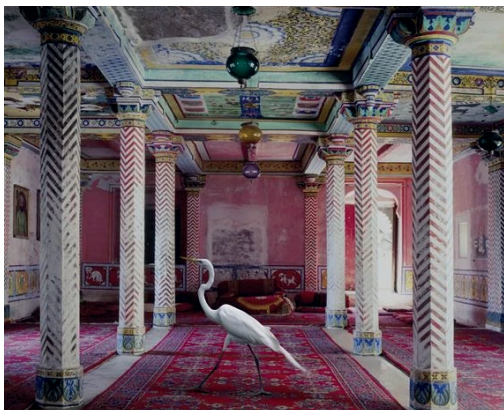


# Artists to Watch from Photo London Fair

MutualArt

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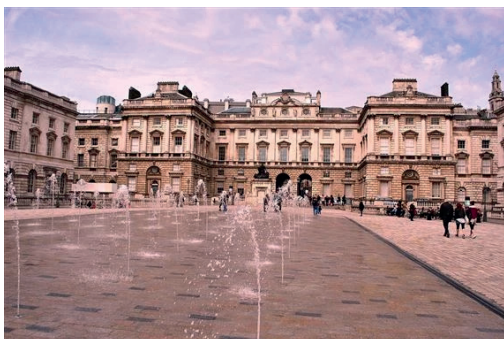
Photo London returned to Somerset House this week for its fifth edition. Among the photographers and artists on display, we took a look at a few that collectors might want to watch in future.



Karen Knorr, *Flight to Freedom*

Whilst the eyes of many in the art world were trained on New York for the large PWC and Imp. and Mod. sales this week, others were focussed on gearing up for the fifth edition of Photo London, the exciting photography fair held annually at London's Somerset House. The fair opened on the 16th, and will run through to Sunday the 19th of May.

Artists and galleries from worldwide are presenting, celebrating, and selling the best and most innovative art-photography currently being produced. Over 100 of the world's leading galleries – from Antwerp, Budapest, San Francisco, Cape Town, Berlin, Tokyo and more feature the work of over 400 artists.



Somerset House, which annually hosts Photo London

For its fifth edition, the fair has appointed a new Director, Roderick van der Lee, with Founders Michael Benson and Fariba Farshad promising to "unlock the strategic potential of the fair."

As it develops, the fair is proving an excellent barometer of quality and taste trends in the world of art photography, and a look at the artists chosen by galleries for the event offers insight into who they believe can perform well in private sales and on the market.

Of the over 400 artists on display, here are a few to keep in mind during and after the fair.

## David Goldblatt

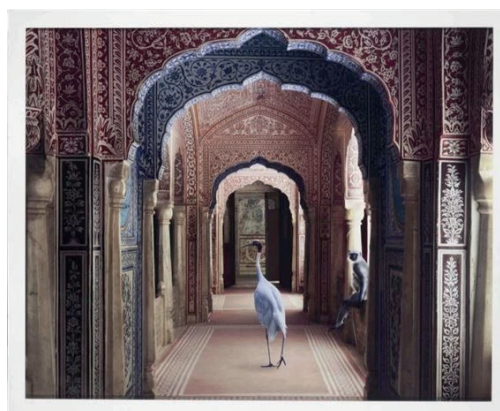


David Goldblatt, *On the Farm Rooinek, Seweekepoort, Western Cape (2006)*

Goldblatt was a revered South African photographer whose documentation of his own country during the ravages of Apartheid are stark, detached, searingly truthful pictures. His monochrome studies tell the whole, unadulterated story, and are famously agenda-free, preferring to represent rather than interpret. They recall the best work of Don McCullin. Goodman Gallery from Cape Town are regulars at the fair, and bring Goldblatt's work this year.

Goldblatt's work, prized for its clarity, is beginning to have some success in the market this year, though perhaps particularly in South Africa. In February of this year, at Strauss and Co. in Cape Town, a photograph printed on cotton, *On the Farm Rooinek, Seweekepoort, Western Cape (2006)*, sold firmly within estimate for \$24,221, a respectable price for a photo piece. Representation at London's biggest photography fair may see Western collectors turn their attention to this stalwart of documentary photography.

## Karen Knorr

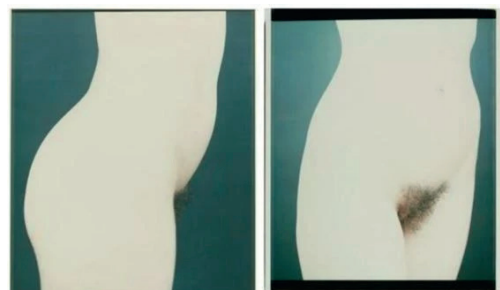


Karen Knorr, *The Avatars of Devi, Zanana, Samode Palace (2008)*

German-born American artist, Karen Knorr, is a very exciting talent in the world of photography. Her work explores the comfort and the weirdness of interiors, the transformations in space that occur in thresholds, doorways. She plays at the intersections of various cultures and also explores the animal kingdom. She also tackles socio-political concerns like feminism and the British aristocracy.

Sundaram Tagore Gallery feature Knorr's explorations of interior space in Rajasthan and elsewhere. One such piece, *The Avatars of Devi, Zanana, Samode Palace (2008)* made a stir last year when it smashed a pre-sale high estimate of \$8,000 to sell for \$21,250, making Knorr a photographer whom collectors should certainly watch.

## Ralph Gibson



Ralph Gibson, *Two Works, Selected Nudes of Lisa (1979)*

Gibson is a celebrated American photographer whose erotic monochromes and silhouetted compositions enjoy an active market presence, appearing 277 times at auction over the last ten years. Playful and provocative, his photographs usually carry healthy price tags. Back in 2010, a diptych entitled *Selected Nude Studies of Lisa (1979)* sold for \$10,000. But sales of his work have stalled a little in previous years.

Leica Gallery feature Gibson at 2019's Photo London, and a strong showing could see his market popularity rise again towards previous heights.

Rachel Louise Brown



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Photo London

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An exciting feature of Photo London 2019 is the return of the Pavilion Commission, a specially curated exhibition which this year promotes the work of Women in Photography. Curate by Maggie O'Regan, the commission presents the work of Rachel Louise Brown. Her series, 'Simulations', the press release explains, was "initially inspired by Jean Baudrillard's idea of 'imagination stations'; environments created to entertain society, Brown wandered the streets of West Palm Beach alone at night in search of simulated environments and also placed casting calls in the Palm Beach Daily News to work with local strangers. The resulting fictional narratives translate heightened psychological states in both herself and her subjects."

Brown is yet to sell on the secondary market but such prominent platforming of her exciting work is sure to make her one to watch in the coming years.


Richard Mosse



Richard Mosse, *Nowhere to Run (Infra Series)* (2010)

A piece by Irish photographer Richard Mosse, entitled *Nowhere to Run (Infra Series)* (2010) sold this week in the Phillips Photographs auction for \$47,692 against a high estimate of \$39,162. He gained acclaim in 2014 for his work documenting conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo, using his signature infrared film to change perspectives and engage viewers in an emotive dialogue. Carlier Gebauer Gallery from Berlin, making their fair-debut, feature his work at Photo London 2019, and the market for his distinctive works is already in full swing this year. Certainly one to watch.


Gigi Scaria



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Fair first-timers, Inda Gallery, from Budapest, present the work of Indian Photographer, Gigi Scaria. Exploring the claustrophobia, absurdity, and occasional beauty of architectural space and built environments, Scaria is a witty, observant, and creative maker of images.

His watercolor paintings sell frequently at Saffronart in Mumbai, but his photographs have a keenness and playfulness that could see them catch collectors' eyes in the Western market.