

December 3, 2025

To Members of The Media



KG+2026, the satellite event of KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival, will return to Kyoto in spring 2026

141 Venues, 164 Exhibitions and 442 Artists from 21 countries *KG+2025 overview

<Call for Entries> The exhibition KG+, held at various locations in Kyoto City, and the award KG+ DISCOVERY Award (open until December 31).

<News Flash> The finalists for the juried exhibition KG+ SELECT have been decided!



KG+SELECT 2026 Finalist ©Hyunmin Ryu



KG+ 2025 Recorded
141 Venues,
164 Exhibitions, and
442 Artists from 21 countries.
Estimated total visitors reached
approximately 113,446.

KG+2026 will be held across hundreds of venues in Kyoto city from Saturday April 18 to Sunday May 17, 2025 in concurrence with its parent event, KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival.

KG+ is an open-entry photography festival that was founded in 2013 by KYOTOGRAPHIE, one of Japan's largest international photography festivals, with the aim to support up and coming artists. In 2025, 164 KG+ exhibitions were held across 141 venues receiving about 110,000 visitors.

KG+ is the main pathway for artists to join the KYOTOGRAPHIE main program, via the KG+SELECT Award. The award category KG+SELECT Award is a step-up award in which the winner earns the opportunity to participate in the main program of the following year's KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival. For artists aspiring to take part in KYOTOGRAPHIE, it is an invaluable opportunity not to be missed.

Alongside the exhibitions, a range of participatory programs will take place across the city during the festival period — artist and expert talks, workshops, book fairs, academies, and more. KG+2026 aims to connect people and cultures through diverse photography-centred approaches, fostering new discoveries and meaningful exchange.

Together with KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival, we kindly invite you to consider covering and featuring this occasion.

For enquiries please contact

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KG+SELECT 2026 Supported by Sigma

The 10 Finalists for the 2026 Edition Have Been Selected

KG+SELECT is an open competition first launched in 2015 as part of the awards division of KG+. From entries gathered from around the world, 10 artists are selected by an international jury. Each artist receives a ¥200,000 production grant and is invited to the group exhibition (KG+SELECT Group Exhibition). A catalog of the exhibited artworks will also be published. Following the group exhibition, one artist will be selected to win the KG+SELECT Award. They will receive a ¥500,000 encouragement prize and the opportunity to exhibit in the main program of KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival the following year.



©Hyunmin Ryu

Prizes: Each of the 10 KG+SELECT artists will receive a grant of ¥200,000. The KG+SELECT Award winner will receive a grant of ¥500,000 and exhibit in the main program of the 2027 KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival.

KG+SELECT 2026 Jury:

- Andréa Holzherr / Cultural Director and Curator for Magnum Photos, Paris
- Thyago Nogueira / Head of the Contemporary Photography, Department at Instituto Moreira Salles and chief editor of ZUM photography magazine
- Lucille Reyboz / Co-founders and Co-Directors of KYOTOGRAPHIE
- Yusuke Nakanishi / Co-founders and Co-Directors of KYOTOGRAPHIE

*Yuri Yamada has withdrawn from her role as a jury.

「KG+SELECT 2026」 Group Exhibition

Dates: Saturday, April 18 to Sunday, May 17, 2026

Venue: Kurochiku Makura Building

Sponsor: Sigma Corporation

KYOTOGRAPHIE × KG+ Award Ceremony 2026

A ceremony will be held to announce the KG+SELECT Award winner.

Date & time: April 19, 2026, 6PM (tentative)

KG+SELECT Award 2025 Winner

Federico Estol

Federico Estol will have an exhibition at SHIMADAI GALLERY East as part of the Main Program of KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival 2026.



Award Ceremony 2025 ©Naoyuki Ogino

KG+SELECT 2026 10 Finalists

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Sohei Nakanishi
[Japan]



Sridhar Balasubramaniam
[India]



Mila Rae Sarabhai
[Japan]



Hyunmin Ryu
[South Korea]



Kim Eun Ju
[South Korea]



Piotr Zbierski
[Poland]



Minkyung Seo
[South Korea]



Aya Kishimoto
[Japan]



Hiroyoshi Taira
[Japan]



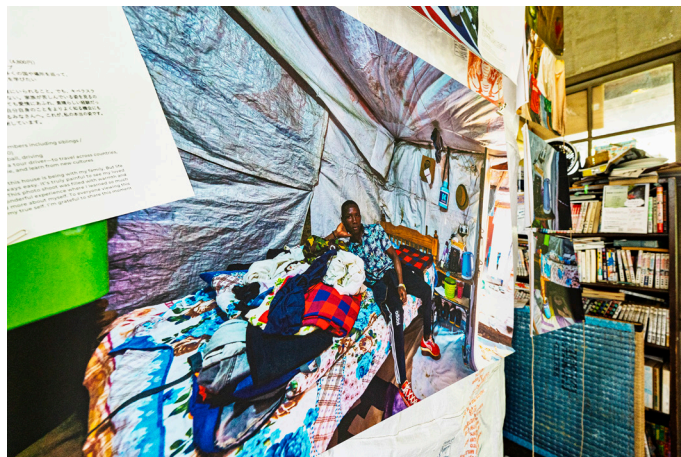
Chaofan Wan
[China]



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Launched in 2023, the KG+ DISCOVERY Award is awarded to one artist selected from the KG+ exhibitions (excluding KG+ SELECT). A first-round of document screening will be conducted from all the diverse KG+ exhibition proposals that cover a diverse range of careers, themes, and identities.

From this, a number of artists will be invited to participate in a presentation round, after which the KG+ DISCOVERY Award winner will be selected and later announced. The winner will receive the right to hold a solo exhibition and a supplementary prize that will propel their career.



KG+ DISCOVERY Award 2025 Winner
Welcome to Our Lives. Let's Engage in Dialogue.
©SHIFT80

Applications close: Wednesday, December 31, 2025 23:59 JST

Evaluation method: Document screening and public presentation

Prize: • The right to hold a solo exhibition and follow-up support

• FUJIFILM Corporation's GFX100RF digital camera

Sponsor: FUJIFILM Corporation

KG+ DISCOVERY Award 2026 Presentation

finalists undergo both an exhibition review and a presentation evaluation, leading to the selection of the award winner.

Dates: Friday, April 24, 2026

KG+DISCOVERY Award 2025 Winner
SHIFT80

SIHIT80 will have an exhibition as part of the KG+ SPECIAL Exhibition 2026.



KG+ DISCOVERY Award 2025 Presentaion ©Naoyuki Ogino