



NEWS: Friday 28 April 2016

RETINA INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL 24 June – 30 July 2016



*image credits L – R: Jason Bell, Janeanne Gilchrist, Dougie Wallace.

THIRD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL HEADLINED BY CELEBRITY PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHER JASON BELL

Retina International Photography Festival returns for its third year to Scotland's festival city, celebrating the best of photography from round the world in fifteen exhibitions featuring over 60 photographers.

Based in New York and London portrait photographer and RETINA headliner **Jason Bell** has shot for some of the world's foremost publications including *Vanity Fair* and *Vogue US / UK*. His work will be shown at Gayfield Creative Spaces, where RETINA returns for a second year. Lead photographer for Oscar Winning films *The Danish Girl* and *The Revenant* – there are few people in the world who haven't seen Jason's work in the news or looking out at them from a billboard. Jason also shot for TV series *Outlander*, filmed in Scotland, and his portrait of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (above) has made front pages around the world.

Alongside, at Gayfield Creative Spaces, commercial photographer **Kareem Black's** work will be shown for the first time in Scotland. Kareem has worked for brands across the spectrum from Sony Music, Atlantic Records through to Reebok and Samsung. He has photographed Maisie Williams (Arya Stark, *Game of Thrones*) on many occasions. His personal projects burst with colour and life, like *Feels Good Let's Go*, a photographic exploration of NYC's nightlife. Head to @kareemblack instagram for an idea of his most exciting current projects.

East London-based photographer **Dougie Wallace** grew up in Glasgow hence his moniker, 'Glasweegee'. Specialising in long-term social documentary projects and an expressive, direct portrayal of street style. Over 17 trips to Bombay, Dougie produced a stunning series of the city's popular taxi culture and feature in his exhibition "Road Wallah".

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Edinburgh's **Jeanne Gilchrist** and creative portrait photographer **Alma Haser** headline the spaces at Customs House, alongside **Emerging Talent, UK Picture Editor's Guild 2015 Award Winners Exhibition** and a special celebration of **Scottish Press Photographers'** work documenting our world and colouring the headlines.

At Customs House **Jeanne's** project *Inter Tidal* charting the debris in the seas around Scotland, in her 10 years has a free diver, has yielded remarkable results and is a damning but beautiful portrait of where dumped rubbish ends up and how the world looks under water.

Retina is very excited to welcome the extraordinary creative talent of German born **Alma Haser**, who expands the dimensions of traditional portrait photography. Shortlisted for the Taylor Wessing Portrait Prize at NPG and SNPG in 2012, Alma's current project is the *Cosmic Surgery* series toys with original photography of her sitters, turning them into origami and photographing with her sitters with their faces obscured.

The opening night of the festival will introduce **David Boni**, an award winning Advertising photographer and Director. He started out as a still life photographer - with Irving Penn as his inspiration. David plays with conceptual images and relishes the diversity of a photographer's life but portraits – on display in Summerhall from June 24 – are his first love.

Saturday 16 July RETINA holds its first ever **Photomathon** – over the course of 12 hours, participants will be challenged to take 12 pictures around the city on 12 given topics.

Roddy McRae, Festival Chairperson Commented:

"Retina creates a platform for photographers from across the globe to exhibit their work across the festival city and our focus is absolutely on supporting up and coming photographers to exhibit alongside the headliners whose images will be familiar to us all. I have to thank the RETINA team, our sponsors, venues and partners without whom this festival would not be possible."

ENDS.

Special thanks go to the hard working RETINA committee, working group and sponsors, partners and venues without whom RETINA wouldn't exist.

For more information and images please contact Miriam Attwood 07825 642225

miriam@storytellingpr.com

RETINA 2016 IN NUMBERS

The third annual event

6 Emerging Photographers

9 Venues

12 Solo photography exhibitions

15 exhibitions

35 Association of Photographers Award Winners

10 Scottish Press Photographers

63 Photographers from around the world

ENDS



Exhibiting at Gayfield Creative Spaces

Jason Bell

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/jasonbellphoto>

Website: <http://www.jasonbellphoto.com/#/home/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/jasonbellphoto/>

Dougie Wallace

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/dougiewallace>

Website: <http://www.dougiewallace.com/new-page-2/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/dougie_wallace.glasweegee/

Kareem Black

Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/KareemBlack/>

Website: <http://www.kareemblack.com/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/kareemblack/>

Exhibiting at: Gayfield Creative Spaces

Exhibiting at Summerhall

David Boni

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MrDavidBoni>

Website: <http://www.davidboni.com/>

Vimeo: <https://vimeopro.com/user4576244/web-folio>

Exhibiting at Customs House

Alma Haser

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AlmaHaser>

Website: <http://www.haser.org/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/almahaser/>

Jeanne Gilchrist

Behance: www.behance.net/Unit-photographic

Exhibiting at Roamin' Nose

Paul and Lynn Henni

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/lynnhenni>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/paulhenni>

Website: <https://knicksen.com/>