

# PHOTO LONDON

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## PHOTO LONDON REVEALS FURTHER DETAILS OF DEBUT EDITION AT OLYMPIA



- Photo London begins new chapter at Olympia in the heart of Kensington
- Master of Photography returns with eminent American fashion photographer Steven Meisel while Autograph exhibits 17 women and non-binary artists from their collection
- New Source section dedicated to solo presentations by significant artists
- New Film Screening room dedicated to artists films and their role within photography including Sarah Moon's film *There is something about Lillian*
- Expanded Discovery for emerging galleries featuring strong South Asian representation
- Second edition of Positions featuring unrepresented photographers championed by collectors and patrons
- Major expansion of the Publishers section
- Talks Programme curated by Thames & Hudson returns alongside awards including Photo London x Nikon Emerging Photographer of the Year and Photo London Student Award

Photo London's eleventh edition marks an exciting new chapter as the UK's leading photography fair launches in its new home at Olympia in Kensington. The historic venue, currently undergoing a £1.3 billion redevelopment led by Heatherwick Studio provides a fitting setting for the Fair to bring leading galleries and artists together to present outstanding photography and explore the medium's future. The Fair's relocation provides a unique opportunity to expand and reimagine its offerings for a new decade.

**Photo London Founders Michael Benson and Fariba Farshad, said:** “We are incredibly proud of the team who have brought together an impressive group of galleries for the launch of this new era at Olympia, including newcomers from as far afield as India and Africa proving London is still a great draw for international galleries. We continue to innovate with new curated sections for solo and regional presentations; a significantly extended publishing section and a special artists’ screening room. Add to all this an enhanced edition of Positions (our section for unrepresented artists), our traditionally strong public programme where the legendary Steven Meisel takes centre stage, and the dramatic increase in visiting museum groups, and it is clear that Photo London’s second decade has begun in formidable style.”

## EXHIBITORS

Photo London 2026 features a strong international list of participants including several galleries returning for Photo London’s debut at Olympia after a number of years away from the Fair. These galleries include **HackelBury Fine Art, London**, showing **Alys Tomlinson**’s acclaimed project *Gli Isolani* which explores the traditions, rituals and identities of island communities in modern-day Italy; **Akio Nagasawa, Tokyo**, presenting black-and-white street photography of post-war Japan by Daidō Moriyama, and male nudes by Sakiko Nomura whose work subverts traditional Japanese photography practices; **FishEye, Paris**, showing work celebrating the history of the Agence France-Presse; and **Curatorial, London**, whose booth puts overlooked historical materials into conversation with contemporary practitioners. Other notable galleries include **The Photographers Gallery, London**, who return with Sayuri Ichida, whose practice focuses on themes of self-identity, memory and life experience; **England&Co, London** presenting British and UK-based artist-photographers who use photography as a way of making their conceptual ideas or performance practices material: including works by the renowned performance artist Anne Bean and Elaine Duigenan; and **Photo Ink, Delhi** who participate for the first time with a selection of work celebrating their 25th anniversary, including the work of Ahmed Ali.

A focused selection of Central and Eastern European and Latin American galleries will be presented between the main gallery area and the Discovery Section, providing affordable access to the Fair for important global voices that are no longer considered emerging. These include **PHOTON GALLERY, Ljubljana**, showcasing work by five Central and Eastern European artists; **Galeria Monopol** and **Raster Gallery**, both **Warsaw**, presenting work by Zofia Rydet and Zygmunt Rytka, two different but interconnected responses to lived experience, memory, and the social role of the photographic image in late Soviet-era Poland; **Ungallery, Buenos Aires** showing **Belén Romero Gunset**’s series exploring stereotypes of the lesbian image; and **Carlos Caamaño Espacio Fotográfico, Lima** displaying work by Peruvian photographers including **David Díaz Gonzales**, an indigenous artist from the Shipibo-Konibo ethnic group who documents the migration of the Shipibo-Konibo people from the banks of the Ucayali River to the region’s cities.

Photo London will introduce an **art film screening room** for the first time, made possible by the Fair’s expanded footprint at Olympia. Exhibiting galleries will show collectible film work by both emerging and established artists in a wide ranging programme over the duration of the Fair. Highlights include film work by **Wu Chia-Yun**; *Nature Prints*, an ongoing artistic research

project by **Carolina Baldomá** that explores the relationship between human beings and nature through the ideas of synchronicity and coexistence, a new documentary by **Krissy Shook** about the life of her mother, Melissa Shook, *Mother Vera* by **Alys Tomlinson** and **Sarah Moon**'s film *There is something about Lillian* on Lillian Bassman.

