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Auckland caught in The Cloud

**More than 100 exhibitions and events make up 2016’s Auckland Festival of Photography (AFP), with the centrepiece Nikon Auckland Photo Day launching on 11 June, followed by an exhibition of winning images from 11 years of the competitions in The Cloud on the waterfront (18-24 June). This is the first time the Festival has showcased this work together at this well known public space.**

The Auckland Photo Day archive and the international content of 2016’s programme reflect AFP’s success in motivating people to capture images of their Auckland, and AFP’s role in bringing important work by New Zealand and overseas-based photographers to audiences.

“Auckland Photo Day is the longest running photography competition in the region, and we are delighted to continue this 24 hour event with Nikon on board” says AFP public participation director Julia Durkin. “Like our fringe programme, the ‘people’s competition’ reflects a commitment to photography as something everyone can relate to and take part in, as a creative and personal means of expression. As part of the development of the event, this year we are introducing a moving image prize for the best short film, video, time-lapse or multimedia entry.”

“The international connections AFP has built up over time mean we can provide Auckland audiences with a high calibre international programme, evident in this year’s Home themed exhibitions at the Silo, curated by New York based, Simone Douglas” Julia says.

The festival is a platform for the best work produced by New Zealand-based photographers, celebrated in 25 ‘signature’ exhibitions packed into the festival’s compact June 2-24 timeframe - along with 18 ‘talking culture’ events featuring leading international experts from India, China, New Zealand, Singapore, USA and Australia, 44 ‘fringe’ exhibitions and new work by Russ Flatt for the Annual Commission by Sacred Hill.

“AFP is the most significant visual arts event in the New Zealand winter calendar and one of the leading photographic events in the Asia Pacific region,” Julia says. “We invite Aucklanders to engage with the region’s largest free visual arts festival, to see cutting-edge work and engage in photography, the most democratic art form of our times.”

More details of AFP 2016 are available at <http://www.photographyfestival.org.nz/programme/index.cfm>

**For more information and interview opportunities, please contact:**

Victor van Wetering, media manager, Auckland Festival of Photography, (09) 849 6565.

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Auckland Festival of Photography 2016

Funding partners: Auckland Council, Foundation North, Creative New Zealand

**Festival Sponsors: Nikon, Sacred Hill, momento & Bank of India (NZ)**

**International Partners: Asia Pacific Photoforum, Indian Photo Festival, Alexia Foundation, VII Photo Agency**

**Community & Cultural Grants: Asia New Zealand Foundation, Creative Communities, COGS, The Trusts, Australian High Commission, Embassy of the United States of America**



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Notes for editors

**2016 Auckland Festival of Photography runs throughout the Auckland region 2-24 June.**

**Full details of AFP 2016 are available at** [**http://www.photographyfestival.org.nz/programme/index.cfm**](http://www.photographyfestival.org.nz/programme/index.cfm)

**This year’s festival theme is Home.**

Home @ Silo 6 includes Ian Strange, Shan Turner-Carroll, Anna Carey, Lin + Lam, Arthur Ou, plus Sim Chi Yin. Outside at Silo Park James Voller, plus on at Satellite exhibitions around the region with Janet Lilo, Johnny McCormack, Laurence Aberhart, Kate van der Drift, AIPA and a collaborative project between photographer Nando Azevedo, The Auckland Refugee Community Coalition and Amnesty International."

2016’s Talking Culture series

The 18 events on offer include the screening of award winning documentary, *The Long Night* by Tim Matsui, key presentation by James Dooley, Alexia Foundation, Aquin Mathews, Indian Photo Festival, Hyderabad, Wen Huang, China International Press Photo, Beijing, Sam Harris, award winning photobook artist, Australia, Assoc Professor Oh Soonhwa, Singapore, Alasdair Foster, international cultural art consultant, Australia, Ron Brownson, Senior Curator, New Zealand, Assoc Professor Simone Douglas, New York and New Zealand artists Fiona Pardington, Raymond Sagatupolete, Russ Flatt.

**2016’s Nikon Auckland Photo Day competition takes place on 11 June, with an exhibition of past winners in The Cloud on the waterfront (18-24 June).**

**For more information and interview opportunities, please contact:**

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