

Second edition of the research and creation support programme

Photography and visual culture of the collective imagination

For the second edition of its research and creation support programme, the Institut pour la photographie aims to explore the links between Photography and popular visual culture, and, more specifically, collective imagination.

As a purveyor of allegorical or mythological imagery, Photography has quickly become a privileged mode of expression for creating a link between the symbolic and the real. It captures the collective imaginations rooted in the oldest myths or beliefs in the most futuristic worlds (rites, legends, utopias, scientific imagery, urban fantasies, UFOs, science fiction, etc.).

Omnipresent in both our popular and scholarly imagery, these representations contribute to our awareness of the present time; some even question their participation in the social and scientific construction of reality.

Between visual culture, visual anthropology, social sciences, current affairs politics and art history, we can grasp the way in which Photography triggers or reactivates shared narratives, as well as how it unearths or creates collective imaginations from all sides.

The research and creation projects will need to consider the different aspects of the creation of collective imaginations:

- the players involved in the production and dissemination of these imaginations (popular education, the press, science, photography, artists, etc.);
- sources (literature, scientific research, beliefs, contemporary mythologies, etc.);
- activation media and platforms (books, illustrations, cinema, series, video games, social networks, etc.).

Photographers, artists, curators and researchers are invited to respond to this call by developing an original approach around the role of Photography in the construction of collective imaginations.