

FOTODOK presents

6–8 May 2022
Online Conference

Curators
Delphine Bedel
Daria Tuminas

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(i)n) v
s i b i l i
t i e s

Gender and Photography
in the Netherlands

Between 6 and 8 May 2022, FOTODOK organizes the online conference “(IN)VISIBILITIES, Gender and Photography in the Netherlands.”

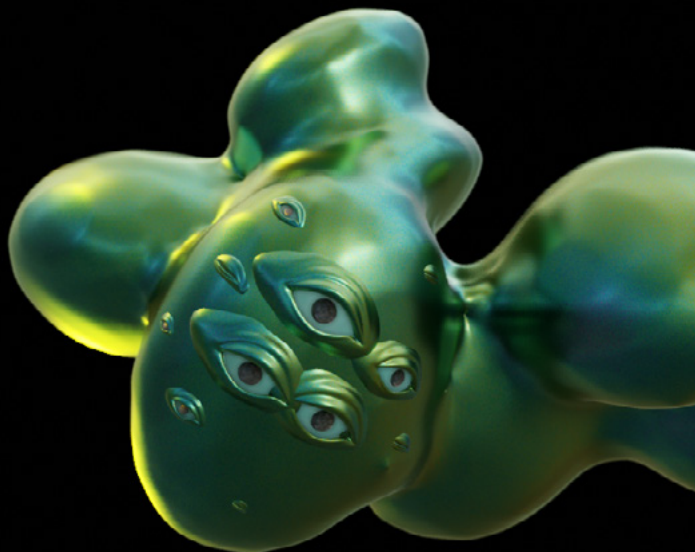
This is the conference’s second edition, following up from “The Female Perspective in Documentary Photography,” which took place in 2019 on the occasion of the exhibition “Kati Horna: Compassion and Engagement” at The Cobra Museum Modern Art, Amstelveen. The event highlighted the practices of various international photographers.

For this new three-day conference, we invite leading actors working in the Netherlands—artists, curators, activists, and scholars—to expand upon the much-needed conversations about gender, representation, and inclusivity within the photographic field. The program looks into different forms of research, activism, and artistic and photographic and photographic practices in the Dutch field. A variety of international projects also offer frameworks of experiences that could be instrumental for the local scene. The aim of the conference is to bring together the Netherlands-based community and to develop collective tools for empowerment and action.

Another goal of the conference is to question the idea of gender and its representation today from an intersectional and feminist perspective. We recognize the plurality of experiences of womanhood—including those related to race, class, sexual orientation, age, and ability—as well as the plurality of female, trans, lesbian, queer, and non-binary voices. Throughout the conference, we will ask: what kind of stories are being told through photographic projects that broaden the vision, understanding, and representation of gender? What are and what could be the decolonial gender politics of Dutch artistic and photographic institutions? How can we research the scene and bring about necessary change?

The main program of the conference unfolds online on 6–7 May. It includes sonic meditations, online professional speed-dating, keynotes, panel discussions, two workshops on representation by Foundation Engagement Arts NL, and other events. On 8 May, there will be a physical workshop aimed at the conversation about Ukraine. Follow updates on the program and speakers at FOTODOK’s [Instagram](#).

The title, “(IN)VISIBILITIES,” refers to the multiple standpoints artists and thinkers use in their practices. While sometimes it is possible to declare one’s position openly or celebrate the characters of photographic stories by making them seen in a literal sense, in other circumstances anonymity is the necessary condition for protecting those who are speaking up. The Mexican-Hungarian photographer Kati Horna, a refugee of war, insisted on calling herself an “invisibilist.” Invisibilism is as an attitude toward life that enabled her to survive and develop her artistic practice. The conference addresses strategies of representation and inclusivity, gender and photographic history, fluctuating between many forms of “(in)visibilities.”





Day 1
Public Program
13:00 – 19:30 CET

Friday 6 May 2022

11:00 – 12:15
PROFESSIONAL SPEED DATING*

→ Welcome by Delphine Bedel & Daria Tuminas (conference curators).

→ Get-together for participants of the conference and artists, curators, critics, collectors, and researchers.

*This event is by invitation only.

12:15 – 13:00
SONIC INTERLUDE

→ The works presented at Sonic Interludes are all pieces by women composers, which were collected by Femke Dekker aka Loma Doom (curator, broadcaster, and DJ) through various archival residencies at institutes such as De Appel, Amsterdam; IISG, Amsterdam; Sound and Vision, Hilversum; and the Gaudeamus archive at Bijzondere Collecties, Amsterdam. The series of Sonic Interludes recurring throughout the breaks within the program are an invitation to relax, move, feel, and listen.

