

Do Not Bend: The Photographic Life of Bill Jay

FILM: Grant Scott: Researcher, art director, soundtrack commissioner and co-producer, director and editor.

EXHIBITIONS: Grant Scott: Curator

BOOK: Grant Scott: Curator

Articles

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-43567458>

<https://cogdogblog.com/2018/04/bill-jayed/>

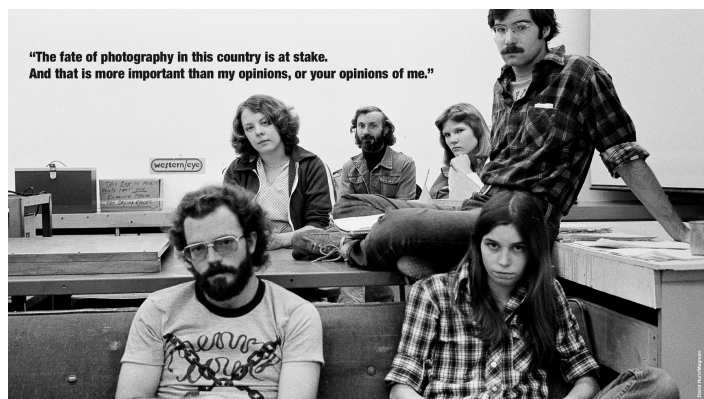
<https://weareoca.com/education/do-not-bend-the-photographic-life-of-bill-jay/>

<https://www.ffoton.wales/news-items/2018/4/do-not-bend>

Interviews

<https://www.ffoton.wales/news-items/2018/4/do-not-bend>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljvaahI85AA&t=14s>



Do Not Bend The photographic life of Bill Jay

Film Screenings

UK Film Premiere: Martin Parr Foundation, Bristol, April

This screening was the opening event of a two day event celebrating photography in Britain in the 1970s.

<http://britishphotohistory.ning.com/profiles/blogs/film-premiere-and-seminar-day-british-photography-from-the-1970s->

After screening discussion between Grant Scott, David Hurn, Dr Brian Griffin, Dr Daniel

Meadows hosted by Professor Martin Parr.

Attendance: 150

This discussion was filmed.



The Frontline Club, London, April in association with the Royal Photographic Society

After screening discussion between Grant Scott, and Dr Michael Pritchard.

Attendance: 150

This discussion was audio recorded.



The Oriel Colwyn Gallery, North Wales, May

After screening Q and A with Grant Scott.

Attendance: 100

This discussion was audio recorded.

Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh, September

After screening discussion between Grant Scott, Malcolm Dickson, Director of Street Level Photoworks, Glasgow, Ben Harman, Director of Stills Gallery, Edinburgh, Edinburgh Napier Honorary Fellow, Robin Gillanders, and Annie Lyden of The National Galleries of Scotland.

This talk was hosted by the Chancellor of Edinburgh Napier University Dr. David Eustace.

Attendance: 150

This discussion was filmed.



University of Gloucestershire, Hardwick Gallery, September

After screening Q and A with Grant Scott and Hardwick Gallery Curator Sarah Bowden.
Attendance: 30

University of South Wales, Cardiff, November

After screening discussion between Grant Scott, David Hurn and Glen Edwards from Ffion, South Wales.

Attendance: 70

This discussion was audio recorded.

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, SPE (Society Photographers Education) South West Conference 'Conflux', November

After screening discussion between Grant Scott, Dr Mary V Swanson, and Professor Emeritus Arizona State University James Hajieck.

Attendance: 120

This discussion was audio recorded.

University of South Wales, Cardiff, November

After screening discussion between Grant Scott, Dr Mary V Swanson, and Professor Emeritus Arizona State University James Hajieck.

Attendance: 120

This discussion was audio recorded.

Film Screenings 2019

Arizona State University, February

After screening discussion between Grant Scott, Dr Mary V Swanson, and Professor Emeritus Arizona State University James Hajieck.

Attendance: 200

This discussion was audio recorded.

