



Exposure Photography Festival

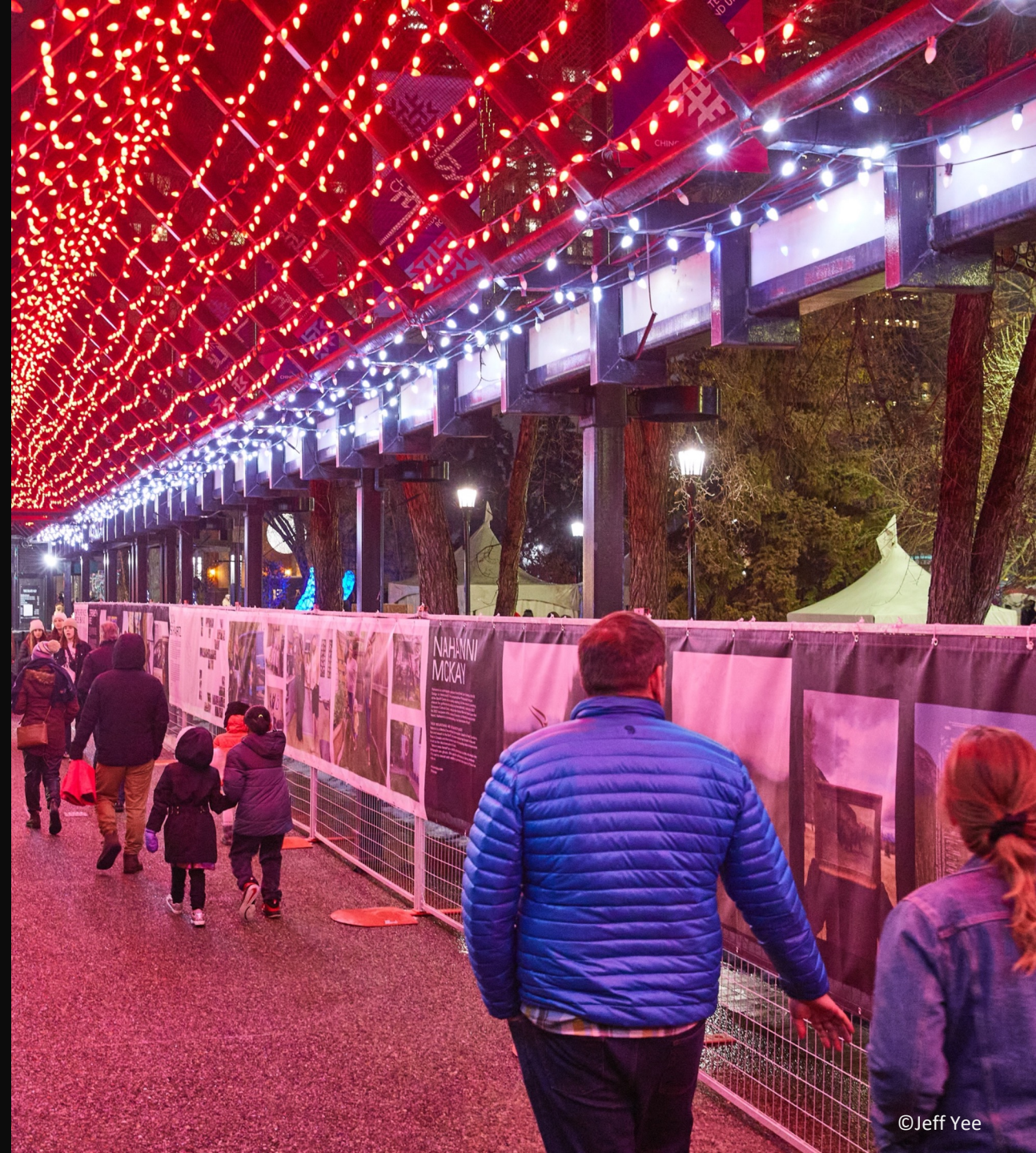
2023 Report to the Community

OVERVIEW

For the 2023 festival, Exposure hosted a variety of exhibitions and a dynamic events program that included gatherings, discussions, conversations and professional development opportunities.

Through the Exposure Partner program, we expanded the festival program across Calgary, Banff, Canmore, Edmonton, and Frank, Alberta with programming hosted in galleries, museums, libraries, local businesses and online.

Exposure continues to program and provide opportunities for arts and non-arts engaged audiences, the public, Calgarians, photographers and creatives to engage with the medium of photography and connect with our community.



