

10 to See

RECOMMENDED EXHIBITIONS THIS SEASON

How is technology changing the art world? What is the impact of today's rampant image sharing culture? Can pictures be agents of change? These are the questions posed by shows opening across Australia, China, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Switzerland, UK and USA.

1 Foam Talent 2026

Foam Amsterdam | Until 26 August

foam.org

The annual Foam Talent programme, launched in 2007, has established itself as a major launchpad for new image-makers worldwide. This year is no exception. 15 artists have been chosen for the exhibition, from nearly 3,000 submissions across 107 countries. Their works engage with pressing themes: from oppression, conflict and displacement, to grief, mental health and religion. Amongst the shortlist is Ali Monis Naqvi, based in Goa. The series *Jahan* honours his late grandmother by reimagining her rooftop garden in Chamanganj, Kanpur.

2 John Baldessari

UCCA Beijing | 19 September – 3 January

ucca.org.cn

American conceptual artist John Baldessari, who died in 2020, is remembered for his use of found photography and appropriated materials. His most famous motif is the colourful dot – red, yellow, blue, orange, green – which he began applying to the faces of subjects in the 1960s. Now, UCCA presents the first institutional solo presentation of Baldessari in China. It surveys five decades' practice, including early experiments with text and image, playful 1970s videos, cinematic montages from the 1980s and psychological explorations of perception.

3 Saodat Ismailova: Melted into the Sun

National Museum of Asian Art, Washington D.C. | Until 29 November

asia.si.edu

Saodat Ismailova's first major US show is dedicated to the expansive landscapes, layered histories and cultural memory of Central Asia. Ismailova has become one-to-watch in recent years. Her oeuvre blends archival materials, film and photography to explore the region's complex past – from the Silk Road to the Soviet era and the decades following independence. The titular installation juxtaposes ancient ruins with signs of modern industry, reimagining the mysterious eighth-century figure of al-Muqanna – who is also known as "The Veiled One."

4 Sunil Gupta: Life with a Camera

Kettle's Yard, Cambridge | 19 September – 31 January

kettlesyard.cam.ac.uk

Sunil Gupta has been instrumental in raising awareness around the fight for queer rights internationally, particularly in India and the UK. Kettle's Yard foregrounds more than 140 of his works: street photography, portraits and commissioned projects made across Delhi, New York, Montréal and London. Gupta's belief – that everyone has the right to lead full and joyful lives, in which identity and sexuality can be celebrated – shines through in seminal bodies of work such as *Friends and Lovers*, *Christopher Street*, *Mr Malhotra's Party* and *Dissent and Desire*.

5 John Gollings

NGV Melbourne | Until 30 August

ngv.vic.gov.au

This show is a celebration of Australian architecture through the lens of one of the country's foremost image-makers. John Gollings has specialised in taking pictures of the built environment for over 50 years, and NGV's display includes one of his most iconic shots: postmodern suburban Melbourne at night, complete with bouncing kangaroos. There are also depictions of impossible-looking sports grounds, sculptural freeways and innovative bridges. Gollings' style is characterised by its formal composition – and a hint of surrealism.

