

# *In Focus* – Collecting Contemporary Photography

## Event details

### Date & times

Saturday 26 March, 11.00-17.00  
(with a private reception at the Impressions Gallery from 17.30)

### Host venue

National Media Museum (NMM), Bradford

### Itinerary

#### Registration (10.45)

Guests to arrive

#### Welcome (11.00-11.10)

Mark Doyle and Rebecca Morrill (Contemporary Art Society)

#### Talk (11.10-12.00)

Photography and Public Collections: *How and why is contemporary photography collected for the National Photography Collection at the National Media Museum?*

Speaker: **Greg Hobson** (Curator of Photography – NMM)

#### Break-out sessions (12.00-13.00)

Guests to split into smaller groups and rotate for the following 20 minute sessions:

- Behind-the-scenes tour of *Insight* (the Collections & Research Centre at NMM)
- View key contemporary acquisitions in the NMM collection (Print Room)
- Meet with the current *Fellow in Photography* at NMM
- A tour of the *Fay Godwin: Land* exhibition

Speakers: Ruth Kitchin, Brian Liddy, and Greg Hobson (NMM)

#### Lunch (13.00-14.00)

A light lunch at NMM is included in the ticket price.

### Talk (14.00-14.45)

Photography and the Public Gallery: *Where to get an independent perspective on emerging talent*

Speaker: **Clare Grafik** (Senior Curator – Photographers' Gallery, London)

### Talk (14.45-15.30)

Photography and the Private Collector: *A personal story of collecting photography*

Speaker: **Sebastien Montabonel**

### Tea & Coffee (15.30-16.00)

### Talk (16.00-16.45)

Photography and the Artist: *How do practitioners engage with the market?*

Speaker: **Simon Norfolk**

### Finish at NMM (17.00)

### Private Reception (17.30 onwards)

Private reception and drinks at Impressions Gallery with a chance to view their current exhibition – *LOVE ME* by Zed Nelson. Hosted by: **Anne McNeill** (Director)

### Charge

Please note, there will be a charge to cover the costs of organising this event, which includes a light lunch and afternoon refreshments

**£12 CAS members/£15 non-members**

### Booking & payment

To book a place and make payment please contact:

Ally Bennett (Membership & Marketing Coordinator, CAS) on 020 7831 3218.

Please note that places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

### Membership of Contemporary Art Society

This event is part of a series of events programmed by the Contemporary Art Society in the North East and North West. Membership costs £50 per year / £25 for students.

If you are not yet a member and would like to join, or to receive further information about the organisation and its activities, please contact:

**North East:** Rebecca Morrill, [rebecca@contemporaryartsociety.org](mailto:rebecca@contemporaryartsociety.org) / 07815 830 182

**North West:** Mark Doyle, [mark@contemporaryartsociety.org](mailto:mark@contemporaryartsociety.org) / 07891 880 498

[www.contemporaryartsociety.org](http://www.contemporaryartsociety.org)

### Special Offer for new Members

There will be a **10% discount** for new members who sign up at this event and the chance to win a unique print by internationally acclaimed artist Michael Craig-Martin worth over £500.

## Speaker biographies

### Greg Hobson

Greg Hobson is Curator of Photographs at the National Media Museum. He coordinates and contributes content for the Museum's programme and is actively involved in the acquisition of works for the Museum's Photography Collection.

He is currently working with the Donovan Wylie, the Museum's current Fellow in Photography, and is developing exhibitions for the Museum's planned activities in London.

### Clare Grafik

Clare Grafik is Senior Curator at The Photographers' Gallery in London. She has worked on solo exhibitions with artists and photographers including Keith Arnatt, Lise Sarfati, Antoine D'Agata, Katy Grannan, Zineb Sedira and Taryn Simon. Group shows include *Seeing is Believing: photography and spiritualism*, a video library with the Cinémathèque de Tanger and, most recently, *The Photographic Object: photography and sculpture*. She is currently working on an exhibition about Contemporary Photo Collage, due to take place at the newly reopened Photographers' Gallery in Autumn 2012.

She is a sessional lecturer at Birkbeck College London and has written for various publications including IANN, Contemporary, Art on Paper and Art Monthly.

### Simon Norfolk

Simon Norfolk was born in Lagos, Nigeria in 1963 and educated in England finishing at Oxford and Bristol Universities with a degree in Philosophy and Sociology. After completing a documentary photography course in Newport, South Wales he worked for far-left publications specialising in work on anti-racist activities and fascist groups, in particular the British National Party. In 1994 he gave up photojournalism in favour of landscape photography.

His book of photographs *For Most Of It I Have No Words: Genocide, Landscape, Memory* about the landscapes of the places that have seen Genocide was published in 1998 to wide critical approval. The exhibition (an Impressions touring show) was shown at many venues including the Imperial War Museum in London and the Nederlands Foto Instituut. Simon has since gone on to produce important bodies of work relating to the war in Afghanistan (*Afghanistan: chronotopia* 2001), for which he won the European Publishers Award and was nominated for the Citibank Prize, and the aftermath of the war in Bosnia (*Bleed* 2005).

His work is held in many public collections across the world including The Portland Art Museum in Oregon, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the British Council. He is represented by Gallery Luisotti in Los Angeles, Bonni Berubi Gallery in New York and Michael Hoppen Contemporary in London.

## Sebastien Montabonel

Sebastien Montabonel joined auction house and art dealership Phillips de Pury & Co in January 2009 as European Senior Specialist in Contemporary Photography. Prior to this, he worked as a consultant on some of the largest corporate and private photographic collections.

Sebastien is also the founder and Editor in Chief of Alaska Editions, specialising in the high-end publishing of contemporary photography, the initiator of the "Private Collector" project which in partnership with the Saatchi Gallery brings to the public some of the most important private collections, and a nominator for the prestigious Prix Pictet photography prize.

Sebastien has been collecting contemporary photography for over 10 years. Every single work that he owns has been acquired directly from the artists. His collection has two main directions, Tableaux photographic dealing with the sublime and non places and work reappropriation. At the moment he is obsessed with vertical Tableaux.

## Anne McNeill

Anne has been Director of Impressions Gallery since 2000. Previously she was Artistic Director of Photo 98, the UK Year of Photography and before that was the founding Director of Photoworks, commissioning and publishing agency.

Anne has curated numerous photography exhibitions including Anna Fox retrospective, that was shortlisted for the 2010 Deutsche Börse Photography Prize., and most recently *Lost Languages and other voices* retrospective work by Joy Gregory. She is the editor of many books such as *Translating Place 2011* and *The Front* the work of Trish Morrissey 2009.

Anne is currently working on *Ways of Looking*, a month of photography staged in Bradford city centre in October 2011. Other projects include working with photographer Paul Reas for a retrospective of his work in 2012.

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