

## FotoFocus Announces 2020 Biennial Theme

*In its fifth iteration, the 2020 FotoFocus Biennial will take place in venues across the region*

**CITYBEAT STAFF** - MAY 10, 2019 4 PM



Chris Engman, *Containment*, 2018. Site-specific installation, approximately 131 x 304 x 493 inches. Created as a part of FotoFocus Biennial 2018 exhibition "Chris Engman: Prospect and Refuge" at Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery. *COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND LUIS DE JESUS LOS ANGELES // PHOTO BY TONY WALSH.*

FotoFocus has announced the theme for its fifth biennial, which will unfold throughout Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, Dayton and Columbus in October 2020.

Titled *light &*, the theme will hone in "light and its contrasts in relation to photography and the world at large," according to a release.

And for the first time in its 10-year history, FotoFocus will invite venues across the region to apply to the biennial through the web. (You can apply [here](#).)

"Light is a fundamental aspect of photography. Light implies a force of good, and it conjures hope, clarity and rational thought," says Kevin Moore, FotoFocus artistic director and curator, in a release. "Exhibitors are asked to consider the phrase *light &* with what comes after. We're looking forward to seeing how venues interpret the theme."

The organization seeks to provide greater accessibility to lens-based art, film and other photography-related works. Last year's biennial — with the theme of *Open Archive* — drew in 207,000 visitors, which is triple that of their original run in 2012. It presented both historic and contemporary artists such as Berenice Abbott, Eugène Atget, Roe Ethridge, Zanele Muholi, Karl Blossfeldt, Francis Bruguière, Thomas Ruff and Akram Zaatari.

This September, they'll also host a FotoFocus Symposium themed *AutoUpdate: Photography in the Electronic Age*. Read more about that [here](#).