

FUTURE NOW

AESTHETICA SYMPOSIUM

HEADLINE SPEAKERS AT FUTURE NOW: BIEKE DEPOORTER, SHIRIN NESHAT, JANE & LOUISE WILSON



Images: 1. FRANCE. Neuilly-Plaisance. September 4, 2018. From the series Agata. © Bieke Depoorter / Magnum Photos 2. *Rapture*, 1999. Shirin Neshat. Photo: Larry Bams/© Shirin Neshat/Courtesy Gladstone Gallery, New York and Brussels. 3. Jane and Louise Wilson, *Suspended Island*.

**The Future Now Symposium returns for a virtual edition in 2021.
Headline speakers include Turner Prize nominees and Silver Lion winners.**

At just 25, **Bieke Depoorter** was welcomed into Magnum Photos and is one of its youngest members. She has won several awards including the Magnum Expression Award, The Larry Sultan Award and the Prix Levallois, and has published four books with Aperture and Edition Patrick Frey, amongst others. Depoorter's practice is centred around relationships – the complex interactions between subject and photographer – as well as a constant questioning of the medium: the tensions between authority, fiction and reality. **Depoorter will discuss the idea of agency and ownership at the virtual edition of Future Now, in conversation with Tate's Assistant Curator, Sarah Allen (Live: Thursday 29 April, 19:30-20:30 BST).**

Jane and Louise Wilson have been working as an artist duo in collaboration for over two decades. Since 1990, they have gained national and international acclaim for their work with photography and the moving image, creating an expanded form of cinema. The Wilson sisters have exhibited internationally at **Carnegie International, Korean Biennial, Istanbul Biennial, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, The Museum of Modern Art, New York** and more. **In conversation with David Knight, University of the Arts, London, Turner Prize nominees Jane & Louise Wilson** discuss the role of storytelling and the importance of film in understanding our turbulent world. **(Live: Friday 30 April, 19.30-20.30).**

The final headliner is **Shirin Neshat**, a multi-award-winning artist who deconstructs the political climate through lens-based media. Neshat was born in Iran but has spent much of her life in exile in the USA. Through this experience, she has relentlessly engaged with the world through photography, film, performance, and installation, exploring universal themes of displacement, oppression, gender and identity, winning awards with the **Venice Biennale** and **Venice Film Festival**, amongst many others from the **World Economic Forum** and **International Center of Photography, New York**. **On Saturday 1 May, 19:00-20:00**, Neshat explores her expansive career with **Ed Schad, Curator at The Broad Los Angeles**.

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, Gagosian, 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, Maïmouna 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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