

# FOTOFOCUS

## **FotoFocus Announces 200+ Participants Across 70 Museums and Galleries for Fourth Edition of Largest Photography and Lens-Based Biennial in America**

Artists Include Berenice Abbott, Mamma Andersson, Eugène Atget,  
Karl Blossfeldt, Francis Bruguière, Teju Cole, Chris Engman,  
Miranda July, Thomas Ruff, and Akram Zataari

**— FotoFocus Biennial Program Starts October 4, 2018 —**

(CINCINNATI, OH — February 2, 2018) — Cincinnati-based **FotoFocus**, the nonprofit arts organization that champions photography and lens-based art, is proud to announce the line-up and thematic focus for the **FotoFocus Biennial**, the largest of its kind in America.

“FotoFocus works year-round to support lens-based art, but we particularly look forward to the FotoFocus Biennial. Bringing the partnerships we’ve cultivated, across the region and the world, to our community is thrilling,” says **Mary Ellen Goeke, FotoFocus Executive Director**.

The FotoFocus Biennial spans **70** museums and galleries across **Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, Dayton and Columbus, Ohio**, featuring over 200 artists, curators, and educators. Each Biennial is structured around a unifying theme; for 2018 that theme is ***Open Archive***.

“This edition of the FotoFocus Biennial addresses an aspect of photography that has been central to the medium since its invention: its unruly abundance,” says **Kevin Moore, FotoFocus Artistic Director**. “How do we organize and care for so much imagery? *Open Archive* explores the terrain, both old and new, of a classic photo topic.”

### **FOTOFOCUS BIENNIAL PROGRAM**

The **FotoFocus Biennial Program**, from **October 4-7**, constitutes the core of the Biennial, establishing the theme and dialogues which unite the broader programming, including:

- Keynote address about working with archives by **Clément Chéroux**, SFMOMA’s Senior Curator of Photography on **October 4**
- **FotoFocus Biennial Symposium** at **Memorial Hall** on **October 6**

- Performance of “Blind Spot,” a new interdisciplinary collaboration between writer and photographer **Teju Cole** and acclaimed composer and pianist **Vijay Iyer** at **Memorial Hall** following the FotoFocus Biennial Symposium on **October 6**. Guest curated by **Drew Klein**, Performing Arts Director, Contemporary Arts Center
- Conversation with filmmaker, artist, and writer **Miranda July** about her archive project *Joanie 4 Jackie* at the **Woodward Theater** on **October 7**. Guest curated by **C. Jacqueline Wood**, Director, The Mini Microcinema

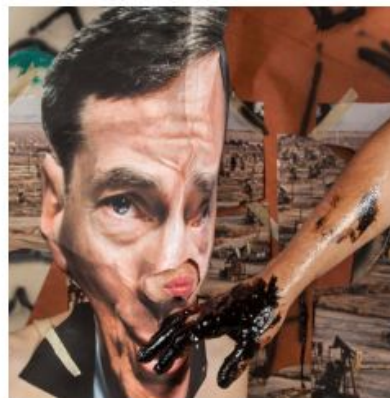


Clockwise from top left: Clément Chéroux, Miranda July by Todd Cole, Vijay Iyer by Barbara Rigon, and Teju Cole by Teju Cole and Tim Knox.

## FOTOFOCUS BIENNIAL AT CONTEMPORARY ARTS CENTER

The 2018 FotoFocus Biennial is made possible through the collaborative efforts of hundreds of organizations. During the Biennial, for the first time, FotoFocus-curated exhibitions will be on view on all exhibition floors of the Contemporary Arts Center:

- A historical address of the works of **Karl Blossfeldt** and **Francis Bruguière** in dialogue with **Thomas Ruff**'s contemporary photographic abstractions. Guest curated by **Ulrike Meyer Stump**, Independent Curator and Lecturer, Zurich University of the Arts
- Solo exhibition of new paintings by Swedish artist **Mamma Andersson** highlighting her photographic archive. Curated by **Kevin Moore**, FotoFocus Artistic Director
- **Arab Image Institute** founder **Akram Zaatari**'s work which includes a pan-generational dialogue with groundbreaking Lebanese studio portraitist **Hashem el Madani**. Guest curated by **Steven Matijcio**, Curator, Contemporary Arts Center