Below: Grant Scott (right) with James Hajieck (centre), Dr Mary V Swanson (far right) and Bill Jay's daughters and granddaughter.



Falmouth University of the Arts, March

After screening Q and A with Grant Scott and Jesse Alexander Course Co-ordinator MA and BA (HONS) Photography.

Attendance: 80

This discussion was audio recorded.

The Tyne and Wear Film Festival, March

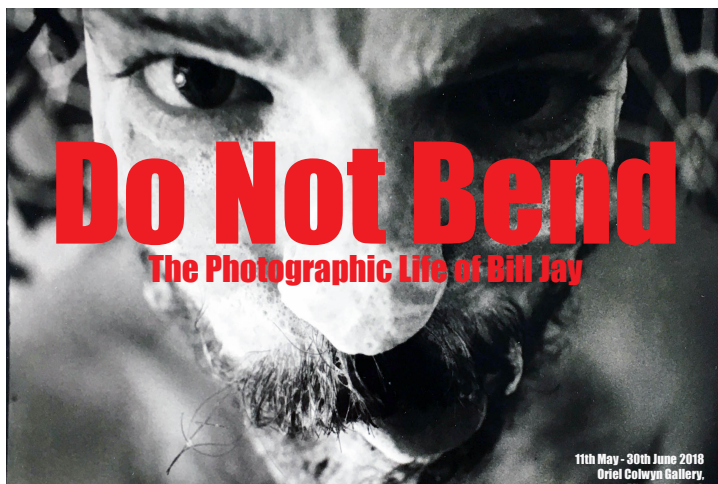
After screening Q and A with Grant Scott.

Attendance: 100

This discussion was audio recorded.

Exhibitions

Do Not Bend: The Photographic Life of Bill Jay - 12th May – 30th June 2018. Oriel Colwyn Gallery, North Wales. Curated by Grant Scott. Catalogue created by Grant Scott and Paul Sampson.



May - 30th June 2018 Oriel Colwyn Gallery, Aberystwyth Road, Colwyn Bay, North Wales

I was commissioned by the Oriel Colwyn Gallery to curate the first ever exhibition of Bill Jay's photographs of photographers alongside a screening of the film. The exhibition included Jay's writing and related ephemera such as magazines, books and previously unseen notes on photography. The exhibition saw a community unaware of the work introduced to both Bill Jay and the photographers he photographed. Both local schools and colleges used the exhibition as starting points for their own projects.



Photographers Photographed - 28th September – 30th September 2018 Brighton Photo Fringe 2018

Curated by Grant Scott in collaboration with Spectrum.

<https://2018.photofringe.org/exhibitions/do-not-bend/>

The Spectrum Photographic Lab and photographer Simon Roberts invited me to create an exhibition of Bill Jay's portraits of photographers for the opening weekend of the Brighton Photo Biennial and Photo Fringe 2018. I chose to use the outside of the building as its position directly in front of the Brighton Railway Station meant that it was the perfect location to encourage maximum engagement with photography and the work of Bill Jay amongst the broader community of those travelling to Brighton as well as local residents and the photo community. "We had popped down to Brighton on an impulse and I was very pleased to hear the Brighton Photo Fringe was in full swing. The prints you had up were really thought-provoking both in style and content. Loved the Bill Jay work and reading the commentary alongside the images they were really effective on the building." As well as curating the selection of images shown I also edited text written by Jay to accompany the images.

This collaboration also included a seven day Instagram takeover featuring portraits of photographers by Bill Jay.