**Photo London Director Sophie Parker, said:** "The move to Olympia creates a unified experience that has sparked incredible enthusiasm from new and returning galleries alike. Each has put an incredible amount of thought and work into creating booths that are truly remarkable. The move has given us the space and freedom to increase much-loved areas of the Fair, with Discovery, Positions and Publishing bigger than ever. With new initiatives, such as Tristan Lund returning to curate Source, and our dedicated screening room showcasing artist films, we are deepening our commitment to the many forms of photography we have always championed and are celebrating the joy of varied collecting."

## SOURCE

**Source** is a new section for Photo London at Olympia, dedicated to solo presentations by artists who have significant cultural value. Curated by photography specialist Tristan Lund, Source places a particular focus on under-represented and marginalised artists whose work has not received the institutional recognition of their contemporaries, as well as mixed-media galleries whose risk-taking approach resonates with the ethos of the Fair. Configured as a trail through the main section of the Fair, highlights include **Galerie Peter Sillem, Frankfurt** showcasing collaborative work by married German photographers **Ute and Werner Mahler**; **UP Gallery, Taipei**, exhibiting work exploring Taiwanese identity by **Wu Chia-Yun**; **Galerie Julian Sander, Cologne**, presenting the late American photographer **Rosalind Fox Solomon**'s project *Portraits in the Time of AIDS*, first shown in New York in 1988; **ROLF Art, Buenos Aires**, bringing **Santiago Porter**'s deeply personal *Piezas* series; and a collaboration between **Prix Pictet** and **Goodman Gallery, London** presenting the current Prix Pictet Laureate **Alfredo Jaar**'s work *Searching for Africa in Life, 1966/2022*. **Thomas Zander, Berlin, Paris** returns with a presentation of previously unseen work by **Tom Wood**, made in the summer of 1975, having just finished studying Fine Art Painting at Leicester Polytechnic, these images all originate from the first rolls of film he ever exposed; and **Christophe Guye, Zurich** brings **Stéphane Couturier** including work produced at Eileen Gray's Villa.

Two of the four artists nominated for the **Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize** will also feature in Source: Weronika Gęsicka platformed by **JEDNOSTKA Gallery, Warsaw**, and **Jane Evelyn Atwood** brought by **In Camera, Paris** and **L. Parker Stephenson, New York**.

## DISCOVERY

Photo London's **Discovery** section returns with an expanded offering curated by the critic and author Charlotte Jansen. A leading platform for emerging photographers and galleries, Discovery once again promises to be a highlight of the Fair. Exhibitors making their Photo London debut include bold international galleries such as **Agony and Ecstasy Gallery, Ibiza**, showing the archives of **Walter Rudolph** and **Oriol Maspons**, two midcentury photographers who captured the delights and surprises of the island; and local galleries such as

Hackney-based **Guest Editions**, exploring home and belonging through the works of **Laura McCluskey** and **Thomas Duffield**. Discovery features strong representation from South Asia this year with first time exhibitors **Fulcrum, Mumbai**, presenting a duo booth of two emerging Indian artists, **Ranjit Kandalgaonkar**, and **Vasudhaa Narayanan**; **The Art Family**, a non profit initiative based in London, supporting South Asian artists; **Gallery Art & Soul, Mumbai**; **Strangers House, Mumbai**; and **starch**, an experimental artist-run space in **Singapore** known for its daring installations. Several leading young galleries also return to Discovery for the Fair's first edition at Olympia, including **Bright Gallery, London**, with a special presentation of boundary-pushing fashion photography; **Victoria Law Projects, London**, with a theatrical duo presentation by **Edward Rollitt** and **Carolina Baldomá** set to be activated by installation, performance and sound; **Palm Studios, London**, partnering with **1014 Gallery, London**, to show emerging talent; and **Form Gallery, Dinard**, presenting a group show of young artists from Kyiv.

**Photo London Discovery section Curator Charlotte Jansen, said:** "Discovery is a testing ground within the fair. Whereas elsewhere you'll see work validated by the institution, the art market and by history, Discovery offers an exploratory encounter that encourages visitors to slow down. I've been keen to select galleries who are genuinely interested in shifting the conversation rather than following trends, with generative, risk-taking work that might resist easy placement and challenge its own audience."

