Internationale Photoszene Köln
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Photoszene Festival May 14 – June 13, 2027

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1. How can I participate in the Photoszene Festival?

The Photoszene Festival begins on May 14, 2027, and ends on June 13, 2027. If you are planning an exhibition in Cologne during the festival period, you can register online here (https://www.photoszene.de/de/festival/anmeldung/).

2. How much does it cost to participate in the Photoszene Festival?

The participation fee depends on whether you register as a museum/institution for €1,000 plus VAT, a gallery for €500 plus VAT, an art space for €250 plus VAT, or a studio/pop-up/workspace for €100.

Promotion of Your Exhibition as Part of the Festival

- Inclusion in the festival guide and general public relations efforts
- Image + text in the guide (German/English) and on the website (Ger/Eng)
- Proofreading & English translation of the exhibition text
- Proofreading & adaptation of the exhibition text into plain language
- Diversity-sensitive editing of the exhibition text
- Alphabetical listing in the guide's index
- Artist index in the guide and on the website
- An announcement about the opening on Instagram and the website
- Optional exhibition marker
- Marker on a city map (print and digital)
- Minimum purchase of approximately 40 festival guides

3. Do I need to apply to participate?

No, you register yourself and your exhibition using the registration form. However, your registration is not valid until it has been reviewed and approved by the festival organizers and you have received a confirmation of registration. Content that is discriminatory or inhumane in nature and violates the principles of a society of diversity cannot be accepted.

4. What do I need to register for the Photoszene Festival?

In addition to a planned exhibition and an exhibition space in Cologne, you'll need an exhibition description of no more than 500 characters (including spaces) and a cover image that can be used free of charge. You can then upload up to 5 additional images via the registration form for the online presentation (website, newsletter, social media). Even if you don't have all the details about your exhibition yet, you can still register. We will then request the exhibition materials from you for print and web use.

5. How long can the exhibition description be?

The text can be up to 500 characters, including spaces.

6. Does Photoszene help with finding an exhibition space?

Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee active mediation between artists and exhibition spaces, but we can still assist with finding spaces. If a space is successfully secured, Photoszene will not take over the lease; this should then be arranged directly between the exhibiting artist and the landlord.

7. Is there a judging process?

No. Your exhibition will be listed in the respective city district. However, we reserve the right to establish thematic connections between the exhibition venues for our outreach program. A jury of selected experts will make exhibition recommendations. All submissions will be reviewed upon receipt: Content with a discriminatory or inhumane orientation that violates the principles of a society of many cannot be accepted.

8. Which category should I register under?

To provide visitors with a better overview, the Photoszene Festival offers the following categories: Museum/Institution, Gallery, Art Space, or Studio. If you're unsure which category your exhibition belongs to, please feel free to contact us by email at festival@photoszene.de.

9. Do I have to stick to the opening hours?

We ask that visitors—especially those coming from out of town—adhere to our core opening hours: Wednesdays and Fridays from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on weekends from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

10. Can I register even if I can't guarantee I'll be available during the opening hours?

Yes. Please contact us at festival@photoszene.de. We'll find a solution.

11. Are there any other educational programs or events, and do they entail any obligations for me?

Photoszene is developing a thematic, diversity-sensitive, and inclusive educational program. The education team selects exhibitions and then contacts the exhibition organizers. When participating in a guided tour, the exhibition organizers are obligated to ensure that the exhibition is accessible at the specified time.
As a general rule for a visitor-friendly festival, we communicate the accessibility and

opening hours of the exhibitions in a clear and straightforward manner. In the event of absences due to illness, it makes sense to contact the festival organizers so we can work together to find solutions and arrange for a substitute.

12. Will all 6 images be used for press purposes?

No. We only release the first image to the external press. You should provide this to us free of charge. For all other images as well, you must have the artists' permission for royalty-free use in print and online media (website/social media, newsletter, guide) as part of the Photoszene Festival 2027.

13. What information will be featured on the homepage?

On a dedicated page for your exhibition on the Photoszene website, you can display 6 images, include the exhibition text, and list all events related to your exhibition.

14. What materials will I receive when I register for the Photoszene Festival?

You will receive the festival guide, as well as Photoszene posters and stickers to display at your exhibition site. We will notify you of one delivery date and two pickup dates (dates to be announced); in addition, you can arrange for individual delivery via DHL on a date of your choice for a €15 surcharge.

For exhibition signage, there are optional add-on products available (e.g., stencils with spray chalk, display stands, or banners). We'll contact you in due time with the available options. You can decide for yourself which ones best suit your exhibition space.

15. Will there be more meetups?

The photography community is planning additional monthly meetups from December 2026 through April 2027. The dates will be announced on our website, and invitations will also be sent out via our email list and social media.

16. Contact

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