13:00 – 15:15
**OFFICIAL LAUNCH AND WORKSHOP:
MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE: STRATEGIES AND RESULTS**

→ Official Launch
Delphine Bedel & Daria Tuminas (conference curators)

→ Sonic Meditation
Femke Dekker aka Loma Doom (curator, broadcaster, and DJ)

At the start of the day, the Sonic Meditation will function as an activator of our communal sessions, allowing us to focus, interact, and have fun.

→ Workshop
Marie Docher (photographer, inclusivity consultant) in conversation with Delphine Bedel (artist, chair Engagement Arts NL, and conference curator)

In 2014, women in France represented on average 15% of the photographers exhibited, edited, and rewarded. In 2019, they won half of the prizes and scholarships, and the international festival of the Rencontres d'Arles was reaching parity. We will analyze the strategies put in place to achieve these changes. Can they be applicable to the Dutch context? Bedel will present the Roadmap for Equality in the Arts in the Netherlands and Engagement Arts NL.

Day 1

Friday 6 May 2022

15:15 – 16:00
SONIC INTERLUDE

16:00 – 17:15
KEYNOTES: ON GENDER, FEMINISM AND
REWRITING PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY

→ Keynotes

Aldeide Delgado (founder and director, Women Photographers International Archive, WOPHA , Miami)
Emma Lewis (assistant curator, International Art, Tate Modern, London; guest curator, The Barnes, Philadelphia)
Moderator: Mariama Attah (curator, Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool)

17:15 – 18:00
SONIC INTERLUDE

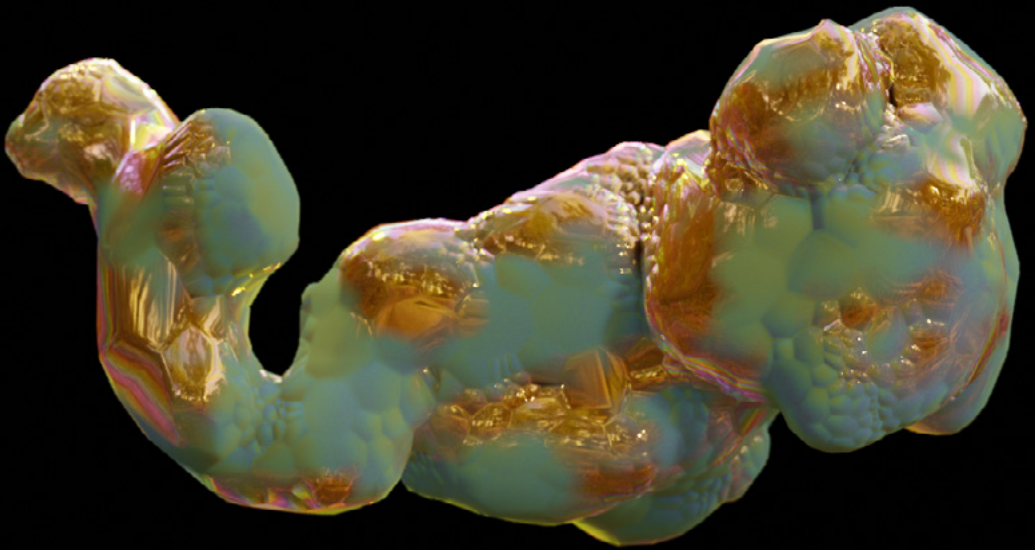
18.00 – 19.20
ARTISTS TALKS: EMERGING VISIONS

