



LIÈGE PHOTO —BOOK FESTIVAL

Part of:



BIENNALE
DE L'IMAGE
POSSIBLE

International
Independent
Photobook
Festival

Press Release

Second edition
March 2018

17/18 March
La Boverie
Liège, Belgium

LIÈGE PHOTOBOOK FESTIVAL: IN SHORT

17-18 MARCH 2018
LA BOVERIE, LIÈGE, BELGIUM

Liège Photobook Festival is dedicated to showcasing current independent photography books. The programme comprises: a **photobook market** with about 35 international publishers; **encounters with artists; talks by artist, portfolio reviews;** the "**Bring Your Photobook**" self-published photobook award.

WHAT'S NEW FOR THIS SECOND YEAR? WE ARE MOVING!

The boat "Le Pays de Liège" moored near the Boverie museum will be the heart of the festival, hosting the book market and the bar.

The Boverie museum will host the talks, the portfolio reviews and other activities.

Liège Photobook Festival is an event dedicated to current independent photography books that will take place for the second time on 17 and 18 March 2018. The festival, which is the first and only of its kind in Belgium, will gather the best in independent photography publications to make them accessible to both new and seasoned audiences.

As with the first event in 2017, the festival will be organised as part of the BIP/Biennale de l'Image Possible, which will take place from 17 February until 1 April 2018 in Liège.

THE FIRST FESTIVAL IN BELGIUM

The photobook is the preferred medium of many photographers nowadays. While photobooks have always played an important role in photography, over the past fifteen years their popularity has increased rapidly. Thus, certain contemporary professionals now talk about the 'golden age' of photobooks.

As active contributors to the realm of photography and publishing, the organisers of the Liège Photobook Festival realised that although photography books are flourishing worldwide, no event existed in Belgium that was exclusively dedicated to this medium. The organisers thus wished to collaborate with the BIP/Biennale de l'Image Possible to broaden the range of artistic media on offer to the public in Liège during the BIP by organising the first Belgian photobook festival.

ESTABLISHING A NEW DYNAMIC IN BELGIUM

The festival's primary goal is to showcase to the general public the dynamism and the publications of publishers and photographers, particularly those from Belgium. In fact, many Belgian photobook publishers are internationally respected for the quality of their publications and Belgian distributors are known worldwide; however, they lack visibility in Belgium. The festival hopes to offer these players in particular a chance to display their work. Nevertheless, the organisers are also keen to encourage the participation of many foreign publishers in order to present varied points of view and practices.

Lastly, their goal is to establish a new dynamic in Belgium within the growing realm of photography publication by creating an opportunity for exchange between different groups, be it among Belgian and foreign artists, or creators and the public at large.

NEW VENUES

Since BIP/Biennale de l'Image Possible is going back to its original location, the newly renovated "La Boverie" museum, Liège Photobook Festival is moving too. The festival will take place in the beautiful "**Parc de la Boverie**", which is a bit pull for tourists and is located near the "Liège-Guillemins" railway station.

The boat "Le Pays de Liège" moored near the "La Boverie" museum will be the heart of the festival with the book market and the bar.

The "Boverie" museum will host the talks, debates, the portfolio reviews and other activities in addition to being the main exhibition space of the BIP/Biennale de l'Image Possible.

The "Bring Your Photobook" caravan will be installed in front of the museum.

Address:

Parc de La Boverie
4020 Liège
Belgium

PROGRAMME

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE FREE OF CHARGE (EXCEPT THE PORTFOLIO REVIEWS)

PHOTOBOOK MARKET - TALKS AND DEBATES - PORTFOLIO REVIEWS - "BRING YOUR PHOTOBOOK"
(SELF-PUBLISHED PHOTOBOOK AWARD)

Photobook Market

Saturday 17 March & Sunday 18 March

VENUE: boat "Le Pays de Liège"

The book market, in the form of display booths, will exhibit the publications of **about thirty-five Belgian and international publishers and bookshops (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands and United States)**. They will present a vast array of photobooks ranging from classic to digital publication, as well as handmade, conceptual and documentary books, and magazines, to name but a few. Visitors will thus have access to a wide variety of photographic publications of different origins. Furthermore, publishers will have the opportunity to organise book signings by particular artists.

A new addition to this year's event is the participation of several students from various Belgian photography schools who will display their best publishing works.

The book ambassadors (in collaboration with FOMU)

Sa. 17 mars et di. 18 mars

LIEU : musée de La Boverie

This is also a new addition to this year's event: we want to stimulate the democratisation and the discovery of the photobook by a wider audience by inviting renowned photographers to share their favourite books and those that inspired them with the public.

Talks and encounters (in collaboration with BIP)

Saturday 17 March & Sunday 18 March

VENUE: Boverie museum

This program is open to all and is dedicated to talks by artists and encounters and debates **with internationally recognised publishers, photographers, art historians, curators, etc. who will address the latest developments in photography and publishing.** The speakers will deal with current topics such as self-publishing, experimental publishing, publishing performance, documentaries, digital books, etc.

In line with the first edition, the Belgian photobook will once more be in focus. Tamara Berghmans (FOMU) will be in discussion with Stefan Vanthuyne (The Belgian Platform for Photobook) to sketch an overview of production in Belgium over the last 15 years.

Portfolio reviews (in collaboration with BIP)

Saturday 17 March (registration fee)

VENUE: Boverie museum

These presentations are **professional encounters**. During each 20 minute session, artists will have the opportunity to present their work to a professional in the industry in order to receive constructive criticism on his or her work as well as advice for his or her professional development. The readers include photographers, publishers, curators, gallery owners and critics.

"Bring Your Photobook": self-published photobook award (in collaboration with FOMU)

Saturday 17 March & Sunday 18 March

VENUE: caravan "Bring Your Photobook"

All photographers are invited to bring their dummies or self-published photobooks and display them on the festival bookshelves for free to share them with the public and professionals present at the event.

At the end of the weekend, a jury made up of professionals from the photographic industry will choose their favourite project. The winner will be granted a presentation of his or her work at FOMU.

A FESTIVAL FOR EVERYONE

The festival attracts a broad and varied audience: BIP visitors; amateurs of photography, photography books and art; photographers, artists and professionals in photography, edition and contemporary art; art students (photography, graphics), book collectors; as well as the general public interested in visual culture.

Geographically the target audience is from Liège, Belgium and neighbouring countries (Netherlands, Germany, France, Luxemburg).

ONLINE

www.liegephotobookfestival.be

www.facebook.com/LiegePhotobookFestival

www.instagram.com/liegephotobookfestival

CONTACT

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Liège Photobook Festival is organised by Open View asbl



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In collaboration with:

