

Brighton Photo Biennial 2016

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

Information and Ideas devised for Art & Design Key Stage 3 Upwards

1 - 30 October

BRIGHTON PHOTO BIENNIAL 2016

BEYOND THE BIAS - RESHAPING IMAGE

The seventh edition of Brighton Photo Biennial once again brings international and UK-based photographers to the city, creating a month of free exhibitions and thought-provoking events for all.

Each Biennial edition is based on a theme, and this year's focuses on identity and concepts of our personal and projected image as influenced by the pervasive genre of fashion and style photography. BPB16 unpicks our understanding of image and self-image and photography's role in that.

Visit our website, or pick up a programme and events guide from Jubilee Library and other points around the city to find out more about the many events and free exhibitions that make up BPB16. We've plenty to offer artists and photographers, specialists and enthusiasts, families, young people and those who just want to find something new.

WHAT'S ON OFFER FOR SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

This edition of the Biennial is particularly appropriate for students. Identity and representation are subjects explored across numerous curriculum areas. Many of the exhibitions explore these themes through youth culture and style, making a festival that's engaging and accessible for students.

There are two exhibitions showcasing work by young people from Brighton & Hove, and in Jubilee Square, a major new commission by four Photography students from the University of Brighton.

Entry to all exhibitions is free. We have a range of events and activities suitable for students of all ages, plus inspiring and informative events specifically for teachers.

If you are planning a group visit, please get in touch. We can ensure you have the most up to date events information, check venue opening times, help avoid group clashes, and advise on age appropriate content*.

* Reimagine at the University of Brighton Galleries contains some nudity and may not be appropriate for younger students.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

For full details of all events, and booking information visit bpb.org.uk

Facilitated Exhibition Tours

Led by experienced artist facilitator Lynn Weddle, and available as full or half day bookings.

Teachers select which exhibitions to include in the tour. All activities are bespoke – adapted to meet the age and ability of your group. The Biennial explores many themes, and these can be featured according to your needs.

We can advise you on how to plan and schedule your visit. The day might include a combination of guided or self-directed activity, with groups rotating. You are only expected to pay for guided activity.

- Group size determines what can be realistically delivered.
- Follow-up workshops back at your setting with Lynn Weddle building on the visit experience can also be arranged for an additional fee.
- Cameras can be provided if necessary, but we advise students to bring their own.

Cost

Half Day: £150 to include up to three hours guided activity across exhibitions

Full Day: £300 to include up to six hours guided activity across exhibitions, with a one-hour lunch break.

For more information and to book, please email chloe@photoworks.org.uk

Talks & Screenings

We have organised a lively programme of talks by artists, critics and curators that take place throughout the festival period. Many of the exhibiting artists will be presenting, and we are also screening a number of films exploring Biennial themes.

Guided Exhibition Tours

There are a number of curator and artist tours that will be suitable for older students. In addition on Friday 28 October, young people participating in the *Into The Outside* LGBTQ+ project will give free tours of their exhibition, discussing their work, at the University of Brighton Galleries (suitable for ages 13+).





Top: Sara Shamsavari, THE DANDY LION PROJECT Bottom: © Bharat Sikka, *Tony*, Brighton 2016, REIMAGINE



Participatory Photography: A Practice Showcase

Sunday 2 October 11am – 12.30pm

University of Brighton Galleries – Edward Street Free

Presentations and chaired panel discussion with artists discussing different approaches to participatory practice, showcasing a diverse range of Photoworks projects with young people and communities.

Anthony Luvera reflects on the Queer in Brighton project, actor Sean Mahoney and photographer Ania Dabrowska talk about *MPower*, their collaborative project with vulnerable boys for BPB16, and Helen Cammock discusses *Into the Outside* a heritage learning project with LGBTQ+ young people. Followed by a panel discussion with the artists, chaired by Janice McLaren, Head of Education & Projects at The Photographers' Gallery.

Represent: Photography and Identity in the Classroom A Twilight Event for Teachers

Friday 7 October 5-7.30pm

Free, but booking is essential

A practical workshop aimed at secondary school teachers presenting approaches to engaging with BPB16 themes. Led by experienced artist facilitator Annis Joslin, the session will begin with a focus on photography as a prompt for discussion and creative writing followed up with theme-linked individual and group photography-based tasks as well as experiments with collage, objects, text and video loops.

