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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Beacon Gallery  
524B Harrison Ave  
Boston MA 02118

**Photographing the Female**

April 5<sup>th</sup> 2019 - June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019

Opening Reception: April 5<sup>th</sup> 6 - 8 pm



Natasha Penaguiao



Prarthna Singh



Paul Shiakallis

Photographing the Female is a global project and exhibition that explores female identity and representation in photography through the lens of contemporary lens-based artists. Formed to reflect on the diverse state, condition and role of the female around the world today; we are using the power of photography to start conversation and inspire new ways of seeing.

The exhibition brings together the work of empowering voices from all around the world whose photographic practices all explore a contemporary female experience via historically central themes like the body, sense of self, conformity and stigmatization. The photographers speak to us from a myriad of vantage points uncovering social and personal realities that challenge perceptions of what it means to be female and forces the viewer to consider the consequences of society's prescribed roles. Despite radical differences in style and approach an inescapable universality permeates the exhibition reminding us that the female is intrinsically connected to all of us and our very existence.

From the intimate experiences to painstaking criticism of patriarchal culture to the rare insight into the lives of teen girls these are all stories defined by power, transformation, culture, and struggle. In the juxtaposition of so many different perspectives it becomes clear that female identity is a complex and fluid concept which holds no ultimate truth or definition.

The framework for Photographing the Female exists in the space between photography, memory and identity. As extensions of the human experience and memory photographs are visual archives of power and privilege through which we reflect, identify and ultimately understand our collective and individual selves. The stories we choose to put forward are ultimately the stories we deem important enough for the rest of the world to see. Photographing the Female is a reflection on the role of the photographic archive in a contemporary world of images and the importance to history and our common future of bringing female narratives to the forefront of social storytelling.

Artists presented include (tentative list as of December 2018):

- Malene Anthony (Denmark)
- Abdollah Heidari (Iran)
- Celeste Knirke (Denmark)
- Jamie Knowlton (US)
- Natasha Penaguiao (Denmark)
- Birthe Piontek (Germany)
- Paul Shiakallis (South Africa)
- Prarthna Singh (India)
- Luo Yang (China)
- Ji Yeo (South Korea)
- Alexandra Von Fuerst (France)
- Sara Zanella (Italy)
- Alena Zhandarova (Russia)

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Rachel Legault at 857.277.1700 or email at [marketing@beacongallery.com](mailto:marketing@beacongallery.com).



Alexandra Von Fuerst