

FFF Academy: Programme 2018

Top-class workshops and lectures

Portrait, extremes, a long-term project on the topic of relationships, and unusual photo books: The 2018 programme of the FFF Academy offers a wide range of workshops and lectures with the expertise of internationally renowned photographers and specialists. Registration is possible online from now on.

Frankfurt am Main, January 08, 2018 – The Academy of the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt (FFF) is starting its eleventh edition with a versatile programme. More than **20 workshops and lectures** convey current approaches and questions of photography. The mainly two-day workshops focus on dialogue and practice: The trainers are internationally renowned photographers, including **Ute Mahler** (DE), **Arno Rafael Minkinen** (FI/US), **Gideon Mendel** (ZA/GB), **Derek Ridgers** (GB), **Mathieu Asselin** (FR), and **Rob Hornstra** (NL). In light of their chosen topic, they will discuss the participants' work and develop ideas and concepts for photographic projects.

Here are some highlights from the programme:

The year begins with a look at **Czech avant-garde photography of the 20th century**. During the opening weekend of **JAROMÍR FUNKE: PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE AVANTGARDE** the exhibition's curator **Vladimír Birgus**, Czech art historian and photography expert, will talk about Funke's innovative work and its significance for the development of international avant-garde photography between 1918 and 1945. (Gallery talk: January 27, 3 pm; Lecture: January 27, 6 pm. Exhibition **JAROMÍR FUNKE. AVANTGARDE PHOTOGRAPHER**: Opening January 26, 7 p. m.; Duration: January 27–April 29, 2018).

The workshop **Portrait – A Self-Staging** with **Ute Mahler** (*1949) deals with the concepts and techniques of portrait photography. The co-founder of the Berlin-based photographer's agency OST-KREUZ is one of the most important contemporary German photographers, well-known for her work in the former East German magazine "Sibylle". Ute Mahler works on approaches to portrait photography also using her own work as an example (Saturday/Sunday, February 24/25, only waitlist).

The **portrait** is also the main topic in a lecture and workshop by the British photographer **Derek Ridgers** (*1950). How well should one know the person portrayed? Is the image the result of long research or a chance moment? Such questions, as well as aspects of possible preparation and intuitive work are dealt with by Ridgers, who comes from the fields of music, advertising and fashion photography and whose portraits of British punk youth were shown in the FFF exhibition **ROCK.FUNK.PUNK.** in 2017 (lecture: Friday, April 27; Workshop: Saturday/Sunday, April 28/29).

The next **multi-part workshop** of the FFF Academy will start on 24 March. This time the German photographer **Andrea Diefenbach** (*1974) will collaborate with the workshop participants in order to develop a **long-term project** on the theme of **relationship**. She will deal with the social inter-actions within love, friendship or the workplace, but also the relationship to one's own body, to places or things. The workshop extends over a total of four sessions and ends in December with a presentation at the FFF (start: Saturday, March 24; further dates May 05, August 11, Dec 01).

The Frankfurt photographer and photo journalist **Nils Thies** returns once again to encourage us to discover Frankfurt from new perspectives with his popular **workshops**. The format **Frankfurt through the Lens** is aimed at beginners who mainly want to get acquainted with their cameras

while strolling through the Main metropolis (Saturday, July 07 and August 04). **Frankfurt through the Lens Plus** expands basic knowledge and the perception of urbanism, architecture and people in the city (Saturday, June 02, July 28, Oct 06). At the beginning of March, you can look forward to a new addition to the programme: **Frankfurt through the Lens. The Smartphone Edition** – for the skilful use of the smartphone camera and gaining know-how in street photography (Saturday, March 02).

Extreme, the central theme of the photo Triennial RAY, which will take place for the third time in the Frankfurt/Rhine-Main area in 2018, will not only be the subject of numerous exhibitions and events from May to September, but is also a focus of the FFF Academy. The French photographer **Mathieu Asselin** (*1973) deals with **photographic investigation** in his workshop and lecture. Asselin's own documentary photo investigation of the activities of the chemical giant Monsanto and their consequences for humans is nominated for the Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize 2018 and will also be shown at the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt as part of RAY 2018. (Lecture: Friday, May 18, Workshop: Saturday/Sunday, May 19/20). In his workshop **Building a Lifetime Vision**, the Finnish photographer **Arno Rafael Minkkinen** (*1945) helps the participants to develop their own unique image repertoire (Sunday, May 27).

The photo is ready – and now what? Various workshops are available on the topic of **print matters**, for example with graphic design professional **Viktor Balko** as well as image editor **Erik Clewe** (both Saturday, Aug 18) and the photographer and innovative DIY publisher **Rob Hornstra** (Sunday, Aug 19). A panel discussion on the topic will take place on Saturday, August 18 with **Balko, Clewe** and **Ute Noll**, picture editor of DU magazine.

Last but not least: "Young talents to the camera" is once more the motto of the **FFF Junior** holiday programme in 2018. In four-day workshops under the guidance of photographer **Wolfgang Zurborn** and art educator **Lisa Weber**, children and adolescents of Frankfurt's youth institutions learn how to use the camera, acquire artistic practices in the context of current FFF exhibitions and take their own photographs. The FFF art education programme for disadvantaged children and young people is also supported by the office of the Mayor of Frankfurt who is the patron of the project. In addition the FFF Academy 2018 is supported by the Feith Stiftung.

Also programmed for the second half of the Academy year 2018: **Pradip Malde** (lecture June 08, workshop June 09/10), **Ute Noll** (workshop Aug 17) and **Martin Liebscher** (workshop Nov 03/04).

Further information and **press photos** surrounding the programme of the FFF Academy and the new exhibition **JAROMÍR FUNKE. PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE AVANTGARDE** are available on the website www.fff frankfurt.org. There you can also register for the workshops via an online form.

A note on equipment: The FFF's main sponsor Olympus provides all workshop participants with high-quality cameras for testing. Rental is free of charge; further information also available at www.fff frankfurt.org

The **Fotografie Forum Frankfurt** (FFF) is one of the leading centres of photography in Europe. As an exhibition space, institution and event forum the FFF deals with all aspects of photography. Since its founding in 1984 it has presented more than 250 exhibitions with historic and contemporary artists. Additionally, the program of the FFF comprises of regular workshops, talks and discussions with internationally renowned photographers, artists and experts. Further information available at www.fff frankfurt.org

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