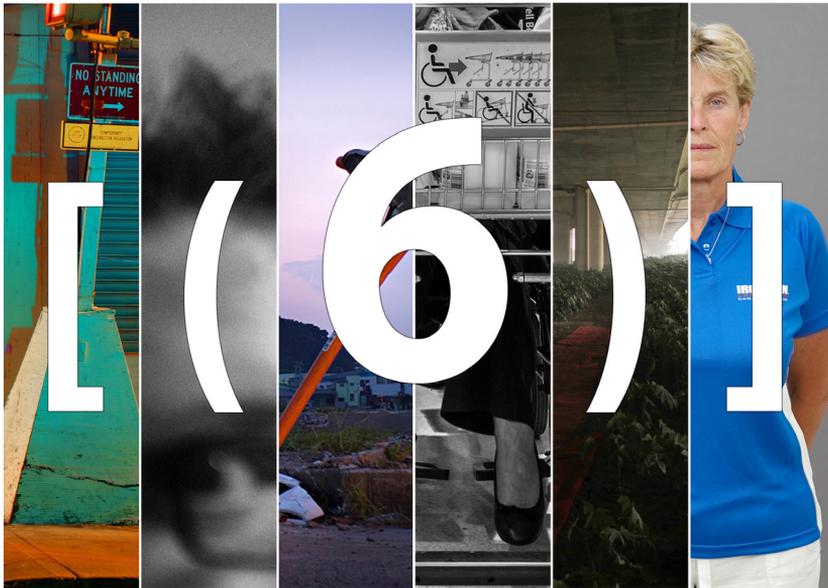


[(6)]

Personal Explorations in Photography



Bank Street Arts

32-40 Bank Street

Sheffield S1 2DS

9 July - 1 August 2014

[[**6**]] features the work of six independent photographers - Tanya Ahmed, Dewald Botha, Keith Greenough, Nigel Haworth, Pete Mansell and Rob™ – who met as photography degree students through the Open College of the Arts. Their collective work explores social themes through differing genres of photography: landscape, portraiture and documentary.

six-scapes.weebly.com/

#6scapes

Directions

Bank Street Gallery and Studios is situated in the heart of Sheffield city centre, less than 10 minutes walk from the railway station, five minutes from the bus station and one minute from the tram stop at Castle Square.

Bank Street Art

32-40 Bank Street

Sheffield

S1 2DS

bankstreetarts.com

Biographies

Tanya Ahmed

Tanya is British but currently living in New York, and has worked as a photographer in many fields. She is currently a senior photographer for the NYPD and an active member of Professional Women Photographers.

Tanya's works in [(6)], 'Untitled' and 'Walking the Gamut', ask us to consider our interaction with the physical structures that support and impact our lives. In 'Untitled', calm oases create a meditative space inviting the viewer to reflect on how the built environment acts as a catalyst to introspection, memory and emotion. Tanya invites collaboration by requesting the Bank Street Arts' visitor produce captions inspired by their own personal reading of and reaction to the images. 'Walking the Gamut' explores the cityscape that pedestrians are confronted with when navigating the unfamiliar and continually shifting space created by a new subway construction. Fear and impatience balance excitement and visual wonder when accessing these chaotic paths.

Tanya's personal work is inspired by her encounters as she lives with and travels through the built environment. [(6)] is Tanya's third exhibition at Bank Street Arts, following on from 'I Call This Place Home' and 'Shades of New York' in 2012.

tanyaahmed.com

Dewald Botha

Dewald has lived in Eastern China since 2007, where he works as an English teacher in Suzhou, Jiangsu Province. He is South African, but lived in the UK and Czech Republic before relocating to China. His photographic practice is distinctive for the use of muted or desaturated colours. As a Western onlooker living inside a culture so different from the West, he is an outsider looking from within at a landscape shaped by a fast-paced and constantly changing society. Elements of delayed realisation are layered in the work. Photographs appear to comment on, or depict a space, but on closer reading reveal a personal critique or relationship with the subject matter. The body of work, 'Ring Road (2012-2013)', is being shown for the second time, having been seen as an installation exhibition in the Suzhou Pingjiang District Culture Centre in August 2013.

