

# FOTOFOCUS

## FotoFocus Announces Over 100 Projects Debuting at 2022 FotoFocus Biennial: *World Record*

America's Largest Photography Biennial Returns in October With 90 Participating Venues, Over 600 Artists, Curators, and Partners, and Wide Array of Exhibitions, Art Installations, Performances, and Screenings That Explore Photography's Extensive Record of Life on Earth



Mohau Modisakeng, *Passage*, 2017. Inkjet print on Epson hot press natural, 58 x 78 inches. Part of the 21c collection

(Cincinnati, OH — June 7, 2022) — **FotoFocus** is pleased to announce its list of participating venues and projects for the **2022 FotoFocus Biennial**, the sixth edition of the largest photography and lens-based art biennial in America. A record number of 90 venues across Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, Dayton, and Columbus will take part in the month-long celebration of photography this October, with each project centered around the theme of ***World Record***. The biennial will feature more than 600 artists, curators, and participants, and open with an expanded week of programming from **September 29–October 8, 2022**.

Over 100 photography and lens-based art projects will be presented at museums, galleries, schools, theaters, nonprofit cultural centers, parks, hotels, and libraries, among other venues, including major new artist commissions and site-specific installations, solo exhibitions, group exhibitions, public art projects,

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performances, and film screenings. FotoFocus is partnering with 33 new participating venues, including the **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra**, **Wexner Center for the Arts**, and **The Summit Hotel**.

All programming for the 2022 FotoFocus Biennial is developed with and overseen by the FotoFocus curatorial team, comprising: **Kevin Moore**, **Artistic Director and Curator**; **Carissa Barnard**, **Director of Curatorial Strategy**; and **Katherine Ryckman Siegwarth**, **Biennial Director**.

Each project centers around the biennial theme of *World Record*, which considers photography's extensive record of life on earth, humankind's impact on the natural world, and the choices we now face as a global community. The contemporary and historic projects illuminate a broad range of topics, including nature, science, and exploration; outer space and space travel; climate change and its impact; human social lives within various environments, cultural and natural; forms of energy, past and present; the cultivation of natural resources; and utopian and dystopian visions of man in nature.

"This marks a monumental return to a month of dynamic programming in celebration of photography, with a record number of diverse venues participating to host exhibitions and programs," said **FotoFocus Executive Director Mary Ellen Goeke**. "We are elated by the commitment of all our participating venues throughout the region and delighted that this expanded reach will bring the Biennial to new audiences."

Ambitious group exhibitions curated by FotoFocus and FotoFocus guest curators include *On the Line: Documents of Risk and Faith* at the **Contemporary Arts Center**, which explores the complex and contested relationship humans have with the environment, wilderness, nature, and place and includes work by **Dawoud Bey**, **Mohamed Bourouissa**, **Mary Mattingly**, **Wendy Red Star**, and more. In *Images on which to build, 1970–1990s*, also at the CAC, independent curator **Ariel Goldberg** presents work by artists and archivist collectives whose various documentations of the late 20th century reveal how influential LGBTQ+ image cultures ignited processes of learning. The **National Underground Railroad Freedom Center** presents *'Free as they want to be': Artists Committed to Memory*, which considers the role of historic and contemporary visual arts in remembering the legacies of slavery and efforts to explore the possibilities of freedom, while the **Cincinnati Art Museum** presents *Natural World* that centers on a new collaboration between visual artists **David Hartt** and **John Edmonds**, and poet **Jason Allen-Paisant**. The **Carnegie** presents *These Things Are Connected*, a group show that brings together five curators working within and outside the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky region to select and develop projects with artists from different geographies.

Solo exhibitions and site-specific installations curated by FotoFocus and FotoFocus guest curators include multimedia artist **Baseera Khan**'s new and recent collages, sculpture, and video at the **Contemporary Arts Center**; a new commission of photographer **Ian Strange**'s site-specific, light-based architectural interventions on view at the **Art Academy of Cincinnati**; an exhibition at **Michael Lowe Gallery** featuring archival works on the theme of water from the personal collection of **Tony Oursler**, plus original installation works; a site-specific installation by **Liz Roberts** at **CampSITE Sculpture Park** that brings together new iterations of two works involving automobiles and projections; and an exhibition at the **Taft Museum of Art** of photographs by **Nancy Ford Cones** whose imaginative and exquisitely crafted works created on a small riverside farm in Loveland, OH were largely forgotten after her death.

For the first time, FotoFocus is collaborating with the **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra** to present a special, live program of newly commissioned work by composers **Arooj Aftab**, **Daniel Wohl**, **Rafiq**

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**Bhatia**, and **Dev Hynes**, filmmakers **Josephine Decker** and **Apichatpong Weerasethakul**, and co-directors **Mati Diop** and **Manon Lutanie**. *Sun Dogs* is a multisensory attempt to understand the natural world that can't be touched or measured.