## POSITIONS

Supported by Julius Baer, Photo London's **Positions** section returns for 2026 consolidating the Fair's role as a champion of unrepresented talent. Maria Sukkar, arts patron and founder of the ISelf Collection, will curate Positions for a second edition, platforming photographic artists without gallery representation and offering a unique opportunity for collectors to access and support artists often excluded from the traditional art fair format. Positions features an exciting group of artists including **Leslie Hakim-Dowek** (born in Beirut, Lebanon, based in London, UK), **Nadim Asfar** (lives and works between Paris, France and Beirut), **Wara Vargas Lara** (based in La Paz, Bolivia), **Fyodor Pavlov-Andreevich** (lives and works between Moscow, Russia, London and São Paulo, Brazil), **Luis Casadevall** (based in Barcelona, Spain), **Hicham Gardaf** (born in Tangier, Morocco, based in London), **Shayan Sajadian** (lives and works in Shiraz, Iran), **Maurizio Anzeri** (born in Loano, Italy, based in London), **Barbara Ayozie Fu Safira** (born in Italy, based in London) and **Tahmineh Monzavi** (lives and works in Tehran, Iran).

## EXHIBITIONS

The legendary fashion photographer **Steven Meisel** is this year's **Photo London Master of Photography**. Despite his phenomenal work rate (which in one year saw him produce 28 Vogue covers) Meisel, who rarely speaks in the press and never on social media, has published very little and has had just a handful of public exhibitions. "Steven's agreement to present a group of London portraits is a rare and special thing for the Fair," says co-founder Michael Benson who has worked with Meisel before. Steven Meisel's first professional assignment in London came on the back of his collaboration with Madonna whose iconic book *Sex* had, for

the first time, given him the freedom to work on a huge project sprawling across several weeks as opposed to the two-or-three day shoots that were the norm.

Meisel's understanding of all aspects of fashion is unparalleled and his influence has nurtured the careers of numerous models. His London portraits are a spectacular testament to his ability to see what other people miss: "I think I'm good with discovering people, whether or not they are a model. I see things in them that they might not see." Meisel came to London to work with Isabella Blow on *Anglo Saxon Attitude* for British Vogue. "Issie just gave me all these different pictures of society girls she knew." One of them was Stella Tennant – Steven was enchanted: "I fell in love with Stella, with everything about Stella. What an incredible model. She would sit there reading books in Chinese... even when we took her to Paris to work with Linda she was like "what the hell am I doing". She was just great."

Stella Tennant wasn't his only pick from Blow's list. In a crowded London pub Meisel had Vogue fashion assistant Plum Sykes pose on a table in a silver bikini while jaded punters watched the football. Sykes who went on to work with Alexander McQueen described Meisel as "mesmeric" – a word frequently echoed by the models he worked with on this first London shoot – including Honor Fraser, Lady Louise Campbell and Bella Freud who summed the punk spirit of the time: "you had to deconstruct your manners and be as rude as possible". Meisel coached each of the models he worked with to achieve exactly the pose and attitude he had in mind. Working in a series of locations ranging from alleyways in Spitalfields, the docklands to canal locks and towpaths to the streets of Notting Hill and Portobello Road, Meisel's brilliant graphically assured portraits captured London's anarchic sense of fashion.

**Autograph** presents *We Are The Ones We Have Been Waiting For*, a compelling exhibition of women and non-binary artists from Autograph's collection, tracing a lineage of image-makers who have reshaped the visual language of photography over the past four decades. From the incisive self-portraiture of Zanele Muholi to the pioneering conceptual practice of Carrie Mae Weems. The exhibition, curated by Bindi Vora, foregrounds artists who have used the photographic image to question who is seen, remembered and represented within the photographic archive, creating a cross-generational conversation around identity, beauty, belonging and power. Artists include Hélène Amouzou, Poulomi Basu, Joy Gregory, Mónica de Miranda, Zanele Muholi, Eileen Perrier, Ingrid Pollard, Silvia Rosi, and Carrie Mae Weems.

## **PUBLISHERS**

For this edition, Photo London combines both the Publishers section and Book Market for independent publishers curated by Ben Goulder. Publishers will sit alongside leading photography galleries, championing a vibrant and diverse community of independent publishers and celebrating the photo book as a central part of the photography ecosystem.

Highlights include **Kehrer Verlag** (Heidelberg) presenting new publications including Frank Horvat's *The Birth of A Photographer* documenting his journeys through India and Pakistan and *Berlin Night After Glow* by Chris Noltekuhlmann which offers intimate portraits of the capital's legendary club culture; **Atelier EXB** (Paris) presenting Sophie Calle's latest book in her series *On the Hunt*, as well as *Onkadori*, Hiroshi Sugimoto's latest monograph to be launched in May;

and **Dewi Lewis Publishing** (Stockport) bringing showcase titles published in the last 12 months as well as a range of collector's editions and rare books including work by Tom Wood, Simon Norfolk, Brian Griffin, and Fay Godwin amongst others.

