

Krakow, 12 May 2014

## **PRESS INFORMATION**

**The official opening of Krakow Photomonth 2014 is on 16 May at 6pm. This year's festival is an entire month (15 May–15 June) of events focusing on the relationship between photography and knowledge. The organiser of Krakow Photomonth is the Foundation for Visual Arts.**

The curator of the Main Programme of this year's Krakow Photomonth, which explores the potential of photography linked to serving knowledge, is the artist, critic and researcher Aaron Schuman. Behind the title of the 12th edition – *Re:Search* – lies the organisers' and curator's reflection that many of the pioneers of photography were not so much aesthetes seeking a new artistic medium as ambitious scientists, explorers and researchers. For them, photography became a visual tool capable of serving, supporting and strengthening their efforts – and quest for knowledge – in a very broad range of disciplines.

"For this year's edition of Krakow Photomonth we set ourselves the task of testing the way in which many contemporary photographers, artists, curators, scientists and historians – all of whom work in several areas of art and science – conduct their research, using photography as a starting point," explains Aaron Schuman.

The KPM 2014 calendar will feature exhibitions (of both global stars of photography presented in the Main Programme and promising newcomers from Poland and Eastern Europe in the ShowOFF Section), the 9th Portfolio Review (together with a competition for participants and the attractive Griffin Art Space prize), Masters Series meetings (this year held in two thematic blocks), workshops and much more. Traditionally, the openings of the Main Programme exhibitions will take place during the KPM Opening Weekend (15–18 May).

### **KPF 2014 Main Programme – the relationship between photography and knowledge**

The Main Programme of the 12th edition of Krakow Photomonth presents and studies various manifestations of the relationship between photography and knowledge. KPM 2014 will feature nine exhibitions: Trevor Paglen's *The Last Pictures* (Starmach Gallery), showing the image of itself that humanity will leave when it finally departs the Earth's surface; the influence that arranging data has on our knowledge of the world (Taryn Simon's *The Picture Collection*, MOCAK); why we tend to believe that everything that looks scientific is true (Clare Strand's *Further Reading*, National Museum in Krakow – Szolayski House); following the path of one's own memories and family histories, using museum collections as a starting point (Aaron Schuman's *FOLK. A Personal Ethnography*, Ethnographic Museum of Krakow); as well as photographs situated somewhere between criminology, aesthetics and psychology; the lesser-known side of one of the 20th century's most famous photographers; where is *Hotel Oracle*, a puzzle for festival audiences and an incentive to search for hidden knowledge; and the similarities and differences between scientific and artistic photography.

The *Echoes* exhibition presented at Bunkier Sztuki (curator: Jakub Woynarowski), this year's KPM Experimental Section, will explore – with major audience participation – the potential of photography as a medium that goes beyond the sense of sight.

### **ShowOFF Section – youth and ambition**

The ShowOFF Section, aimed at young artists, will this year comprise eight exhibitions. A jury consisting of Nicolas Groszpiere, Gunia Nowik and Patrick Komorowski, Ewa Tatar and Agata Ubysz selected eight winners from the applications received (including a record number sent from abroad). The 2014 cohort are Daniela Dostálková, Lucian Bran, Empty Set collective (Paweł Błęcki, Wiktoria Bukowy, Maciej Stachowiak),

Diana Lelonek and Marek Kucharski, Przemek Branas, Irena Kalicka, Monika Krzynówek and Dominika Gęsicka. The first ShowOFF Section 2014 exhibition openings take place on 15 May.

### **Accompanying events: 9th Portfolio Review plus prize, meetings, workshops and discussions**

The events accompanying the Krakow Photomonth 2014 exhibitions form an integral part of the Main Programme. For the second time at Photomonth, we will see the popular Masters Series meetings, some of which will focus on new photography publications.