Early Steps – Managing Your First Professional Commission

Friday 14 October

4-5pm

Free

Max Houghton leads a conversation with University of Brighton students Chynna Guyat, Jennifer Jackson, Judith Ricketts and Sophia Wöhleke who were commissioned by Photoworks and Together the People for a major outdoor exhibition for BPB16.

The students will each present their work and share insights on their first professional commissioning experiences. This event is particularly relevant for students considering a career in photography.

Making it Happen

Friday 21 October 9.30am – 4.30pm Various central venues

Free

A careers awareness event aimed at young people (post-16) offering realistic information about what it takes to be a photographer, and providing hands-on photography experience and a chance to engage with BPB16.

The day includes short presentations from photographers Ewen Spencer, and Laura Pannack, and a short presentation about Photography at the University of Brighton by course leader Stephen Bull, guided exhibition tours and practical workshops led by specially trained arts undergraduates.

Eligibility & Booking

Making it Happen is funded by Compact Plus the University of Brighton's widening participation programme. To check your school/student eligibility to attend or book places email J.Tolley2@brighton.ac.uk

Priority is given to the following applicants:

- Looked after children and young carers
- Students in receipt of Pupil Premium/Free School Meals/16-19 Bursary
- Disabled students (includes learning disabilities)
- Those who are the first in their family to consider university
- Those who live in an area where not many people go to university

BPB16 EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

For full details of all BPB16 exhibitions pick up a programme from Jubilee Library or other points around the city, or visit bpb.org.uk

Reimagine

University of Brighton Galleries – Grand Parade
Photographers Olivia Arthur (UK) and Bharat Sikka
(India) have collaborated to explore private and public
presentation of self-image in relation to the body,
gender, sexuality and fantasy. The work they have
developed together presents portraits of individuals
who identify themselves as being part of the LGBTQ+
community.

The Dandy Lion Project

University of Brighton Galleries – Edward Street, Jubilee Library and other venues

This exhibition (a European premiere) presents more than 150 images from over thirty photographers, displayed across a number of venues and is curated by US curator Shantrelle P. Lewis. The dandies photographed in this exhibition are part of a global phenomenon of men and women using a particular, highly stylized manner of dress and attitude to challenge representation, gender conventions, and stereotyping of black identity.

Also Showing at Edward Street: Fashion Shows. An exhibition of images and objects exploring notions of beauty as circulated by the fashion photography industry, curated by photographer Nigel Shafran.

Next Door, at Dorset Place: Off the Page – Self Styled by writer and curator Magda Keaney who has chosen a single iconic fashion photograph from each decade of the 20th century that re-emphasise the influence of women photographers.

Kick over the statues

Fabrica

A new commission by photographer and documentary filmmaker Ewen Spencer. Spencer is best known for his celebrated images of youth and music culture, which have kept him in demand with style magazines, global brands and the music industry for over twenty years. For this new project, the artist photographed young people along the route of the 2016 Notting Hill Carnival, and at locations in Liverpool, presenting the work as an installation on custom-built billboards in the gallery.



Our City, How Do We Look?

Jubilee Square

Photography students Sophia Wohleke, Jennifer Jackson, Chynna Guyat and Judith Ricketts, all from the University of Brighton, investigate the life and style of our city, exploring the politics of age, gender and representation, and the industry of fashion by photographing people and places across Brighton & Hove.

Youth Exhibitions

Into The Outside at the University of Brighton Galleries – Grand Parade charts the progress of a group of young people identifying as LGBTQ+ re-examining the city's rich LGBTQ+ past and creating a new queer youth archive. At Jubilee Library, State of Control presents new work by young people who have been considering their individual and collective identity.

Visit bpb.org.uk for details of youth events relating to these exhibitions.









Top left: Jo Booth, 2016, 7-DAY SUIT Mid left: Carlos Le Grange, Trans Pride Brighton, 2016, INTO THE OUTSIDE THE STORY SO FAR Bottom: left: Sophia Wöhleke, 2016, OUR CITY, HOW DO WE LOOK?

