

f/stop - 9. Festival für Fotografie Leipzig 2021

## *TRUST/vertrauen*

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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**f/stop is delighted to announce the appointment of Susan Bright (London) and Nina Strand (Oslo) as curators for the ninth festival edition, to be held in Leipzig from June 25 to July 4, 2021.**

The curators were chosen by the advisory board established in 2020, consisting of Kathrin Schöneegg (C/O Berlin), Steffen Siegel (University of Folkwang), Christina Töpfer (Camera Austria) Nadine Wietlisbach (Fotomuseum Winterthur) and Jan Wenzel (Spector Books Leipzig).

"Our theme TRUST/vertrauen for f/stop 2021 is informed by our belief that trust is the currency of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," says Nina Strand. "At the heart of the curatorial concept is a programme that can help us better understand our world, our place in it and our path through the medium of photography," adds Susan Bright. The timeliness, topicality and relevance to this theme is clear. Trust is no longer what happens if we look eye to eye – it also needs to be generated and maintained for the digital space. Despite all advances, challenges, and risks, trust issues will become increasingly critical for human and technological interaction as the century develops.

This edition of f/stop has been conceived with the view that a festival must be viewed as an expansive on-going discourse, and as a mode of reflection that reaches outwards as well as being challenged by the structures that form it. It will differ from former editions by balancing globalism and locality and by asking questions about the role of a photo festival in a post pandemic environment.

"We are delighted to have such experienced curators working with the festival. Susan Bright and Nina Strand have envisaged a strongly focused exhibition for Leipzig with an extensive supporting programme on the theme TRUST/vertrauen. This is the first time f/stop has worked with international curators and we are looking forward to the opportunity of making the festival even more broadly based," said Stefanie Abelmann and Christian Bodach - the new festival directors of f/stop.

**f/stop**  
**Festival für Fotografie**  
**Leipzig**

[www.f-stop-leipzig.de](http://www.f-stop-leipzig.de)

festival directors:  
**Stefanie Abelmann /**  
**Christian Bodach**

D21 Kunstraum Leipzig e.V.  
Demmeringstr. 21  
04177 Leipzig  
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# D21

The logo for f/stop, featuring the text 'f/stop' in a white serif font on a black square background. A diagonal slash is positioned between the 'f' and 'stop'.

**Susan Bright** is a curator based in London. She has a specialization in lens-based arts and contemporary visual culture with an emphasis on cross-disciplinary and international programming. She was a curator at the National Portrait Gallery in London before deciding to work independently in the early 2000s. Significant exhibitions that Bright has curated and co-curated include *How we Are*, Tate Britain (2007), *Face of Fashion*, National Portrait Gallery, London (2007), *Home Truths*, The Photographers' Gallery and The Foundling Museum, London (2014) and *Playground* at Serlachius Museum, Finland (2018). She was Guest Curator for PHotoESPAÑA in 2019 curating five exhibitions across museums in Madrid. She has taught curatorial practice and visual culture at institutions including Parsons and the School of Visual Arts in New York and Sotheby's Institute and University of the Arts, London. She has authored and co-authored seven books on photography and holds a PhD in Curating from Goldsmiths, University of London.

**Nina Strand** works as an artist, writer and is the founder and editor in chief of the art journal *Objektiv*. Founded in 2009 by Nina Strand, Ida Kierulf and Susanne Østby Sæther, the journal is a biannual publication with a focus on photography and film. Publications by Strand include: *Residency (working title)* 2019, *Dr. Strand*, (Journal) 2015, *So, how do you think you're doing?* (Journal, 2008), and *Gutta på Gølv* (Cappelen 2004). Strand is a co-editor of STAFETT (RELAY), a Scandinavian fanzine on photography. Strand holds a work grant from 2012 - 2020 from the Art Council in Norway. She was also a recipient of the Art Critic Grant from Fritt Ord in 2017. Strand is a regular contributor with essays on photography for several Norwegian and international publications, and has participated and arranged several exhibitions all over Scandinavia – the latest being the exhibition *Le Book Club* at Fotogalleriet in Oslo from January to February 2020. She has been involved in the Paris Photo-Aperture Foundation PhotoBook Awards and the Camera Austria Award Photography Prize. She was part of the expert panel of the seminar *Photobook Reset* at c/o Berlin and a Fellow at the MFA Image Text Ithaca summer workshop.

## **f/stop**

f/stop 9 is entering a new stage in the festival's history. It was established in 2007 and is now organized in conjunction with D21 in Leipzig. f/stop is committed to presenting international and national photographers as well as artists and to expanding its curatorial vision with rigour and curiosity.

## **Request**

Details of the programme will follow later. For further information and press inquiries please contact: [presse@f-stop-leipzig.de](mailto:presse@f-stop-leipzig.de).