



Save the Date // September 2026

Düsseldorf and Photography at Paris Photo 2026

Paris Photo 2026
Grand Palais, Paris
12–15 November 2026

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A presentation by Düsseldorf, the city of photography, exploring photography as a medium of the future.

To mark the 200th anniversary of photography, Düsseldorf will be represented at Paris Photo from 12 to 15 November, with a prominent position in the Digital Sector of the world's most important international photography fair at the Grand Palais. This year's presentation focuses on the ongoing transformation of photography into a cross-media art form. Historically, photography in Düsseldorf has played a decisive role in becoming established as part of the visual arts. The *Düsseldorf and Photography* presentation is accompanied by a monumental installation by Thomas Ruff and institutional collaborations. With this presence, the "Fotostadt" reinforces its self-image as a place for networking, synergies and discourse.

Initiated by the Fotostadt Düsseldorf Commission, *Düsseldorf and Photography* presents contemporary artistic positions from the city, based on recommendations by curators from local museums, independent institutions and the independent art scene. Photography appears here as material, object, process and generative neural network.

"Within artistic processes, photography is increasingly being used as an element that contextualises different media within an installation-based practice. Our exhibition at Paris Photo presents this development and its implications for the current and future understanding of the medium."

Stephan Macháč, Düsseldorf Cultural Office

Düsseldorf has a historically established infrastructure for artistic photography and will become the future home of the Deutsches Fotoinstitut. The development of photography at the Kunstakademie, the work of museums, collections, galleries and higher-education institutions, as well as the activities of independent initiatives, have contributed to the formation of an internationally recognised photographic field. *Düsseldorf and Photography* understands this history as a starting point for engaging with contemporary artistic perspectives.

Programme highlights at a glance

- › **The talk programme** at the fair stand, featuring international practitioners and artists such as **Ed Atkins**, expands the presentation's themes to include perspectives on generative image creation and is developed together with Dr. Jana Johanna Haeckel, curator of *düsseldorf photo+*.
- › **Preview of the *düsseldorf photo+* 2027 biennale**: the fair presentation offers an initial curatorial insight into the upcoming biennale (from February 2027), which will focus on embodiment and expanded image practices.
- › **Thomas Ruff at the Grand Palais**: one of the most influential representatives of the so-called "Düsseldorf School of Photography" will create a central, large-scale wall installation directly in the entrance area of the fair in collaboration with five international galleries.
- › **Cooperation with the Goethe-Institut Paris**: alongside the fair, the Goethe-Institut will present recent works from the **classes of Prof. Peter Piller and Prof. Josephine Pryde** at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf.
- › The presentation is complemented by works by **international recipients of the Bernd-und Hilla-Becher-Preis**, as well as two limited-edition publications developed exclusively for Paris Photo by the Photography Teaching and Research Area of Hochschule Düsseldorf / Peter Behrens School of Arts and by Kunstakademie Düsseldorf.

Image information

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Event facts

Event: Paris Photo 2026 – Grand Palais, Paris

Presentation *Düsseldorf and Photography*, Digital Sector

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Initiator: Landeshauptstadt Düsseldorf

Project management and concept: Stephan Macháč and Kim-Camille Kreuz

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