

'Control' theme for 2018 Auckland Festival of Photography

Control is a key theme in 2018's Auckland Festival of Photography, the 15th year the annual photography festival is providing Auckland audiences with world class exhibitions and events during its [May 31- June 22] three-week winter timeframe.

"Despite public funding paralysis in the country's largest city, festival audiences have doubled in the past seven years" says public participation director Julia Durkin. "We are hoping for increased investment for us to manage our growing regional success."

"Since 2004 AFP has made a major contribution to how Aucklanders enjoy cultural activities across the region. The festival is New Zealand's largest free visual arts festival and we are proud, in our 15th year, to continue to present world class projects that highlight issues communities need to consider. We invite audiences to enjoy the nearly 100 exhibitions and events on offer that showcase the work of leading New Zealand and international photographers."

AFP features twelve Control-themed exhibitions, eighteen 'Core' exhibitions and seventeen 'Talking Culture' events - including presentations by award-winning US photojournalist Maggie Steber, Argentinian artist Alejandro Chaskielberg and leading German political photographer Herlinde Koelbl [more details pages 2 and 3]. There are also forty-seven 'Satellite' exhibitions across the region – including a three-year study of the Waterview Tunnel project and solo and group shows [see p4]

Most of 2018's Control-themed exhibitions are based at the AFP hub, Silo Park in Wynyard Quarter [details next page]. Many prompt reflections on how, as *Control* curator Gwen Lee describes it, "the rampant presence of photography" has invaded private and public realms. "Surveillance, aided by digitalization and satellites, propels questions about power underlying all forms of control, often belying the fact that control starts with one in power, administering action on others."

The popular Nikon Auckland Photo Day returns on 9 June. The 24-hour competition invites people to capture still or moving images of the Auckland region on one day. An outdoor exhibition at Queens Wharf and a digital Photo Map project will help share the the archive of more than 10,000 images entered since the annual competition began in 2004.

More highlights on pages 2-4 and further details at photographyfestival.org.nz

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Auckland Festival of Photography 2018

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

Festival Sponsors: Baker Douglas, Leica, Mazda, Nikon

Community grants: : Creative Communities, COGS, The Lion Foundation, The Trusts, Blue Sky Trust,

International Partners: Australian High Commission, US Embassy of New Zealand, Asia New Zealand

Foundation, Asia Pacific Photoforum, Head On, Argentinian Foreign Office, Kuala Lumpur Photo

Awards, Daylight Books, PhotoLux, Alexia Foundation