Exhibition Catalogue
BarTur Photo Award 2021

Urban Banks Berlin
Wilhelminenhofstrasse 83-85
12495 Berlin

Private View: Thursday 19th August 2021
Opening: Friday 20th August – 12th September 2021,
12:00 – 20:00

Celebrating photographers who challenge how we view the world.

A key focus of the BarTur Photo Award has always been the immense power photography has in influencing the way that we understand and engage with the world around us.

Using photography as a means to express ideas and values, the BarTur Photo Award 2021 has selected photographers who are pushing important issues to the forefront, crossing boundaries and help bring communities together.

In this exhibition, The BarTur Photo Award is delighted to present our 49 winners from 2021 and our 23 winners from 2020 (who we were unable to exhibit owing to COVID19) who have taken images from across the world, championing a range of social, economical and environmental issues that are impacting on so many people’s lives.

We are also delighted to showcase the inaugural Leica Fotografie International/ BarTur Photo Award: Photojournalist of the Year 2021, which has been won by two photographers documenting events that are shaping our history.

Congratulations to all our winners and thank you to all our judges and sponsors.

The BarTur Photo Award, is a not for profit organization, conceived in 2011 by the Bar-Tur family in memory of their wife and mother Ann Lesley Bar-Tur, who was a talented British artist who died of breast cancer when she was only 37.

Please visit our website for more information: www.barturphotoaward.org
Jim Huylebroek


TITLE: „How the Taliban Outlasted a Superpower“

The Taliban stand on the brink of realizing their most fervent desire: U.S. troops leaving Afghanistan. They have given up little of their extremist ideology to do it.
Ashley Gilbertson (b. 1978) is an Australian photographer and writer living in New York City recognized for his critical eye and unique approach to social issues. Gilbertson is a member of VII Photo, a frequent contributor to major media outlets, and a collaborator with the United Nations.

For over twenty years, Gilbertson’s work focused on refugees and conflict, an interest that in 2002 led him to Iraq. His work from that country was awarded the Robert Capa Gold Medal, and in 2007, Gilbertson’s first book, Whiskey Tango Foxtrot, was released, going on to become a best seller.

**Title:** “Mob incited by President Trump storms Capitol”

Protesters storm the Capitol in Washington, D.C., after listening to a speech by President Trump on January 6, 2021. A large mob who convened on Washington, D.C. for the “Stop the Steal” rally was incited by the President and stormed the United States Capital building, fighting with police, and damaging offices and rooms as they made their way through the building. As President Trump refused to condemn the violence, a 6 p.m. curfew was instituted, and D.C. turned into a city locked down by the military overnight.
Ingeborg Everaerd

Ingeborg is a visual storyteller based in Amsterdam (NL) who is drawn to the purity, vulnerability, and authenticity of people all over the world. She likes to photograph people who might not appear to stand out in daily life but who carry an emotional or special story with them, often not knowing where they belong.

As Ingeborg is genuinely interested and sympathizes with her subjects, they feel that they can trust her and allow her into their personal lives. The connection with her subjects and being invited to be a small part in their lives is what makes Ingeborg’s photographs unique and special. The surroundings where these people live play an essential role in her images. By creating an aesthetically strong image, Ingeborg hopes to capture the interest of the viewer.

TITLE: „Lost in paradise“

When I met Steen two years ago, he was still living on his ship and moored for that weekend at an island in Amsterdam. I felt immediately intrigued by his characteristic appearance and the feeling of freedom that showed in his eyes. Steen started to tell me about his life full of adventure and freedom, mooring his ship wherever he felt at home. We became friends.

Last year he had to give up this lifestyle. Due to his poor health, old age and lack of money, he had to sell his ship. This was his home for 43 years. Always afraid of a life ashore, he now lives in his old van on a paradise piece of land but without running water and electricity. Here he tries to build a new life and feel at home. But there isn’t a day that goes by that he doesn’t long for his old life.
Phanuphan Kitsawaeng

Phanuphan Kitsawaeng (Mark) is a photographer from Thailand, currently living in Los Angeles. He graduated with a Bachelor’s Degree in Film from RSU (Rangsit University in Thailand). With a strong background in commercial photography working for Thailand’s largest entertainment company, GMM (Grammy), his images are technically skilful and evocative. After honing his craft in the entertainment world, Mark turned the gaze of his camera towards underrepresented communities to bring forth greater good.

“My motivation in photography is to explore the isolated places around Asia (and the world), to use my photographs as a speaker for those people who are voiceless.”

Mark volunteers around South East Asia including Laos, Vietnam, and Thailand. He supports the community by teaching, helping and documenting the people who had not got a chance to meet a standard of living.

Mark is presently an MFA student in Photography at The Photo Arts Conservatory of NYFA (The New York Film Academy). He hopes to work with UNESCO, or UNICEF after he graduates, and continue to use his camera to bring forth global awareness and change for the better.

**Title:** 
“Human Wall”

Since the Coup in 2014, Thai people have been forced to live under the control of military dictatorship for six years. The Military government has been an uncontested power to silence us. People who have come forward to speak their voice against the Military government have faced the consequences. Some were threatened, some were attacked, and some have disappeared. However, now it’s time for Thai people to say it out loud, and we won’t wait any longer. Speaking the truth may cost us our lives, so I need support from the global citizens to spread our voice and let it be heard.
Rodrigo Abd was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on October 27, 1976.

His career as a photographer began in the newspapers La Razón and La Nación in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 1999 to 2003. Since 2003 he has been staff photographer for the Associated Press based in Guatemala between 2003 & 2012, with the exception of 2006, when he was based in Kabul, Afghanistan. From 2012 to 2020 based in Lima, Peru. Rodrigo works on special AP assignments mainly covering social and political conflicts throughout Latin America. Along with other AP photographers, they were awarded the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Photography for their work on the Syrian civil war. Also in 2013 he was awarded the World Press Photo, 1st prize in General News.

Currently based in Buenos Aires, Argentina, searching for stories in what he calls „Deep Latin America”. Mixing his work between digital photography and his old wooden box camera, in black and white.

**Title:** „Naked Peru”

The pandemic stripped Peru, showing its historical weaknesses, a fragile health and economic system that was well „made up” in recent years but in 2020 all the miseries surfaced, leaving the Andean country badly injured.
Tamara Reynolds weave(s) into [her] compelling images a sense of urgency, so that what might have begun as a private inquiry could assume broader significance in our current moment. This is an exceedingly difficult thing to do, and I am in awe whenever I encounter a body of work that seems to open up new paths towards understanding the world around us.” — Sarah Hermansson Meister, Curator, Department of Photography, The Museum of Modern Art.

Tamara Reynolds is a documentary photographer whose unflinching eye considers what it means to be human in today’s society. In particular, her work focuses on the lives of those who are usually unseen.

Reynolds’ photobook The Drake will be published by Dewi Lewis in 2022. The work — portraits, still lifes and streetscapes that document the lives of people existing just above survival on one square block around a motel in Nashville, Tennessee — has received numerous honors, including the prestigious Santa Fe Center 2018 Project Launch Grant, the 2019 Tennessee Arts Commission Individual Artist Grant, a 2020 Puffin Grant and the Guggenheim Fellowship Grant for 2021. Reynolds was born in Nashville, Tennessee, and has lived there all her life.

**THEME:** Faces of Humanity

**AWARD:** WINNER

**THEME:** „The Drake”

The Drake is a series that document the lives of people existing just above survival on a block around a motel in Nashville, Tennessee.

The Drake Motel is located in an area ignored by developers, a microcosm of the disregarded or resentfully tolerated. Alcohol and drug addiction are prevalent among those who live in its shadow. Prostitution and panhandling have become ways to maintain addiction.

The Drake offers a means to delve deeply into a world far removed from my own but also perilously close — how my life might have looked had I not found the resources that led me to recovery. The work continuously challenges my concept of empathy and how to photograph my subjects in such a way as to „make the unseen seen.” 1 I am passionate in my intent to push back against a society of increasing culturally endorsed behavior to not acknowledge the marginalized. These are not easy pictures, but my hope is that the images give space for viewers to move closer, to enter the stillness of the photographs and consider the lives of those looking back.

Jamie Johnson has spent her entire career photographing children all over the world. The last 5 years she has focused her eyes on the Irish Traveller that live in caravans on the side of the roads throughout Ireland. Even with their great history they live as outsiders to society and face unbelievable racism growing up. Unlike most children they are unable to refer to a history book to learn about their ancestors, a part of this journey was being able to document an era. It is with an honest heart she hopes to show that these beautiful children who have great hopes and dreams in the face of discrimination. Jamie Johnson’s monograph on this work was published September 2020 by Kehrer Verlag, „Growing Up Travelling”.

**Title:** „Growing Up Travelling”

My five year project is shedding light on the inside world of the Irish traveller children. Living in poverty in caravans on the side of the roads they are outcasts in society where even the smallest child faces cruel discrimination every day. My life’s work is preventing any child from the misunderstood, unwarranted prejudice of society.
Maryam Ashrafi

Maryam Ashrafi is a Paris-based Iranian photographer. Born in Tehran in 1982 during Iran and Iraq war, Maryam is impassioned for sociology which led her to focus her interest in social and socio-political issues in countries around the world.

Maryam graduated with a BA in social documentary photography from the University of Wales, Newport. She began to explore these issues, focusing in particular on the situation of Kurds. For several years, she has been working on different subjects: refugees in Paris, mobilization of the Kurdish and Iranian diasporas and the Indignants Movement in Paris. Above all, as a freelance independent photographer, she has covered the aftermath of wars from Kobane in Northern Syria to Sinjar in Iraqi Kurdistan, until 2018. Her work on Kurdish resistance movements has been the subject of several exhibitions and publications, including the Guardian.

**Title:** “Rising Among Ruins, Dancing amid Bullets 1”

Rising Among Ruins, Dancing Amid Bullets is a photographic project I have been working on since 2012 in Iraqi and Syrian Kurdistan, to bear witness to the consequences of war, namely to the lives of civilians returning to their homes after their cities are liberated, as well as to the daily life of the fighters behind the front lines while emphasizing the role of women in their ranks.
Owen Harvey

Owen Harvey (b.1989) has embedded himself into subcultures around the world, focussing on group identities & their notion of masculinity and style. His polished documentary aesthetic runs through candid moments & portraiture within his work.

Harvey’s photographic works have been exhibited internationally - at venues including The Photographers’ Gallery, National Portrait Gallery and The Royal Albert Hall.

Alongside long term documentary projects, Harvey shoots for a range of editorial titles including, BBC, Time Inc and Rolling Stone.

Harvey holds a BA Hons from the University of Wales, Newport.

THEME: Faces of Humanity

TITLE: „Young Fathers“

This series documents a young demographic of fathers and guardians with their children. My work often explores the notion of masculinity and although outdated stereotypes of parenting between men and women are starting to change for the better, I still rarely see the important representation of young men as a loving father figure.

I put out an open call to young men and found that many had also noticed the same and wanted to contribute to try and change this. The following images are a selection of young fathers and guardians, that portray the gentle, influential and caring relationship between fathers and their sons and daughters.
Romain Miot

Romain Miot is a 25 year old physiotherapist practicing in Paris and in the French overseas territory of Wallis-and-Futuna in South Pacific.

Through his application, he takes the opportunity to introduce his lifetime project, „Objective 197“ - in reference to the 197 countries of the world started three years ago. Passionate about travel and photography, he travels around the world, visiting all countries. His life plan is based around discovering and revealing the planet, reaching out to people and grasping their intensity. It is eventually about achieving the dream of his life which will take on an extraordinary dimension by the true complexity of such a personal journey.

**TITLE:** „Young Mundari boy, South Sudan“

Through this application, I would like to share my favorite picture from my recent trip to South Sudan. For two weeks I spent a wonderful time with four hard-to-reach tribes: Toposa, Yie, Larim (or Boyal) and Mundari, as we can see with this picture where a young boy is drinking the milk directly from the udder of the cow.
William Ropp was born in 1960 and lives in Nancy.

He began his career in the theatre, co-founding the „Théâtre X“ company. In 1988, he took a highly successful series of black and white photographs of human figures reflected in distorting mirrors. Several books followed. In 1993, he became interested in uncontrolled postures, plunging his subjects into darkness in a studio and ‘painting’ their outlines with a beam of light, the intrusion of light creating accidents of form. In 2007, he took a complete break from studio work and produced a powerfully dreamlike series of photographs of children in Africa. The book „Dreamt memories from Africa“ followed. He then became a teacher, running workshops all around the world and elsewhere.

He began working with colour in 2010, revisiting the same themes and taking inspiration from classical paintings. In 2012, The Musée de la Photography in Belgium and the Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris organized jointly a successful retrospective exhibition. The book „William Ropp 20 years of Photography“ was launched for this occasion. Today, his works form part of some of the greatest public collections.

**Title:** „African Nobles“

Besides its apparent continuity, Ropp’s work plants the seed for intercultural dialogue: mixing up styles, eras, and genders, the photographer invites the viewer to reflect on Attentivity...

...Ropp’s work brings up to light a core nobility, a heart-centered sovereignty. By covering his models with precious attires, the photographer hereby uncovers their true nobleness. Honoring these men, women, and children, his work resonates like a silent yet potent hymn, a praise to humanity.
Maryam Ashrafi is a Paris-based Iranian photographer. Born in Tehran in 1982 during Iran and Iraq war, Maryam is impassioned for sociology which led her to focus her interest in social and socio-political issues in countries around the world.

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**Title:** „Demonstrations in Paris“

On May 25th, 2020, George Perry Floyd, an African American man was murdered by a police officer during an arrest. Soon after, people around the world took to the streets to protest and seek justice. People gathered in Paris also gathered on different occasions in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, denouncing police brutality, and entrenched racism.

Many protesters in France draw a parallel between George Floyd’s death and that of Adama Traoré, a young black man who died in police custody in Paris in 2016. They have also protested against the policies of the government and to fight for a society without discrimination, for equality and social and environmental justice, for the abandonment of unemployment insurance and pension reform, for wages that allow for a dignified life, for the reduction of working hours and for quality public services capable of meeting the basic needs of people.
Paulo Nunes dos Santos is a Dublin based freelance photojournalist and reporter covering armed conflict, humanitarian crisis, current affairs, political and social issues worldwide. He is a regular contributor to The New York Times, Expresso, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Le Monde and others.

TITLE: „Home“

In the first months of isolation, my children and I embarked on collaborative project to develop a portrait series. Using our home as a canvas and an old Kodak Carousel slide film projector, we incorporated images of faraway places into scenes of the children’s daily routine. A photograph of Laguna Colorado filling our sitting room during a late night family disco party or the bubbling boiling mud of a geyser revealed on the bathroom tiles during bath time, provided some distraction from the new uncharted reality and prompt enthusiasm and sense of wonder in the kids. For me, it was an unusual but fun project to work on. As a parent, somehow I feel it helped me cope with some new anxieties triggered by these mad and unprecedented times we are living in. As I edited this series, I could somehow start feeling a sense of ease. Some of the worries stirred up by the confinement faded away and the idea of a post-covid reality started to take shape.
Ingeborg Everaerd

Ingeborg is a visual storyteller, based in Amsterdam (NL) who is drawn to the purity, vulnerability and authenticity of people all over the world. She likes to photograph people who might not appear to stand out in daily life but who carry an emotional or special story with them, often not knowing where they belong.

As Ingeborg is genuinely interested and sympathizes with her subjects, they feel that they can trust her and allow her into their personal lives. The connection with her subjects and being invited to be a small part in their lives is what makes Ingeborg’s photographs unique and special. The surroundings where these people live play an essential role in her images. By creating an aesthetically strong image, Ingeborg hopes to capture the interest of the viewer.

Title: „Busqueda”

Since my son left our house to live in an assisted home, the distance between us has increased. Literally and figuratively. That’s why I wanted to go back to the country where he was born once more. A search “busqueda” for his roots. With a little hope that it would awaken something in him.

The chance that you build a bond with a place that you leave around your first birthday is small. And it doesn’t get bigger if your body and mind have suffered considerable scars because you were born 14 weeks early.

I will let you travel. You will see the love that I cherish for my son. It is a journey through Colombia, it is a journey through the emotional world of a complicated, but loving mother-son relationship. Life as it is. A continuous search.
Yufan Lu

Lu Yufan is a photographer and writer who lives in Tianjin and Beijing, China. She achieved a MA degree in Photography and Urban Cultures at Goldsmiths University in 2017. Lu is interested in visual representation of everyday life. Her work is based on extensive sociological research, and while she often combines photographic practice with performance, she's especially interested in the therapeutic function of expressing with the body in front of camera, and how that relates to one's perception and identity. Lu's work has been shown in exhibitions in China, UK, Germany, Singapore, and received the P&Museum Grant New Generation Honorable Mention Award, Firecracker Photography Grant and Encontros da Imagem Photobook Award. She's also one of the 2020 Joop Swart Masterclass alumni.

Title: “Grandma”

Grandma passed away in an August evening. While changing the shroud for her, I could still feel the warmth left on her body. The warmth was so real that death seemed unreal.

After she was diagnosed late stage cancer in January, we had to learn to accept the farewell in a difficult way. We saw her body wasting away day by day, but apart from keeping her company, there was nothing we could do.

I couldn’t take any photographs for a while after grandma passed away, and one day, before I realized it, I was using the thermal camera to record grandma’s trace. As my own way to remember her, I used my own body to follow grandma’s trace in the house, on the objects and in the family photographs. I feel that by doing so, I became closer to her than any time in my life.

The images also go with a written letter to my grandma, thus the title „Grandma“.
Dimpy Bhalotia is an award-winning Hodophile Fine Art Street Photographer based out of London and Bombay. Coming from a lineage of artisans, she completed her schooling in Bombay and moved to London to graduate in BA (Hons) Fashion Design Technology: Womenswear, from London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London. Having worked in the fashion industry for many years with renowned designers in Europe, she found her love in Street Photography.

Her work has received much acclaim and won her over 24 prestigious awards globally, among which she is the IPP AWARDS Grand Prize Winner and won the British Journal of Photography’s Female in Focus Award. Apple’s CEO Tim Cook tweeted about her grand prize win. International publications from Washington Post, Forbes, The Guardian, BBC News, GQ Magazine, Elle, NPR, Fotografska, Esquire, The Telegraph, Insider, PDP Sugar, Deccan Herald, Venice Fashion Week, The National, Cult of Mac, Mirror UK, Economic Times and many more have featured her work.

**Title:** “Flying Boys”

“Flying Boys” characterizes the day-to-day activities of the young boys living in Varanasi in India. They share the love of brotherhood, love of friendship, and love of trust. These young boys jumping off a man-made cliff into the Ganges river symbolize love, fearlessness, and freedom. It’s this simple bond that keeps them human, irrespective of their age, colour, and origin. One river bringing soulful boys to the ghats to play and accept each other taking leap of faith. With these experiences they are growing up with, they will eventually spread around the world in the form of love, human love. Love for each other and love for simple happy things.
Toby Binder

Toby (*1977) is a social documentary photographer who works mainly on long-term projects that focus on social, environmental and political topics. Based in Argentina and Germany he works both on assignments and personal projects. He is interested in topics of post-war and crisis situations as well as in the daily life of people.

His work has been awarded internationally, e.g. with a LensCulture- and Life Framer Award in 2020, the Philip-Jones-Griffiths-Award in 2018, a Sony-World-Photo-Award in 2016 & 2017 and the Nannen-Preis in 2017. The same year he received an Honorable Mention by UNICEF-Photo of the Year.


In March 2019 his first photo book „Wee Muckers – Youth of Belfast” was published by Kehrer. He speaks German, English and Spanish.

**Title: „Teenage Love in a Rough Kingdom”**

Binder’s series is part of his long-term documentary about teenagers from working-class communities in the UK.

It shows love and affection among teenagers in somehow rough parts of the UK that are usually characterised by violence and desolation. In neighborhoods with high unemployment, drug violence and broken families, the life of teenagers in particular often consists of boredom, lack of prospects and rampage. The bright moments of fondness, tenderness and vulnerability are therefore all the more striking and shows that love knows how to prevail even in the roughest places.
Mads Nissen

For Mads Nissen photography is all about empathy - creating understanding, a closeness, an intimacy. He strives to build that connection while focusing on contemporary social issues such as inequality, human rights violations and our often-destructive relationship with nature.

Mads graduated with distinction from The Danish School of Media and Journalism in 2007. After graduating he moved to Shanghai to document the human and social consequences of China’s historic economic rise. Since 2014 he has worked as a staff photographer at the Danish daily Politiken, a newspaper internationally praised for its strong commitment to visual journalism. In addition to Politiken, his images have been published in Time, Newsweek, CNN, National Geographic, The Guardian, Stern, Der Spiegel and many publications.

