

Exhibition Opportunity

OPEN NEWHAVEN

Marine Workshops, Newhaven

2 – 31 October 2026

Deadline for entries: 11.59pm, Sunday 23 August 2026



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Photo Fringe invites lens-based artists to apply for a new open exhibition at BN9 Marine Workshops, Newhaven, as part of the Photo Fringe 2026 festival.

We are seeking **10 exhibitions** that respond to the 2026 Photo Fringe festival theme **Feedback Loop** and to the unique context of BN9 Marine Workshops and its surrounding environment. This is an opportunity to develop work that engages with the building, its histories and present-day uses, and the people, industries, ecologies and communities that shape Newhaven.

Artists are encouraged to think expansively about place, collaboration, exchange and dialogue. How can photography and lens-based practice respond to a working waterfront, a changing coastal town, or the relationships between people and place? What conversations, histories or futures emerge through listening, observing or working alongside local communities?

Selected artists will each present work within the exhibition, creating a collective exploration of **Feedback Loop** through multiple perspectives rooted in Newhaven.

Feedback Loop

Feedback Loop explores the ways images, people, places and ideas continuously shape one another. Rather than seeing photography as a static record, the theme invites artists to consider processes of exchange, repetition, influence and transformation.

A feedback loop might describe conversations between communities and landscapes, the circulation of stories across generations, ecological cycles, industrial systems, acts of collaboration, or the evolving relationship between artists and audiences. It asks how images participate in these cycles, changing the places and people they depict while being reshaped in return.

For this exhibition, artists are invited to respond specifically to BN9 Marine Workshops and Newhaven, considering how the site, history and community might inform new work or offer new readings of existing projects.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- This opportunity is open to photographers and lens-based artists working in any medium, including installation, moving image, sound and expanded photographic practice.
- Ten solo or group exhibitions will be selected through open call.
- Artist Collectives are welcome to apply.
- Selected works should engage with the exhibition theme **Feedback Loop** and demonstrate a meaningful connection to BN9 Marine Workshops, Newhaven, or its communities.
- Artists are encouraged to make site-responsive proposals. Existing or new work may be submitted where a clear relationship to the venue and theme is articulated.

- The exhibition will be installed at BN9 Marine Workshops, Newhaven.
- Works can be wall hung and/or freestanding, if secure for the general public. We welcome proposals that use floor space as well as wall space.
- Artists will be expected to install and de-install their work with support from the Photo Fringe team.
- Artists will be invited to invigilate the exhibition for at least one day.
- Artists are encouraged to attend the exhibition opening on **Friday 2 October 2026** at Phoenix Art Space, Brighton.
- Travel, transport and accommodation costs cannot be reimbursed unless otherwise agreed.
- There are no submission fees and this opportunity is free to enter. If selected, each artist will be required to pay the subsidised Photo Fringe 2026 registration fee (£125 solo or £150 group plus a 10% share of the hire costs of £100 per exhibition, made payable by 2 September)
- All featured exhibitors will be required to create an online exhibition on our website at photofringe.org
- Photo Fringe will take 35% commission on any sales of works to help cover staffing costs..

Artist Contribution

This is an independently organised exhibition with no external funding. To make the project possible, selected artists will be asked to:

Contribute **£100** towards the exhibition costs.

Our aim is to keep participation as affordable as possible while sharing the costs of creating a high-quality exhibition together.

HOW TO APPLY

- Please email submissions to: ricardo@photofringe.org and mark your subject line: **Newhaven Open 2026 Submission**
- Include up to 300 words, or alternatively video applications in BSL or English and audio applications of no longer than 3 minutes long about your proposed exhibition.
- Attach up to a maximum of 12 images in JPEG format (72 dpi, each image no larger than 3MB) or for film or video works please send a screener link
- Include a website or Instagram link

If you require support with your application, please contact Ricardo Reverón Blanco:

ricardo@photofringe.org.

TIMELINE

Deadline for submissions: 11.59pm, Sunday 23 August

Shortlisted artists notified: Friday 28 August

Install between: Mon 28 Sept and Friday 2 October

Festival Preview **at Phoenix Art Space**: Friday 2 October, 6-8pm.

Private View **in Newhaven** TBC

Exhibition opening dates: 2 October - 31 October

De-install: Monday 2 November

SELECTION

The judging panel consists of:

- Newhaven Creative Producer, Nick Stockman
- Producer at Photo Fringe, Ricardo Reverón Blanco
- Chair of the Photo Fringe Board of Trustees, Rebecca Drew.

