

# FOTOFOCUS

## FotoFocus Leaves an Impact with the 2022 Biennial

*Nearly 200,000 Visitors Attended  
Largest Edition to Date*



Visitors at The Carnegie exhibition, *These Things Are Connected*

(Cincinnati, OH — February 28, 2023) — **FotoFocus**, the nonprofit dedicated to championing photography and lens-based art, is pleased to announce that the **2022 FotoFocus Biennial** welcomed **over 180,000 visitors** to its exhibitions and events across Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, Dayton, and Columbus between October 2022 and early 2023.

The 2022 Biennial featured a record number of nearly 800 artists, curators, and participants, and united the region by examining the relationship between lens-based art and the ever-changing world around us. Over 100 projects revolved around the theme **World Record**, which explored photography's extensive record of life on earth, humankind's impact on the natural world, and the choices we now face as a global community.

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The month-long photography celebration opened with the **Biennial Program Week** from September 29–October 8, 2022, which featured screenings, panel discussions, keynote lectures, talks, and other engaging events in Cincinnati. These programs gathered key contemporary art and film figures, such as **Jason Allen-Paisant, Makeda Best, Mitch Epstein, Cheryl Finley, Dara Friedman, Ariel Goldberg, Myra Greene, Baseera Khan, Jeff Orlowski-Yang, Xaviera Simmons, Ian Strange** and **Deborah Willis**.

Attendance figures have been collected from the 90 Participating Venues, including the Cincinnati Art Museum, Contemporary Arts Center, Taft Museum of Art, 21c Museum Hotel, The Carnegie, Art Academy of Cincinnati, and many more, making this the largest collaboration in FotoFocus history.

"We are incredibly proud to have presented our largest biennial to date, both in the amount of collaborating venues and participants. The significance of lens-based art within the community is clear, and FotoFocus was thrilled to present a range of projects demonstrating photography's ability to shift perceptions and see the world in a new light. As we close another successful biennial, we are looking ahead towards the 2024 Biennial as well as starting a new chapter with the opening of FotoFocus Center in early 2025, which will bring even more lens-based art programming to Cincinnati," says **Katherine Ryckman Siegwarth, FotoFocus Executive Director**.

Looking ahead, FotoFocus will soon welcome renowned Indigenous artist and filmmaker **Sky Hopinka** to Cincinnati for the organization's **Lecture and Visiting Artist Series**. His lecture is free and open to the public and will take place at the Cincinnati Art Museum on Thursday, March 2nd, at 7pm. The seventh FotoFocus Biennial will take place in October 2024. For the latest information, please visit [fotofocus.org](http://fotofocus.org).



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Installation view, *On The Line: Documents of Risk and Faith*. Photo: Wes Battoclette, 2022. Image courtesy of the Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH

## ABOUT FOTOFOCUS

FotoFocus is a Cincinnati-based nonprofit 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. FotoFocus has collaborated with organizations, curators, academics, and more than 2600 artists and participants, to present over 750 exhibitions and programs.

FotoFocus has awarded close to 700 grants to support partners presenting projects and educational programs that are accessible and engaging to the public. In April 2020, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, FotoFocus pledged part of its 2020 Biennial budget to financially support more than 100 Participating Venues and Partners in the region's art community through FotoFocus Emergency Art Grants.

Signature FotoFocus programming includes the **FotoFocus Biennial**, which last took place October 2022 with the theme, *World Record*. Past editions have presented work across the Cincinnati region by historic and contemporary artists, including Berenice Abbott, Eugène Atget, Roe Ethridge, Zanele Muholi, Karl Blossfeldt, Francis Bruguière, Thomas Ruff, and Akram Zaatari. Other landmark events include the **FotoFocus Symposium**, which has contributed significant dialogue and insight to culturally relevant topics including the controversial Mapplethorpe exhibition, and the **FotoFocus Lecture and Visiting Artist Series**, which has brought globally renowned artists such as Zoe Leonard and William Wegman to Cincinnati.

## CONNECT

WEBSITE: [www.fotofocus.org](http://www.fotofocus.org)

INSTAGRAM: [@fotofocuscincinnati](https://www.instagram.com/fotofocuscincinnati)

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