



PRESS RELEASE

January 2016

World stars of photography, virtual exhibitions, a fish museum and the Tour de France mystique - The 2017 annual programme for the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf

Virtual reality and the Grand Départ in Düsseldorf will be two of the major themes of the coming year and the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf will be devoting large-scale projects to both of them. With its "Unreal" exhibition, in May 2017, the NRW-Forum, as one of the first museums worldwide, will inaugurate a virtual extension building. On the occasion of the Grand Départ in Düsseldorf, the exhibition venue in the Ehrenhof will become an arena for the most important bike race in the world and, with a big international show, will devote itself to the powerful imagery of the Tour de France. Furthermore, there are two world stars of photography in the programme, namely Peter Lindbergh and Garry Winogrand. Moreover, the best photography graduates in Germany will be showcased at the opening exhibition of the "gute aussichten (good prospects) 2017/2018" award competition for up-and-coming photographers. Solo exhibitions for Thomas Mailaender und Erik Kessels will feature artists who are also passionate collectors of photographs and who humorously juggle the flood of digital images. After its successful launch in 2016, in November 2017, the Next Level Gaming Festival will once again bring its world of digital games and interactive festival of gaming to Düsseldorf. Furthermore, visitors can look forward to a new shop and restaurant concept in 2017.

03.02 - 30.04.17

Peter Lindbergh / Garry Winogrand: Women On Street

Fashion photography meets street photography. On the occasion of the Duesseldorf Photo Weekend 2017, in an exhibition entitled *Women on Street*, from 3 February to 30 April 2017, the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf will be presenting two world stars of photography - Peter Lindbergh and Garry Winogrand - and a world premiere: Garry Winogrand's rare colour photographs from the 50s and 60s will be on show for the first time. The *Women on Street* exhibition refers to the original title of a series called *Women are Beautiful*, which was published for the first time in 1975 by Garry Winogrand and is probably his most famous work. The exhibition juxtaposes these photographs with the *On Street* series created



by Peter Lindbergh, a star of fashion photography.

<http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press/peter-lindbergh-garry-winogrand-women-on-street>

03.02 - 30.04.17

Thomas Mailaender: The Fun Archive

The Fun Archive is Thomas Mailaender's first major retrospective in Germany. The French artist collects artefacts of cyber culture – anonymous amateur photographs, Internet memes and cyber trash –, which he archives, processes and channels into the world of high culture. From 3 February to 30 April 2017 he will be opening his Fun Archive at the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf and will be constructing spectacular room installations such as the *Fun Archive* and the *Fish Museum*. *The Fun Archive* will provide a comprehensive overview of Thomas Mailaender's most spectacular installations, his early series and latest works.

<http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press/thomas-mailaender-the-fun-archive>

02.02 - 05.02.17

Duesseldorf Photo Weekend 2017

The exhibitions *Women on Street* and *Thomas Mailaender: The Fun Archive* will both open at the same time as the Duesseldorf Photo Weekend 2017 on Thursday, 2 February, at the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf (www.duesseldorfphotoweekend.de). Furthermore, on the occasion of the Photo Weekend, on Saturday, 4 February, the Portfolio Review 2017 will take place on the upper floor of the NRW-Forum. At the review, up-and-coming photographers will present their works to a prestigious jury. Applications to take part in the review can be submitted up to 20 December 2016 (www.portfolio-review.de). From 2 February to 12 March a 'best of' exhibition will likewise showcase the best works from past reviews and will present the current themes, trends and methods of a young generation of artists.

There will be a musical accompaniment for the Photo Weekend in the form of two concerts that will take place at the NRW-Forum as part of the "Schönes Wochenende" (Nice Weekend) Festival organised by the Tonhalle Düsseldorf. Under the theme of "Music, Mix, Mashup" the Festival will present a fascinating cosmos of sounds as a reflection of the practices of copying and pasting, quoting



and commenting that constitute the key cultural tools of our times. "Schönes Wochenende" will take place for the first time in 2017 in close co-operation with the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf where two out of a total of four concerts will take place. www.schoeneswochenende.com

25.3 - 16.4.17

In Transit: Digital Media Art from Malta

New media have not just produced new art forms that have been influenced by the new media technologies but also new art forms that exist solely because of such technologies. In the Maltese arts scene, there are a number of young artists working in the fields of video art, photography, sound installations and Net art. The *In Transit* exhibition will showcase 19 of these Maltese artists, for whom the digital is understood to be not just a medium for but also the content of art, and will present them to an international audience. The exhibition will be shown in various European cities, in the first half of 2017, on the occasion of Malta assuming the presidency of the Council of the EU. The touring exhibition will be curated by the artist, curator and researcher Dr Vince Briffa.