He frequently gives lectures and workshops and has had solo-exhibitions across Europe and Latin America in such places as The Nobel Peace Center (Norway), The National Museum (Colombia), GAF (Germany) and Frederiksberg Slot (Denmark).

Twice has Mads Nissen's work been awarded as The World Press Photo of the Year. In 2021 with image 'The First Embrace' taken during the covid-19 pandemic - and in 2015 with an intimate moment between the gay couple Jon and Alex in Russia. In 2021 he was named 'Photographer of the Year' for the fourth time in Denmark. Mads Nissen has published three photo books: 'The Fallen' (People's Press), 'AMAZONAS' (Gyldendal) and most recently the award-winning 'We are Indestructible' (GDST Books).

TITLE: „Brazil ravaged by “the small flu”

Brazil has one of the world’s highest rates of COVID-19 infections, at over 7.5 million, and a staggering death toll of nearly 200,000 people. In the poor and densely populated favelas of São Paulo, up to half of all people have suffered from the debilitating epidemic that their own President Bolsonaro has down-played as a „small flu”.

www.madsnissen.com
madsnissenphoto
Debsuddha Banerjee

Born in 1989, Debsuddha is a documentary photography practitioner from West Bengal, India. Since 2015 he has been involved with photography professionally. Debsuddha’s interest revolves around social issues and human relationships. The reason behind focusing on documentary projects is to get involved with the communities and collaborators for better understanding and communication at a deeper level as a photographer and sometimes as an outsider.

Debsuddha believes documentary photography can express a lot of things with more power through its visual potential.

**CATEGORY:** Main Award

**THEME:** Human Love

**AWARD:** HIGHLY COMMENDED

**TITLE:** “Belonging”

The body of work is about seeking the companionship, and psychological struggle of my elderly unmarried aunts, siblings of my mother, who have already been spending an isolated life socially - discriminated against due to their skin color.

They are already used to isolation, and socially, the pandemic has imposed another layer of isolation. As a photographer and their nephew, I am studying and sharing my close observations of their companionship and the psychological struggle they have been through.

Companionship is a vector to build a space that gradually grows as a place, sometimes virtually and sometimes physically, that floats through and shapes the psychology, which reflects prominently, especially during a crisis.

I am Debsuddha, whose childhood, the precious and most sensitive part of life, was surrounded and protected by them, Swati and Gayatri.
Saksham Sinha

Saksham is a digital street photographer based in India.

CATEGORY: Student Award
THEME: Human Love
AWARD: WINNER

TITLE: "Feeding Colours"

Feeding Colours was taken during the popular ancient Indian festival Holi, also known as the 'Festival of Love'.
Lea Franke is a young German photographer who lives and works in Dortmund. She studies photography at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Dortmund. In her photography she deals with emotional topics such as first love or death.

**Title: „We are 15“**

„We are 15“ is a series about the first love of a young couple.

First love makes an impact on the rest of our lives. We don’t forget it. Sometimes it lasted longer, sometimes shorter or now and then the first love lasts still today. We associate strong memories with it. It is a unique fulfillment of a strong desire we never felt before and it is not burdened with negative experiences.

„We are 15“ is based on personal circumstances. I am in a relationship with my first love since I was 15 years old and it has lasted for 11 years. The work has been a chance to get some insight into a first love, even if it was not my own. It recalls this feeling of the first love, gives in insight into the intimacy and naivety, and leaves us with the remembrance of our own.
Anna Pliusnina

Anna Pliusnina is an artist and photographer from St. Petersburg, Russia. Anna Graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts (RSPU named after A.I. Herzen) and is a graduate of the faculty of photo correspondents. Yu.A. Halperin, Academy „Photography”. Anna is studying at the school of documentary photography „DocDocDoc.”

Anna Works as a photographer, teaches photography courses for children and teenagers and is a member of a group of exhibitions and festivals in Russia and laureate of placement, all-Russian photo contests. It is focused on documentary and social projects. Anna is interested in dark childhood and adolescence, and works with topics of isolation, the connection of man and nature.

**Title:** „Charmed”

Everyone has their own history of the first relationship. I photographed young couples in love. In parks, apartments and places where they spend time. I am attracted to what is characteristic of youth: awkwardness, emotional instability, naivety, dreaminess and euphoria from what is happening. Some of the couples have long known each other - they are together for several months or have already managed to part. Finding support in each other, young people experience growing up together. All of them think that first love is forever.
Jadwiga Bronte is an award-winning social documentary photographer exploring the relationship between human identity and politics through visual representation.

Her work has been published in print and online in publications such as BBC News, Elle Magazine, PBS, The Independent, VICE, New York Daily News, PDN, Marie Claire and more.

**Jadwiga Bronte**

**UK**

www.jadwigabronte.com

@ jadwiga_bronte

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**CATEGORY:** Student Award

**THEME:** Human Love

**AWARD:** Judges Choice

**TITLE:** "The Good Memories"

This project seeks to portray incarcerated women as mothers first. My lens focuses on them not as criminals, but as women banding together to LOVE and nurse children in an unconventional environment - prison.

The Good Memories Project is about using therapeutic photography to strengthen parent-child relation, challenge stereotypes about maternity in prison and protect good memories of moments of joy between mothers and children even in most challenging environment of prison.

I believe that photos of good memories between a mother and a child can help in the process of resocialisation building prisoner’s self-esteem and help her to develop the self-identity as a responsible and caring mother, and not a criminal.
I am a Bournemouth/London based portrait, advertisement and editorial photographer, specialising in visual storytelling using complex lighting styles and production. I recently completed my studies at Arts University Bournemouth in Commercial Photography.

I am fascinated by the normality of life and strive to bring out the best in people within my work. I enjoy bringing excitement into what is often perceived as the mundane in society. I believe there’s a delicate side to everyone so I always respect the people I photograph because I believe having compassion and empathy are the two strongest attitudes for creating amazing portraiture.

Recent work includes „Lockdown Artists“ which is a portrait series focusing on Arts University Bournemouth students showing their resilience during the third National Lockdown by adapting their creative practices to the home and Velo-Veterans, a portrait series displaying serious cyclists in the over-60s community.

**Title:** „Lockdown Artists“

„Lockdown Artists” is a photographic series focusing on fellow Arts University Bournemouth (AUB) students showing their resilience and drive to create while in lockdown. The series displays creatives who adapted their practice to the home, whilst access to University facilities and equipment was unavailable during the third national lockdown in the UK. The series’ motivation for me was to display that even in times of crisis, ART STILL PREVAILS!

Human Love resonates in the series through the artists displaying their love for creating in times of adversity. The artists featured in the series display their love, care, and devotion not to another human being physically but by creating art and beauty for others to love and enjoy as an audience to their creations.
Rodrigo Abd was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on October 27, 1976.

His career as a photographer began in the newspapers La Razón and La Nación in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 1999 to 2003. Since 2003 he has been staff photographer for the Associated Press based in Guatemala between 2003 & 2012, with the exception of 2006, when he was based in Kabul, Afghanistan. From 2012 to 2020 based in Lima, Peru. Rodrigo works on special AP assignments mainly covering social and political conflicts throughout Latin America. Along with other AP photographers, they were awarded the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Photography for their work on the Syrian civil war. Also in 2013 he was awarded the World Press Photo, 1st prize in General News.

Currently based in Buenos Aires, Argentina, searching for stories in what he calls „Deep Latin America”. Mixing his work between digital photography and his old wooden box camera, in black and white.

**CATEGORY:** Main Award

**THEME:** Climate Change

**AWARD:** WINNER

**TITLE:** „Mining Amazonia”

Inside the Peruvian southeastern Amazon jungle region of Madre de Dios, thousands of illegal miners deforested tropical rain forests in search for gold. Illegal mining caused the deforestation of 100,000 hectares of jungle since 2008.
Elliot Kreyenberg was born in 1999 and grew up in Cologne, Germany. In 2009 he moved to Berlin where the still lives and works. After finishing Highschool it was clear that it is photography through which he can express himself the best. It was around this time where Elliot developed a political mindset which also translated to his photographic works. Ever since a political claim has been elemental, leading him towards his ongoing studies at Ostkreuzschule for Photography. During the end of 2020 he started working on his longterm project about the aftermaths of climate protests - starting at the occupation of the Dannenröder Forest. He spent two months going back and forth between Berlin and the forest resulting in a series which layed the foundation for a for the ongoing project.

**Endzeit**

In times where ten nations are responsible for 70% of the world’s Co2 emissions, the question of climate justice and accountability needs to be raised. With China and the US leading, Germany is in sixth place among the industrial nations, when it comes to the pollution of our air and planet.

In recent years awareness for the topic of climate change has risen, especially amongst young people. A young generation has been politicised and took it’s protest to the streets.

In Germany this movement grew and evolved over the years and saw new methods and approaches as people had to realise that their voices were not heard.

In September of 2019 the Dannenröder Forest was squatted, to prevent a multi-lane highway from being build. 2 10 acres of healthy woodland close to Frankfurt (Hesse) were being cut down, which made a mockery of the German government’s ambitious climate targets.

During the one and a half years in which the occupation lasted, it became a symbol for the German climate movement. It raised and emphasised questions on the desperate need for change in ecological management, CO2 pollution and the need for public discourse.
Leonardo Carrato

BRAZIL  www.leonardocarrato.cc

Born in Minas Gerais, Brazil, in 1983, Leonardo Carrato threw himself into a photographic journey in 2012 driven by his passion. Leo is based in Rio de Janeiro and works as a photographer and filmmaker. In 2013 trying to overcome the mainstream media and making information more democratic, he co-founded an independent media collective called Coletivo Carranca. Among the group, he could finally give voice to the deep and organic stories of the streets of Rio de Janeiro. While working as an independent photographer in this horizontal media group, Leo developed the project called “The Uprising,” which is an inside view of the riots that drove millions of people out on the streets of Rio de Janeiro. In 2014, Leo started the 2-year multimedia project “Article 6” which explores the core of Rio’s social problems.

The desire to connect with his continent’s native culture, identity and unfold the hidden history carried Leo to the Amazon. Since 2015, he has been working on a long-term project about a native Bora shaman deep inside the Peruvian rainforest. Also, to uncover the indigenous community’s search for identity, Leo is documenting with visual narratives stories, the Brazilian collective memory, its ruins, and its scars from the military dictatorship that ruled the country for long 21 years.

