

International Center of Photography

GOING PUBLIC: the crucial stage between making a body of work and presenting it publicly

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Course Description

You have been photographing for years, and have produced a lot of personal work that is important to you. It is time for your work to be seen by a larger, more public audience.

There is a crucial but often ignored task between making good photographs and presenting them publicly: you must have a clear and compelling understanding of what your work is “about.” You need to be able to articulate its themes and intentions, how it developed, and where it is going. You need to consider your photographs not as a collection of many pictures, but as a cohesive body of work. You need to see your artwork as a curator, collector, or presenter would see it.

In this course you will learn important steps that will help you understand your work more deeply, and present your photographs with intelligence and confidence to a gallery, museum, or other public venue. Through individual and group exercises, ongoing critiques, readings, assignments, and creating personal visual sketchbooks, this five-week course will address the following:

- Examining and rethinking your portfolio and bodies of work
- Developing a clear and compelling written and verbal statement
- Learning to self-critique
- Exploring alternative venues
- Understanding your work in the context of contemporary art and culture