

//press information for immediate release//

## Photo|Frome is an exciting new festival set to bring world-class photography to Frome and the Southwest this summer

The festival will showcase all types of photography from local, national, and international photographers at 5 exhibition venues, all free entry. There will be talks, workshops, a book fair, portfolio reviews and more.

The inaugural theme is *The Independent Eye*, celebrating photography as an art form and reflecting some of Frome's own famed spirit of independence. The festival runs daily for almost four weeks, from 21st June to 15th July 2022.



Danny North

Highlights include Dave Grohl, Oasis, U2 and many other bands coming to town in the photographs of one of the UK's leading music professionals, Danny North.

Astronauts will be landing in Frome, too, thanks to John Angerson's unique photos of the training programme for NASA's Space Shuttle STS-72 mission.



John Angerson

Olga Karlovac's mysterious but alluring black and white portrayals of her native Croatia are atmospheric and rich with story-telling emotion. Hanna-Katrina Jędrosz is exhibiting for the first time her extensive documentation of the European Green Belt along the former Iron Curtain borderlands, where paradoxically wildlife flourishes. A timely show.



Olga Karlovac

James Ravilious's world-renowned photography of the Southwest is another highlight of this inaugural festival. James's widow, Robin, is giving a talk on his work, and his friend Chris Chapman is exhibiting with his beautiful take on Southwest rural life.

Dramatic street portraiture of strangers in East London by Trinidad-born Robert Huggins is complemented by poetry, celebrating the diversity of that great city. And Vanessa Fairfax-Woods's unique perspective on the role of women highlights the frustrations, absurdity, and fragility of not showing one's true self.



Chris Chapman

There are also three group shows. One features many of Frome's professional photographers. Another is dedicated to the work from Frome Wessex Photographic, one of the region's most successful amateur groups. And the third is a large-scale display of contemporary photographers from across the world.

By design, given Photo|Frome's fundamental principle of bringing photography to the community and beyond, all exhibitions will be free to access.

Photo|Frome's talks programme partly reflects the exhibitions, with sessions from Robin Ravilious, Chris Chapman, Olga Karlovac, and John Angerson offering personal, captivating insights into the work. They are joined by Justin Quinnell's engaging and practical talk on pinhole photography; Tim Gander's revelations on his arresting photo-documentary of Frome's abandoned Saxonvale industrial site; and a compelling, audience-involving debate on the meaning of photography today from a professional perspective (Joss Barrett) and that of a fine artist (Martin Wade).

There will also be an event discussing the work of Alice Seeley, later Lady Harris. This is in collaboration with Frome Heritage Museum, who are currently featuring her in their 'Celebrated Women of Frome' exhibition; Seeley having lived in the town for many years. This pioneering photographer shocked the world in the early 1900s with her images of human rights abuses in the Belgian Congo, which led to King Leopold's withdrawal, though her enduring legacy is not without controversy.

Complementing our core offering of exhibitions and talks, Photo|Frome 2022 will put on a series of workshops – ranging from Polaroid-based photowalks to 'camera-less' cyanotype photography – alongside a book and magazine fair, portfolio review sessions, local college and retail involvement.

Altogether, Photo|Frome will be in seven different venues, featuring the work of, discussion with, or instruction from around 50 photographers.

There is something for everyone and every level of photographic interest and ability.

See [photofrome.org](https://photofrome.org) for full details and tickets.

//assets for press use//

Photo|Frome logos and related graphics available here: <https://tinyurl.com/ycktam2d>

//notes for editors//

## ABOUT PHOTO|FROME

Photo|Frome is a new festival dedicated to showcasing and celebrating all levels of photographic endeavour from local, national, and international photographers.

The festival aims to put photography on the map in Frome and the Southwest of the UK – and, eventually, put Frome firmly on the international photo circuit.

It is an ambitious, inspiring programme that encompasses world-class exhibitions, captivating keynote speakers, practical workshops, community involvement, photo walks and more.

Photo|Frome was co-founded by Frome-area photographers David Chedgy, Mick Yates, Martin Bax, and Joao Diniz Sanches in autumn 2021. There is a diverse team of 8 steering the festival, supported by a wide range of funding and creative partners from across the region.

Photo|Frome is registered as a Community Interest Company (CIC) at Companies House, number 13912579.

## CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

Mick Yates, Chair of Photo|Frome and this year's curator.

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//PROGRAMME DETAILS//

## EXHIBITIONS

**ROOK LANE CHAPEL / FREE / 10:00-16:00 Sunday 26 June to Wednesday 13 July**

This exhibition showcases 6 very different contemporary practitioners. It features the never-before-exhibited music photography of Danny North; from iconic images of Blur and the last tours of Oasis to today's U2, Muse, Dave Grohl, and The 1975. Olga Karlovac's mysterious but alluring black and white portrayals of her native Croatia are atmospheric and rich with emotion. For a year, John Angerson had unprecedented access to the astronauts of the NASA Space Shuttle STS-72 mission as they trained.