Leo recently completed the VII Mentor Program and his work has been published by Der Spiegel, Bloomberg Businessweek, The Wall Street Journal, Il Fatto Quotidiano, Die Zeit and El País.

CATEGORIE: Main Award  THEME: Climate Change  AWARD: 3rd PLACE

TITRE: “En Bora - The Amazon’s True Guardian”

The Amazon is made of rich biodiversity, shaped by a complex Cosmo political arena of living beings and at the core of it all lays its protagonist: The Shaman. He is an indigenous spiritual leader who holds all the knowledge for a possible future. In a westernized concept, the Shaman is a scientist or a diplomat among Amazon’s native population.

Aladino Mimico is a Shaman, a Native South American living in a world that knows no such labels. Rather, he is Bora, which is what his ethnic group is called. He lives in Pegas, a village in the heart of the Amazon Rainforest.

Political and macroeconomic forces pressure us into believing that there is but one way of living. Aladino might be the last one standing who is capable of making the world understand their true connection with the environment. In another possible world, bio-centered, where what really matters is life, Aladino has to be a vital agent.
In his life, Alessandro has never followed the trends and tendencies of the moment. He has always been fascinated by the past and the films, literature, and music that are described as the “great classics,” things that do not pass despite the passage of time. He has always recognized himself and his vision of photography in this. In order to convey his work to the largest possible public, he uses a language that everyone can understand. The classic Magnum photojournalism of the 80s, 90s has established itself as a universal language.

It’s like playing Opera even if BD is the current music trend. Alessandro is convinced that in 50 years people will still be listening to La Traviata. He would like to be identified as a photographer who, while living in the present, tells stories with a perspective linked to a past that will never stop being looked at.

Alessandro has internalized the rules of classical photography since childhood. He learned to appreciate black & white, attention to composition and layers from his father, avidly consuming the books he had in his photography store. These are the reasons he is attached to this language. His greatest satisfaction is showing a new photo to his father and hearing him say that he appreciates how the aesthetics combine with the content.

In his photography, he tries to capture the quintessence of a place by focusing on folklore and traditions. He tries to insert an extraordinary element into the ordinary, inspired by magical realism.

**Title:** „Peru, a Toxic State”

Peru is the leading producer of gold, silver, and lead in Latin America and the second-largest producer of copper in the world. Mining is the engine of the country’s economy, which has been growing since the early 2000s. In 2019, mining accounted for 60% of exports and 9% of GDP.

However, there is a dark side: millions of people – mostly native peoples living in small communities – are forced to share their land, air, and water with mining sites that are growing along the Andes Mountains. And as a result, they have seen their environment and living conditions deteriorate significantly over the past 20 years due to high contamination. This project shows the social, health, and environmental consequences of living near these mines and is an example of the damage caused by neo-colonialism in Latin America when neo-liberal policies do not stop even the violation of human rights.

The cities where I have worked for years are suffering from climate change, and the little water that remains available to communities is heavily polluted.
Yu Hao Wong comes from Qinxian County, Changzh City, Shanxi Province, China. Yu Hao graduated from the School of Music, Harbin Normal University in 2014 and is currently working as a documentary photographer.

TITLE: „The North turn to ashes“ 北方化为乌有“

These pictures were taken in my hometown. The pure land is slowly disappearing, the clear sky is no longer there, people are accustomed to it, the crowd is silent, people will not notice that the north will disappear and the human beings will be gone with the wind.
**Marco Campi**

**ITALY**

www.marcocampi.photoshelter.com

**Marco C. Campi** is a street and documentary photographer based in Milano, Italy. His photographic research intertwines with his scientific studies in cognitive sciences to bridge the concepts of observation and knowledge.

In photography, his approach signs a continuity with his scientific explorations and single snapshots are seen as fragments of broader patterns that reveal connections and diversities in the society. Marco Campi’s photographic bent developed early on in his life when at the age of 14, he began exploring the environment with his Canon AE1. More recently, his work has developed into a social- and environmental-oriented dimension.

He has extensively photographed in India, chronicling youth movements in South Africa, where he has witnessed the condition of life in townships in the U.S., Australia, and Italy. Recent endeavors include a vast collection of material on the covid-19 pandemic and a study of the impact of global warming.

**CATEGORY:** Main Award

**THEME:** Climate Change

**AWARD:** HIGHLY COMMENDED

**TITLE:** „The last tide“

The phenomenon of high tides in Venice has devastating effects. Looking at the top 10 tides, we see that five have occurred in the past 20 years, and the frequency of exceptional tidal flooding above 10 cm has ramped up dramatically through the years.

One main reason for this to happen is sea-level rise. Recorded satellite data shows that the sea level increases at a rate of 3.3 mm/year, resulting in about 6.6 cm rise over the last 20 years (credit: NASA – Global Climate Change - https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/sea-level/). This rise is caused mainly by two factors, both related to global warming: the added water from melting ice and the expansion of seawater as it warms. While the latter has played the most prominent role so far, it is believed that the first will significantly speed up the rise in coming years owing to the melting of the Antarctic and Greenland ice.
Shaown Chowdhury

Shaown Chowdhury, an artist, photographer, interior designer, and visualizer, was born in Chattogram, Bangladesh. He completed his Bachelor’s & Masters from Chittagong Institute of Fine Arts, Chittagong University, Bangladesh. He took an active interest in photography in his varsity life, which has become his passion ever since.

In his 15+ years of the journey behind the lens, he's covered a vast array of subjects like travel, lifestyle, street, and documentary. He is an admin/Founder/Event Organizer of Foto Arena Bangladesh. He is a Contributor Photo Journalist at Pacific Press Agency. He is a life member of Bangladesh Photographic Society (BPS) & Chattogram Photographic Society (CPS). He also served as Exhibition Secretary of CPS.

His works have been featured in various international salons and exhibitions worldwide and have received multiple national and international awards. Photography, to Shaown, is his calling, his passion, something almost spiritual for him. Photography is a very important part of his space – it is to discover, to capture the fluidity of what the heart feels and not merely what the eye sees in a fragment of time.

**Title:** „Monsoon Disaster“

Climate change caused by global warming is having a devastating effect on the world’s natural environment. As a result of these changes, sea surface warming is increasing, and the seasonal continuity of the weather is being disrupted.

Disasters of various kinds are on the rise, such as heavy rains and droughts, severe cold spells, severe thunderstorms, rising sea levels, salinity, tidal surges, flash floods, cyclones, etc. As a result, the loss of life and property is increasing. Due to this, crores of rupees are being wasted every year. Rainfall is the main cause of floods in Bangladesh.
Hengki Koentjoro

Hengki Koentjoro is an accomplished photographer specializing in capturing the spectral domain that lies amidst the shades of black and white. Born in Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia, on March 24th, 1963, he pursued further education in Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, California—an expedition that plunged him into the professional arena of video production and fine art photography.

Childhood introduction to a camera on his 11th birthday is by now an earnest love affair that involves an elaborate choreography of composition, texture, shapes, and lines.

**“Displacement”**

These photographs illustrate the well-being of coastal life affected by the raising of the sea level. They are an all-too-common sad sight on the northern coast of Java Island, Indonesia. The life and the dead are displaced.

Bangladesh has a tropical monsoon climate characterized by a wide seasonal variation of rainfall. It rains only in our river basins due to south-westerly monsoon winds from June to September. Due to that rainfall, the water level in the rivers of this country increases. Heavy rains have caused water logging in most parts of the city. More than one billion people living in coastal cities are at high risk of flooding due to climate change.
Deepbrata Dutta

**Category:** Student Award

**Theme:** Climate Change

**Title:** "Winters in Kolkata"

A big blanket of fog covers a huge area of open field in Kolkata. I have documented this area for almost 3 years.
Jonas was born in 1992 in Kappeln, Germany. He currently studies Photojournalism and Documentary Photography in Hannover.

**TITLE:** "At the End of Island Road"

Deep in the marshland of Louisiana lies the little community of Isle de Jean Charles, home to the Biloxi-Chitimacha-Chotaw tribe. An island threatened by erosion, hurricanes, and rising sea levels.

"I will only leave the island for Heaven," says Edison Dardar, born and raised on the island and who worked as an oyster fisherman his whole life, while he is casting his net for shrimp, like he does every evening during high tide. "It's a paradise here!" Formally over 300 inhabitants, Edison is now only one of 40 remaining on the island.

In the beginning, the island wasn't even an island, but due to rising sea levels and erosion, the land has shrunk over 90% over the last sixty years. Isle de Jean Charles will likely vanish into the sea in the next decades. Rising sea levels and hurricanes hitting its shore more frequently in recent years have already caused a land loss of over 90% of its former landmass in the last 60 years. The island's inhabitants will be some of the first United States Climate refugees.
Jinyu Shi

Shi Jinyu, born in Liangshan, Sichuan, graduated from Northwest University for Nationalities with a bachelor’s degree in Russian. He currently lives and works in Changqing. He has won the 2nd „Hometown Road“ Chinese Minority Photographer Award and the 3rd prize of the 2nd Cross-Strait University Student Photography Contest.

His work „Diary of Isolation“ was collected by the Art Museum of Tsinghua University. Based on the special identity of ethnic minorities, Shi Jinyu’s creations mostly focus on the social changes in his hometown and the spiritual changes of the Yi people in the process.

CATEGORY: Student Award
THEME: Climate Change
AWARD: 3rd PLACE

TITLE: „Only the Brave“

In recent years, with the intensification of the greenhouse effect, high temperatures continue to occur in southwestern China from February to May each year. The scorching sun has withered the crops in the farmland, the water in the fish pond has dried up, the land is scorching mercilessly, and the forest is on the verge of fire.

On March 30, 2019, a serious forest fire broke out in my hometown, killing 29 firefighters. One year later, on March 30, before I had time to get out of this grief, another fire ignited in my hometown once again, killing 19 firefighters.
İşik Kaya is a lens-based media artist whose practice explores the ways in which humans shape the contemporary landscape. Her projects focus on traces of economic infrastructures to examine politics in built environments and how man’s dominance over nature finds its manifestation in everyday architecture. In her work, she creates dense compilations of industrial fragments to construct new landscapes that look both alien and familiar at the same time. By framing her subjects exclusively at night, she aims to accentuate the artificial and uncanny qualities of urban environments.

İşik’s interest in man-made landscapes started after living in Istanbul during its construction boom. Witnessing how ideology and power can shape urban landscapes, change everyday life, and disrupt the environment made her look more critically at infrastructures and the ideologies behind them. Through her work, she intends to make overlooked everyday structures that affect our lives and future more visible and create moments of reflection on how we can reshape our relationship with nature.

