May 31–June 22

Auckland Festival of Photography

D-Photo's picks

With over 110 exhibitions and events across 60 venues citywide, the Auckland Festival of Photography is the most bountiful photographic event of the year — but it can also be a little overwhelming. We have picked some of our favourite events in this year's line-up to help you begin planning your own festival experience. Be sure to visit their website, photographyfestival.org.nz, for the full programme of dates and locations.

Round and Round, Roberta Thornley

May 29–July 22
The Pah Homestead

One of New Zealand's fastest-rising photography stars, Roberta Thornley gets an early career retrospective care of the Wallace Arts Trust. Viewers will have the opportunity to trace the artist's evolving practice through works usually held in both public and private collections, along with the work produced when she won the festival's Annual Commission in 2011.

Laberinto, Alejandro Chaskielberg

June 1–24
Ellen Melville Centre

If you caught his interview in our previous issue, you already know the work of Argentinian photographer Alejandro Chaskielberg is not to be missed. Using his signature style of highly dynamic night-time photography, he has created a dazzling series of works investigating a huge labyrinth hidden in the hills of Patagonia.

Aide Memoire and Other Stories, Harvey Benge

June 3–20
Northart

Another chance to compare the works of an artist's earlier work with their current practice, this exhibition sees prolific photographer Harvey Benge showing imagery from 1999 to 2000 alongside new creations. This opportunity to view the artist's inventive, erudite, and playful imagery is not to be missed.

Blue Series, Denise Batchelor

May 30–June 23
Orexart

An artist who always presents a unique, challenging view of the natural world, Denise Batchelor's latest work examines the intriguing Physalia utriculus, or 'blue bottle'. Featuring both still and moving-image work, this series was shown in Berlin last year, and its festival appearance marks the first opportunity to view it locally.

ROBERTA THORNLEY, TRAMPOLINE, 2012, COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND TIM MELVILLE GALLERY