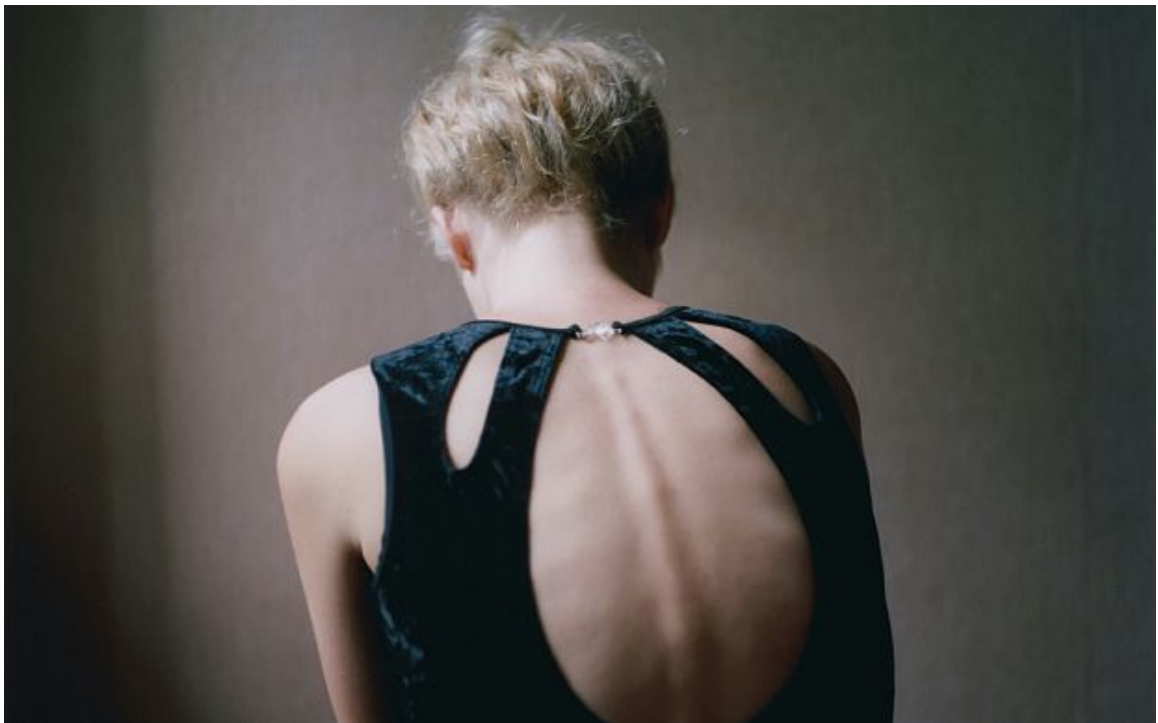


What to see at Photo London

The range of exhibitions and events at London's new fair will put the city firmly on the photography map, says Gemma Padley



Detail from Latvia #2, 2012 by Clare Hewitt. From the exhibition 'Stare' at Four Corners Gallery - for full image, please see below Photo: Clare Hewitt, courtesy Four Corners Gallery

By Gemma Padley

10:00AM BST 18 May 2015

This week, the capital will be awash with photography, as **Photo London** comes to town for the first time in almost a decade. Under new management, the revived fair will welcome more than 70 international galleries to Somerset House

over the spring Bank Holiday weekend. Organisers hope the range of exhibitions and events will attract photography enthusiasts and the general public alike.

“We want to create something special for London,” says the fair's co-director Michael Benson. “There is a lot of interest in and enthusiasm for photography. It would be great if, in three or five years’ time, people say, ‘London in May is photography week’.”