**Title: „Second Nature”**

For centuries, humans have extracted more and more resources from forests, the soil, and the oceans across the planet in the name of growth.

Climate change is perhaps the most dramatic consequence of an attitude toward nature that is characterized by arrogance. This attitude is shaped by the belief that humans stand outside of nature and have it at their disposal. Appropriation and imitation are cultural consequences of this belief, and so it should come as no surprise that, since the 1990s, radio masts have been disguised as trees. The photographs in the “Second Nature” series show the sometimes bizarre structures as part of the Southern California landscape and how man has constructed his own technological dystopia that seems unreal and uninhabitable.

The man-made environment of plastic, metal, and cement satisfies needs in the short term but is toxic and unsustainable in the long run. Mobile technology and the ubiquitous Internet have become our second nature, and as long as we design our built environment at the expense of the first nature, climate crises would be inevitable.
Henry Harte

Henry is a current Film and Television student at University of Bristol, UK. He is also self employed, exploring the worlds of cinematography, photography and music editing.

**CATEGORY:** Student Award  
**THEME:** Climate Change  
**AWARD:** HIGHLY COMMENDED

**TITLE:** „The Plague“

This is the outbreak of desert locusts that is threatening the food supply across Africa. It began in 2019 and is the worst outbreak in 70 years.

Cyclone Mekunu in 2018 produced heavy rains, which lead to a rapid increase of locusts. 20.2 million people face severe acute food insecurity in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda, and Tanzania.

The unpredictable weather patterns East Africa is seeing mean that locusts are becoming increasingly expensive and harder to control.
Mirsobit Mirkhoshimov

Mirsobit Mirkhoshimov Botir Ugili, a student of the 3rd stage 310-TP group of the Faculty of Medical Pedagogy and Medicine of the Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute, was admitted to the university in 2018 on a grant basis. He is currently a 3rd-year student of this Institute.

During his time at the Institute, he proved to be an extremely disciplined, intelligent, and resourceful student. He takes the lessons seriously and responsibly and tries to study them diligently. He has mastered almost all subjects with "excellent" grades. During his studies, he regularly participated in a number of medical scientific and practical conferences held at the national and institute levels with his scientific articles and research papers and was among the winners. His articles and theses have been published in the institute, national and foreign journals, and collections of scientific works.

He is a person who meets the requirements of the modern world, is competitive, mature in all respects, has a deep knowledge of modern times. He is extremely interested in learning foreign languages and is taking them seriously. He is fluent in English and Russian. He regularly takes an active part in the scientific, social, educational, and spiritual life of the Institute. Participating in events held at the level of institutes and higher education institutions, public affairs, he stands out among students for his ability, initiative, resourcefulness, and intelligence.

**TITLE: „Wild Fire”**

The fire produces enormous grey fog, which covers all the sky. The blue and pure sky become grey, turning into a foggy world.
Somenath Mukhopadhyay

Somenath Mukhopadhyay, born in 1968, is a self-taught photographer from a small town in West Bengal, India. Mukhopadhyay completed his Post-Graduate in English Literature from the Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata in 1993. At present he is teaching English Language and Literature in his native town. He has worked as a freelance writer for The Statesman, a daily newspaper published in Kolkata. After spending a few years painting and writing, he took to photography as a new expression of creativity. In 2007, Mukhopadhyay won a National Award in Photography, instituted by Photo Division, from the Government of India. It was primarily the picturesque charm of Bengal’s countryside that impelled him to venture into the world of photography. However, this excitement was short-lived as the changing landscape of the countryside, the rise of brick kilns, sand mining from riverbeds, and above all an unsustainable growth of urbanity brought a new turn to his artistic career. Lately he has been working on the issues of environment, health, human rights, justice etc. Be it the victims of Arsenic pollution of groundwater in the villages of West Bengal, pollution of rivers or dismanting an artists’ colony in the name of urban development in New Delhi, his camera has been constantly focusing on similar issues. Recently he has been working on capturing the life and work of the laborers in Yangon fish market in Myanmar. His works aim to simulate a fictional touch to his journalistic narrative with a purpose of creating a surrealistic appeal.

**Title:** "The STYX"

Spanning 1376 km and crossing several states of India, the Yamuna River runs through the country’s capital New Delhi. Known as the lifeline of the city of Delhi, the river suffers the worst downstream due to untreated sewage, industrial effluents, the dumping of garbage, dead bodies, immersion of idols, temple wastes etc. The 20 kilometers stretch of river in the capital has one of the highest levels of industrial pollution in the country. As per a recent report, the level of industrial pollution in Yamuna is nearly 13 times more than the permissible limit. The river seems to be choked with the voluminous toxic froth that resemble icebergs. This often hinders local boatmen finding their way down the river. About a hundred sewage drains of Delhi pour waste into the river. The polluted water of the river is also causing harm to the cattle and vegetables grown on the riverbanks. However, religiosity knows no law as seen in the images of people dipping themselves and praying to God, standing in knee-deep water of the river on the eve of Chhat festival.
David Gardner
USA  www.lightight.com  davidgardnerphotography

David likes part-time in San Francisco and part-time in a 26 ft. Lazy Daze motorhome - christened Carpe Diem - pursuing his photographic interests across the continent. He is largely self-taught but considers his longtime friendship with fine art photographer Stephen Johnson, and the likes of Richard Misrach and Edward Burtynsky, to be the basis of his photographic inspiration and proficiency. David studied graphic arts and multimedia design at San Francisco State University and attends classes and lectures at the San Francisco Art Institute as time permits. His photographs have been exhibited across the country and internationally.

CATEGORY: Main Award  THEME: Climate Change  AWARD: JUDGES CHOICE

TITLE: „Into the Anthropocene”

Into the Anthropocene: I investigate places throughout the Western United States where the natural ecosystem has been altered or destroyed to provide for our burgeoning populations. In the Palouse grasslands - now wheat fields - of eastern Washington, a mono-crop landscape terraformed through agricultural commerce creates a sense of bucolic perfection while disguising the underlying impact of single crop planting. Old and new energy extraction techniques are compared using images from the largest thermal solar plant on earth at Ivanpah, California, and the Cholla coal burning power plant near Winslow, AZ. Finally, the „bathtub ring” high water mark - which will never again be attained - at Lake Mead in Arizona illustrates how the demand for water has changed the landscape. In each location, I was simultaneously dazzled and disturbed by the scope of these transformations - many occurring in my lifetime. What was revealed was strangely alien but completely human. By allowing human intervention to speak over the landscape itself in my images, I imagine a new landscape - more of its Age - that expresses dilemmas faced when considering exploitation or preservation.
Ann Johansson

Ann Inger Johansson is an award-winning photographer with a focus on documenting the causes, effects, impacts and solutions of climate change globally. Scientific data informs what topics and locations she seeks out to photograph. Ann’s ultimate goal is to make all aspects of climate change more relatable on a personal level. With The Face of Coal, Ann is showing what coal in daily life looks like in and around Dhanbad, Jharkhand, India.

TITLE: „The Face of Coal”

In and around the coal capital of the world Dhanbad, India, coal is visible everywhere you look. Many people are directly employed in the mining and processing of coal. A thriving black market supports scavengers and people who transport coal illegally on roads and rivers. Others come in touch with coal as they need coal to run businesses like restaurants and blacksmith shops. Coal is also the main source to fuel stoves and heat homes in this area where many households still lack electricity and running water. Coal use is deeply ingrained in this society.
Ann Johansson

**Ann Inger Johansson** is an award-winning photographer with a focus on documenting the causes, effects, impacts and solutions of climate change globally. Scientific data informs what topics and locations she seeks out to photograph. Ann’s ultimate goal is to make all aspects of climate change more relatable on a personal level. With Climate Change Connected – Altered Landscapes, Ann is showing a cause such as the extraction and burning of oil, effects such as melting glaciers and drought and impacts of coastal erosion and wildfire destruction.

**CATEGORICODE:** Main Award

**THEME:** Climate Change

**AWARD:** HIGHLY COMMENDED

**TITLE:** „Climate Change Connected - Altered Landscapes“

In this series of work the causes of climate change, more specifically the extraction and burning of oil, is visually linked to effects and impacts of climate change. When we burn fossil fuels such as oil, greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming are released. As global temperatures rise, we see the effects: melting glaciers and drought around the world. With more water in motion, we are feeling the impacts of rising sea levels, coastal erosion and flooding. And with drier landscapes, we are seeing more wildfires. These altered landscapes are all connected to climate change.
Hossein Fatemi

Hossein began his journey as a photographer at the age of 17, capturing political and social events in his native Iran. He went on to cover warfare in Lebanon and Georgia in 2006 and 2008 respectively before relocating to Afghanistan in 2009 to document the American military presence alongside the lives of Afghan people moving forward from decades of war. In 2013, he moved to the US where he developed the social, environmental, and political dimensions of his work. So far, his journey has led him through the landscapes and communities of Pakistan, Somalia, Armenia, Russia, Turkey, India, Kenya and Iraq.

CATEGORY: Main Award
THEME: Climate Change
AWARD: HIGHLY COMMENDED

TITLED: “Salt Lake Citizens”

Lake Urmia in northwestern Iran, close to the Turkish border, is the third largest salt lake on earth. Like the better-known Aral Sea, it has been shrinking over the past three decades; its diminishing waters becoming ever more salinated. Designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 1976, most of the lake is an Iranian national park. Yet recent droughts and increased water consumption by local agriculture have lowered the lake’s water level, causing salinity to rise to 300 grams per litre – 8 times that of sea water. In 2011, thousands of people took to the streets of Urmia, the eponymous nearby town, and Tabriz, one of Iran’s major cities, calling on the government to take the problem seriously. They fear that Lake Urmia could end up like the Aral Sea, which was deprived of its water sources during Soviet times in a race to cultivate cotton. The Aral Sea’s demise is blamed for a catalogue of ecological and health problems among local populations. Some Iranians worry that a similar disaster could befall Urmia. Tabriz, Iran’s fourth largest city, sits 100km east, and it’s estimated that some 10 million people could be affected by the lake’s demise. Despite the gloom, Iranians are fond of taking mud baths along Urmia’s shores and the saline waters are said to be therapeutic for skin conditions, muscle aches and other complaints. Hossein Fatemi explored the lake’s surreal landscapes and met some of the day trippers in search of a free treatment.
Yoong Wah Wong

Dr. Yoong Wah Alex Wong is a versatile and well-equipped photographer and videographer, who takes his audience on magical and mysterious journeys through borderlands landscapes shrouded in mist and fog. His research in photography, video and cinematography focuses on borderlands, climate change and human and nature interrelationship issues. Wong's photographs are always memorable, can bring about surrealistic moments, and display resonance and meanings that are timeless. The cinematic influence in Wong's photographs is unmistakable and many of his photographs appear as if they are stills from an epic journey. His latest photography and video work "Vanishing White," is a series that critically examines and explores the fragile world of ice.