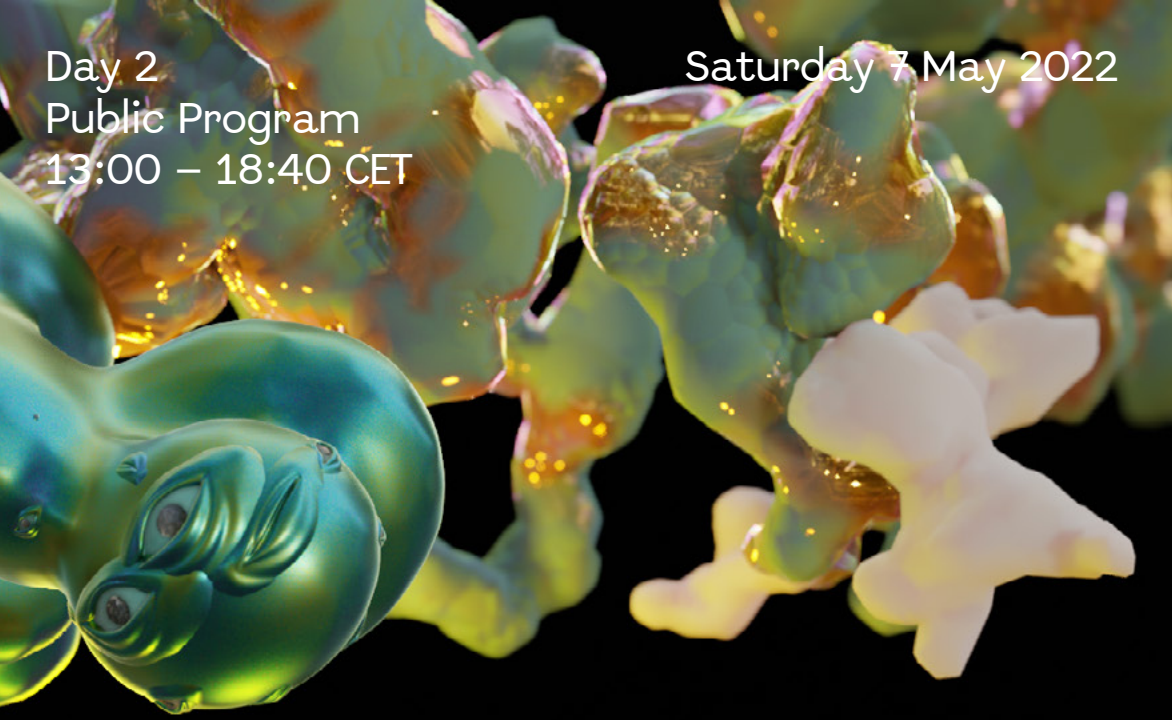
→ Artist talks, followed by Q&A

Madeline Swainhart (photographer)
Hajar Benjida (photographer)
Thana Farooq (photographer)
with a reading by one of the women portrayed by Farooq: Randa Awad (writer)
Moderator: Daria Tuminas (conference curator)

19:20 – 19:30
CLOSING REMARKS

→ Delphine Bedel & Daria Tuminas (conference curators)





Day 2
Public Program
13:00 – 18:40 CET

Saturday 7 May 2022

10:00 – 12:15

WORKSHOP: ON POWER AND VISIBILITY*

→ Workshop

Julius Thissen (artist, researcher, and inclusivity consultant)

During the workshop Thissen will focus on the relation between transgender and queer representation, (in)visibility, and the influence of mainstream media. Which realities, bodies, and experiences get shown, how, and by whom? How can we centralize artistic autonomy and agency? Julius will share their artistic work, personal experiences, and outcomes of previous community-based research projects. This workshop is particularly suited for artistic professionals looking for ways to further develop their understanding of power relations and visibility within the cultural sector.

*This event is for a group of 25 people.

If you want to take part, please submit your reservation [here](#).

12:15 – 13:00

SONIC INTERLUDE

13:00 – 14:30

PANEL DISCUSSION: INVISIBILISM, ARCHIVES AND COUNTER ARCHIVES

→ Introduction

Delphine Bedel & Daria Tuminas (conference curators)

→ Sonic Meditation

Femke Dekker aka Loma Doom (curator, broadcaster, and DJ)

→ Panel Discussion

Sara Blokland (artist, researcher, and curator)

Almudena Rubio (researcher, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam)

Manique Hendricks (freelance curator, junior curator, LIMA, Amsterdam)

dr. Lieke Hettinga (PhD in Gender Studies, Utrecht University and the Department of Gender Studies at Central European University)

Moderator: Delphine Bedel (conference curator)

14:30 – 15:00
SONIC INTERLUDE

15:00 – 16:30
CONVERSATION AND READING:
MOBILIZATION OF PASSION: A GRACEFUL INQUIRY INTO
UNCONVENTIONAL SOURCES OF POWER

→ Introduction, The Feminist Workshop

Sasha Kantser (external affairs manager, The Feminist Workshop)

Sasha Kantser will introduce The Feminist Workshop that works with feminist organizations across Ukraine, especially in hotspots, and supports women of vulnerable groups and evacuate them to the western part of Ukraine. Kantser will talk about their activities and will call for action.