Other highlights include **Radius** (Santa Fe) bringing the newly published *Love Pictures* by Jess T Dugan and Charlotte Cotton; **Bona Varda, London**, who support emerging LGBTQIA+ artists and will present new projects with **Wet Mess, Billy Allen** and **Oli Raptor**; **Cé Éditions, Marseille**, presenting a selection of recent titles including *American Album* by **Eloïse Labarbe-Lafon**, a road-trip photobook tracing a love story across the United States at a moment when the mythology of the American dream appears to be faltering; **Replika Publishing, Berlin**, whose presentation includes **Kate Schultze's** *Mind the Gap, Luv*, a photographic project examining the cultural atmosphere of post-referendum Britain; **Eros Publications, Barcelona**, presenting *FERVOR* by **Juan Brenner**, a photographic essay set in Guatemala's Western Highlands that examines how desire, faith and cultural identity intersect in a region marked by historical violence; and **Foto Libros**, a new collective of 30 publishers based in Latin America, formed specifically to exhibit at the Fair.

## PHOTO LONDON AWARDS AND TALKS PROGRAMME

For 2026 the **Photo London x Nikon Emerging Photographer of the Year Award** again highlights outstanding emerging photographers with shortlisted work presented in a special display at the Nikon Gallery at the Fair. Now in its eleventh year, and sixth in partnership with Nikon, many previous winners of the award have gone on to achieve significant international recognition such as the 2021 winner Heather Agyepong.

The **Photo London Student Award** also returns to the Fair in 2026. Working with UK universities offering photography degrees, the award highlights the most exciting early-career talent within the industry, bringing their portfolios to international attention.

During the Fair Photo London will launch an annual first book award to celebrate the remarkable career of the late Martin Parr, a champion of the photo book and documentary photography

The 2026 **Photo London Talks Programme** returns with a curated series by Thames & Hudson including an in-conversation between **Jill Furmonovsky** and **Nigel Atherton** surveying Furmanovsky's 50 year career and her work with Oasis and Pink Floyd; **Fiona Rogers** and **Justine Kirland** in conversation on the relationship between photography, feminist art and collage; a talk by the current Prix Pictet Laureate **Alfredo Jaar**; and a discussion between **Charlotte Cotton** and **Jess T Dugan** about their book *Love Pictures*, the first survey of Dugan's work. Photo London will also present several talks on the art of collecting featuring, amongst others, **Ettore Molinaro** and **Lady Ina Sarikhani Weston**.

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## **Image credits (L-R)**

Steven Meisel, *Bella Freud*, 1993. © Steven Meisel

Jane Evelyn Atwood, *Auto-Portrait (Serpent)*, 1978. © In Camera, Paris / L Parker Stephenson, New York

Zygmunt Rytka, *Coming Soon*, 1985. © Galeria Monopol

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **ABOUT PHOTO LONDON**

Photo London brings the finest international photography to the British capital every year. The Fair presents the best historic and vintage works while also spotlighting fresh perspectives in photography.

Photo London was founded in 2015 by **Candlestar**, an internationally renowned cultural consultancy that specialises in the development of innovative projects in art and education. Candlestar runs a range of major photographic projects including producing Prix Pictet on behalf of the Pictet Group, the prestigious award for photography and sustainability.

### **ABOUT OLYMPIA**

Olympia is one of London's most ambitious regeneration projects. With its unveiling starting in the second half of 2025, the £1.3 billion transformation will turn Olympia into a showcase for the remarkable and the extraordinary. The transformed destination will include a new 4,000-capacity live music hall managed by AEG Presents; London's largest purpose-built theatre in almost 50 years with 1,575 seats, managed by Trafalgar Entertainment; two hotels operated by citizenM and Hyatt Regency; 30+ restaurants, bars and eateries; Wetherby Pembroke, a new co-educational senior school; a boutique gym, 550,000 sq ft of offices boasting some of the largest terraces in London, a new International Convention Centre and members house, managed by Olympia Events, as well as new public spaces for visitors to enjoy. Olympia is being developed by Yoo Capital and Deutsche Finance International, and co-designed by Heatherwick Studio and SPPARC.