This year's Accompanying Events programme also includes – for the ninth time – the Portfolio Review. This year's Review has a new feature, the best portfolio competition. The prize is production of two copies of a folder containing the portfolio, one of which will be purchased by the Krakow Photomonth 2014 Patron for the Griffin Art Space collection. The 9th Portfolio Review (24 May, Lubicz Office Centre) provides an excellent opportunity to get all-important advice and tips from top-class reviewers, as well as for artists to exhibit their work to a wider audience. The shortlisted works will be on display at Lubicz Office Centre from 25 May until the end of the festival.

The Photomonth Accompanying Events programme will be a whole month crammed with workshops, film projections, meetings, presentations, photography events and many other attractions (for the youngest visitors too). Come along and see!

### **Krakow Photomonth 2014**

**Re:**

**Search**

**15 May–15 June 2014**

**Curator of the Main Programme: Aaron Schuman**

### **KRAKOW PHOTOMONTH 2014 OPENING WEEKEND, MAIN PROGRAMME EXHIBITIONS (15–18 May)**

THURSDAY, 15 May:

**Taryn Simon** *The Picture Collection*

**Walker Evans. The Magazine Work**, curator: David Company

Opening: 15 May 2014, 6 pm – MOC AK

FRIDAY, 16 May:

**Trevor Paglen** *The Last Pictures* – **Official opening of KPM 2014**

Opening: 16 May 2014, 6 pm – Starmach Gallery

**Jason Fulford** *Hotel Oracle*

Opening: 16 May 2014, 9.30 pm – TAO by Zen and then...

SATURDAY, 17 May:

**Echoes**, KPM 2014 Experimental Section, curator: Jakub Woynarowski

Opening: 17 May 2014, 12 pm – Bunkier Sztuki

**Clare Strand** *Further Reading*

Opening: 17 May 2014, 6 pm – National Museum – The Szolayski House

**The Forensic Aesthetics**, curators: Thomas Keenan and Eyal Weizman

Opening: 17 May 2014, 8 pm – Pauza Gallery

SUNDAY, 18 May:

**Aaron Schuman** *FOLK. A Personal Ethnography*

Opening: 18 May 2014, 3 pm – Ethnographical Museum

**Radiation**, curator: Wojciech Nowicki

Opening: 18 May 2014, 5 pm – Manggha Museum

For more information about the Krakow Photomonth 2014 exhibitions and events see:

**photomonth.com || fb/photomonth**

And here's a taste of the excitement of the festival: <http://bit.do/KrakowPhotomonth2014>

### **PRESS CONTACT:**

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## **THE ORGANISER OF KRAKOW PHOTOMONTH FESTIVAL**

### **is the Foundation for Visual Arts**

Established in 2001, one of Poland's most active NGOs working in promotion of the visual arts. It specialises in photography, and its mission is looking for new definitions for photography in the context of contemporary art, history and sociology. The flagship event organised by the Foundation is Krakow Photomonth, a leading European photography festival. Between 2007 and 2011, the Foundation worked with the Krakow branch of the Association of Polish Photographic Artists to operate the ZPAF i S-Ka gallery, a space for experiment and promotion of interesting artists of the young generation. The Foundation is also a publisher: its catalogue contains both albums and books on photographic theory. It works with dozens of cultural institutions in Poland and abroad and participates in international cooperation networks and the most important photography events around the world.

#### **Foundation for Visual Arts**

Public benefit organisation  
ul. Ślusarska 9, 30-710 Kraków  
NIP 6792737586, KRS 68882  
[www.sztukawizualna.org](http://www.sztukawizualna.org)

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## **THE PATRON OF THE KRAKOW PHOTOMONTH FESTIVAL 2014**

### **is Griffin Art Space.**

Griffin Art Space was founded in 2012 by the Griffin Group, an investor in the real estate market. Its aim was to provide support for art, at the same time reviving the space of the exceptional buildings belonging to the Griffin Group. Griffin Art Space generally operates as a patron of interesting cultural events and the activities of outstanding art institutions, as well as assembling its own art collections.

Griffin Art Space also organises its own exhibitions and cultural events, working with renowned representatives of the art world and thus making art into a strategic platform for constructing the image and promotion of its investments, combining its mission and social responsibility with the pursuit of its business objectives.

[www.griffin-artspace.com](http://www.griffin-artspace.com)