**L:** Leonard Suryajaya, *Two Bodies*, 2017. Archival inkjet print, 40 x 50 inches. Courtesy of the artist. Part of Wave Pool's exhibition *Photography and Tenderness*; **C:** Eric Hatch, *Remains of Angel Glacier, Mt. Edith Cavell, Alberta*, 2016. Digital print, 48 x 48 inches. Courtesy of the artist. Part of The Mohawk Gallery at Robin Imaging's exhibition *Glacial Melt before Our Very Eyes*; **R:** Xavier Simmons, *Sundown (Number Twelve)*, 2018. Chromogenic color print, 60 x 45 inches (152.4 x 114.3 cm). © Xavier Simmons. Courtesy of the artist and David Castillo. Part of the Contemporary Arts Center exhibition *On the Line: Documents of Risk and Faith*

Other projects at participating venues, which will be highlighted in the **Biennial Program Week** (September 29–October 8, 2022), include **Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library's** installation of sound and photographs from their collection that document natural disasters; the **Cincinnati Zoo** and **i.imagine Center of Photography's** presentation of images of endangered species currently living at the Cincinnati Zoo taken by teen photographers to raise awareness around the effects of climate change on animal species; **The Garfield Theater's** film series exploring hurricanes both scientifically and through sensory representations that evoke them experientially; and **Kennedy Heights Arts Center's** examination of the effects of consumption, collection, and what is discarded in a juried group show that reflects on the record humans are leaving for future generations.

Projects that focus on the built environment include **The Annex Gallery's** presentation of photographs by Cincinnati artist **William Howes** and Lebanese artist **Gregory Buchackjian** documenting the destructive effacement of the architectural heritage of their respective cities; **DAAP Galleries:: Meyers Gallery's** exhibition of early 20th century works by photojournalist **Paul Briol** documenting the built and natural environment that continues to inform Cincinnati's sense of place, identity, and community; and **Clifton Cultural Arts Center's** look at the impact of pandemic lockdowns on New York City in photographs by internationally-exhibited artist **Logan Hicks**.

Participating venues highlighting socially-oriented projects include **Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery's** presentation of new and ongoing lens-based projects by **Michael Coppage** that explore the negative archetypes and stark racial disparities still operating in the language and psychology of contemporary American culture; **Antioch College: Herndon Gallery's** collection of work depicting a more complete image of the Black experience outside of the tragedies romanticized across the media;



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**Cameron Granger's** installation in the **Contemporary Art Center Kaplan Lobby** that explores Columbus, Ohio's history of Black migration and urban development; **Miami University Art Museum: McKie Gallery's** presentation of 1964 photographs by **Steve Schapiro** of the historic Freedom Summer Project in Oxford, OH and in Mississippi; **PAR-Projects: The Gallery at Studeo PAR's** exhibition of artist **Billy Colbert's** never-before-published moving portraits of Black Americans, which he weaves together to create compelling narratives; and art center **Wave Pool's** investigation of tenderness as a radical tool to confront the racist and colonial gaze of photography.



Steve Schapiro, *We Shall Overcome*, 1964. Gelatin silver print. Courtesy of the artist. Part of Miami University Art Museum: McKie Gallery's exhibition *Lens for Freedom: Civil Rights Photography by Steve Schapiro*

The environment is recorded in projects at **Lloyd Library** through nature photography spanning more than a century; **Manifest Creative Research Gallery's** exploration of the concept of forests, woodlands, and wood; **The Mohawk Gallery at Robin Imaging's** curation of dramatic photographs of glaciers; and arts organization **Visionaries and Voices** expansive exhibition of diverse artists considering historic, present, and future possibilities of our impact on the world, specifically through the lens of the Mill Creek Basin.

Projects that center on family include **University of Dayton: Radial Gallery's** presentation of photographs by artist **Beth Chucker** who questions and celebrates motherhood, childhood, and states in between; and **Haehnle Gallery at St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church's** curation of local photographers documenting children battling cancer and related illnesses.

Survey-style projects include **Miami University Art Museum: Farmer Gallery's** invitational of Ohio photographers; **Northern Kentucky University School of the Arts Galleries** exploration of the

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Commonwealth of Kentucky from various perspectives, time-periods, and voices; and **The Contemporary Dayton's** display of hundreds of images photographer **Amy Powell** gathered from Instagram, all mapped within the Dayton, Ohio area.

To view the complete list of 2022 FotoFocus Biennial projects and participating venues, visit [the FotoFocus website](#).