### **GALLERIES**

1014 Gallery (London), 3 C Gallery (Los Angeles), AC Contemporary (Buenos Aires), Agony + Ecstasy Gallery (Ibiza), Akio Nagasawa Gallery (Tokyo), Albumen Gallery (London), Alta Vista Gallery (Los Angeles), Ambidexter Gallery (Istanbul), ANTIDOTE Gallery (London), Art on Istanbul (Istanbul), Autofoto (London), Bacqueville (Lille), Bendana Pinel Art Contemporain (Paris), Beta Contemporary (Barcelona), Bildhalle (Zurich), Bright Gallery (Tel Aviv), Camera Eye Gallery (London), Camera Work (Berlin), Canopy Collections (London), Carlos Caamaño Espacio Fotográfico (Lima), Childs Gallery (Boston), Chini Gallery (Taipei), Christophe Guye Galerie (Zurich), Contour Gallery (Rotterdam), Curatorial Gallery (London), Echo Fine Art (Cannes), England & Co (London), Esther Woerdehoff Gallery (Paris/Geneva), Evin Art (Istanbul), Fabrik Projects (Los Angeles), Fish Eye Gallery (Paris), Flowers Gallery (London), Form Gallery

(Paris), Frenchman Gallery (Amsterdam), Fulcrum Gallery (Mumbai), Galerie Baudelaire (Antwerp), Galerie Bene Taschen (Cologne), Galerie Clémentine de la Féronnière (Paris), Galerie STP (Greifswald), Galerie Thomas Zander (Cologne, Paris) Gallery Art & Soul + Strangers House (Mumbai), Gallery Bosfo (Istanbul), Gallery F64 (Podgorica), GBS Fine Art (Wells), Gitterman (New York), Goodman Gallery (London / Johannesburg / Cape Town / New York), Guest Editions (London), HackelBury Fine Art (London), In Camera Gallery (New York), In Camera Gallery (New York), Ira Stehmann Fine Art (Berlin), Jednostka Gallery (Warsaw), Julian Sander Gallery (Cologne), L. Parker Stephenson (New York) Large Glass (London), Lee Miller Archives (Lewes), Leica Gallery London (London), Miyako Yoshinaga (New York), Monopol Gallery (Warsaw), Palm Studios (London), Paris-B (Paris), Persons Projects (Berlin), Peter Sillem Gallery (Frankfurt), PhotoInk (New Delhi), Photon Gallery (Ljubljana), Podbielski Contemporary (Milan), Polka Galerie (Paris), Purdy Hicks Gallery (London), Qerndu Gallery (Reykjavik), Raster Gallery (Warsaw), Rethinking Eastern Europe (London), Robert Hershkowitz Ltd (Lindfield), ROLF Art (Buenos Aires), Roya Khadjavi Projects (New York), Saltzman-Leibovitz Photography Prize (New York), Sorondo (Barcelona), Shtager Gallery (London), Starch (Singapore), Stewart & Skeels (London), Studies in Photography (Edinburgh), The Arts Family (London), The Light Gallery (Medellin), The Photographers' Gallery (London), THK Gallery (Cape Town), TOBE Gallery (Budapest), Ungallery (Buenos Aires), Up Gallery (Hsinchu City, Taiwan), Victoria Law Projects (London), Vision Art Platform (Istanbul).

## **PUBLISHERS**

Akio Nagasawa Publishing (Tokyo), Analog Typologies (Ciudad de México), Atelier EXB (Paris), Bonavarda (London), Book and Sons (Tokyo), Borough inc (Barnsley), Case Publishing / shashasha (Tokyo), Ce Editions (Marseille), Dewi Lewis Publishing (Stockport), Disko bay (Copenhagen), Dune (Paris), Dust Collective (Massachusetts), Éditions Révolues (Lyon), Eros Publications (Barcelona), Four Eyes Editions (Paris), GOST (London), HotShoe Magazine (London), Hydra + Fotolibro (Ciudad De México), Imageless (Shanghai), InOtherWords (London), Jane & Jeremy (Brighton), Kaph (Beirut), Kehrer Verlag (Heidelberg), L'Artiere (Bologna), LNour (New York), Makan Press (Brooklyn, NYC), New Dimension (London), Overlapse (London), Radius (Santa Fe), Reflektor, Replika Publishing (Berlin/Valencia), Schilt Publishing & Gallery (Amsterdam), Setanta Books (Richmond), Shift Books (Berlin), Simple Editions (Paris), Sun Archives (Wrocław), Tamaka Publishing (Berlin), Thames & Hudson (London), The Angry Bat (Maribor), The Malta Artpaper (Valletta), The PhotoBook Collective (London), Village Books (Leeds), Yogurt Magazine (Roma).