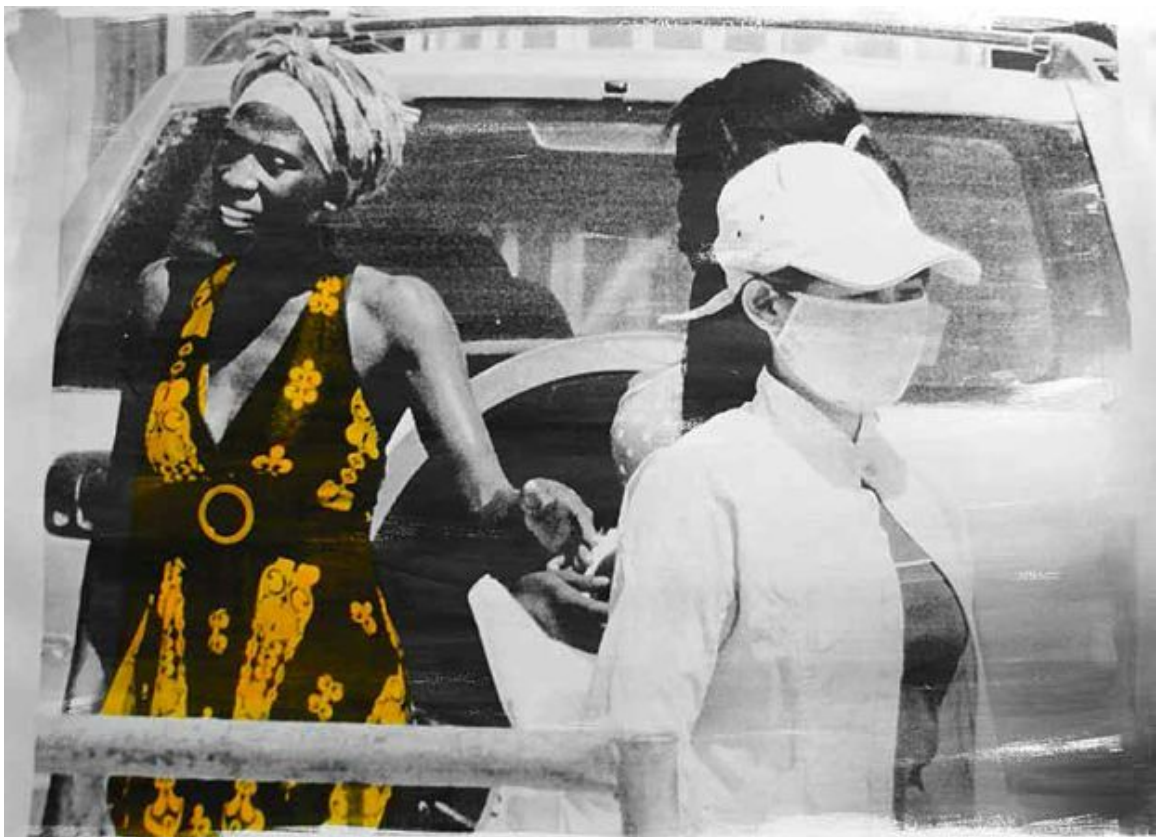


From the series 'Still Here' by Lydia Goldblatt, shown by Wapping Project Bankside

The Photographers’ Gallery, Grimaldi Gavin, James Hyman Gallery, and the Wapping Project Bankside are among the London-based galleries to feature,

while Tokyo's Amana (amanasalto/IMA), Aperture from New York, and Ayyam Gallery, which has bases in Dubai, Beirut, London, are a few of the international guests.

Featured galleries at the fair will offer a mix of vintage photographs and contemporary works, and a dedicated 'Discovery section' will host galleries that are lesser known. Look out especially for London-based Edel Assanti and Tiwani Contemporary with its focus on contemporary art from Africa (see 'Fringe events' below).



Pontus, 2012 by Delio Jasse, represented by Tiwani Contemporary

Eager to champion emerging talent, Photo London will give an award to the most outstanding photographer at the fair. Work from Magnum Photos's 30 Under 30 competition and by finalists in the 2014 LensCulture Exposure Awards will also be on display. "There are a lot of young people who are making really interesting work," says Benson. "There's a real energy in the city towards photography that

we haven't seen before." Co-director Fariba Farshad agrees. "There is something about London at the moment; it is the most exciting city [for photography] in the world."

The public programme includes four specially commissioned exhibitions that will open at the same time as the fair. Beneath the Surface will feature 200 rare photographs from the Victoria and Albert Museum's collection, and there will be a display of unseen large-format platinum prints by Sebastião Salgado from his acclaimed Genesis project. Elsewhere in the neo-classical building will be the first UK showing of **Iranian photographer Kāveh Golestān's Prostitute series**, and in the courtyard visitors will be able to enjoy a lightbox installation by Rut Bles Luxemburg with Alexander García Düttmann and Nuno Salgado.