915,178

visits to Exposure 2023 exhibitions
hosted in galleries, museums, libraries, local businesses, outdoors and online.

Statistics provided by Exposure and Alberta University of the Arts (AUArts), Canmore Art Guild, Contemporary Calgary, Illingworth Kerr Gallery, Herringer Kiss Gallery, Lux Laundromat & Boon Ong, Pattison Outdoor Advertising, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies. The total number of visits presented (915,178) is a combination of actual numbers, estimations and previous audience statistics provided by Exhibition Partners or venues for the Exposure 2020, 2021 and/or 2022 festivals.

EXHIBITIONS

42 Exhibitions

260 Exhibiting Artists

36 Exhibition Partners

10 NEW Exhibition Partners

Pictured: Exposure 2023 Exhibiting Artists Gathering at Exposure HQ – Contemporary Calgary, February 4.



EVENTS

21 Events

1801 Event Attendees

22 Event Partners

8 NEW Event Partners

Pictured: Exposure 2023 Launch Party x Contemporary
Calgary Free First Thursday, February 2 (top). Exposure 2023
Portfolio Walk, February 25 (bottom).



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PORTFOLIO REVIEW

275 review meetings between 30 industry experts and 55 participating photographers/artists.

Participating photographers/artists stated that they received:

- Valuable feedback that advanced their thinking about their practice.
- Great advice about how to gain exposure and opportunities within the arts.
- Guidance on how to present their work for exhibition, publication, portfolio and/or website.

Pictured: Exposure 2023 Portfolio Review, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, February 25 (top). Exposure 2023 Online Portfolio Review, February 11 (bottom)



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ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

24,739 **+17%*** Exposure Online Audience during the Festival Period

22,217 **+17%*** Exposure Online Engagement during the Festival Period

13,024 **+22%*** Exposure Online Audience Gain during the Festival Period

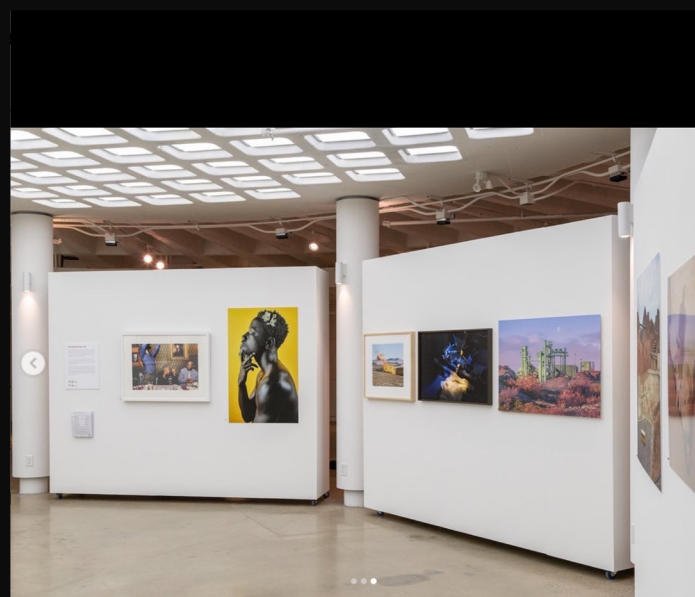
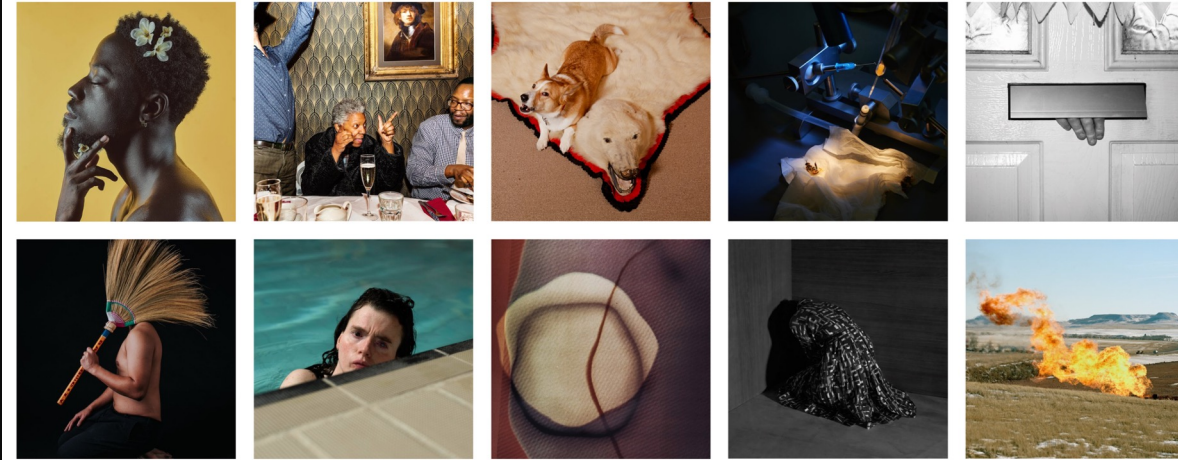
* Percentages are in reference to the Exposure 2022 total audience numbers.

