

# PRESS RELEASE

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**For immediate release**

**UrbanPhotoFest announces programme of events for 2017**

**Festival dates: 10 – 15 November 2017**

**Theme: Cartographies**

The organisers of the 2017 International UrbanPhotoFest are delighted to announce an exciting schedule of events for this year's festival run over six days.

This year's festival starts with the [Urban Photographers Association \(UPA\) annual artist's keynote lecture](#) from the internationally acclaimed photographic artist Roger Ballen at Tate Britain on Friday 10 November, followed by a wine reception and festival launch event.

The following day (Saturday 11 November) sees the annual [Urban Encounters](#) conference also at Tate Britain. Other festival events include: a symposium, [Urban Photography: Making, Researching, Teaching](#) at The Photographers' Gallery; a masterclass with Francesca Catastini in association with The Mango Lab, a seminar with London Independent Photography (LIP), a workshops and walks day, a UPA portfolio review and the Urban Photo Village, all exploring this year's theme of *Cartographies*.

At the Tate Britain *Urban Encounters* conference on Saturday, we have a wide range of international artists and theorists whose work is concerned with mapping contemporary city spaces. Some speakers focus on history and memory, others discuss the politics of representation and what 'counts as knowledge'. This event will rethink what is meant by 'critical urbanism' against a backdrop of visual evocation and image-making. The conference will be of interest to artists, photographers, urbanists, social researchers, architects and planners, and those concerned with cultural activism. The keynote will be by Turner Prize winner Susan Philipsz, and other conference speakers include: Jamila Cooper, Abbas Nokhasteh, Stefano Carnelli, Ofri Cnaani, Layla Curtis, Michelle Henning, Edward Hillel, Claire Holdsworth, and Linda Lai.

The festival also has an Urban Photo Village curated by photographer and architect Stefano Carnelli and has eleven exhibitions all within walking distance of each other. Edward Hillel, the festival artist shows his work *Thinking Machine* at MMX Gallery, UPA has its annual members' exhibition *Charting the Invisible* at the APT Gallery, and graduates from Goldsmiths' MA Photography and Urban Cultures exhibit *The Urban Condition* at Lewisham Art House.

Paul Halliday, Creative Director of UrbanPhotoFest comments:

"With this year's festival, we wanted to focus on the nature of cartography and to think about how this relates to artists and photographers making work about urban space. We have put together an ambitious programme that takes the debate forward about how we navigate through the urban domain, and we are looking forward to seeing people engage with a variety of events and exhibitions across London."

## **For further information**

Please visit the website at [urbanphotofest.org](http://urbanphotofest.org). Please direct any press enquiries to Paul Halliday at: [p.halliday@gold.ac.uk](mailto:p.halliday@gold.ac.uk)

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