

Being, Human Being: UFO Photography **Curated by Mark Feary**

Gertrude Glasshouse
Friday 22 April - Saturday 21 May 2022

‘Two possibilities exist: either we are alone in the universe or we are not. Both are equally terrifying.’

– Arthur C. Clarke

For the second iteration of the city-wide photographic festival Photo 2022, Gertrude is pleased to announce *Being, Human Being: UFO Photography*, an exhibition that responds to and extends out of the festival's artistic theme, Being Human. Purported encounters with UFOs have long relied upon the medium of photography to offer evidence of phenomena suggesting the potential of life beyond our planet, sitting as it does within a vast and expanding universe. This project draws upon images and film submitted to and investigated by the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), a network formed in 1969 in the USA that has expanded globally since.

The organisation, comprising individuals ranging from ex-military advisors, scientists and astrological enthusiasts, investigates UFO sightings to create an expanding record of unexplainable aerial phenomena from across the globe. The images and footage presented in *Being, Human Being* draw on research of encounters across Australia and New Zealand. Through investigative methodologies that involve interviews with witnesses, and image authentication, taking into account meteorological phenomena, aeronautical activity and known military movements, the images and video recordings presented in this project have been defined by MUFON investigators as unidentifiable and of unknown origin.

Being, Human Being provides an open forum drawing on and consolidating unique encounters from a number of different sources across the region to consider the potential of life beyond our understanding.

Presented in a manner more akin to a laboratory than an art exhibition, the project will be a space of curiosity and discovery, and a platform for open-ended discussion and the sharing of experiences that expand our understanding of human existence.

The documentation of UFO encounters investigated by MUFON presented in the exhibition are additionally connected to the realm of contemporary art through the inclusion of a number of works contributed by artists and long-time UFO enthusiasts, Ronnie van Hout and Sean Peoples.

Acknowledgements

Being, Human Being: UFO Photography is presented in partnership with MUFON. Gertrude gratefully acknowledges the assistance and support of Dr Roger Stankovic, National Director, MUFON Australia & New Zealand.

Being, Human Being: UFO Photography is presented as part of PHOTO 2022 International Festival of Photography.

Gertrude Glasshouse is generously supported by Michael Schwarz and David Clouston.

Gertrude Glasshouse is generously supported by the City of Yarra, through the 2022 Annual Grants Program.

List of works

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| <p>1. Ronnie van Hout
<i>Found UFO image</i>, 2015
Archival inkjet print on
Hahnemuhle Photo Rag Baryta
45 x 60 cm
Courtesy of Bus Projects, Melbourne</p> <p>2. Ronnie van Hout
<i>Hybrid</i>, 1999
Inkjet print, exhibition print 2018
106.7 x 76.2 cm</p> <p>3. Ronnie van Hout
<i>Abduct</i>, 1999
Inkjet print, exhibition print 2018
106.7 x 76.2 cm</p> <p>4. Ronnie van Hout
<i>Monster</i>, 1999
Inkjet print, exhibition print 2018
106.7 x 76.2 cm</p> <p>Ronnie van Hout is represented by Darren Knight, Sydney; STATION, Melbourne; and Ivan Anthony, Auckland.</p> <p>5. Sean Peoples
<i>Ghosts before Breakfast</i>, 2016
Single-channel video
4 minutes 36 seconds</p> <p>6. MUFON Submission
CMS 120 047</p> <p>7. MUFON Submission
CMS 71748</p> | <p>8. MUFON Submission
CMS 121 169</p> <p>9. MUFON Submission
CMS 120 213</p> <p>10. MUFON Submission
CMS 115 610</p> <p>11. Yalcin Yalman, allegedly
<i>The Kumbergaz Turkey UFO Sighting 2:13am May 13 2009</i>
Video footage (still)</p> <p>12. Department of Defense and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA),
Footage capture by
Agence France-Presse, 2018
Published in the New York Times,
April 28 2020</p> <p>13. MUFON Submission
CMS 71634 (1)</p> <p>14. MUFON Submission
CMS 71634 (2)</p> <p>15. MUFON Submission
CMS 71634 (3)</p> <p>16. 'Silver Man', photographer unknown
Alien sighting, circa. 1940
Public source image</p> <p>17. MUFON Submission
CMS 76129</p> | <p>18. Ronnie van Hout
<i>Aliens</i>, 1999
Inkjet print, exhibition print 2022
45 x 60 cm</p> <p>19. Sean Peoples
<i>Squeaky Moon</i>, 2018
Single-channel video
7 minutes 19 seconds

Courtesy of the artist and STATION</p> <p>20. MUFON Submission
CMS 120 833 (1)</p> <p>21. MUFON Submission
CMS 120 833 (2)</p> <p>22. MUFON Submission
CMS 120 833 (3)</p> <p>23. MUFON Submission
CMS 120 833 (4)</p> <p>24. MUFON Submission
CMS 120 833 (5)</p> <p>25. MUFON Submission
CMS 91411
CMS 102 949</p> <p>26. MUFON Submission
CMS 109 428
CMS 120 213</p> |
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