Influences and inspiration to his work range from environmental issues as addressed by Robert Adams, Lewis Baltz, Richard Misrach and Nadav Kander, as well as the work of artists Shen Wei and Luo Dan.

dewaldbotha.net

Keith Greenough

Keith is a photographer and triathlete who competes in day-long 'Ironman' races. The work on show at the exhibition takes this sport and its impact on his life as their subject.

'Ironman Family' is a series of portraits of friends who are fellow competitors. The work seeks to confound the vernacular idea of portraiture and invites speculation about the general nature of people who take part in endurance sports and why they challenge themselves to the extreme.

'I am an Ironman' is a series of 30 self-portraits that tries to convey what the grinding routine of the physical training for the race feels like. Each of the portraits was made immediately after a training workout, with Keith still dressed in his training kit. His aim was to capture himself at moments when he was too tired and distracted to pose.

Photographers Rineke Dijkstra and Bettina Von Zwehl have been key influences on his work. 'I am an Ironman' was recently shown at the Photofusion Salon13 in London.

photo-graph.org

Pete Mansell

Pete took up photography as a serious interest following retirement in 2009. He hails from London and worked in the fields of disability and health rights after becoming a wheelchair user in 1978.

Pete creates photos for a number of reasons but his images relating to impairment and disability act both as documents and forms of expression, and are made in the same spirit of photographers like Jo Spence, even though they differ greatly in style. Through the process of photography - shooting, processing, looking, thinking and interpreting - he is able to generate new personal meaning and understanding from it.

Consequently Pete's three pieces of work shown here offer a visual commentary of his experience as a disabled person through distinct yet interconnected imagery. 'Paralysis' displays aspects of managing his impairment while 'The Landscape of Disability' explores the impact social factors have on his ability to move through the landscape. Lastly, 'Ramps' provides a commentary on the impact of the landscape on social relationships.

clkpete.weebly.com

Nigel Haworth

Nigel favours a measured, methodical approach to image making, often revisiting subjects and themes a number of times in order to build a series of experiences and ways of seeing from which he can draw out the essence of what he is trying to say. Much of his work is concerned with transience, of periods of change and the transitions people and places go through, and the way those portions of time are seen later.

'Shattered Coast', the work shown at Bank Street Arts, focuses on a time after the tsunami hit Japan's north-east coastline in 2011. Shot after most of the debris had been cleared away, it looks at what was left behind where a seaside town once stood. The series took around one month to shoot in the hot and humid Japanese mid-Summer. This is the first public showing of the project, which represents a departure from his previous, studio-based work.

Amongst others, Nigel counts the work of Todd Hido, Bill Jackson, Edward Hopper and Cole Thompson as influences on his work.

nigeljhaworth.com

Rob™

Rob, who lives in the rural north-west of England, uses his camera to capture the supposed reality that plays out before him. Whilst much of his work may appear to be landscape in nature, it is also deeply social, tackling the subject of man's interactions with the landscape and with others. The work shown in this exhibition is from two collections, 'A Forest' and 'Speak my Language'.

'A Forest' takes as its starting point the poet W H Auden's dictum that "A culture is no better than its woods", depicting found objects discarded in those woods after having outlived their usefulness, juxtaposed against the woods in which they were found. 'Speak my Language' was inspired by Christopher Petit's film "Radio On". It draws on the techniques of the European la nouvelle vague and neue deutsche welle, with their sometimes surreal and disjointed narratives.

His work has been exhibited around the UK, including a prior appearance at Bank Street, and is held in both public and private collections.

robtm.co.uk

The artists wish to extend their gratitude to the following sponsors and media partners:



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