Each foundation selects one curator – a specialist in photography – who is in charge of nominating three outstanding photographers and takes on the role of mentoring and curating the exhibitions. The curators are Ingo Taubhorn (curator at the Haus der Photographie der Deichtorhallen, Hamburg), Sérgio Mah (curator and sociologist, Lisbon), Enrico Stefanelli (founder and artistic director Photolux Festival, Lucca) and Rune Eraker (freelance photographer, Oslo).

In a period of six months, the twelve photographers will produce their works on the given subject «Shifting Boundaries». For this, the appointed photographers will receive a material and production grant and will participate in two accompanying workshops. These offer the opportunity to work together with the other awarded photographers and the four curators and intensify dialogue on working methods and the chosen subject. Finally, a touring exhibition will offer the artists to show their works in four distinguished European exhibition venues.

The European Photo Exhibition Award – epea03

Shifting Boundaries

One of the most revealing ways to perceive European history is by examining its persistent and complex changes and transfigurations as symptoms of a dynamic process of development which has a tendency to reshape not only reality, but also its ideas and images. It is not surprising, then, that recent analyses of the contemporary European situation have tended to focus on the effects of the major transformations that are taking place in society: the transition to a post-industrial economy, the steep rise in the flow and networks of communication and goods; the increase in the mobility of people, specifically the resurgence of immigration (and the resulting intensification of the debate on the conditions of integration, but also of control and legality); and the impacts of economic, technological and cultural globalisation. These are just some examples which reinforce the idea that we are facing significant (and in some cases radical) changes in living conditions and social and cultural structures in Europe. A perception that has recently been accentuated by the grave economic and political crisis which has had devastating consequences for society, instigating new fronts of fragmentation in the European space and the emergence of new types of phenomena and of conflict.

The intention is to encourage consideration and analysis of the signs (themes, situations, behaviour, phenomena) which indicate processes of reflection, readjustment and alteration of the concepts and categories, and the images and the representations, which we habitually associate with Europe's many different realities. At the same time it is important to recognize that this endeavour also implies ascertaining the circumstances of the gaze and the corresponding interpretations which make it possible to develop and articulate with respect to these same signs.

For more information on the photographers, curators and venues, see : www.epeaphoto.org

Exhibition dates

May 20th - August 28th 2016 : Paris, Fondation Calouste Gulbenkian - Délégation en France

October 15th - December 11th 2016 : Lucca, Palazzo delle Esposizioni (Exhibition Center), Fondazione Banca del Monte di Lucca

March 3rd - May 1st 2017 : Hamburg, Haus der Photographie der Deichtorhallen

September 21st - October 29th 2017 : Oslo, Nobel Peace Center

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