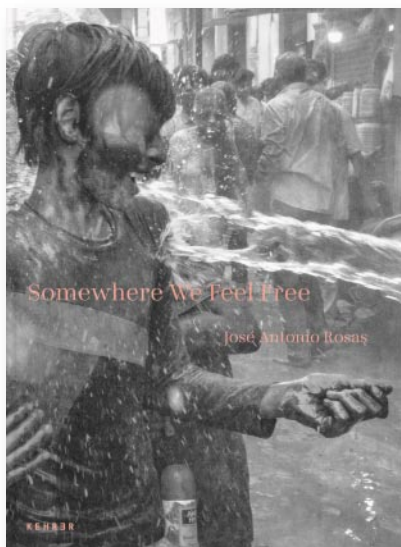




NEW RELEASE 2026

José Antonio Rosas *Somewhere We Feel Free*

Texts by Jean Dykstra, Janelle Lynch, José Antonio Rosas
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Collective euphoria: a visual journey to the world's great mass celebrations

For a decade, José Antonio Rosas has photographed from deep inside the crowds at some of the world's great gatherings. From music festivals and religious pilgrimages to cultural rites, he found a common impulse: the desire to step outside everyday life and experience a sense of connection and release.

In 2015, standing in a crowd at Glastonbury Festival, José Antonio Rosas experienced a sense of collective euphoria that stayed with him. Over the next ten years, he followed this feeling across four continents, photographing seven of the world's great gatherings—from the explosion of colour at India's Holi, the candlelit devotion of Christmas in Lalibela, the vibrant dances of Peru's Candelaria, the icy pilgrimage to Qoyllur Rit'i in the Andes, the vast human tide of Kumbh Mela and the unrestrained joy of Brazil's Carnaval.

Though separated by culture, geography and purpose, these gatherings share a powerful common thread: the suspension of ordinary life and the collective release of uninhibited emotion. Within the press of bodies and the roar of music or prayer, individuality does not disappear, it transforms. Closed eyes, open mouths and gestures of serenity or ecstasy become expressions of freedom, connection and transcendence.

Somewhere We Feel Free moves across cultures, faiths and continents, revealing the shared human impulse to gather, to surrender and, somewhere within the crowd, to feel free.

With an essay by art critic Jean Dykstra and an interview with José Antonio Rosas by artist Janelle Lynch, the publication brings together this powerful decade-long body of work in the photographer's second monograph.

José Antonio Rosas is a documentary photographer based in Lima, Peru. He has built his work through repeated visits and sustained attention to mass celebrations, religious pilgrimages, remote wildlife, and communities far from home. His award-winning work has been exhibited and published internationally.

Jean Dykstra is an arts writer and editor. The former editor of photograph magazine, she writes *The Photosphere*, a Substack publication about contemporary photography. She's contributed to numerous publications, including *The New York Review of Books*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, and *Dear Dave*.

Janelle Lynch is an artist, writer, and educator, based in New York City. She is represented by Flowers Gallery and has three monographs published by Radius Books. Lynch teaches at the International Center of Photography and writes for *LensCulture* and *The Brooklyn Rail*.

Exhibitions:

Caelum Gallery, New York, US

15–21 Oct 2026

Book presentation on 17th October 2026

Centro Cultural Inca Garcilaso, Lima, PE

03 Dec 2026 – 13 Mar 2027

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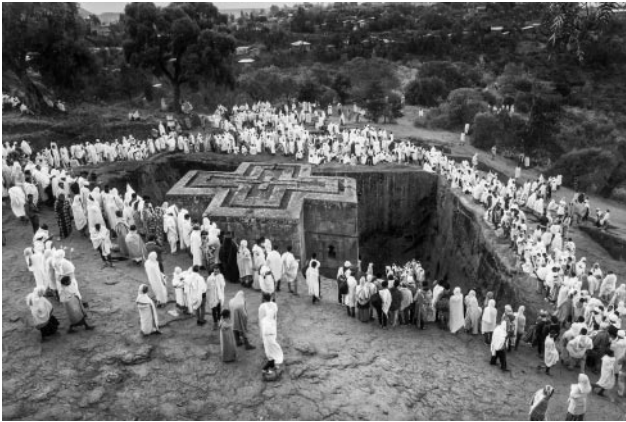
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Press Images



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10_Maha Kumbh Mela, Prayagraj, India, January 2025 © José Antonio Rosas



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