

# FUTURES

## Futures announces month-long digital photography festival

Futures Photography presents details on the programme for its upcoming third event, which will take place online entirely. From the 5th to the 31st of October, Futures Digital Festival celebrates and supports the new names of contemporary photography with talks, exhibitions and other activities. Co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union, this edition brings together the international photography community, including all of the artists and institutions who have joined the talent platform since its beginning in 2018. For a month, the festival unfolds in 5 programme elements under the theme RESET – discussing the rapid changes today's world faces and how art responds to them. *The Expos*, *The Assembly*, *The Conversations*, *The Open Mic*, and *The Studio Visit* explore whether and how this year's developments will influence the way we produce and experience art.

### The Expos

This year's selected artists will be presented in two online exhibitions. The first being *Futures Talents 2020*, a collective showcase in which, like previous editions, all of the 59 talents will be joined and

introduced to the public. Accessible at all hours during the festival, *Futures Talents 2020* is a place to reflect upon Europe's contemporary visual landscape as this expo discusses what emerging artists in Europe are talking about today. The simultaneous exhibition, *RESET*, is curated by visual artist Salvatore Vitale, and investigates this year's main theme within the projects of seven artists who have all been selected for Futures over the years: [Ana Zibelnik](#), [Dávid Biró](#), [Ela Polkowska](#), [Eva O'Leary](#), [Garry Loughlin](#), [Julie Poly](#) and [Sanne De Wilde](#).

### The Assembly

For *The Assembly*, the festival's speakers programme, all twelve Futures members will host a series of talks with artists, photography specialists and industry creatives on a variety of topics that are related to the main theme of the festival: RESET. The discussions take place online at 4PM CEST every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, and can be followed via Zoom or Facebook live-stream. The programme includes presentations and workshops by art professionals such as Igiaba Scego (writer), Karolina Gembara (visual artist), Lewis Bush (photographer, writer, curator) and Rafal Milach (visual artist).

## The Conversations

Throughout the festival, online portfolio reviews will take place in a private environment. These coaching sessions are one-on-one conversations between the talents of the past three years and photography experts from all over the world. The list of professionals includes artists, curators, photo editors, gallerists, publishers, among others, they are Azu Nwagbogu (Founder of African Artists' Foundation (AAF) and Founder of LagosPhoto Festival), Claire Gould (Curator of the Copenhagen Photo Festival), Elias Redstone (Founder and Artistic Director of PHOTO 2021), Erik Vroons (Editor-at-large for *GUP Magazine*), Jenny Nordquist (Artistic Director of Landskrona Foto), Tim Clark (Founder of *1000 Words*) and Yvette Mutumba (Curator-at-large at the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam).

## The Open Mic

On Mondays throughout the month, *The Open Mic* offers this year's artists the opportunity to digitally present their ongoing and unfinished projects to an exclusive audience of fellow artists and relevant industry professionals. The artists selected for these private sessions are [Ana Zibelnik](#), [András Ladocsi](#), [Brave Boy Studio](#), [Hanna Jarzabek](#), [Jon Gorospe](#), [Mar Sáez](#), [Ruth Montel Arias](#), [Sebastian Steveniers](#) and [Vera Ryklova](#).

## The Studio Visit

Every week, Marina Paulenka (Co-Founder of Organ Vida and former Artistic Director of Unseen) invites art professionals and collectors into the studios of some of this year's artists to discuss their work and workplaces. In these private online tours, host and talent elaborate on their creative process, inspirations, aspirations and unreleased projects. Unlike previous tours, the studio visit on October 30th, will be open to the public from 4PM CET via Zoom and Facebook live-stream. For this event, Paulenka sees [Charlotte Schmitz](#), [Karolina Wojtas](#), [Máté Bartha](#) and [Ulla Deventer](#).

## Official Opening

The festival launches its programme on the 5th of October at 6PM CEST via Zoom with a short presentation of the festival, followed by *Who wants to be a photographer?*. This playful and provocative quiz show about the state of the medium is hosted by artist collective You Must Not Call It Photography If This Expression Hurts You™ (Jon Uriarte, Katrina Sluis and Marco de Mutiis) and open to all interested in contemporary photography, and those up for defying their post-photographic expertise and winning amazing prizes.

## FUTURES DIGITAL FESTIVAL

5 – 31 October 2020

[futures-photography.com](http://futures-photography.com)

## EDITOR'S NOTES

### About Futures

Futures is a Europe-based photography platform bringing together the global photography community to support and nurture the professional development of emerging artists across the world. Since 2017, it aims to add long term value in empowering early and mid-career photographers – launching initiatives to promote their work and granting them access to an unprecedented network of professionals, markets and audiences.

Futures seeks to encourage new and adventurous ways of enhancing the vital relationship between artists and the industry by creating an ecosystem that allows and stimulates cross-pollination, whilst simultaneously becoming the go-to source for emerging photography worldwide. Futures works as a growing international network of influential organisations operating in the field of photography, bringing together a wealth of resources, expertise and talent programmes to pool from. Each year, they nominate a group of rising photography talents to join the platform and co-host a series of events to increase their capacity, mobility and visibility. Synchronously, the platform aims to reveal new and exciting photographic approaches, by celebrating a diversity of stories, encouraging upcoming artists to present their most challenging work, and providing insights into their world and most recent projects.

### PRESS

For more information and imagery, please contact:

### Celso Filho

[press@futures-photography.com](mailto:press@futures-photography.com)

If you would like to attend the official opening or attend one of the events closed for the public, please email [press@futures-photography.com](mailto:press@futures-photography.com).

### MEMBERS

Co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, Futures has thus far drawn from and collaborated with a consortium of the following twelve art institutions across Europe to amplify emerging talents in photography: British Journal of Photography <sup>(UK)</sup>, The Calvert Journal <sup>(UK)</sup>, CAMERA - Centro Italiano per la Fotografia <sup>(IT)</sup>, Hyères Festival <sup>(FR)</sup>, FOMU <sup>(BE)</sup>, Fotofestival Lodz <sup>(PL)</sup>, PHotoESPAÑA <sup>(ES)</sup>, Photolreland <sup>(IR)</sup>, Photo Romania Festival <sup>(RO)</sup>, Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center <sup>(HU)</sup>, Eurokleis <sup>(IT)</sup>, Triennial of Photography Hamburg <sup>(DE)</sup>.

From December 2020, we'll welcome three new members: Copenhagen Photo Festival <sup>(DK)</sup>, Void <sup>(GR)</sup>, Tbilisi Photo Festival <sup>(GE)</sup>.