Top right: Radcliffe Roye, Sapeur, THE DANDY LION PROJECT

DISCOVER & EXPLORE

An outline of key thematic links, plus simple questions and activities to support and promote student engagement with BPB16

Key Themes

Image and Identity

Many BPB16 artists and exhibitions explore our personal and projected self-image, and how we use body-language, style, and image to express our personal or cultural identities, or individuality.

Representation

How we are represented, and how others represent us, runs as a theme across the Biennial in a number of ways. Representation of the body, community, subcultures, the politics of style, gender and sexuality and youth culture feature heavily.

The Language of Fashion and Style Photography

A number of exhibitions explore and challenge notions of beauty as presented through fashion and style photography, or unpick visual culture and explore the power of youth tribes in influencing style.

Belonging

Some of the exhibitions consider territoriality and belonging, through community and sense of place. Work about and by young people investigates borders and boundaries and the things that unify or divide us.

Discover

Some questions to get students thinking:

- What visual qualities have been used to attract and hold your attention? For example, use of colour, composition, framing, viewpoint?
- How much say do the people in the photographs have about how they are represented? Do you think there was any kind of discussion or negotiation between the photographer and the sitter to make these photographs?
- Why do photographers choose to travel to different cities, countries or locations to make their work?
- Explore and discuss the different methods of displaying photography. BPB16 presents photographs on windows, on billboards, outside, and on screens. Does how it is presented make a difference to how you view or interpret the image?
- Photographers use a variety of tools and tricks to convey identity, such as location, composition, props, or pose. Investigate one photograph further. What clues to the subject's identity and personality are there in the photograph?
- Can you describe a photograph you like or dislike in five words? Now use five more words to sum up the entire exhibition.



Explore

Activities to try out in the gallery:

- Make a drawing of the photograph in your sketchbook. Annotate the drawing: make notes about what you see, and what is happening. How big is it? Is it colour, or black & white? What is the mood? Who made the photograph, where and when?
- In pairs: Each person chooses an opposite end of the gallery (or a different room). Select one photograph then write down ten words that come to mind. Try to guess each other's choices!
- In pairs: compare and contrast two photographs. Discuss the similarities and differences between the two images.
- Choose a photograph and create a narrative (story) around what you can, or can't see. What happened before/after the photograph was taken? Who are the characters? What is the setting for the story?
- Investigate one of the Biennial photographers further. Who are they? Where are they from? What's their work all about? What inspires them? Use the text panels on the gallery walls to find out more, or visit bpb.org.uk
- Write a review of the exhibition that describes what you saw, and expresses your opinions about it. Talk about what you liked and disliked, and explain why.

USEFUL WEBSITES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

BPB.ORG.UK

The Biennial website includes information about exhibiting photographers and collaborators, and details of the festival programme and related events and activities.

PHOTOWORKS.ORG.UK

Photoworks commissions new photography, produces exhibitions and events including the Brighton Photo Biennial, publishes books and an annual magazine.

MAGNUMPHOTOS.COM

One of the world's leading photo agencies Magnum photographers document people, events, issues and personalities across the world.

TATE.ORG.UK

Tate's Learn Online section is extensive and thorough. It has a range of resources for children, young people and teachers including in depth information on artists and exhibitions, images from the collection, archive film footage, audio and video. The online shop sells teachers' packs and activity sets.

NPG.ORG.UK

The National Portrait Gallery includes extensive resources for teachers about portraiture in a variety of media, including photography.

PHOTOGRAPHYTIPS.COM

A well regarded website offering practical information and advice on techniques to improve your photography. A practical 'how to' site, and a free membership site.

VAM.AC.UK

The Victoria & Albert Museum's website includes numerous resources and a subject hub for photography. The section includes articles, thematics, genre information, and details on photographic processes, photographers and exhibitions.

THEPHOTOGRAPHERSGALLERY.ORG.UK

The Photographers' Gallery is the largest public gallery in London dedicated to photography. Its website includes details of photographers, exhibitions, and learning resources.

PHOTOPEDAGOGY.COM

A site created by photography teachers for photography teachers. With a blog, resources and showcase.







