

ANNOUNCING SARAH HOWE AS WINNER OF BPF OPEN18 SOLO OPPORTUNITY



Brighton Photo Fringe is thrilled to announce Sarah Howe as the recipient of the 2018 Open Solo Exhibition. Selected by an expert panel from over 120 applicants, Howe will receive a solo exhibition at ONCA, the keynote exhibition of Brighton Photo Fringe in October, along with mentoring and print costs courtesy of Metro Imaging Ltd.

Howe's winning work, the series *Consider Falling*, is taken from her graduate show at the Royal College of Art. Composed of mediated fragments, moving image excerpts and merged within an installation, *Consider Falling* balances on the edge of document and form. Rooted in research surrounding the anxiety disorders Derealisation (the condition wherein a person feels the reality surrounding them is unreal) and Depersonalisation (a feeling of detachment from oneself, or that oneself is unreal), the precarious nature of perception is performed through the series of works that accumulate to create a subtly unsettling experience.

Howe says of this work: "Through interviews with service users at the DPD research centre and those met online, I started to piece together a loose understanding of the conditions they described. In doing so I began to marry the political slippage, in light of recent shifts, of an altered reality, one that is yet to be navigated. A foot into the unknown."

On winning the award, the artist states: "I am excited to present *Consider Falling* in the context of a new solo show for Brighton Photo Fringe. The presentation of this work will hopefully shed further light on the lives of those who live with Derealisation and Depersonalisation, some of whom have contributed to my ongoing research through personal conversations. It is a fantastic opportunity to work with ONCA gallery and Metro Imaging to realise this piece and will enable me to develop my work further."

Sarah Howe is an artist based in London working across media. She graduated from MA Photography at the Royal College of Art in 2017 and previously studied BA Photographic Arts at the University of Westminster. Her practice often incorporates alternate narratives of perception, identity and empathy within our increasingly mediated experience of social, political and psychological space.

BPF OPEN18 SOLO is a solo exhibition opportunity for an early-career photographer offering the recipient the opportunity to present a solo show at ONCA. Submissions of work were invited from early-career photographers, and the work submitted had to be from an existing body of work that had not been previously exhibited in the UK (the body of work can be graduate work if it has not been shown outside of a university or art college).

A panel of specialists selected the shortlist and solo exhibition artist. This year's panel was:

- Karin Andreasson (Picture Editor, News, Guardian News & Media)
- Dana Ariel (Artist and BPF OPEN16 SOLO winner)
- Tamar Clarke-Brown (Curator, Artist & Writer)
- Rebecca Drew (Chair, Brighton Photo Fringe)
- Lu-Lu Evans (Business & Operations Manager, ONCA)
- Steve Macleod (Artist and Director, Metro Imaging Ltd)
- Sam Mercer (Producer of Digital Programme, The Photographers' Gallery)
- Bindi Vora (Curatorial Assistant at Hayward Gallery. Artist. Visiting Lecturer, University of Westminster and part of Hemera, a photographic Curatorial Collective)

Bindi Vora says: "We are delighted that we have been able to give Sarah the opportunity to exhibit *Consider Falling* at the Brighton Photo Fringe this year. The work deals with many issues pertinent to our time and ONCA gallery will provide an amazing space for contemplation and consideration of this refined work".

The Photographer's Gallery's Sam Mercer states: "Sarah Howe's installation *Consider Falling* fragments and displaces the images, placing an audience right at the centre of the work. I was really struck by the care given to the visual language, which appears as if stepping into a deconstructed model of a stage set. There are deep questions at the centre of the work: around how much someone can empathise through the endless consumption of mediated images and online lives; what it means to act or see in unison or collectively; and where personal subjectivities play out."

Consider Falling will open at ONCA on 29 September along with a showreel of 20 shortlisted artists from this year's open call including: Alia Ali, Angeniet Berkers, Thom Bridge, Holly Britles, Luke Brown, Lisa Carletta, Victoria Fornieles, Emily Graham, Reinis Lismanis, Jonathan Liu, Tom Heatley, Paulina Otylie Surys, Joe Pettet-Smith, Tom Pope, Amelia Shepherd, Stephanie Taiber, Andreea Teleaga, Feiyi Wen, Christiane Zschommler, Qian Zhao.

About BRIGHTON PHOTO FRINGE

Brighton Photo Fringe supports early-career photographers and lens-based artists, enabling all kinds of people to experiment with photography. Every two years, BPF designs and delivers the largest Fringe photography festivals in the UK. BPF18, the 8th edition, will run from 29 September - 28 October 2018, offering a month-long platform for hundreds of artists to exhibit their work. In true Fringe spirit, BPF18 will take art onto the streets and into unexpected spaces right along the coast, with Festival Hubs in Brighton, Hove, Worthing and Hastings. BPF18 is open to everyone and everybody's invited.

Visit our website to take part: photofringe.org.

#BPF18 #PhotographyChangesEverything #ThisPhotoChangedMyLife

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About ONCA Gallery

ONCA supports the wellbeing of people and places by increasing awareness of, and engagement with, environmental and social challenges. They are a space for meeting, thinking, learning and celebrating art, always encouraging artists and audiences to ask big questions about difficult issues. ONCA does all this from their gallery and performance space in Brighton, UK, where they host a range of events – some led and curated by them, and some by visiting artists and companies who hire the gallery. You can see pictures of the space here: <https://onca.org.uk/hire-the-gallery/>

About METRO IMAGING

With almost 40 years experience in photographic printing, Metro Imaging has an excellent reputation for working to the highest quality across all of its services. There are an extensive range of skills and techniques on offer, from concept through to final installation. Metro provides a comprehensive in-house solution utilising one-to-one production management by expert technicians, printers and framers. Self-Service, the online arm to Metro Imaging, provides the same products but as a 'do-it-yourself' service. From printing to processing to mounting and framing, Metro's Self-Service is budget friendly and designed for tight turnarounds. metroimaging.co.uk

Metro is very much looking forward to partnering with the Brighton Photo Fringe again, by exploring, supporting and delivering the highest quality exhibitions in an innovative and exciting way.

BPF18 SUPPORTERS

Brighton Photo Fringe is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and Brighton & Hove City Council, and with support from The Chalk Cliff Foundation. BPF is partnered with the University of Sussex; Phoenix Brighton; Regency Town House; ONCA; ACCA; Colonnade House, Worthing; Northbrook MET; Photo Hastings and Hastings Arts Forum; Churchill Square Shopping Centre, Rocket Artists, Articulate, Miniclick, Diep-Haven Festival, Photoworks, London College of Communication and many more.

BPF is sponsored by Metro Imaging Ltd, Locate Productions Ltd and Colourstream.



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