

“Shining Lights - *who dared to dream*”

Working title is taken from an interview (available here <https://rps.org/ShiningLights>) with Joy Gregory HonFRPS

Call open to members of: RPS Women in Photography

This is an exhibition that asks photographers to respond to a statement – “Shining Lights - who dared to dream” – and seeks to bring together a variety of different styles, approaches from photographers at all levels of their practice. It aims to celebrate contemporary female-identifying artists who have used photography to effect change, including trans, queer, non-binary people, and those from diverse ethnic and underrepresented backgrounds. ‘Shining Lights - who dared to dream’ is taken from an interview (available here rps.org/ShiningLights) with Joy Gregory HonFRPS about her new book *Shining Lights: Black Women Photographers in 1980s – 90s Britain* (MACK, 2024).

Included in the exhibition will be a digital showcase of shortlisted submissions.

Response

You might respond to the statement by showing how you used photography as a means to improve your own life, e.g. mental or physical well-being, personal spaces, or family relationships; used photography as a means to document and enact change in your local community, or for a national or international cause; or have used photography as an integral part of another interest or career.

We are interpreting the phrase ‘*Shining Lights - who dared to dream*’ broadly.

What we are looking for

We are seeking photography projects that are nearing completion or can be commenced and completed by 14 June 2024. Projects should not have been widely exhibited or published. The project may be up to 20 images, with any supporting research materials or texts.

Each project will be displayed in the RPS Gallery, and the exhibition is then being made available for tour in the United Kingdom.

The RPS will work with the chosen artists to help deliver their gallery installation.

How to apply

We require a 200-word synopsis of your project, which explains how it meets the theme, what it consists of, and how it might be displayed. Include any supporting images that may help to support your project ideas <https://forms.gle/DAXnnS6yS7fXJGWw8>

Timeline

April 2024: Call issued

Tuesday 14 May 2024: Deadline for responses

Monday 20 May 2024: Deadline for notification of successful projects

Monday 1 July 2024: Receipt of artwork deadline

Friday 19 July 2024: Exhibition opening TBC