

NEWS CIRCUIT

GOAPHOTO - PREVIEW



25 FEBRUARY TO 7 MARCH, 2015



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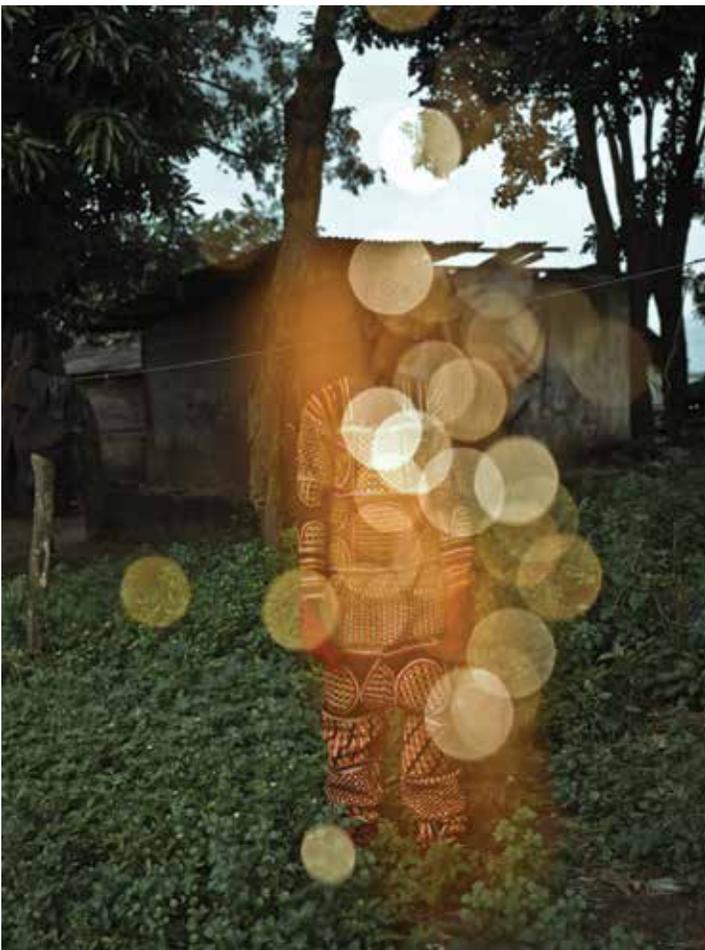
What do you need to make the first edition of an annual international photography festival a success? Photographers? 18 of the best from around the world. Check. Curator? Frank Kalero, with three curated editions of the GetxoPhoto Festival (Bilbao) in his bag. Check. Organisers? Ishan Tankha a Delhi-based photojournalist; Lola Mac Dougall, cultural adviser for the Embassy of Spain in India, and Nikhil Padgaonkar, a documentary filmmaker. Check. Location? The ever-scenic, the ever-young, the ever-exciting, Goa. Check.

This is Goa Photo 2015, a 10-day contemporary photography festival to be held across the city of Panaji. For at the core of Goa Photo's vision is the need to 'democratise cultural activities' by taking it out of closed gallery spaces into the streets, capturing public

imagination in all its many layers. 'Goa Photo aims to synergise with the urban landscape and architectural heritage of Panaji. This is to be a walkable festival, and the venues have been carefully selected so that visitors simultaneously discover the city's key districts: Fontainhas, Campal, Altinho and the city centre. In its own way, the festival will bring visibility to Panaji's neighbourhoods and to the wealth of its history,' says Lola Mc Dougall.

Organised around the theme of 'The Other', the festival's curator Frank Kalero spotlights this edition on the fine art of portraiture. 'Goa Photo wants to bring to the public photography of quality, both in content and form. It aims to spark interest in new ways, to relate and understand the environment and thereby, contributes to greater visual culture,' says Kalero.

The festival has an impressive list of both local and international photographers, bringing their unique perspective to the practice of portraiture and the endless stories that unfold in an expression, a posture, a gesture or a setting.



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‘We have multiple open-air as well as indoor exhibitions that will be held at different venues across the city, many of which will be in public spaces. Apart from exhibitions, we also have talks, workshops, debates, meets with curators and photographers, film screenings and open-air slideshows,’ adds Padgaonkar.

Goa Photo 2015 certainly promises to be a breathtaking mix of the extraordinary and the sublime, and how.