Top: Sigrid Viir, *Day 4, Sunday*, 2014. Inkjet print, aluminum, wooden frame, 30 x 21 cm. Courtesy of Temnikova & Kasela Gallery. Bottom Left: Jimmy Baker, *Beside Me (Another Succulent Painting)*, 2017. Oil, aerosol, and digital print on canvas over panel, 22 x 22 inches. Courtesy of LMAK Gallery. Bottom Right: Sheida Soleimani, *Inauguration (United States, Iraq)*, 2016. Archival pigment print, 40 x 60 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

## FOTOFOCUS BIENNIAL EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

### Taft Museum of Art

- A historical exhibition, *Paris to New York: Photographs by Eugène Atget and Berenice Abbott*, based on the encounter of young American photographer **Berenice Abbott** and the elderly French photographer **Eugène Atget** in the 1920s. Curated by **Kevin Moore**, FotoFocus Artistic Director

### Weston Art Gallery

- A site-specific installation by photographer **Chris Engman** and a group exhibition of nearly 20 artists pushing the boundaries of photography including **Jimmy Baker, Harry Callahan, Tom Friedman, Robert Heinecken, John Houck, Sol Lewitt, Goshka Macuga, Christian Marclay, Marilyn Minter, Laurel Nakadate, Robert Rauschenberg, Sheida Soleimani, Sigrid Viir, and John Wesley**. Curated by **Carissa Barnard**, FotoFocus Deputy Director

### FotoFocus at The Mini Microcinema

- A month-long film series guest curated by **C. Jacqueline Wood**, Director, The Mini Microcinema



Mamma Andersson, Tick Tock, 2011. Oil and acrylic on panel, 114½ x 166½ cm. Courtesy of Galleri Magnus Karlsson, Stephen Friedman Gallery and David Zwirner

## FOTOFOCUS BIENNIAL PARTICIPANTS

Artists featured in this year's FotoFocus Biennial participating venues include **Derrick Adams, Diane Arbus, Liu Bolin, Chivas Clem, Nancy Ford Cones, Robert Frank, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Rebecca Hackemann, Lyle Ashton Harris, Wing Young Huie, Chris Johnson, Isaac Julien, Deana Lawson, Jason Lazarus, Irving Penn, Malick Sidibe, Xaviera Simmons, Kamal Sinclair, Bayeté Ross Smith, Question Bridge with Hank Willis Thomas, Mickalene Thomas, Gillian Wearing, Carrie Mae Weems, Michael Wilson, and David Yarrow.**

Participating venues include **Cincinnati Art Museum, Columbus Museum of Art, Wave Pool, The Dayton Art Institute, 21c Museum Hotel, Mercantile Library, Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park and Museum,** and galleries at the **University of Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky University, Wright State University,** and **Xavier University.**

Full FotoFocus Biennial Program and artist list available at [www.fotofocuscincinnati.org](http://www.fotofocuscincinnati.org).



Left: Eugène Atget (French, 1857–1927), Rue Asselin, 1921. Gelatin silver chloride print. Courtesy of the Philadelphia Museum of Art: Gift of Carl Zigrosser, 1953, 1953–64–29. Right: Francis Bruguière (American, 1879–1945), Cut-paper abstraction, ca. 1930. Gelatin silver print. Courtesy of George Eastman Museum, gift of Rosalinde Fuller.

## ABOUT FOTOFOCUS

FotoFocus is a Cincinnati-based non profit 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. Signature programming includes **FotoFocus Biennial, FotoFocus Symposium, and FotoFocus Lecture and Visiting Artist Series.**

FotoFocus has collaborated with hundreds of organizations, curators, academics, and artists to present more than **600** exhibitions and programs, having contributed funding for the majority. The organization has brought hundreds of internationally-renowned photographers to the Greater Cincinnati region, including **Doug Aitken, Jo Ann Callis, Gregory Crewdson, Thomas Demand, Philip-Lorca diCorcia, Roe Ethridge, Larry Fink, Michael Kenna, Laurie Simmons, David Benjamin Sherry, Paul Graham, Barbara Kasten, Todd Hido, Tina Barney, Alex Soth, John Waters, Doug + Mike Starn, and Joyce Tenneson.**

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