

## CONTACT PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL: 25 CAN'T-MISS SHOWS

When you're talking nearly 1,500 artists at 200-plus venues in one of the world's biggest photo shows, you know you need help choosing what to see. That's where NOW's list of must-sees comes in. Taking Identity as its theme, the 18th annual Contact Photography Festival looks like one of the strongest yet.

BY FRAN SCHECHTER, DAVID JAGER

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### 17. FAUSTA FACCIPONTE

*Six Characters In Search Of A Photograph*

*Art Gallery of Mississauga, 300 City Centre*

*May 15 to June 29*

Facciponte's delicious dioramas extend kitsch into some new realm of visual intensity. She creates impeccably staged and photographed tableaux that consist entirely of cutesy porcelain figurines crammed together. The title riffs on Luigi Pirandello's play *Six Characters In Search Of An Author*, though a conclusive narrative is hard to discern here. The result is both overwhelming and intriguing, like being swarmed by an army of porcelain Keebler elves. **DJ**