## 2022 FOTOFOCUS BIENNIAL PARTICIPATING VENUES

- 21c Museum Hotel Cincinnati
- 3CDC
- Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery
- The Annex Gallery
- Antioch College: Herndon Gallery
- Archive of Creative Culture
- Art Academy of Cincinnati
- Art Academy of Cincinnati: Annex
- Art Academy of Cincinnati: McClure Gallery
- Art Academy of Cincinnati Pearlman Gallery
- Art Academy of Cincinnati: SITE 1212
- Art Beyond Boundaries
- ArtWorks
- ArtWorks V<sup>2</sup> Gallery
- Baker Hunt Art and Cultural Center
- BasketShop
- Behringer-Crawford Museum
- CampSITE Sculpture Park
- The Carnegie
- Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library
- Cincinnati Art Museum
- Cincinnati Museum Center: Newsreel Theater
- Cincinnati Nature Center
- Cincinnati Skirball Museum
- Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- Clay Street Press Gallery
- Clifton Cultural Arts Center
- Columbus College of Art & Design: Beeler Gallery
- Columbus Museum of Art at the Pizzuti Collection
- Contemporary Arts Center
- Contemporary Arts Center: Kaplan Lobby
- The Contemporary Dayton
- DAAP Galleries:: Meyers Gallery
- DAAP Galleries:: Reed Gallery
- Dayton Art Institute
- The Dayton Society of Artists
- Eisele Gallery
- Evendale Cultural Arts Center

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- Fitton Center for Creative Arts
- Fitton Center for Creative Arts: Community Gallery
- FLAG Studio
- The Garfield Theatre
- Haehnle Gallery at St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church
- Hoffner Lodge Gallery
- Hughes STEM High School
- i.imagine Center of Photography and the Cincinnati Zoo
- Iris BookCafé and Gallery
- Kennedy Heights Arts Center
- Lloyd Library & Museum
- Main Street Shop & Studio
- Manifest Creative Research Gallery
- Manifest Drawing Center
- Memorial Hall
- The Mercantile Library
- Miami University Art Museum: Farmer Gallery
- Miami University Art Museum: McKie Gallery
- Michael Lowe Gallery
- Miller Gallery
- The Mohawk Gallery at Robin Imaging
- Mount St. Joseph University: Studio San Giuseppe Art Gallery
- National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
- Northern Kentucky University School of the Arts Galleries
- Off Ludlow Gallery
- PAR-Projects: The Gallery at Studeo PAR-
- PAR-Projects: The Nook
- Pones at The Carnegie
- Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park and Museum
- Rainbow
- Rosewood Arts Center Gallery
- Ruth's Parkside Cafe
- The Shot Tower Gallery
- Society for Photographic Education at 400 W Rich
- Somerset
- Stair House
- Stivers School for the Arts: Fifth Street Gallery
- Studio Kroner
- The Summit Hotel
- Taft Museum of Art
- Thomas More University: The Eva G. Farris Gallery
- University of Cincinnati Clermont College Art Gallery
- University of Dayton: Index Gallery
- University of Dayton: Radial Gallery
- Visionaries and Voices
- Wash Park Art: Main Gallery

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- Wash Park Art: Next Level Studio
- Wave Pool
- Wexner Center for the Arts
- Wright State University: The Robert and Elaine Stein Galleries
- Xavier University Art Gallery at The A.B. Cohen Center
- Xavier University Art Gallery in the Gallagher Student Center

## ABOUT FOTOFOCUS

FotoFocus is a Cincinnati-based nonprofit arts organization that champions photography and lens-based art through exhibitions and public programming. Since 2010, the organization has engaged art and educational institutions throughout the region to support and expand the cultural dialogue around the medium that has come to define our time. With an emphasis on intellectually and academically rigorous programs, the organization provides uniquely enriching access to lens-based art, film, and practices inspired by photography. FotoFocus has collaborated with organizations, curators, academics, and more than 1600 artists and participants, to present over 750 exhibitions and programs.

FotoFocus has awarded close to 600 grants to support partners presenting projects and educational programs that are accessible and engaging to the public. In April 2020, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, FotoFocus pledged part of its 2020 Biennial budget to financially support more than 100 Participating Venues and Partners in the region's art community through FotoFocus Emergency Art Grants.

Signature FotoFocus programming includes the **FotoFocus Biennial**, **FotoFocus Symposium**, **FotoFocus Talks Series**, and **Film and Video** programming. Past Biennial editions have presented work across the Cincinnati region by historic and contemporary artists including Berenice Abbott, Eugène Atget, Roe Ethridge, Zanele Muholi, Karl Blossfeldt, Francis Bruguière, Thomas Ruff, and Akram Zaatari. Other landmark events include the **Symposium**, which has contributed significant dialogue and insight to culturally relevant topics including the controversial Mapplethorpe exhibition, and the **Talks Series**, which has brought globally renowned artists like Zoe Leonard and William Wegman to Cincinnati.

## CONNECT

WEBSITE: [www.fotofocus.org](http://www.fotofocus.org)

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