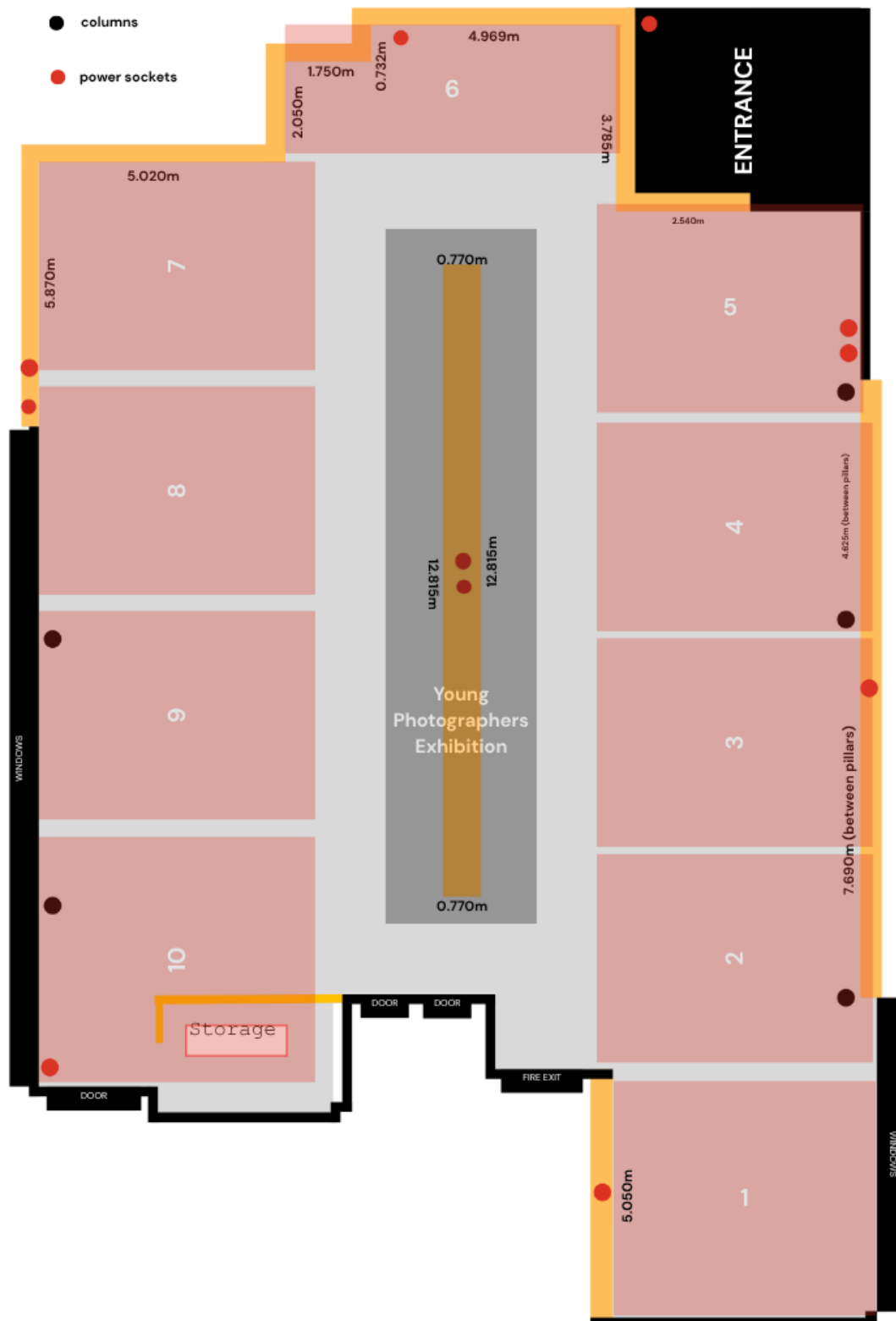
Jury Award

The jury will select one artist from the exhibiting cohort to receive a mentorship with Ricardo Reverón Blanco, alongside an in-depth written interview conducted by Ricardo. The interview will be published on the Photo Fringe website, offering the selected artist a platform to share their practice with a wider audience.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All collectives exhibiting will need to sign an agreement abiding to the Terms and Conditions of both Photo Fringe and the host venue. These will be issued on selection. Collectives are advised to take out their own contents and [public liability insurance](#) and will need to follow health and safety directives. Please note the exhibition is family friendly and we ask artists to bear this in mind when submitting works.

FLOOR PLAN



ABOUT PHOTO FRINGE

Photo Fringe is a registered charity (registration number: 1148109).

Photo Fringe is a volunteer-led, collaborative platform providing essential professional development opportunities and peer-support for lens-based artists. We foster ambition, innovation and self-reliance in artists; nurture confidence and creativity in participants; and inspire audiences with extraordinary images in unexpected places. We invite everyone to work with us to create a fairer, safer, greener, anti-racist world together through photography.

photofringe.org / @photofringe

ABOUT Marine Workshops Newhaven

The BN9 studio space at Marine Workshops is run and managed by Towner with kind support from Newhaven Enterprise Zone and Lewes District Council. The gallery has been running continuously since August 2024.

The space being used for this exhibition is on the top (third) floor, accessible by lift and stairs. Any large items bigger than 2m x 1m will need to go up the stairs, strictly by arrangement only. The room has 198.7sqm of hanging space and 380sqm of floor space.

The room is always locked outside of public opening hours and is only accessible by passcode. The gallery lighting is a combination of building strip lights, gallery Erco spots and natural daylight.

All the built walls are painted Albany white and made of plaster on top of plasterboard. They can hold objects of up to 10kg with appropriate fixings. We provide filler, sandpaper, and paint for the make good. We do not provide fixings, or frames. The ceiling hanging metal frame can hold very light objects with appropriate fixings.

We run the @creativenewhaven Instagram and Facebook channels. We print a season brochure, have a listings page on our website and send emails out to a subscriber list.

We look forward to receiving your submission!