ONLINE INTERNATIONAL OPEN CALL EXHIBITION

Juried by by Michèle Pearson Clarke, Artist, Writer, Educator and Photo Laureate for the City of Toronto (2019-2022), the *Exposure 2023 International Open Call* exhibition features the work of photographers and visual artists based around the world who incorporate, celebrate or challenge the photographic medium within their practices. The exhibition shows a broad range of works, including photocolage, conceptual photography, politically engaged practices and works that embrace social and individual experience, as well as visual explorations of identity and personal narratives.

Exhibiting Artists are Anthony Gebrehiwot (Canada), Glenna Jennings (USA), Jaiden George (Canada), Jake Eshelman (USA), Kelly O'Brien (UK), Khim Hipol (Canada), Leia Ankers (UK), Linda Heiss (USA), Panos Charalampidis + Mary Chairetaki (Greece), Sarah Christianson (USA), Sarah Mei Herman (Netherlands), Serena Dzenis (Iceland), Shanen Louis (Canada), Takako Kido (Japan) and Valerio Geraci (France).

Click on the images below to learn more about each exhibiting artist.



contemporarycalgary and exposurephotofestival
Contemporary Calgary

contemporarycalgary This is the LAST WEEK to see Exposure Photography Festival 2023 curated exhibitions, International Open Call & Emerging Photographers Showcase at Contemporary Calgary.

Don't miss your chance to support these exciting exhibitions from @exposurephotofestival featuring both local and international artists! The final day for viewing is February 16, 2023.

Image 1-3: Installation view, Exposure Photography Festival 2023, February 3 - February 16, 2023, Contemporary Calgary. Photo Louie Villanueva.

#ContemporaryCalgary #Exposure2023

7w

korthiwadasantosh It's such a beautiful exhibition. Thank you for making this happen

7w 2 likes Reply

View replies (1)

Liked by beth_kane_ and 232 others

FEBRUARY 13

ONLINE REACH

From Japan to Chile, Ghana to New Zealand, Ireland to India, Exposure grew its audience worldwide with members based in **100 different countries** +10%* engaging with our website and online exhibitions.

New locations* include Albania, Andorra, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cameroon, Congo, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Gambia, Guatemala, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Iceland, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Madagascar, Mali and Slovak Republic.

* in reference to the Exposure 2022 online reach statistics.



PRESS

40+ local and international online and printed press coverage on Exposure 2023 exhibitions and events.

Pictured: 'TRAUMA & RESILIENCE' by Eric Volmers for Calgary Herald featuring Exposure 2022 Emerging Photographer of the Year: Raeann Cheung 'WE ARE IMMIGRANTS' exhibition hosted at Contemporary Calgary as part of Exposure 2023.



TRAUMA & RESILIENCE

Photography exhibit explores plight of Chinese immigrants during 19th to 20th centuries

ARTS COLUMN

In the photo on Contemporary Calgary's website for the exhibition, a woman in a dark coat stands in a doorway. The woman is the artist, Raeann Cheung, who is also the subject of the exhibit. The exhibit is a powerful and poignant exploration of the immigrant experience, highlighting the challenges and resilience of her ancestors. The exhibit is a powerful and poignant exploration of the immigrant experience, highlighting the challenges and resilience of her ancestors.



Raeann Cheung's image See How Pu illustrates a woman, Florence Ho Leung, who immigrated to Canada from China in 1922 and ran a store in Lethbridge for decades. The store remained in the family until 2021.



A recurring theme of Raeann Cheung's exhibition is separation as many Chinese immigrants to Canada were prevented from bringing wives to this country and couldn't afford to go back to China.



Raeann Cheung has included this 1936 image from the Vancouver Public Library in her show currently at Contemporary Calgary.

