



Curatorial Statement

Body Talk

Photography is one of the most popular mediums of visual art in Cayman. Over several years the National Gallery held summer shows that invited local photographers to contribute around a set theme. Attendance numbers for these exhibitions were among the largest to date, including 2004's Body Talk.

More than any other means of visual communication, photography has done much to shape our notions of the human body, determining how we think about others and ourselves. While photographs may seem straightforward documents of the visual world, they often carry strong symbolic content, both intentionally and unintentionally on the part of the photographer. From the simplest to the most symbolically complex depictions a range of issues emerge, including ones of personal identity, belief, culture, sexuality, gender, and political power. They may act to reinforce stereotypes or to help the viewer to liberate previously held assumptions.

This exhibition featured the work of over 20 local amateur and professional photographers each exploring this range of issues through photographic representations of the human body.

Natalie Urquhart (nee Coleman), Curator