Brighton Photo Fringe
2018

29 September –
28 October

DO NOT BEND

BILL JAY

28–30 September

Mon–Thu 07:00–07:00
Fri 12:00–17:00
Sat 10:30–16:00
Sun 12:00–16:00

Photographers Photographed by Bill Jay Curated by Grant Scott
spectrumphoto.co.uk

14
Frederick House
42 Frederick Place
Brighton, BN1 4EA

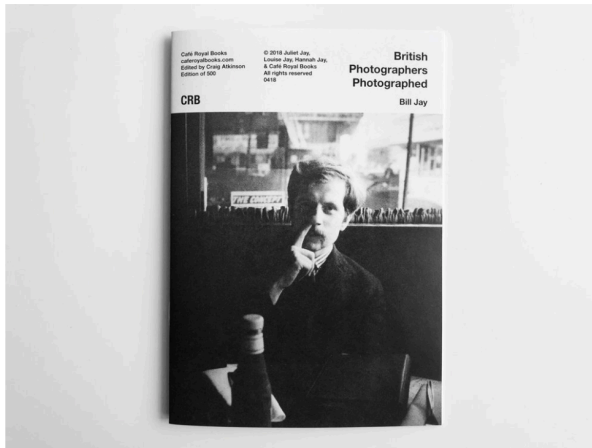


Publication

Grant was invited by the publisher Craig Aitkinson to curate a selection of Bill Jay's portraits of photographers as a limited edition of 250 Café Royal Books publication.

<https://www.caferoyalbooks.com>

<https://www.caferoyalbooks.com/shop/bill-jay-british-photographers-photographed?rq=bill%20jay>



Bill Jay — British Photographers Photographed

£6.00

19.04.18

20 pages

14cm x 20cm

b/w digital

Published to accompany the documentary film and exhibition:

Do Not Bend: The Photographic Life of Bill Jay

Quantity:

1

add to cart

Share

Additional Information

The progress and response to the screenings and exhibitions have also been documented on Grant Scott's weekly photographic based podcast titled *A Photographic Life*. This podcast is available across a number of podcast platforms and has a weekly audience of over 20,000 listeners. <https://soundcloud.com/unofphoto> and <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/podcast/a-photographic-life/id1380344701>

Grant has also undertaken a curation of Bill Jay's written and photographic archive with the permission of the Bill Jay estate, the results of which have been published at www.unitednationsofphotography.com

"Great film, thank you so much for making this. Really, really interesting. I am absolutely sure it will be a great success." [Homer Sykes](#)

"I just finished watching Do Not Bend. Very beautiful work. Thank you for including me in this homage. It was an honor."

Ralph Gibson

"The greatest failing of the human race is never learning from history, 'Do Not Bend' gives us no chance to do that, it's here and it's vital, it is now.."

[Jim Mortram](#)

"Engaging and thoughtful" [Paul Hill](#)

"Beautifully done, flawless editing, a terrific job of telling Bill's story"

"WOW!!! What a lovely touching tribute to a fantastic man."

"Such an inspirational film. Photographers, check it out!"

"inspirational and thought provoking"

"a great tribute and fascinating story"

"Poignant, funny & genuinely illuminating. A labour of love well worth seeing if you get the chance."

"Can't recommend enough - and is it not time to learn from these pioneers once again"