Hanna-Katrina Jędrasz is showing, for the first time, her extensive documentation of the European Green Belt along the former Iron Curtain borderlands, from the Barents Sea to the Black Sea. Being out-of-bounds to civilians for decades, dividing east from west, this paradoxically enabled wildlife to flourish. Dramatic street portraiture of strangers in East London by Trinidad-born Robert Huggins is complemented by poetry, celebrating the diversity of that great city. And Vanessa Fairfax-Woods's unique visual perspectives on the role of women invites us to reconsider what we think we know. '*and so, I act cold*' highlights the frustrations, absurdity and fragility of not showing one's true self.

**ROUND TOWER, BLACK SWAN ARTS / FREE / 10:00-16:00 Tuesday 21 June to Sunday 10 July**

This joint exhibition is a must for anyone interested in the history of the region. James Ravilious's 17-year-long obsession with documenting all aspects of local life around Beaford – landscape, farming, everyday rhythms in the local towns and villages, and their special occasions – make up one of the country's most extensive and internationally acclaimed rural archives.

This is complemented by the equally profound work of Chris Chapman. For 25 years, Chris documented the people and landscape of Dartmoor, brought together in his beautiful book, *Wild Goose and Riddon*.

## **TOWN HALL / FREE / 10:00-16:00 Saturday 2 July to Friday 15 July**

Frome Wessex Photographic is one of the region's most successful and longstanding camera groups. Twenty photographers will interpret the festival's theme with a show called *My Vision, My Process*. This will span from landscape to street to abstract and ICM (intentional camera movement), from both award-winning and newly established photographers.

## **GALLERY AT THE STATION / FREE / 10:00-16:00 Tuesday 21 June to Friday 15 July**

Look closely at Frome and the surrounding areas and you'll find a large and diverse community of photographers, whether internationally acclaimed professionals or dedicated amateurs. In a unique exhibition, the purpose-built Gallery at The Station will provide a window into the themes that are dominating photography today.

## **MAKERS' YARD / FREE / 10:00-16:00 Friday 24 June to Friday 15 July, weekdays only**

*Culture Pool* is the first visual art show curated by Makers' Yard, the new artist-run cultural hub in Frome. The group exhibition will showcase large-format fly posters by an international group of contemporary photographers whose work represent a diverse body of intrepid portrait and still-life imagery. The show will be an unrefined, kaleidoscopic celebration of photography that is eccentric, distinctive, and hung candidly both inside and outside of the warehouse space.

Full details at [photofrome.org/exhibitions](https://photofrome.org/exhibitions)

## TALKS

Photo|Frome will share the story behind the work as we hear from the photographers featured in our exhibitions or talk with other artists and experts about the methods and history that make their craft what it is.

**Robin Ravilious – *A Chronicle of Rural Life* / Town Hall / Friday 24th June, 19:30-21:00**

**John Angerson – *NASA STS-72* / Rook Lane Chapel Gallery / Saturday 25th June, 19:30-21:00**

**Justin Quinnell – *Aristotle's Hole: From Mo-Tzu to the Selfie Stick* / Assembly Rooms / Monday 27th June, 19:30-21:00**

**Olga Karlovac – *Theatre Stages* / Rook Lane Chapel Gallery / Wednesday 29th June, 19:30-21:00**

**Chris Chapman – *Wild Goose & Riddon* / Town Hall / Friday 1st July, 19:30-21:30**

**Tim Gander – *What Happened Here* / Town Hall / Tuesday 5th July, 19:30-21:00**

**David Lassman & Mick Yates – *Let's talk about Alice (Seeley Harris)* / Assembly Rooms / Monday 11th July, 19:30-21:00**

**Joss Barrett & Martin Wade, panel chaired by Mick Yates – *Does Photography Still Mean Anything?* / Rook Lane Chapel Gallery / Tuesday 12th July, 19:30-21:00**

Full details and tickets at [photofrome.org/talks](https://photofrome.org/talks).

## WORKSHOPS

There is a full programme of workshops covering technique, equipment, and creativity. Photographers will also be able to sign up for a portfolio review where professionals will offer feedback and pointers.

***Outdoor Alternative Photography*** – Real Photography Company / Frome Library / Tuesday 28th June, 11:00-14:00

***Photo Walk Around Frome*** – David Chedgy / Cheese & Grain / Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 10:00-12:00

***Digital Camera Phone Photography*** – James Bartholomew / Cheese & Grain / Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 10:00-17:00

***Faces of Frome: Pop-Up Portrait Studio*** – Jesse Alexander / Frome Library / Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 08:00-15:00

***Explore Frome Using a Vintage Polaroid Camera*** – David Chedgy / Cheese & Grain / Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 14:00-16:00

***Traditional and Wet Cyanotypes*** – Anjalika Baier / Frome College / Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July, 11:30-15:00

Learn more and book at [photofrome.org/workshops](https://photofrome.org/workshops)

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