TITLE: „The Vanishing White”

The journey across the frozen Lake Baikal is part adventure documentation, part environmental saga. My artistic search is to arrest the moments of epic encounter of the permafrost landscape. This series intends to showcase the exceptional formation and peculiar facet of the oldest (25 million years), deepest (5,300 feet), and biotically diverse existing freshwater lake on earth during the coldest period in winter. This lake harbors more species than any other lake in the world, many of whom are endemic. More than half of the approximately 2,500 animal species and 30% of the 1,000 plant species are endemic. Unfortunately, by the end of this century, the climate of the Baikal region will be warmer and wetter, particularly in winter. As the climate changes, key abiotic variables such as ice cover and transparency, water temperature, wind dynamics and mixing, and nutrient levels will shift, eliciting many biotic responses. The frozen layers are moving, breaking, thawing, retreating and daunting. The frozen lake is solid on the surface, yet fragile when the water currents flow beneath it. These marvelous yet temporary ice layers vanish as the temperature rises; resistive and short lived.
Danial Khodaie

Danial Khodaie was born in 1991, in Ahvaz, Iran, three years after the Iran-Iraq war ended (1980-1988). His hometown is located close to the Iraqi border and was heavily affected by the war. Danial grew up surrounded by the after-effects of this war and the unique geography of his home province. Through these experiences, he was inspired to explore and try to understand contemporary human lives, the environment, and their bilateral impacts.

In 2015, he quit his university-studies in chemical engineering to pursue his main interest as a documentary photographer and filmmaker. Danial attends the National Film School in Łódź, Poland where he studies Photographic Direction.

**CATEGORY:** Student Award

**THEME:** Climate Change

**AWARD:** WINNER

**TITLE:** “Silent Death”

Since 2002, Iran’s Khuzestan Province in Southwest Iran has been engulfed by dust storms. The main source of these dust particles appears to be the southern portion of the Horol-Azim Wetland which was dried up by “National Iranian Oil Company” to facilitate oil exploration practices. The particle concentration of some of these dust storms has exceeded 10,000 micrograms per cubic meter (mg/cum), much higher than the acceptable air pollution standard for dust particles (about 150-200 mg/cum). In 2011 the World Health Organisation stated that this crisis has made the city of Ahvaz one of the most polluted cities in the world. That same year, it was reported that, on average, about 22 thousand people in Khuzestan Province alone are referred to hospitals and healthcare centers due to respiratory and other problems caused by air pollution.
Maximilian Mann (1992) grew up in Kassel, Germany. In his photographic work, he deals with global environmental issues and the resulting consequences. Max has been nominated for the „W. Eugene Smith Student Grant“.

He has won the first prize at the „Feature Shoot Awards“ and was awarded with the „Felix Schoeller Newcomer Award“. Max has also won prizes at the „BFF-Förderpreis“, the „College Photographer of the Year - Award“ and the „IAFOR Documentary Photography Award“. Maximilian is a member of DOCKS-Collective.

**Title: „Fading Flamingos“**

Largely unnoticed by the world public, a major environmental disaster is taking place in Lake Urmia in northwestern Iran. Where ten years ago the waves splashed against the walls of the villages, you now see an almost endless desert. Ships that once brought people from one side of the lake to the other now lie like stranded whales on the shore, decaying. Salt winds from the desert are spreading further and further over the residents’ fields, causing the crops to dry up. Robbed of their livelihoods, the residents are fleeing to the surrounding towns, and the villages around the lake are dying out. Lake Urmia was once the second-largest salt lake in the world, ten times bigger than Lake Constance. However, within a few years, the surface area of the lake has shrunk by 80 percent. Both climate change and the agriculture sector’s enormously high-water consumption rates are responsible for this. If this disaster is not stopped/ addressed, up to five million residents could be forced to leave the area in the future.
Aleksandra Bardas

Born in 1988 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, Bardas is currently living in Germany. From 2013-2019, she earned her Bachelor Degree in Photography University of Applied Sciences Dortmund and is currently working on a Master’s, studying photography at FH Dortmund (University of Applied Sciences and Arts). Aleksandra mostly works in journalistic and documentary photography.

**Title:** „Sweet Salt of Emptiness”

In Soviet times, Uzbekistan had to grow cotton in huge quantities. Rivers (water) flowing into the Aral Sea were used to irrigate the fields. Over time, less and less water reached the Aral Sea, drying out the land. The desert became over 100 degrees and drinking water ran out. All fish factories were closed. In 1960, the fishing catch amounted to 40,000 tons, in the mid-80s, it decreased to only 2 tons. Local fisheries simply ceased to exist, and more than 60,000 jobs were lost. Many fishermen found themselves without work. People were forced to leave their homes in search of new ones in order to find a job and feed their families. Today, there is not a single species of fish in the Aral Sea, only Artemy plankton. Pesticides used for irrigation of fields have seeped into the groundwater. This story is not only about the disappearance of the Aral Sea, but also about people whose lives are being tested every day.
Mohammad Rakibul Hasan

Mohammad Rakibul Hasan is a documentary photographer, filmmaker and visual artist. He is currently pursuing an MA in Photography at Falmouth University, UK. He holds an Undergraduate Certificate in Higher Education in History of Art from Oxford University, pursued a Postgraduate Diploma in Photojournalism from Ateneo de Manila University and also graduated in Film & Video Production from UBS Film School at the University of Sydney. He was nominated for many international awards and has won hundreds of photographic competitions worldwide including Lucie Award, Human Rights Press Award and Allard Prize. His photographs have been published and exhibited internationally. He is based in Dhaka, Bangladesh and represented by Redux Pictures, ZUMA Press, USA and is a contributing journalist for the Daily Star and Reuters. Hasan is also a consultant photographer and documentary filmmaker for Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank, FAO of the United Nations, UN Women, USAID, Water Aid and other major NGOs. He is a Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Fellow. Hasan is also a faculty member of Counter Foto, a photography and visual art institution in Bangladesh.

CATEGORY: Student Award

TITLE: “Salt”

Low-lying coastal areas of Bangladesh are speculated to be submerged due to sea level rise as the world temperature continues to increase. This situation is worsened by immediate natural calamities like cyclones and tidal floods. As the rising sea levels and unusually high tidal waves encroach the lowlands of Bangladesh, the coastal areas face increased salinity. During the dry season, when the flows of upstream water reduce drastically, the saline water goes up to 240 kilometers inland and reaches distant regions. The Sundarbans is the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world. 60 percent of Sundarbans is shared in Bangladesh while the rest of it lies in West Bengal, India. Sundarbans works as the shock absorber of natural disasters in the coastal regions of Bangladesh, partially protecting the communities from the surge of tidal waves and gust of cyclone. However, as agricultural lands continue to diminish, a lot of people are being forced deeper into the jungle to procure livelihood means like honey or firewood. This makes them victims of deadly Royal Bengal Tigers.
Ronghui Chen

Chen Ronghui is a Chinese photographer currently based in Shanghai and New Haven. His work focuses on different dimensions of China’s urbanization and industrialization. He has published two photobooks, Freezing Land, and Land of Ambitions, and exhibited both in China and internationally. He has won a number of awards including the World Press Photo; Bar Tur Photo Award; Three Shadows Photography Award & AIPA special prize and Hou Dengke Documentary Photography.

CATEGORY: Student Award
THEME: Climate Change
AWARD: HIGHLY COMMENDED

TITLE: „Petrochemical China (2013-2015)‟

The Yangtze River Delta is both one of the country’s most prosperous regions and home to its largest concentration of petrochemical refineries. Here chemical plants stand mere hundreds of meters away from residential districts — with no obvious barriers between them. „Cancer villages‟ are an increasingly common phenomenon, and traditional lifestyles based on farming and fishing are fading away.

In the winter of 2013, a panic broke out in my hometown. Residents rushed to buy bottled water after the chemical plants situated upstream polluted the city river. In many places, authorities forbid taking photos of industrial waste, so it was months before I was able to photograph the plants responsible—and then only from a distance. Over the past few years, I have driven thousands of kilometers and made countless trips to the scene in order to document the aftermath.
Beihua Guo (b. 1998) was born in Shanghai, China. He is an artist based in Los Angeles and Shanghai. He received a BA in studio art and environmental analysis from Pitzer College, California. His photographic and installation work explores human’s fragile relationship with nature, as well as the vanishing boundary between the natural and the built environment.

**Title:** “A Salted Land”

A Salted Land explores the escalating environmental disasters triggered by human activities at the Salton Sea. Located in Southern California, the Salton Sea was accidentally created in 1905 when the Colorado River breached an irrigation canal, flooding the Salton Basin. The manmade lake was once a popular tourist destination; however, agricultural runoff and other pollutants resulted in a dramatic increase in salinity as well as mass animal die-offs, threatening the entire ecosystem. I aim to emphasize the process of extraction and excavation, as well as the blurring line between humans and nature.
Fabio Carella

**ITALY**

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**Title:** „Grecchi Resiliency“

This series denounces the state of abandonment and praises the bravery and strength of a population: the Grecchi. The Grecchi, or Giudeccini, are the residents of the island of Giudecca, situated just off the coast of Venice. The story in these five pictures depicts how a population and a city, once affected by the impacts of climate change and in particular by the flooding event, without adaptation actions, transforms the citizens themselves into resilient citizens. The extreme event, faced by the Grecchi in every aspect of their daily lives, simultaneously shows their disappointment in the face of an absent political administration.
Guy spent the first 10 years of his career at HSBC in IT, followed by 15 years working for Intel as European Sales and Marketing Manager. Much of what he learnt in this career progression has proved invaluable in developing Striking Faces, his commercial photography company. After leaving the corporate world, he established a successful web design company and became keenly aware of how crucial rich online content is to businesses. He combines technical expertise, creativity and compositional skills to produce eye-catching, engaging photography. Guy is an extremely gifted photographer with a unique conceptual eye. With strong technical skills and a rounded knowledge of marketing and emerging technologies, he is well known for creating an image or devising a clever campaign not previously foreseen.