William Strudwick, The George Inn, Borough, London, about 1865, part of the V&A show 'Beneath the Surface'

Photo London will also host four evening events that marry photography with live DJ sets, and a number of galleries, museums and cultural institutions across the city have programmed events to coincide with the fair. Here's our pick of what to see:

1. A wide-ranging series of talks curated by Francis Hodgson will feature more than 20 photographic masters and experts, including Don McCullin, Sebastião Salgado, Todd Hido, Rankin and Stephen Shore. Taking place in cafés and lecture theatres at Somerset House and elsewhere, the programme will place a special focus on collecting photography and aims to tackle some of the considerations involved in starting or maintaining a collection.



Gloriosa

superba, 2012, by Alida Rodrigues, represented by Tiwani Contemporary

2. Offprint London is a free art and photography publishing fair which will be held at Tate Modern's Turbine Hall during Photo London. Organised by the team behind its Paris counterpart and Simon Baker, curator of photography at Tate, it will feature 150 independent publishers of photography, art and graphic design. Across the weekend there is a programme of book signings as well as a series of workshops and performances organised by **Self Publish, Be Happy**.

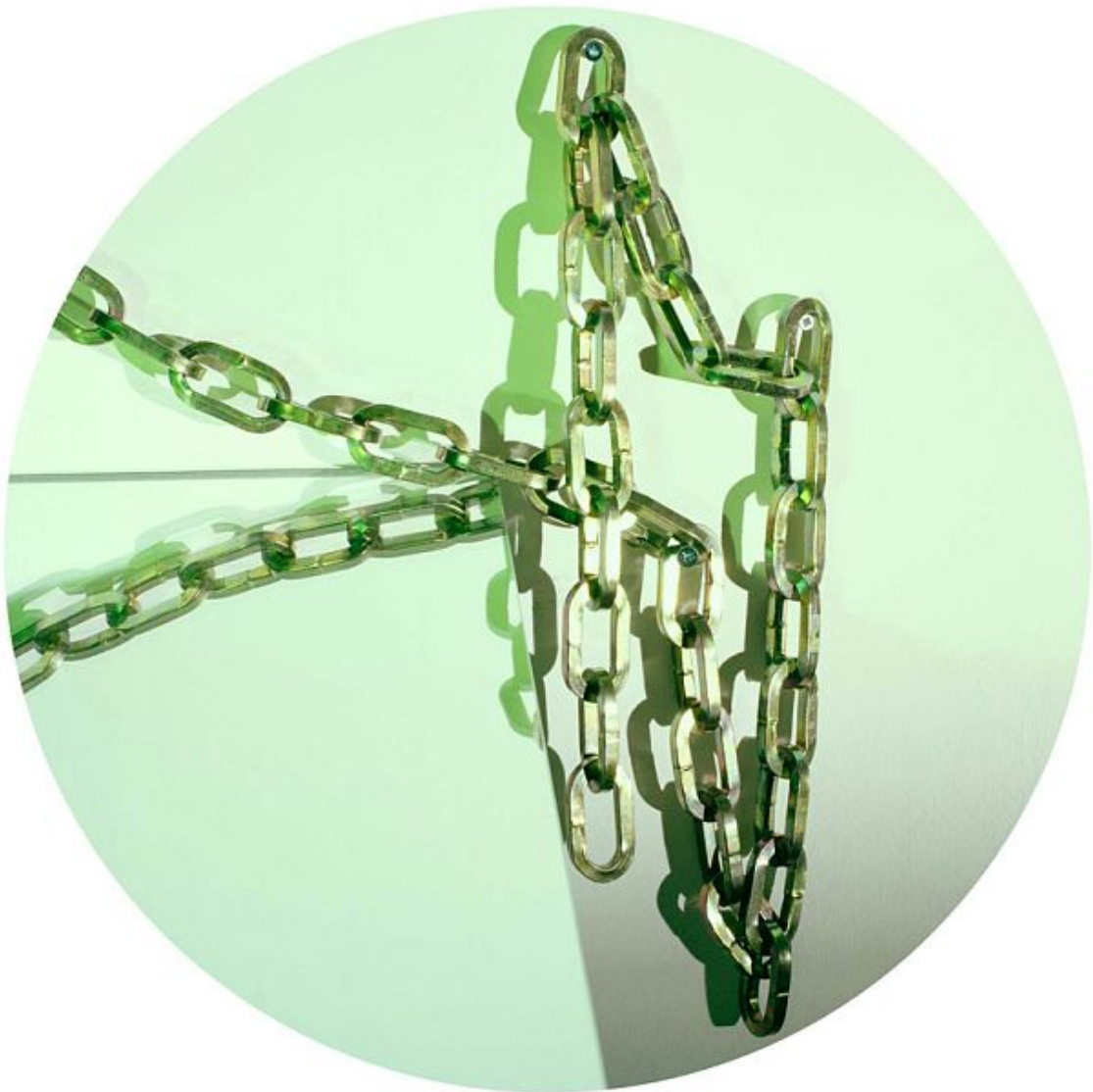


Latvia #2, 2012 by Clare Hewitt, showing as part of the exhibition 'Stare' at Four Corners Gallery