→ Conversation and Reading

Ola Lanko (artist) and Maria Lanko (co-founder, The Naked Room gallery, Kyiv, co-curator Ukraine Pavilion, 59th La Biennale di Venezia)

A reflective conversation between Ola Lanko and Maria Lanko about the role art can play in times of war. What are the alternative strategies to fight? Is there an invigorating potential for art and individual passions to deal with tragedy and despair? The conversation is inspired by the essay by Audre Lorde *Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power*. Lorde shifts her gaze at the erotic seeing as the intrinsic power of creativity which was suppressed, undermined, and stigmatized. In her manifesto-like essay, Lorde calls for action, embracing the power of the erotic as a strategy for change and transformation. The conversation will be followed by a discussion of the essay in small groups. Please read the text before the event. You can find the file [here](#).

16:30 – 17:00
SONIC INTERLUDE

17:00 – 18:30
MANIFESTATIONS: TOOLS FOR CHANGE

→ A series of manifestations, followed up by a Q&A

Rachel Morón (artist, picture editor for NRC, Amsterdam)

Giya Makondo-Wills (artist, educator)

Marina Paulenka (independent curator)

Dewi Reijs (actress, director, and co-founder of Buddy Film Foundation, Amsterdam)

Art Goss (art collective)

Moderator: Daria Tuminas (conference curator)

18:30 – 18:40
CLOSING REMARKS

→ Delphine Bedel & Daria Tuminas (conference curators)

Day 3
10:30 – 16:30 CET

Sunday 8 May 2022

10:30 – 16:30

WORKSHOP: WEAVING WITH WORDS: JOINT EFFORT TO BECOME BETTER AT HOLDING FRAGILE CONVERSATIONS*

→ Workshop

There is real artistry in creating conversational spaces, especially when such a conversation has to carry a difficult topic—like the ongoing war in Ukraine—and when it has to be discussed with children. What are the tools needed for creating the possibility of a challenging talk? How can we become better at engaging in conversations about war, racism, inequality, suffering, or violence? And most importantly, what are the questions that need extra care? During the workshop, a group of women working with photography will explore these questions together, and hopefully will become better at holding spaces wherein difficult conversations can unfold. We will look for additional aids to use in such situations and search how photography can become one of them.

In preparation for the workshop, please pay attention to the conversations you are having with people around you, and especially with children. Is there a topic that seems challenging? Who initiates the dialogue? Bring awareness and reflective sharpness. We will start with sharing our experiences and challenges and hopefully find some lightness.

The event will bring together about 10 participants, and will be led by the artist and space-charmer Ola Lanko. It is facilitated by Growing Pains—a new publishing initiative supporting women and non-binary artists through paid commissions, mentorships, network activations, and presentations. The project navigates the space between artist books, photobooks and children's books exploring alternative registers for difficult conversations. The initiative is set up by Agata Bar, Zhenia Sveshchinskaya, and Daria Tuminas.

10:30 – 12:00

Relating Practices and Introduction.

Circling exercises for authentic relating, establishing group dynamics.

“I want to talk about” (in big group).

12:00 – 13:00

Lunch (provided by the workshop).

13:00 – 14:00

Collecting Information

“How can I talk about it . . .” (divided into two groups).

14:00 – 15:00

“How can photography help me?” (divided into three groups).

15:00 – 16:30

Presentations and Round-up Reflection.

*The workshop is by invitation.

CREDITS

Curators: Delphine Bedel and Daria Tuminas.

Visual identity: Pleun Gremmen.

Typefaces: Abordage Regular by Ange Degheest + Eugénie Bidaut & PicNic by Marielle Nils.

Sonic Interludes and Meditations: Femke Dekker aka Loma Doom.

Production: Delphine Bedel, Daria Tuminas, Olga Verbeek, and production team of FOTODOK.

With the support of: the City of Utrecht and Mondriaan Fonds.

The workshops on 6–7 May are organized in partnership with Engagement Arts NL.

The workshop on 8 May is organized in partnership with Growing Pains.

BIOGRAPHIES

The program will be updated with biographies and pronouns of the speakers, and will be reuploaded to FOTODOK's website closer to the dates of the conference.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Language: English.

Location: Online (with a satellite workshop on the 8th of May in Utrecht).

Accessibility: Contact info@fotodok.org.

The Code of Conducts for the conference will be available in the days running up to the conference.

The conference updates will be published on FOTODOK's Instagram [@fotodok.nl](https://www.instagram.com/fotodok.nl).

TICKETS

One day (6 or 7 May) 7.50 euro.

Two days (6 and 7 May) 10.00 euro.

8 May – Workshop by invitation.

Tickets can be bought [here](#).

CONTACT & INFO

www.fotodok.org

info@fotodok.org

PRESS KIT

Full press kit is available on request via info@fotodok.org.

DONATION

The conference organizers invite everyone to support and [donate](#) to The Feminist Workshop in Ukraine.