**TITLE:** The Sinking House

The Sinking House - A project by Extinction Rebellion is designed to create a globally iconic image that educates people about Climate Change. The image represents the disastrous realities of projected sea level rises, increased storms and the effects on normal people living normal lives. Set against a backdrop of some of the most illustrious buildings in London which host the businesses most responsible for, and with the most power to change, the Climate fate, this photo is a call to those corporations to make necessary changes. It also represents a stand of solidarity to people whose lives are affected by increased flooding and future sea level rises. The rise in sea levels is largely attributed to the melting of Greenland ice sheets. At its peak, ice melted at a rate of 140,000 tonnes-per-second – equivalent to 2000 river Thames.
Sergei Stroitelev

After working as a human rights lawyer for five years, Sergei decided to change profession and delve deeper into photography which has always been his main passion. Sergei has also considered photography as the best tool to raise awareness about the issues. In 2014 he graduated from Photofaculty at the Union of Journalists of Saint-Petersburg with the work dedicated to the Maidan revolution in Kiev, which he was documenting for 3 months. Since that time, Sergei works with National Geographic Russia, VICE UK/USA, De Volkskrant, Takie Dala. He also cooperates with a number of NGO in the South-East Asia region, such as the Red Cross and Doctors of the World.

Sergei’s photographic practice primarily focuses on the exploration of the issues of modern society. With the help of different visual languages and forms, he looks at the problems of identity of minorities, gender, health and racial prejudice, ecology, and consumerism. He often executes very personal photographic projects exploring his very own inner demons, past, and family. Sergei also teaches photography at Fotografika academy in Saint-Petersburg. His course “Photography without stereotypes” is dedicated to the development of creative thinking.

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“Am I not scared anymore?”

About 55,000 cases of breast cancer are identified in Russia every year - that’s a lot. There are stories of thousands of women hidden behind statistics and numbers who fight this disease every day.

In the project “Am I not scared anymore?” brave women tell their stories and share thoughts about what happened to them. They also pose for a portrait in a way they feel comfortable and in the image, which defines their emotional state. The diagnosis and following post-surgery processes transformed their personality - they changed their attitude towards themselves, their femininity, time, and priorities. These beautiful girls found the inner strength to struggle with their fears.

The project is a powerful message to all patients who couldn’t accept themselves after mastectomy. Moreover, it is a message to society at large. A naked woman’s body with scars is taboo in Russia where mastectomy is considered something shameful, ugly. “If you have been operated on, don’t show your body to anyone,” people say. The present project is to fight the taboo, beauty cliches, and stereotypical perception of a woman’s body.
Seila Montes Gonzalez

Seila Montes is a Spanish photojournalist and documentary photographer. She graduated in photojournalism from The London College of Communication (LCC) in 2007. Since then, she has been working freelance.

Her work focuses on minorities, disadvantaged communities, and individuals, as well as covering environmental issues.

Her work has been published in different publications worldwide like The New York Times, The Guardian, Cuartoscuro, Vice, Creators, Life and style, Huck Magazine, Interjet magazine etc... Since 2019 she collaborates on a regular basis with EL PAIS América newspaper. She is a member of women photograph.

CATEGORI: Main Award
THEME: Unity in Diversity
AWARD: 2nd PLACE

TITLE: „Yumare“

Rarámuris (Tarahumara) are an indigenous group from Chihuahua, Northern México. Tarahumaras, even though in some cases have been persecuted, celebrate Yumares (the traditional celebration to commemorate special occasions) in this case the 10th anniversary of the village school) built by an NGO, and everybody is welcome. Before it was built, kids had to walk up to four hours to get to school.
Yankun Shi

Shi Yangkun [b. 1992] was born in Henan province, China. He graduated from the University of the Arts London, majoring in documentary photography in 2016. Today, he works as a photographer and artist whose work has received many awards, including PMuseum Photography Grant, PDN Emerging Photographer, TOP20 Chinese Contemporary Photographer. He is also a fellow of the Magnum Foundation of Photography and the Getty Images Grant. His work has been exhibited in various art institutions, including the Shanghai Center of Photography, Zhejiang Art Museum, and the Art Museum of Guangzhou Academy of Fine Art.

**Title:** “Wuhan Divers”

Two men jump into the East lake, a popular site for diving enthusiasts in Wuhan, Hubei province, on April 8, 2020, which is the first day of the city lifting its 76-days pandemic lockdown. The flowers were left there by a man who had proposed to a woman on the pier.

According to the National Health Commission of the People’s Republic of China, over 50,000 people were infected with COVID-19 and over 3,800 residents died in Wuhan, the city where the Covid-19 first emerged and a symbol in the pandemic that has killed tens of thousands of people, shaken the global economy and thrown daily life into upheaval across the planet.
Simon Murphy

Simon Murphy's career has enabled him to travel extensively, shooting human interest stories in countries such as Bangladesh, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Cambodia. His portraiture subjects range from individuals such as the Dalai Lama to musicians and actors including Noel Gallagher, Bobby Gillespie, and John Hurt.

The images from his personal project „Govanhill“ have only been available through a limited edition newspaper that Simon publishes and distributes free around the shops, and cafe's in the area in his hometown of Glasgow. “The idea is that to get hold of a newspaper, people have to come into Govanhill and find one. I post clues on my Instagram page (smurph77). While searching for a newspaper, the individual might buy a coffee or a record, contributing a little to the local economy, or perhaps change preconceived ideas that have been formed due to negative publicity.”

Category: Main Award
Theme: Unity in Diversity
Award: Judges Choice

Title: „Govanhill“

Simon Murphy's images form a „Portrait of the Place“ aiming to give an insight into one of Scotland's most diverse areas. „The project is about community and diversity. Govanhill is not without its problems, but it's also a place where people come together and share culture and experience. „My images have always been about celebrating diversity and seeing beauty in our differences. Sometimes it's important to ask yourself difficult questions and Photography has the power to trigger thoughts in people's minds that can plant the seeds for change“.

Govanhill is an area in Glasgow's southside that is the constituency of Scotland's first minister, Nicola Sturgeon. Dubbed Glasgow’s „Ellis Island“, Govanhill has traditionally been a place where immigrants “arrive” in Glasgow and eventually move on from. It is estimated that 88 languages are spoken in the densely populated area of only 0.33 square miles. It's a mixing pot of cultures and ethnicities. These differences have contributed to tension within the community, people often fear what is unfamiliar to them and worry about how change might impact their own lives, but it’s also these cultural differences that help make Govanhill one of the most diverse and exciting places in the city. Video about the project: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvCrdD2Q9U
Manello Paganelli grew up in several exotic places such as Santo Domingo, Italy, and Puerto Rico. He went to school in Tennessee and planned to become a medical missionary doctor then shortly after purchasing a camera for the very first time, his life totally changed when he read a magazine article about a great photographer. He was so astonished by this man’s life and art that as soon as he finished reading the article he decided to call him.

Manello dialed information for Carmel by the Sea, California, and that is how his friendship and mentoring with Ansel Adams began. His first photo break came soon after when he landed a job at the Chattanooga Times, and after a couple of years, he went to work in the Washington, DC area.

In 1989 he began to explore Cuba, its land, its people, and its complex relationship with the USA. In 1995 he had his first solo photo show of his work on Cuba, and that same year earned him a fellowship grant. On reviewing his exhibit the Washington Post wrote, „Manello Paganelli’s Cuban photographs are a brilliant window on a land and people too long hidden from North American eyes. Working in the tradition of Cartier-Bresson and Robert Frank, Paganelli brings an artist’s eyes and a native son’s sensibility to his superb photographs.”

In the early 1990s, he started work on his Black Cowboys series, and in March 2009, part of his documentary was featured at the Annenberg Space for Photography. In the summer of 2012, Paganelli was invited for a photo show in St Petersburg, Russia, of his Black Cowboys documentary at the prestigious Manege Museum during the Photo Vernissage 2012.

**TITLE:** „Black Cowboys & Cowgirls”

These images are from my long-term documentary on Black Cowboys & Cowgirls which I started to create in the early 1990’s when very few people knew anything about their long legacy during the Wild West in the USA.
Raymond Grubb

Raymond Grubb is a photographer raised and living in the foothills of North Carolina. He was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, and educated at Davidson College in North Carolina and Université Paul Valéry in Montpellier, France.

Most of his work before 2020 has been produced as platinum palladium and copperplate photogravure prints. Currently, besides the continuing platinum palladium work, Raymond is producing a growing portfolio of archival inkjet prints. He is represented by SOCO Gallery in Charlotte, NC.

**Title:** "Pilgrims: Immigrants in my Home"

For a couple of years (before COVID), I invited immigrant friends, acquaintances, and strangers into my home and yard to photograph them as if they live there. I'm trying to show a visible immigrant who should be able to live here in the same way we do; I'm making visible those that many would like to ignore, denigrate, remove, even exterminate.
Natalia Ershova


CATEGORY: Student Award

TITLE: „Journey to the edge of the room”

The heroes of my project are people who barely ever leave their homes.

Many of them work at home, and others are sponsored by their relatives. They are very different people, but they have one thing in common – they live on the Internet. Some of them have a lot of friends, but they communicate with them only online or in their homes. And some of them are just modern hermits.

I took pictures of my heroes in their apartments, with their animals, and with their favorite things. I asked every one of them, „Why do you maintain such a lifestyle?” Also, under every photo, you can find the person’s age, and you can find out how many years they haven’t worked officially. Now, most people depend on the Internet in one way or another; my heroes are an overacted version of Internet addiction and social loneliness. I think that with the development of the Internet it is a very broad tendency, especially in large cities, where the pace of life is fast and where there are too many people and too much stress.
Qi Liu

Qi is a very ordinary person, so she hopes to show ordinary people’s lives through the camera.

Because she usually cooks at home, her favorite scenes are almost all about food. She likes places and characters about food. Among them, the market is her favorite. She thinks the market is the most human, worldly place. This is a place that is not overly „urbanized“. She said, „people will choose the food materials directly and bargain with the vendors. That’s so real and so beautiful.“

Usually, she goes to the market with her camera to observe everyone, chat with them and talk about what they are doing. The lens may be focused on sellers or buyers, as well as various commodities. She wants to show the most realistic scenes of life through her camera. She thinks, in this context, everyone is an artist.