Photographer Raeann Cheung presents her exhibition, 'We Are Immigrants,' at Contemporary Calgary. The exhibit is a powerful and poignant exploration of the immigrant experience, highlighting the challenges and resilience of her ancestors. The exhibit is a powerful and poignant exploration of the immigrant experience, highlighting the challenges and resilience of her ancestors.

When Chinese women were allowed in Canada, it wasn't unusual for them to be significantly younger than their husbands. The idea was for them to help out with the businesses as their husbands aged. Separation from loved ones was a reality for Chinese immigrants in Canada and a recurring theme in the exhibit. Separated Families 1941, 1951, 1961 starts with an archival photo from the Chinese Museum of a Chinese man sitting in a chair. His facial features have been obscured by paint that Cheung applied, giving the image a ghostly look. On the top right are the numbers 20,141, 12,882 and 6,580. These represent the number of Chinese families separated in 1941, 1951 and 1961 from restrictions and economic restraints imposed on Chinese immigrants.

"What I was trying to illustrate was the emotional effect," Cheung says. "These were the estimated number of families who were separated because of the immigration act. It was deliberate legislation to stop the Chinese from coming in. So those who were already here couldn't bring their families. So many of them were separated for 20-plus years or for the rest of their lives."

Cheung was one of six siblings who came to British Columbia from Hong Kong in the 1970s. There had been a bit of an exodus from the city following periods of mass riots in 1967 and early anxiety about what might happen in 1997 when the handover from the United Kingdom to the People's Republic of China was scheduled. Cheung's family decided to immigrate the children incrementally, two at a time.

Cheung's father stayed in Hong Kong and the family would return for visits. Cheung and her siblings initially all came on student visas, which the family was required to renew every year. She was nine when she arrived

"Now I know it was very unlikely that they could marry somebody here in Canada. They couldn't bring any wives over and many of them just didn't make enough money to go back and find a wife. So a lot of these men just died alone in Canada. This image is called Tom and it describes their predicament."

"Another image, See How Pu, Queen Lady had a sister in Alberta history. It is based on a photo of a young Florence Ho Leung that was taken in China before she immigrated to Canada in 1922. She arrived a year before the Canadian Immigration Act denied Chinese women access to the country. She was the fourth wife of Way Leung, who was 20 years older than her. Together they ran the Bow On Tong store in downtown Lethbridge, which the family operated until 2021.

Cheung superimposes a picture

of the Year, a win that granted her a solo exhibition on this year's festival.

While We Are Immigrants has a melancholy tone as it outlines the racism and severe constraints suffered, Cheung says it is also meant to celebrate the resilience of a community that persevered. It also tells a story that has seldom been told in Canada.

"I went to elementary and high school in Victoria and eventually moved to Vancouver, and all that time I didn't know anything about this history," she says. "It goes to show that, on the one hand, the people that were really, truly affected don't really want to talk about it. For a lot of them, the descendants lived and saw the trauma but nobody talked about it in the family. So, to them, it's obvious that they shouldn't talk about it because it was so hard for their parents to talk about it. But at the same time, people who are not affected and benefit from being in Canada are completely oblivious to this history."

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ACCESS

Exposure 2023 events were accessible to a range of creatives at various stages within their practices. Participants in the Exposure 2023 events included **enthusiasts**, **students**, **emerging** and **professional** practitioners.

73% of participants in the Exposure 2023 Portfolio Review and Portfolio Walk had never participated in a professional development event or workshop prior to the festival.

Pictured: Portfolio Review, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning at University of Calgary, February 25.



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COMMUNITY CONNECTION

53% of participants said they feel more connected to Calgary's photography, art and creative communities since participating in an Exposure 2023 event.

73% of participants made new connections with local photographers, artists and/or creatives through participating in an Exposure 2023 event.

Pictured: Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning at University of Calgary, February 25.



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DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Exposure programming expanded equity, diversity and inclusion.

PARTNERSHIPS

Through new partnerships with the Calgary-based Immigrant Council for Arts Innovation and the International Working Class Creatives Database, Exposure provided free submissions to the 2023 Calls for Submissions. A number of these photographers and artists were selected by our Jurors to present work in the 2023 exhibitions at Contemporary Calgary and on digital billboards throughout Calgary.

Through these partnerships Exposure was able to support artists from underrepresented communities, and our exhibition program presented important perspectives and lived-experiences from artists who continue to face barriers in participating in the arts. The inclusion of these artists enriched our programming, provided relatable content for members of our community and encouraged dialogue surrounding important conversations within society and the arts.