<http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press/in-transit>

19.05 - 30.07.17

Mythos Tour de France (Tour de France Mystique)

Breathtaking landscapes, highly-charged places and riders stylised as heroes. The Tour de France is permeated with mystique, legends and icons and has always attracted the world's best photographers. In the summer of 2017, the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf will provide a double arena for a major sporting event and a media event. Not only will the route for the Grand Départ go directly past the Ehrenhof but the Tour will also be coming into the exhibition space. An international group exhibition will showcase the powerful imagery of the most important bike race in the world. From Robert Capa, Harry Gruyaert, Henri Cartier-Bresson through John Vink and right up to Andreas Gursky, the show will shine a light on the eventful history of the Tour de France and will show its glorious side as well as its dark side. It will tell the stories behind the great icons of the world of bicycle racing and will demonstrate how sporting events and image events are interdependent.

<http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press/mythos-tour-de-france>



25.5 - 05.11.17

Unreal: A Virtual Reality Exhibition

Virtual reality will be one of the very important themes in 2017 - for business, the entertainment industry and for art. With its "Unreal" exhibition, the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf, as one of the first exhibition venues worldwide, will inaugurate a virtual extension building, on 19 May 2017, in which purely virtual group and solo exhibitions will be presented in the future. The architecture of the VR space will be designed by media artist and programmer Manuel Rossner who, together with Alain Bieber, the artistic director of the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf, will curate the first exhibition.

<http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press/unreal-eine-virtual-reality-ausstellung>

12.08.17 until 05.11.17

Erik Kessels & Friends

Erik Kessels ranks among the most important creative professionals in the world. He co-founded the international agency KesselsKramer in Amsterdam and is not only a rock star among advertisers but also an artist, curator, publicist and a passionate collector of photographs. The *Erik Kessels & Friends* exhibition, at the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf, will be the first comprehensive Germany-wide retrospective of this Dutch artist and advertiser with a preference for the imperfect and the incomplete. From 5 August to 5 November 2017, the retrospective will showcase the most important works of the past 20 years. Moreover, he has invited along five friends, the artists Paul Kooiker, Joan Fontcuberta, Peter Piller, Joachim Schmid and Ruth van Beek, who will be intervening in the survey exhibition with their own works.

<http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press/erik-kessels-friends>

<http://www.kesselskramer.com/> <http://www.kesselskramerpublishing.com/>

09 -12.11.2017

Next Level - Festival for Games 2017

The Next Level has arrived in Düsseldorf. After its successful launch in 2016, in November 2017, the Games Festival will take place for a second time at the NRW-Forum. The exhibition rooms will be transformed into a digital adventure trail. The latest games and trends in the industry, interactive art installations, party formats and workshops will bring together digital gaming culture devotees



and professionals. Furthermore, the talks and presentations at the Next Level will provide visitors and professional circles with an opportunity to obtain information on and exchange ideas and views on a broad spectrum of subjects related to the potential for games in art, education and business. Next Level - Festival for Games has been organised by the NRW CULTURE secretariat together with the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf and other Partners. www.next-level.org
<http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press/next-level-festival-for-games-2017>

24.11.2017 - 11.02.2018

Gute aussichten (good prospects) 2017/2018

The best photography graduates in the country will be gathering together again in Düsseldorf. The grand opening exhibition of the "gute aussichten" award for up-and-coming photographers will take place at the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf for the second time. Once a year, a prominent jury selects the best works from the submissions from all the German institutes of higher education that have a photography course. After the opening exhibition at the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf, the artists who have been chosen will be showcased in other exhibitions and programmes nationally and internationally. "gute aussichten" was founded, in 2004, by Josefine Raab and Stefan Becht. Up to now, some of the members of the jury have always been internationally renowned photographers and artists such as Andreas Gursky, Juergen Teller, Norbert Bisky, Thomas Demand, Annelies Strba, Thomas Ruff, Jürgen Klauke, Thomas Struth, Hans Christian Schink and Paul Graham.

<http://www.guteaussichten.org/>

<http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press/gute-aussichten-2017-2018>

Shop and restaurant

Following last year's complete modernisation of the visual appearance of the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf, in 2017, new concepts will be realised for the shop and for the restaurant.

In February 2017, Sebastian Steinacker will be opening his third Soda Books store at the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf. He has already opened stores in Berlin and Munich. Soda stands for visual culture and free inspiration, for a careful selection of international titles and aesthetic as well as visual quality. The new shop will provide a broad selection of books and magazines from all fields of fashion, photography, architecture and design. Moreover, there will also be unknown,



elaborately produced and exceptional publications on its shelves. The rooms will be designed by Designliga, as was already the case in Berlin and Munich.

<http://sodabooks.com/>

On 1 April 2017, work will also begin on the renovation of the rotunda.

Subsequently, the Düsseldorf-based start-up "Eat the Beat" will take over the catering service at the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf and will develop a new concept that will be based primarily on regional and seasonal cuisine.

Press images: <http://www.nrw-forum.de/en/press>

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