

AUTHENTICITY & OWNERSHIP: BIEKE DEPOORTER AT FUTURE NOW 2021



Images: 1. FRANCE. Neuilly-Plaisance. September 4, 2018. From the series *Agata*. © Bieke Depoorter / Magnum Photos. 2. Bieke Depoorter (c) Kaat Pype. 3. Bieke Depoorter, *Untitled (Agata, Lebanon, Beirut, August 3, 2018)*.

Bieke Depoorter joins Aesthetica for a unique masterclass at the Future Now Symposium, focused on authenticity and ownership in 21st century photography.

Bieke Depoorter received a Master's Degree in photography at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Ghent in 2009. Three years later, at 25 years old, she was made a nominee of the photo cooperative Magnum Photos, where she was named a full member in 2016. Depoorter has won several awards and honours, including the **Magnum Expression Award, The Larry Sultan Award and the Prix Levallois**. She has published four books with **Aperture, Editions Xavier Barral, Lannoo** and **Hannibal**, amongst others, and has exhibited with **MoMA, New York; FOMU, Antwerp; Museum of Photography, The Hague; NRW-Forum, Dusseldorf; Kunsthal Rotterdam; BOZAR, Brussels;** and **ICP, New York**.

Depoorter's practice is centred around authenticity, ownership and collaboration – the complex interactions between subject and photographer – as well as a constant questioning of the medium: the wider tensions between fiction and reality. **In conversation with Tate's Assistant Curator, Sarah Allen, Depoorter discusses agency today (30 April, 19.30-20.30) at the sixth edition of the Future Now Symposium.**

The relationships between subject and viewer are integral to Depoorter's practice. Accidental encounters are the starting point, and how these interactions naturally develop dictates the suite. Several recent projects have been the result of Depoorter always questioning the medium itself. In *As it may be*, Depoorter gradually became more aware of her status as an outsider, both culturally and as a photographer. In the ongoing project *Agata*, a project about a young woman Depoorter met at a striptease bar in Paris in October 2017, she explores an interest in collaborative portraiture.

Allen and Depoorter will discuss the nature of telling stories through images, drawing example from the above projects as well as her latest series *Michael*, in which she investigates the disappearance and life of a man she met on the streets of Portland in 2015. After giving her three suitcases full of scrapbooks, notes and books, everyone lost sight of him. This illuminating session intersects fine art, documentary and narrative – considering thin lines between these definitions.

For press queries: contact Associate Editor, Kate Simpson, kate@aestheticamagazine.com

For queries related to the Aesthetica Art Prize: contact art-prize@aestheticamagazine.com

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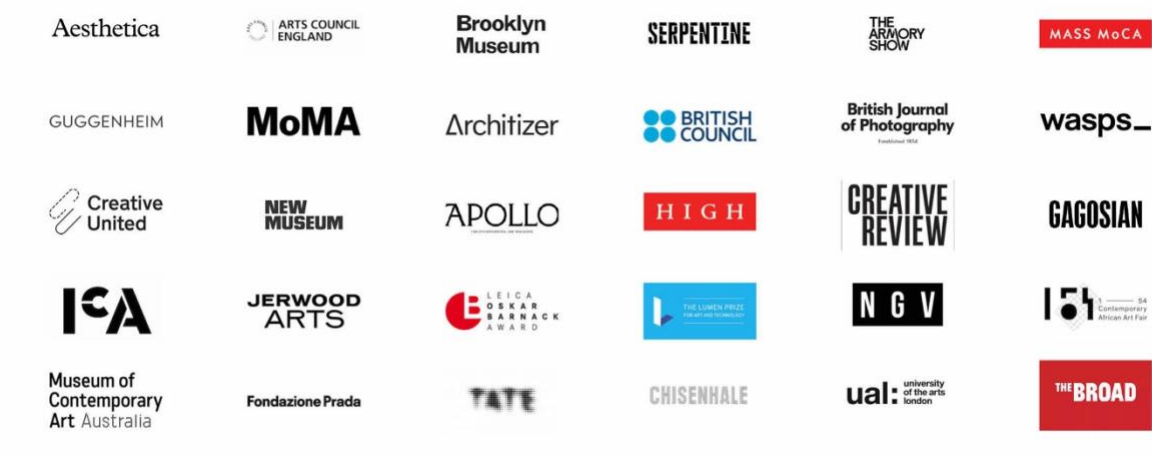
The Future Now Symposium runs live 28 April-1 May. All sessions are available On Demand until 31 May. Tickets are priced between £20 and £50, from a 24-hour festival login to a month of content, with access to 100 films, 1:1 portfolio reviews with industry experts and advice sessions with Arts Council England.

Key information for editors:

- The **Future Now Symposium** is an exploration of 21st century culture through the mechanism of art, live streamed events run 28 April – 1 May. On Demand sessions are available 2-31 May.
- This four-day virtual event brings together key institutions, galleries, publications and artists for live-streamed discussions surrounding the most pressing issues from today's creative industries. Future Now is a platform for idea generation, with imaginative debates, panel discussions, career advice and cultural engagement.
- **Future Now finds a new home in an accessible online space for 2021.**
- **All ticketholders can also stream an expansive programme of 100 ground-breaking independent films** across Dance, Experimental, Documentary and Artists' Film.
- **Our platform can be accessed on computers, smart TVs, smart phones and all tablet devices.** There is no requirement to pre-register for sessions as they will be live streamed.
- **Tickets are £20 for a 24-hour log-in, £40 for a four-day log-in and £50 for the full one-month access.**
- **Representatives at Future Now 2021 include:** Aesthetica, Architizer, Arts Council England, Apollo Magazine, The Armory Show, Athi-Patra Ruga, Bieke Depoorter, Bill Posters, British Journal of Photography, British Council, Chisenhale Gallery, Creative Review, Creative United, Fahamu Pecou, Fondazione Prada, Frieze, Gagolian, George Byrne, Gonçalo Fonseca, Guggenheim Museum, Gulnara Samoilova, High Museum of Art, Ian Volner, Jerwood Arts, ICA Boston, International Center of Photography, Jakob Kudsk Steensen, Leica Oskar Barnack Award, London Art Fair, London College of Communication, Luca Locatelli, The Lumen Prize, Maimouna Guerresi, Magnum Photos, MASS MoCA, Museum of Modern Art, MCA Australia, New Museum, NGV Melbourne, Serpentine Galleries, Shirin Neshat, Tales of Us, Tate, V&A, Wasps Studios, 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair.
- **Future Now 2021 offers 1:1 Portfolio Reviews** across the four days, with representatives from **the V&A, British Journal of Photography, Fabrica, Aesthetica, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Serpentine Galleries, Moniker Art Fair Artangel and Gazelli Art House, as well as a number of independent artists. Pre-booking online.**
- **Arts Council England are also offering a series of 1:1 Advice Sessions. Pre-booking essential online.**
- **The Future Now Symposium coincides with the 2021 Aesthetica Art Prize.** The 2021 shortlisted artists include: Monica Alcazar-Duarte, Andrew Leventis, Chris Combs, James Tapscott, Alice Duncan and Cesar & Lois Collective, Carlos David, Seb Agnew, Kitoko Diva, Christiane Zschommler, Henny Burnett, and Niels Lyhne Løkkegaard. David Brandy, Shan Wu, Cathryn Shilling, Dirk Hardy, Juliana Kasumu, Gabriel Hensche and Erwin Redl.
- **The 2021 Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition** runs 28 May - 28 September at York Art Gallery, UK.

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