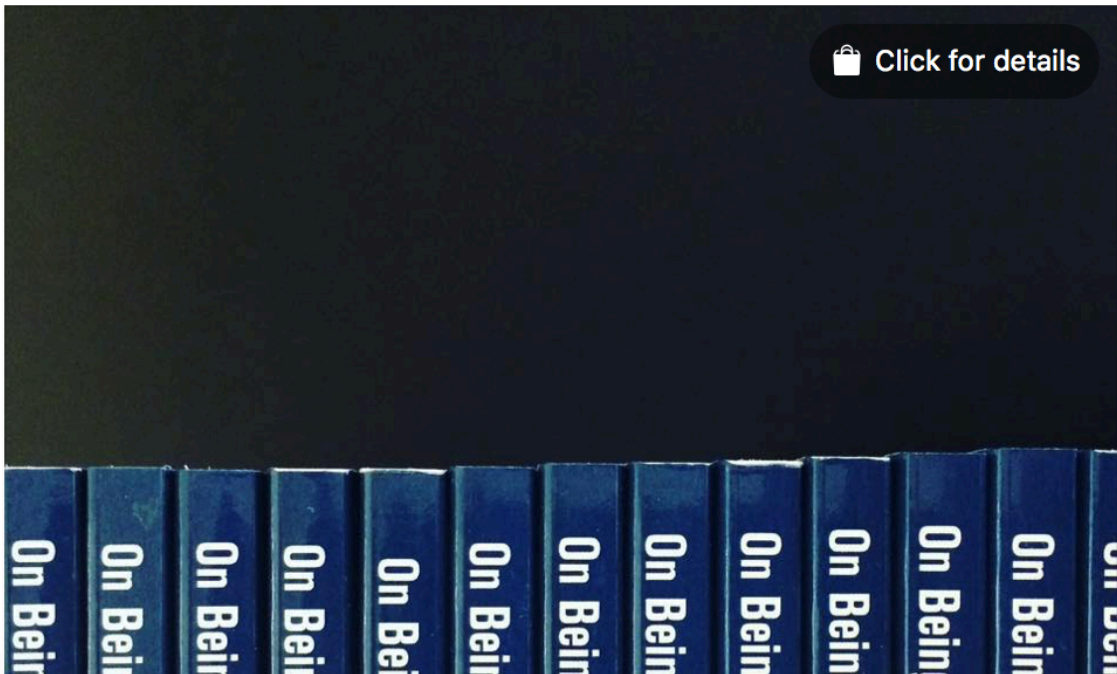
Beyond Words

1 hr · 🌐



We're getting increased interest in one of our most consistent bestsellers *On Being a Photographer* as a result of the new documentary film about Bill Jay. *Do Not Bend* has already had its premiere in London. There's another screening in ColwynBay in May and in Edinburgh in the autumn. See <http://www.donotbendfilm.com/> for more info about the film and showings. *On Being a Photographer* is an extended conversation between Jay and the Welsh Magnum photographer David Hurn. It continues to be an inspiration for every new generation of photographic students."

<http://www.beyondwords.co.uk/p/309/on-being-a-photographer>



Click for details

I just received this email from someone who was one of Bill Jay's closest friends for many years who has just viewed our film. We often talk of the moral obligation you feel as the storyteller to the person and people whose story you are telling.

"It is going to be hard to communicate how well I think you captured his spirit, as well as, the various periods of his life. The idea that he was eternally bound to be that grain of sand that through (often playful) irritation produces the pearl runs throughout the film. All I can keep saying is "very beautifully done." I hope you are pleased with it as you certainly should be. Very difficult task to create visual interest when by the nature of the project it has to be a lot of talking heads - but you did it. Upon viewing one always thinks - Oh, why didn't I say that or tell this story about him? - It's done. It's beautiful."



Pixelrights @Pixelrights · 10h

#PixelrightsLIVE 010 📺 @richfoto talks to photographer Grant Scott about his role as Senior Lecturer @EDANDADPHOTO 📺 @unofphoto doc film "Do Not Bend: The Photographic Life of Bill Jay" which he directed. Join us to ask your questions! 😊 fb.com/Pixelrights/vi... 📺 Pls RT!

Thurs 17th May 2018. 12:00 GMT.

Grant Scott

Pixelrights.



Brighton Photo Fringe 2018



DO NOT BEND

14

Bill Jay
28-30 September
Frederick House

SPECTRUM 



**DO NOT BEND:
PHOTOGRAPHERS
PHOTOGRAPHED
BY BILL JAY**

Curated by Grant Scott

Friday 28th September 2018: 12pm – 5pm

Saturday 29th September 2018: 10:30am – 4pm

Sunday 30th September 2018: 12pm – 4pm

An outdoor exhibition displayed at Spectrum Photographic
Frederick House, 42 Frederick Place, Brighton, BN1 4EA

 **Brighton
Photo Fringe
2018**

IMAGE: Bill Jay (middle at back) at Arizona State University
© 1974. David Hurn/Magnum

donotbendfilm.com
unitednationsofphotography.com

01273 708222 | info@spectrumphoto.co.uk
Twitter: @SpectrumLab
Instagram: @spectrumlab
Facebook: @SpectrumPhotographic
spectrumphoto.co.uk