CALL FOR ENTRY

“Decisive Moments: Shakespeare through a Visual Lens”

Presented by Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, in collaboration with the International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum

Deadline: 3/17/2017 for application, 4/7/2017 for final photograph(s)

Eligibility: Must be 18 or older, and a St. Louis-based photographer, living and working in the metropolitan area.

Summary of Work: Photographers selected for exhibition will be assigned one or more Shakespeare plays and tasked to represent each with an original photograph. The photograph should seek to capture a “decisive moment” in the play. Henri Cartier-Bresson, widely recognized as the godfather of street photography, coined the phrase “decisive moment,” saying:

“To me, photography is the simultaneous recognition, in a fraction of a second, of the significance of an event as well as of a precise organization of forms which give that event its proper expression.”

The decisive moment, then, is a moment in which the artist captures the “essence” of a scene in the world. Shakespeare’s plays, similarly, can be thought of as a series of decisive moments: Narratives captured through snapshots of their most active, stirring moments.

The final 38 photographs will be unveiled at “Decisive Moments: Shakespeare through a Visual Lens” at the International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum on Wednesday, April 19, 2017, from 5-7 PM. The 38 photographs will be exhibited in the Virtual Education Center at the International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum during the spring of 2017.

Entry Requirements: Entrants should submit the following to krion@sfstl.com by March 17, 2017 at 5 PM CST for consideration, with the email subject line “DECISIVE MOMENTS ENTRY _ LAST NAME, FIRST NAME”

1) 3-5 original photographs representative of their work
2) An artistic statement in 500 words or less
3) 250 words to discuss preliminary thoughts for their final photograph(s), including any play(s) they wish to be assigned (Please note that final assignments are at the sole discretion of the review panel)
4) Entrant’s legal name, preferred/artist name, contact phone number, and address of residence or place of employment in the St. Louis metropolitan area

Photographers selected for exhibition will be notified by Friday, March 24, 2017 and given their play assignments.
“Decisive Moments: Shakespeare through a Visual Lens” will explore Shakespeare’s entire canon through a series of images taken by well-known and burgeoning St. Louis photographers. Each photograph will capture an essential, “decisive” moment in one of the Bard’s plays. By viewing each play through a visual lens, one will have a chance to experience each of Shakespeare’s works and connect emotionally with the material.

The event will serve as a kick-off for the larger SHAKE 38 festival, and attendees will be invited to plan their itinerary for the rest of SHAKE 38 through interactions with some of our favorite Shakespearean characters to further explore those plays by which they are most affected.

About SHAKE 38

SHAKE 38, the Festival’s community organized marathon of the Bard’s 38-play canon, heads into its eighth season with its most diverse offerings yet. The Festival is commissioning 38 chefs for “38 Eats,” the entire canon performed through the eyes of St. Louis’ culinary masters. In partnership with the International Photography Hall of Fame, SHAKE 38 will feature all the plays through 38 photos from a diverse array of the city’s photographers. SHAKE 38 was introduced in 2010, as an around-the-clock urban experience highlighting Shakespeare’s entire canon in every neighborhood in St. Louis in 38 hours. In 2012 the event expanded to five days. SHAKE 38 is sponsored by Nancy and Ken Kranzberg. The media partner for SHAKE 38 is the Riverfront Times.

About Shakespeare Festival St. Louis:

Since its inception in 2001, Shakespeare Festival St. Louis has surpassed the one million mark in attendance through its work In the Schools, In the Streets and In the Park with more than 710,000 people attending the free main stage productions at Shakespeare Glen in Forest Park. The organization has reached an additional 300,000 students In the Schools through its educational programming. In 2010, the Festival launched SHAKE 38, a marathon participatory presentation of Shakespeare’s entire 38-play canon community wide. In 2012, the Festival shut down its first street, Cherokee, to present a community-based play In the Streets. Leadership support for Shakespeare Festival St. Louis’ 2017 season is provided by the Whitaker Foundation. The Festival is also funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Missouri Arts Council, the Regional Arts Commission, and the Arts & Education Council of Greater St. Louis. In 2016, the Festival was named Arts Organization of the Year by the Missouri Arts Council. For more information, please visit www.sfstl.com, or call 314-531-9800.

About the International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum:

The International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum honors those who have made great contributions to the field of photography and preserves historic photographs and cameras to share with the world.

The museum houses 6,000 square-feet of gallery and exhibition space in the Grand Center area of St. Louis, one of the country’s densest cultural districts. Inside, a permanent tribute to the Hall of Fame Inductees stands alongside rotating exhibits from IPHF and partner collections.