Pictured: Exposure Billboard.



DIVERSITY & INCUSION

ZINE SWAP & SHARE

All local zinesters were invited to share and swap their zines while connecting with the local community. Exposure hosted this event with The Camera Store and with Supporting Partners, Star Roots Zine, a BIPOC driven Calgary community zine, and AUArts Hear/d Arts Residency, a peer led residency that supports students in exploring their mental health through art.

EXPOSURE FENCE: PEOPLE & PLACE

Through the work and perspectives of local artists the exhibition provided both celebratory and critical visual insights regarding the complex, intertwined relationships between *People & Place*. The exhibition furthered social commentary on the challenging sociocultural correlations and disconnects here, while visually describing the diverse identities and communities that energize this region.

Pictured: Zine Share & Swap (top). Exposure Fence: People & Place, Olympic Plaza (bottom)



FESTIVAL LEGACY

Exposure's 22/23 programming has strengthened our community connections, deepening our relations with our partners, with photographers, local and international audience members, arts organizations and the tourism industry. The 2023 festival's extensive audience has established our position within the international photography community, highlighting our local photographers and the city of Calgary as a go-to destination to engage with photography. Exposure's growing reputation and artistic vibrancy allows us to build our programming and offer new and increased opportunities for local photographers and Albertans to engage with, participate in and enjoy.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our festival visitors for engaging with this year's programming. Thank you for all your kind comments, enthusiasm and continued support of the Exposure Photography Festival.

Thank you to the Exposure exhibiting and presenting artists and photographers for their incredible work and their participation in the festival.

Thank you to our Exhibition Partners for their innovative and engaging programming and for their promotion of photography in the province.

Thank you to our funders and sponsors for their support of the 2023 edition of the Exposure Photography Festival. Without their generosity, we would not be able to deliver our programs and activities to our dedicated community.

FUNDERS



OFFICIAL PRINT PARTNER



OFFICIAL HOTEL PARTNER



EXPOSURE 2023 CURATED EXHIBITIONS, EVENTS, & MAP PARTNERS



EXHIBITION PARTNERS

Thank you to the following Exposure 2023 Exhibition Partners who hosted exhibitions and related programming during the festival: 500 Collective, Alberta University of the Arts (AUArts), Calgary Public Library, Canmore Art Guild, Christine Klassen Gallery, CBE Education Centre, Contemporary Calgary, Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery, cSPACE, Esker Foundation, Framed on Fifth, Herringer Kiss Gallery, Hundred Heroines, Illingworth Kerr Gallery, Lux Laundromat, Marion Nicoll Gallery, Mini Galleries of Crescent Heights, Sparrow Artspace, The Alberta Society of Artists, The GRAND, TrépanierBaer Gallery, VIVIANEART, Wild Skies Art Gallery, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies and artists Angela Boehm, Barb Kreutter & Sharon Thompson, Boon Ong & Dirty Laundry, Cathie Aalders-Taylor, Christina Yao, Dipankar Mukherjee, Dr. Heather Patterson, Exposure Studio Collective, Kirsten Aubrey & Bootcamp Collective 22, Leigh Reed, Lumian Collective, Scott Ault and Sean P Drysdale.

JURORS & PORTFOLIO REVIEWERS

Thank you to Tiffany Jones, Publisher, Overlapse, and Juror of the Exposure 2023 *Emerging Photographers Showcase*, and Michèle Pearson Clarke, Artist, Writer, Educator and Photo Laureate for the City of Toronto (2019-2022), and Juror of the Exposure 2023 *International Open Call* exhibition.

Thank you to Exposure 2023 Portfolio Reviewers – Adam Whitford, Alicia Buates Mckenzie, Ann M. Jastrab & Muema Lombe, Anne Ewen, Ashley Slemming, Audrey Sands, Camilla Brown, Christine Klassen, Crista Dix, Dave Shelley, Dona Schwartz, George Webber, Jessica Piette, Jon Lowenstein, Karen Harvey, Kate Bushey, Leah Hennel, Lillian O'brien Davis, Mary-Beth Lavoilette, Maryann Camilleri, Miriam Fabijan, Mitch Kern, Niamh Tracey, Nicola Shipley, Phoebe Alice Evans, Sanaa Humayun, Sanja Lukac, Tiffany Jones, and Todd Korol.