

## HESSE FLATOW

Carter, L., & Olsen, A. “Meet 6 Rising Talents From the Inaugural Photofairs New York, From a Digital dynamo Wielding A.R. to a Space-Bound Romantic” *Artnet News*. Online. September 11, 2023.

artnet news

### Art Fairs

## Meet 6 Rising Talents From the Inaugural Photofairs New York, From a Digital Dynamo Wielding A.R. to a Space-Bound Romantic

Here are our picks from the 56 exhibitors.

Lee Carter & Annikka Olsen, September 11, 2023

Ready for its close-up, [Photofairs New York](#) made its debut September 8–10 at the Jacob Javits Center in Manhattan, alongside the Armory Show.

A nine-year staple of Shanghai, where it has become Asia’s largest photography exposition, Photofairs’ inaugural New York edition brought together 56 exhibitors from over 20 cities around the world. Together, they presented the latest in traditional photo-based artworks, digital photography, virtual reality, interactive works, as well as pieces that consider the materiality of the medium. “I love this niche of photography,” the fair’s director, Helen Toomer, [told Artnet News](#) before launch. “It has always been an innovative medium, and it’s just so vast in terms of the tools that can and have and will be used.”

Additionally, the fair hosted a discussion series among thought leaders in the field. Highlights included artist Derrick Adams in conversation with Michi Jigarjian—president of Baxter St. Camera Club of New York—on leisure and joy in artistic practice, and a discussion between photographer Cara Romero—a citizen of the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe—and Fotografiska New York’s Amanda Hajjar on Indigeneity in art. The festivities drew bold-face collectors as well: actor Chris Rock snapped up *First Dance* (2023), by Caleb Kwarteng Prah from Paris-based Nil Gallery’s presentation of the Ghanaian artist, the gallery announced on Facebook.

Here are our picks from Photofairs New York 2023.

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### Adama Delphine Fawundu Hesse Flatow



Adama Delphine Fawundu, *Passageways #1* (2017). © Adama Delphine Fawundu. Courtesy of the artist and Hesse Flatow, New York.

Photographer and visual artist Adama Delphine Fawundu’s highly anticipated presentation with New York’s Hesse Flatow illustrates her simultaneous aptitude for

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experimentation and cohesive vision. Known for her wide-ranging multidisciplinary practice that engages with ideas around ancestral memory and indigenization, her unique and sometimes novel use of photography as a medium stands out.

Mining her heritage—Fawundu is of Mende, Krim, Bamileke, and Bubi descent—and familial connections for inspiration in conjunction with photographic processes, the artist pushes the boundary of what a photograph can be. Influenced by the batik fabrics used by her grandmother, her images are variously produced directly on, affixed to, or framed by fabric, resulting in new patterns, designs, and interventions that speak to diasporic identities. Freed from the constraint of a single image printed on paper, the photography is ultimately one tool among many in Fawundu’s practice. —*Annikka Olsen*