

GEN Z: SHAPING A NEW GAZE

Exhibition Duration: **9 May – 30 August 2026**

Opening: **Friday, 8 May 2026, 7.00 pm**

Press Preview: **Friday, 8 May 2026, 11.00 am**

Venue: **Fotografie Forum Frankfurt**

*Frankfurt am Main, 2 April 2026 – One generation, countless perspectives: The exhibition **GEN Z: SHAPING A NEW GAZE** gives a voice to young people, primarily born between 1995 and 2010 – who refuse to simply accept the world they have grown up in. This generation questions norms, challenges codes, and redefines its place in a changing time. The group exhibition at the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt presents works by 40 photographers from 25 countries.*

Intimate stories, multiple identities, reinvented family ties, and a sensitive exploration of the body and gender intertwine with personal narratives, creating a vibrant collective energy – a rich mosaic of experiences, cultural backgrounds and perspectives, where the personal becomes political.

Conceived as an immersion into the contemporary issues shaping this generation, the exhibition is structured around four themes, each offering an insight into the concerns and aspirations of young people who create, question, demand, and reinvent themselves.

Mapping a Sense of Belonging explores the home as a place of identity – be it a refuge or a source of tension. **Shifting Realities** widens the gaze to a world undergoing political, climatic, and social upheavals, in which the notions of home and belonging themselves become uncertain, and themes of exile, instability, and resilience are addressed. **Beyond the Mirror** places the body at the centre: many Generation Z artists question gender norms and stereotypes, and the body is experienced as a space of transformation and made visible as such. **Multiplying Perspectives** raises questions around race, history, and culture. The artists reclaim control of their own narratives and position photography as a tool of resistance and transformation.

The Fotografie Forum Frankfurt presents **GEN Z: SHAPING A NEW GAZE** for the first time in Germany. The exhibition is accompanied by a publication gathering the works of all 66 artists originally shown at Photo Elysée in Lausanne. Organised and produced by Photo Elysée in Lausanne, curated by Nathalie Herschdorfer, Hannah Pröbsting, and Julie Dayer, the group exhibition has been adapted for the FFF with the curatorial collaboration of Celina Lunsford and Andrea Horvay. In doing so, Photo Elysée – following its exhibition series ‘reGeneration’ – and the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt – with ‘Photography Players’ and ‘Recommended’ – continue their commitment to emerging photographers.

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Chloé Azzopardi (FR, 1994), Hidir Badaruddin (SG, 1995), Daveed Baptiste (US, 1997), Sara Benabdallah (MA, 1995), River Claire (BO, 1997), Sara De Brito Faustino (PT/NL, 1999), Florian Gatzweiler (DE, 1998) & Sascha Levin (DE, 2000), Toma Gerzha (RU, 2003), Mahalia Taje Giotto (CH/IT, 1992), Salomé Gomis-Trezise (FR/GB, 1999), Marvel Harris (NL, 1995), Thembinkosi Hlatshwayo (ZA, 1993), Lorane Hochstätter (CH, 2001), Ben Hubert (GB, 2002), Francesca Hummler (US/DE, 1997), Matej Jurčević (HR, 1995), Lisa Karnadi (ID, 1997), Nur Aishah Kenton (SG/GB, 1998), Ahmed Khirelsid (SD, 2001), Phương Nguyễn Lê (VN, 2002), Yunping Li (ES, 1998), Isabella Madrid (CO, 1999), Luna Mahoux (BE, 1996), Gabriela Marciniak (PL, 1996), Cheryl Mukherji (IN, 1995), Daniel Obasi (NG, 1993), Alice Pallot (FR, 1995), Laurence Philomène (CA, 1993), Soyeohang Rai (IN, 2001), Carla Rossi (IT, 1999), Emma Sarpaniemi (FI, 1993), Fatimazahra Serri (MA, 1995), Suwa Shin (KR, 2000), Charlie Tallott (GB, 2000), Varvara Uhlik (UA, 1997), Farren van Wyk (NL/ZA, 1993), Ziyu Wang (CN, 1998), Noyan (CH/TR, 1999), Sophia Wilson (US, 2000).

PUBLICATION

A publication accompanying the exhibition by Nathalie Herschdorfer, published by Textuel (Paris) with a foreword by journalist Salomé Saqué, is available in French and English. The French edition is available at the FFF (English edition currently out of print).

SUPPORTING PROGRAMME

SAT/SUN, 9/10 May, 10.00 am –5.00 pm **WORKSHOP** WORKSHOP with GEN Z photographer **FRANCESCA HUMMLER** “MINDFUL SELF-PORTRAITURE: OBJECTS, ARCHIVES, AND IDENTITY”

SAT, 9 May, 3.00 pm **GALLERY TALK** with present Gen Z artists, DR. HANNAH PRÖBSTING, Photo Elysée, and CELINA LUNSFORD & ANDREA HORVAY

FRI, 29 May, 6.00 pm **PANEL DISCUSSION** “GEN Z: ART IN THE AGE OF AI” with **LORANE HOCHSTÄTTER, ALINA FRIESKE**, moderated by **ELINOR ZOË KARL**, FFF Academy Assistant

TUE, 26 May, 23 June, 21 July, 18 August, 3.00 pm **CURATOR TOURS** with **CELINA LUNSFORD** or **ANDREA HORVAY**

RECOMMENDATIONS from the **FFF ACADEMY**

FRI–MON, 24–27 July, 10.00 am –5.00 pm **MASTERCLASS WORKSHOP** with **NINA BERMAN** “VISUAL STORYTELLING AND THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN ARCHIVE AND CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY”

FRI–MON, 25–28 SEPTEMBER, 10.00 am –5.00 pm **MASTERCLASS WORKSHOP** with **MAX PINCKERS** “SPECULATIVE DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY”

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GEN Z: SHAPING A NEW GAZE

PUBLIC GUIDED TOURS Wednesdays, 5.00 pm

OPENING HOURS Tue–Sun 11.00 am – 6.00 pm, MON closed

Entry 8 Euros, reduced 5 Euros

Press information and press photos for the exhibition **GEN Z: SHAPING A NEW GAZE** at the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt are available for download at: www.fffrankfurt.com/presse

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The Fotografie Forum Frankfurt (FFF) is one of the leading centres of photography in Europe. As an exhibition space, institution and event forum, the FFF deals with all aspects of photography. Since its founding in 1984 it has presented over 300 exhibitions with historic and contemporary photographers and artists. Additionally, the programme of the FFF ACADEMY comprises regular workshops, talks and discussions with internationally renowned photographers, artists and experts. Fotografie Forum Frankfurt is the organizing partner of the international RAY Triennial of Photography, which takes place in various exhibition venues in Frankfurt/Rhine-Main. Further information available at www.fffrankfurt.org.

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