The 4th edition of the KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival will be held from April 23rd–May 22nd 2016, presenting 13 innovative exhibitions around the theme “Circle of Life” all shown in iconic Kyoto venues with original scenography.

KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival is held annually over four weeks during the height of the spring tourist season in Kyoto, Japan. It has a style that is unique in Asia. Exhibitions will be spread across the city in various traditional Japanese and contemporary architecture, accompanied by innovative scenography. The exhibitions & events create opportunities, bringing people together of all ages, cultures, and backgrounds. Now recognized as one of the world’s leading photography events, KYOTOGRAPHIE has attracted some 157,000 visitors from across Japan and overseas in three editions since 2013.

KYOTOGRAPHIE 4th edition theme: “Circle of Life”

The Circle is the ultimate system, representing the birth, life, and death of all Nature’s creations. Everything is connected to this circle, intersecting and expanding. Creating a powerful pattern, showing us the fragility and beauty of our existence. Through our exhibitions everyone is invited to imagine their own role in the great ‘Circle of Life’.
Highlights

[1] Christian Sardet: The eminent researcher from the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) presents stunning images of plankton. Composing 98% of the ocean’s living biomass, plankton is the basis of our food chain, and thus supports all other life on the planet. With support from KYOTOGRAPHIE, Sardet produced new images in Shimoda, Japan, in fall 2015, which will be shown in a new installation created by Shiro Takatani (Dump Type) with original sound by Ryuichi Sakamoto.


In the exhibition ‘Coming into Fashion—A Century of Photography at Condé Nast presented by CHANEL NEXUS HALL,’ you can see masterpieces of fashion photography selected from the archives of Condé Nast. In one place, from a period spanning more than one hundred years, view original works by Edward Steichen, John Rawlings, William Klein, Helmut Newton and other renowned photographers commissioned by magazines such as Vogue and Vanity Fair.

[4] Arno Rafael Minkkinen: showing self-portraits of his nude body in natural landscapes, Minkkinen fully merges his limbs and torso with the surroundings. Like a chameleon, he blurs the lines between where the world ends and his body begins.

[5] Chris Jordan + Jurgen Lehl: Photographs of the decaying bodies of albatrosses on the remote and beautiful Midway atoll in the North Pacific, reveals the alarming extent of plastic pollution accumulated in our oceans. These images call on our social responsibility. The exhibition will also include Jurgen Lehl’s lamps, created from salvaged plastic waste found on beaches.

[6] Eriko Koga: Koga’s work addresses the fundamental question of life and death by looking tenderly and intimately at her daily life in one of Kyoto’s Buddhist temples.

[7] Thierry Bouet: Capturing the essence of new life, Bouet’s ‘First Look’ is a stunning set of portraits of newborn babies within their first hour of birth.

Venues

The festival will be held in approximately 13 sites throughout Kyoto, including the Okazaki area, which is the location of the new Rohm Theatre, due to open in spring 2016, and the Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art. The festival will also exhibit in venues that are normally closed to the public such as Kondaya Genbei Kurogura, a traditional 10th generation saki purveyor.

KYOTOGRAPHIE Public and Education Programs

KYOTOGRAPHIE provides a nurturing environment for its visitors, bringing a full range of educational programs to the city. There are five main outreach categories: The KYOTOGRAPHIE International Portfolio Review, Masterclass & Workshop, KYOTOGRAPHIE Kids Program, the Public Program—including lectures by invited artists—and finally our Education Outreach Program. These distinct categories cover a wide range of ages, abilities and interests. KYOTOGRAPHIE has a commitment to contribute to the advancement of education & photographic practice in Japan, as well as creating a platform for dialogue to explore issues that are important to us all. With this in mind, KYOTOGRAPHIE produces events tailored to suit specific needs, whether it be for the professional photographer, the amateur, the enthusiast or just those interested in new ideas.

Events

To involve our younger guests, the festival will have various programs for children such as a “Stamp Rally”—a typical Japanese event in which kids win prizes for getting their passes stamped at various locations set up by the festival.

We will also hold a day-long “Sustainable Society” event in beautiful Okazaki Park across from Heian Shrine. Amidst the green of the park, visitors can truly feel part of the “Circle of Life” as they stroll through a market offering organic food and environmentally friendly goods. Around sunset on that day, photographs and videos will be projected on a big outdoor screen, which is sure to make for a very special night at the festival.

KYOTOGRAPHIE Satellite Festival: KG+

KG+ is an art project started in 2013 with the aim of showcasing up-and-coming photographers and curators. As the satellite event of KYOTOGRAPHIE, KG+ serves as a place for photographers, curators, gallerists and special guests from around the world seeking to connect and exchange information. For this 4th edition in 2016, KG+ aims to give to new talent from Japan an international stage and to welcome international photographers from across the globe. Additionally, KG+ wishes to make photographic expression more accessible; to promote exhibits that relate to people’s lives, hoping the various venues throughout Kyoto city will help connect local communities and cultivate cultural exchange and discoveries. Each year an emerging artist from KG+ is nominated for the KG+ AWARD by Grand Marble. The winner will be granted an exhibition at the 2017 KYOTOGRAPHIE Festival.

www.kyotographie.jp
KYOTOGRAPHIE 2016
Program

1. Sarah Moon / France
2. Images by Christian Sardet / France
   Installation by Shiro Takatani / Japan
   Sound by Ryuichi Sakamoto / Japan
3. Coming into Fashion—A Century of Photography at Condé Nast
   presented by CHANEL NEXUS HALL
5. Arno Rafael Minkkinen / Finland
6. Chris Jordan / U.S.A. + Jurgen Lehl / Germany
7. Eriko Koga / Japan
8. EXILE: 1945 to Today By Magnum Photographers
9. Kikujiro Fukushima / Japan
10. Qian Haifeng / China
11. Antony Cairns / U.K.
12. Thierry Bouët / France
13. Special Exhibition by Ruinart

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