

Auckland Art Gallery presents *Civilisation, Photography, Now* A photographic portrait of 21st-century life



Image credit:
Olivo Barbieri
site specific_MEXICO CITY 11 2011
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Major international photography exhibition opens at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki on Saturday 4 April.

Civilisation, Photography, Now explores our hyper-connected, 21st-century lives through over 200 original photographs by 103 contemporary artists from across Europe, Asia, America, Australia and New Zealand.

Together, photographers create a multifaceted portrait of our time. They are everywhere on the globe – in every country and in every city – observing, recording and interpreting the way we live now.

Examining contemporary life, from the way we produce and consume to the way we work and play, travel and inhabit, think and create, collaborate and clash, *Civilisation, Photography, Now* reveals not only the complexities of human existence, but also the possibilities beyond the world we currently encounter.

Kirsten Paisley, Director, Auckland Art Gallery, says: '*Civilisation, Photography, Now* presents a collection of images by the world's best art photographers, documentary practitioners, photojournalists and digital image-makers. Through the possibilities of the medium of photography, these artists create a captivating portrait of 21st-century life.'

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AUCKLAND
ART GALLERY
TOI OTĀMAKI

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The exhibition is conceived as a journey through eight key aspects of contemporary civilisation:

- *HIVE* explores the urban networks that form modern cities with images depicting the intricate ebb and flow of human activity in ever-changing built environments.
- *ALONE TOGETHER* presents people and their relationships and considers how an increasingly digitised world influences our social relations.
- *FLOW* reveals both the invisible and visible movement of people, goods and ideas around the world and the effect these systems have on our understanding of contemporary life.
- *PERSUASION* investigates the mechanisms we use to persuade others to follow our desires, from advertising and business to religion and politics.
- *CONTROL* highlights the impact of authority, as well as our increasing desire to dictate order and structure our future development.
- *RUPTURE* examines social breakdown, revealing conflicts between individuals and forcing us to confront civilisation’s failures.
- *ESCAPE* examines leisure and recreation, including cruise ships and amusement parks, as well as revealing the paradoxical stress within holiday industries.
- *NEXT* surveys the world taking shape in the 21st century, where rapid technological advancement is global.

Civilisation, Photography, Now is curated by renowned international photography curators William A. Ewing and Holly Roussell. The exhibition is co-produced by the Foundation for the Exhibition of Photography, Minneapolis/New York/Lausanne, and the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art of Korea, Seoul. Ron Brownson is the co-ordinating curator for Auckland Art Gallery.



Image credit:
Zhang Xiao
Coastline No.2 2009
© Zhang Xiao, courtesy Blindspot Gallery

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Opening Week: Curator’s Introduction

Sunday 5 April 2pm

Join international curators William A. Ewing and Holly Roussell for an introductory talk about *Civilisation, Photography, Now*. Introduced by Auckland Art Gallery Senior Curator Ron Brownson.



Image credit:
Lauren Greenfield
High school seniors (from left) Lili, 17, Nicole, 18, Lauren, 18, Luna, 18, and Sam, 17, put on their makeup in front of a two-way mirror for Lauren Greenfield’s Beauty CULTure documentary, Los Angeles, 2011. From the series Generation Wealth. © Lauren Greenfield

Exhibition details

Civilisation, Photography, Now

When:

Saturday 4 April to
 Sunday 5 July

10am–5pm daily

Where:

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
 Cnr Kitchener and Wellesley Streets
 Auckland, New Zealand

Admission:

New Zealand adult	\$19
New Zealand concessions	\$16
Members and Members guests	FREE
with valid Members card	
Children 12 and under	FREE

Separate charges apply for international visitors.

For more information, high-res images and interview requests contact:

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Joint admission price is available for both *Civilisation, Photography, Now* and *Enchanted Worlds: Hokusai, Hiroshige and the Art of Edo Japan*. See aucklandartgallery.com for details.

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Notes to the Editor

Artists included in *Civilisation, Photography, Now:*

- Max Aguilera-Hellweg
- Evan Baden
- Olivo Barbieri
- Mandy Barker
- Olaf Otto Becker
- Valérie Belin
- Daniel Berehulak
- Peter Bialobrzeski
- Florian Böhm
- Michele Borzoni
- Paul Bulteel
- Edward Burtynsky
- Alejandro Cartagena
- Philippe Chancel
- Olivier Christinat
- Chris Corson-Scott
- Raphaël Dallaporta
- Richard de Tscharnier
- Sergey Dolzhenko
- Natan Dvir
- Roger Eberhard
- Mitch Epstein
- Adam Ferguson
- Vincent Fournier
- Lee Friedlander
- Andreas Gefeller
- George Georgiou
- Christoph Gielen
- Ashley Gilbertson
- Katy Grannan
- Samuel Gratacap
- Lauren Greenfield
- Han Sungpil
- Nick Hannes
- Sean Hemmerle
- Candida Höfer
- Dan Holdsworth
- Hong Hao
- Pieter Hugo
- Chris Jordan
- Nadav Kander
- Mike Kelley
- KDK [Kim Dokyun]
- Kim Taedong
- Irene Kung
- Benny Lam
- An-My Lê
- Gjorgji Lichovski
- Michael Light
- Mauricio Lima
- Pablo López Luz
- Christian Lünig
- Vera Lutter
- Alex MacLean
- David Maisel
- Ann Mandelbaum
- Edgar Martins
- Jeffrey Milstein
- Mintio
- Richard Misrach
- Andrew Moore
- Richard Mosse
- Michael Najjar
- Walter Niedermayr
- Simon Norfolk
- Neil Pardington
- Cara Phillips
- Robert Polidori
- Cyril Porchet
- Mark Power
- Giles Price
- Reiner Riedler
- Andrew Rowat
- Dona Schwartz
- Paul Shambroom
- Sheng-Wen Lo
- Toshio Shibata
- Taryn Simon
- Thomas Struth
- Larry Sultan
- Noh Suntag
- Danila Tkachenko
- Andreas Tschersich
- Brian Ulrich
- Penelope Umbrico
- Carlo Valsecchi
- Reginald Van de Velde
- Cássio Vasconcellos
- Massimo Vitali
- Robert Walker
- Richard Wallbank
- Wang Qingsong
- Patrick Weidmann
- Thomas Weinberger
- Michael Wolf
- Paolo Woods
- Gabriele Galimberti
- Raimond Wouda
- Ahmad Zamroni
- Luca Zanier
- Zhang Xiao
- Robert Zhao Renhui
- Francesco Zizola