3. Auction houses Christie's, Sotheby's and Phillips will host auctions of vintage and contemporary works during Photo London. **Christie's Modern and**

Contemporary British Photography is an online-only auction between May 12 and 21, **Photographs, a Sotheby's auction**, takes place on 23 May, and **Phillips is holding an auction** on 21 May.

4. Site-specific group exhibition The India Club, curated by Specular Assembly collective, features work by seven artists, and takes place across the first two floors of the Hotel Strand Continental from May 20 to 25. There will also be special events and talks. For details, please email: specularassembly@gmail.com.



Untitled by Leon Chew, showing as part of The India Club

5. Opening during the fair weekend is an exhibition of African photography at **Tiwani Contemporary**. The View From Here features work by seven emerging photographers from Africa: Andrew Esiebo, Délio Jasse, Lebohang Kganye, Namsa Leuba, Mimi Cherono Ng'ok, Abraham Oghobase and Dawit L. Petros. www.tiwani.co.uk.

6. Paris to Peckham: MYOP in London is an exhibition of work by members of the French photography collective **MYOP**, which sees 15 photographers take over two adjacent Victorian terraced houses in Peckham's Copeland Park. The exhibition, organised by Seen Fifteen Gallery, runs from 21 to 24 May, and there is an accompanying programme of workshops and talks. Opening Party: Thursday 21 May, 6pm to 10pm, at Safehouse 1 and Safehouse 2, 137-139 Copeland Road, London, SE15 3SN. Other galleries including **Bosse & Baum**, (which will be showing a video installation by Chloe Dewe Mathews) and **Peckham Platform**, will also throw open their doors this weekend.



Masked Boy, 2014, from The Wait by Ed Alcock, showing as part of Paris to Peckham

7. Taking place at **Copperfield, London**, Abstracts features work by five members of the photographic collective AM Projects: Antony Cairns, Tiane Doan na Champassak, Olivier Pin-Fat, Ester Vonplon and Daisuke Yokota. A collaboration with independent publisher Adad Books, it is the collective's first exhibition in London. The exhibition runs from May 12 to 25. Members of the collective will be signing copies of their publication at Offprint London in Tate Modern's Turbine Hall on May 23 at 3pm.

8. **Stare** is a group exhibition at **Four Corners** in East London. Organised by **Labyrinth Photographic**, the show features hand-printed photographs by 14 of

the lab's clients, who include Spencer Murphy, Anastasia Taylor Lind, and Tyrone Lebon. From May 15 to June 06.



Sage Honga by Carlotta Cardana, part of the exhibition 'Stare' at Four Corners Gallery

9. Michael Hoppen Gallery will have a stand at Photo London, but its Chelsea gallery will also host **an exhibition of photographs of Frida Kahlo's clothes by Japanese photographer Ishiuchi Miyako**, opening on May 13 and running until July 12. Sohei Nishino, one of the gallery's represented photographers, will be involved in an interactive project at Somerset House in which he will create a giant map inspired by his Diorama London Map series.



From

the series 'Frida' by Ishiuchi Miyako, courtesy Michael Hoppen Gallery

10. Opening on May 21, Next to Nothing collective presents Bruce Gilden's A Complete Examination of Middlesex, which will be on show at The Cob Gallery in north London until May 31. For three years, from 2010 to 2013, the Magnum photographer worked alongside the **Archive of Modern Conflict** to create a poetic portrayal of his experiences in this part of London. It is the first show to be curated by the collective whose members are Hattie Moir, Imogen Prus, and Natasha Wigoder. The work culminated in a book and copies will be available to buy at the gallery. The Cob Gallery, 205 Royal College St, London, NW1 0SG. For more details please email: info@cobgallery.com.

Details: photolondon.org info@photolondon.org +44 (0)20 7759 1170. To purchase tickets, see ticketmaster.co.uk/photo-london