**Title:** „Q“ Market

The „Q“ looks like a circle, with only one „dot“ sticking into it. It’s like a peddler surrounded by piles of goods that only they can penetrate. Daily repetitive work, repeated labor, although each one has its own life, in a sense, they do the same thing, there is no difference. People always want to live their own way, but they don’t know that they are marked as a unified track by the giant ship of the times.
Hadriel Torres was born in Italy in 1991 and is an artist, freelance photographer, and entrepreneur based in Australia, UK, and Italy.

Hadriel has been traveling the world for the last nine years around the world, discovering places and cultures with the mission of promoting social awareness through Photography.

TITLE: “Matavaa O Te Henua Enana”

Matavaa O Te Henua Enana arts festival held on the remote Marquesas Islands. The celebration of local music, dance, and crafts showcase the lively traditions of this Pacific archipelago, attracting delegations from all six inhabited islands, as well as tourists.

Here, the Haka (a ceremonial dance of powerful gestures and stamping) is performed by the local dance group on the small island of Ua Pou while awaiting the arrival of the neighboring islands’ canoes.
Zhou Cheng was born in Jiangxi, China, in September 1998. He graduated from Wuhan Institute of Media and Communication, majoring in photography in 2021. His work was selected for the window exhibition of the Tsinghua University Art Museum and participated in the 2020 Ningbo International Photographic Exhibition.

**CATEGORY:** Student Award

**THEME:** Unity in Diversity

**AWARD:** JUDGES CHOICE

**TITLE:** "Under the Epidemic"

At the beginning of 2020, the new crown epidemic broke out. In my hometown, the lives of villagers affected by the epidemic have undergone great changes. The New Year atmosphere in previous years has become heavier. I purchased 200 masks, distributed them to the villagers, and took a "family portrait" image of them.
Qiu Jiexiang

Qiu was born in Hubei in 1995 and grew up in Lishui, Zhejiang Province. She has been particularly interested in painting since she was a child and likes to draw all kinds of different things in daily life.

Since high school, she has been studying painting systematically and is proficient in drawing, gouache, sketching, and illustration. She studied at the College of Arts of Zhejiang University of Finance and Economics during 2015-2019, majoring in photography. Her interest in photography started at that time. She especially likes to take portraits and is particularly fascinated by the different faces and expressions between various people. During her college years, she often participated in various photography competitions, winning some.

In order to further her artistic study, she enrolled in the graduate school of the Central Academy of Fine Arts after her undergraduate. Since 2019, she has been studying and persisting in photography creation in Beijing, trying to explore different creative contents and artistic styles. Since she grew up in the countryside, she has always been more concerned about rural people and their development and has a deep understanding of local culture. She also focuses on themes such as environmental destruction in cities and emotional changes between people, hoping to draw more attention to low-income people and minority groups through her creations.

**Title: „Meeting up”**

With the advent of globalization, more and more different ethnic groups are able to encounter each other and build friendship and love. During my time in college, I met people from all over the world. In the process, I slowly built up my knowledge of different cultures and individuals, making me aware of the diversity of the world’s cultures and the richness of groups. Based on this, I photographed every face I ever encountered.
Rory Doyle is a working photographer based in Cleveland, Mississippi in the rural Mississippi Delta. Born and raised in Maine, Doyle studied journalism at St. Michael’s College in Colchester, Vermont. In 2009, he moved to Mississippi to pursue a master’s degree at Delta State University. Doyle has remained committed to photographing Mississippi and the South, with a particular focus on sharing positive stories in the Delta. He was a 2018 Visual Artist Fellow through the Mississippi Arts Commission and National Endowment for the Arts. He won the 16th Annual Smithsonian Photo Contest in 2019, the 2019 Southern Prize from the South Arts organization, the 2019 Zeiss Photography Award, and the 2019 ZEKE Award for Documentary Photography. Doyle has exhibited in New York, London, Atlanta, Mississippi and beyond. His work has been published in The New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, ProPublica, ESPN, The Guardian, CNN and numerous outlets.

**Title:** “Delta Hill Riders”

Historians agree that just after the Civil War, one in four cowboys were African American. Yet this population was drastically underrepresented in popular accounts, and it is still. The “cowboy” identity retains a strong presence in many black communities. Based in the rural flatlands of the Mississippi Delta, and the rolling hills that border it, this project sheds light on an overlooked community of horse riders — one that resists historical and contemporary stereotypes. The project began January 2017 when I attended a black heritage rodeo in Greenville, Mississippi. The body of work reveals how deep these traditions run in the remote region. Opposed to the working cowboys of the Wild West, these riders congregate at horse shows, trail rides, small rodeos and nightclubs across the Delta. The work aims to press against old archetypes — who defines the cowboy and cowgirl image — while uplifting and diversifying this narrative.
Denisse Ariana Pérez

**Denisse Ariana Pérez** is a Caribbean-born, Copenhagen-based copywriter and photographer. Her most recent work focuses on using photography and storytelling in order to highlight the beauty of Afro-communities and other marginalized groups that inspire her and whom she feels connected to. Her work centres around the intersection between art and documentary, of fantasy and reality.

**CATEGORY:** Main Award

**THEME:** Unity in Diversity

**AWARD:** JUDGES CHOICE

**TITLE:** „Albinism, Albinism“

„Albinism, Albinism“ is an ongoing photographic project. The series is meant to capture the beauty of boys born with albinism – an absence of pigmentation in the eyes, skin and hair. It is meant to create awareness through beauty, highlighting its subjects rather than portraying them as victims. The first edition of the series was shot in Tanzania, a country with a history of violence, murder and segregation of albinos. It was featured in Dazed Magazine. The second edition, which remains unpublished, was shot in Uganda, a country where albinos face a bit less social segregation. This second edition features four young albino men, from a Ugandan professional dancehall musician to an activist.
Penji Jiang

Pengyi Jiang is a professional photographer who uses photography and video to reveal the barriers and confusions of individuals.

**Title:** “Semi-Finished Product”

The book „Semi-Finished Product“ is composed of more than 90 plain, authentic photographs, which were taken all over China between 2000 and 2019. With human development entering the 21st century, fundamental changes have taken place in the relationship between China and the rest of the world. „Semi-Finished Product“ documents Chinese people - one fifth of the world’s population- reflecting the status quo, differences, confusion, memories, perseverance and dreams of those who live in the northern and southern, western and eastern, urban and rural areas, while realistic contradictions and problems have arisen along with national development.
Raul Ariano

Raul Ariano is an Italian photographer who splits his time between China & Vietnam. He has been based in Asia since 2011, previously working and living in Tokyo and Hong Kong. Alongside commissioned works, Raul is focused on long term projects, mostly in China and greater Asia. He is represented by Redux Images in New York City and Luz Photos in Milan.

Selected editorial clients: The Ceo Magazine (Australia), The Wall Street Journal (USA), Monitor on Psychology (USA), NPR (USA), The Globe and Mail (Canada) Vice (Canada), Die Zeit (Germany), Porsche Consulting Magazine (Germany), Vogue (China), Liberation (France), New York Times (USA) among others.

Title: “LGBT in China”

The LGBT community has been discriminated against since 1979 when China’s communist party criminalized “hooliganism”. In 1997, the Chinese government abolished the crime of “hooliganism,” a term that included homosexual activities. In 2001, homosexuality was removed from lists of psychiatric disorders, yet the LGBT community continues to be stigmatized. Due to the traditional orientation of Chinese families, most people avoid coming out to their parents or relatives, fearing being the underdog. The one child policy has additionally affected the parents desire of raising a child who meets all their expectations, such the desire of having a grandchildren, which sometimes can be defined an obsession, eventually leading to pressure the LGBT children to conform to a heterosexual in order to give birth.
Ilvy Njiokiktjien

Ilvy Njiokiktjien is an independent photographer and multimedia journalist based in the Netherlands, represented by VII Photo Agency, and is a Canon Ambassador. She has worked in many parts of the world, with a focus on Africa. As a documentary photographer, she covers current affairs and contemporary social issues. Her work has appeared in The New York Times, Der Spiegel, NRC Handelsblad, Telegraph Magazine and Stern, among others, and was exhibited at Visa pour l’Image in 2012. Accolades include a Canon AFJ Award, two awards at World Press Photo and first prize in POYI’s Issue Reporting Multimedia Story.

TITLE: "Born Free - Mandela's Generation of Hope"

The year 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of the democracy of South Africa. In 1994, South Africa held its first inclusive elections. These brought an end to decades of white minority rule. The segregation system of apartheid ended, but the aftermath of the system endures twenty-five years later. As the nation’s first black president, Nelson Mandela focused on reconciliation. The children born in the years around apartheid’s end are now young adults: the born-free generation for whom racial segregation is a thing of the past. It falls to these young South Africans to make the dream of a rainbow nation come true.

The project takes a look into how free the born-frees really are and how the history of their country influences their daily lives. It also shows how modern-day racism affects them. The born-free stories are about social change, freedom, humanity, inequality and diversity. In this long-term project, you find born-free youth from all walks of the generation: rich, poor, black, white, Indian, coloured, city, rural, of different faiths and social and cultural groups. Corruption, crime and poverty keep many of the born-frees captive. They struggle with unemployment and inequality. But there has also been real progress: many born-frees live successful lives and are pursuing careers that wouldn’t have been open to them during the old, racist regime.
Ben Rak / Abdullah M. I. Syed

**AUSTRALIA / PAKISTAN / USA**

www.benrak.com.au

www.abdullahmisyed.com

@ binya666

@ Abdullahmisyed

**Ben Rak and Abdullah Syed** have been working collaboratively since 2013. An artist, educator, and independent curator. Ben Rak was born in California, United States, and grew up in Israel. He is presently working and living in Sydney, Australia where he lectures at the University of New South Wales Art & Design. Rak holds a BFA in printmaking (2008) with first-class honours (2009) and an MFA (2013), both from the University of New South Wales.

**Dr. Abdullah M. I. Syed** is a Pakistani-born contemporary artist and designer working between Sydney, Karachi, and New York. His art practice weaves real and fictional narratives of east and west, seamlessly knitting together cultural and art historical references and concerns from each. Trained in diverse disciplines, Syed utilises a variety of mediums and techniques including sculpture, video installations, drawing, performance and texts to investigate collisions between art, religion, economy and politics.

**CATEGORY:** Main Award

**THEME:** Unity In Diversity

**AWARD:** AWARD FOR HUMANITY

**TITLE:** „Suspension of (dis)belief“

„Suspension of (dis)belief“ is a digital triptych that articulates separation, respect, and brotherhood through faith. It is a collaborative project between Jewish artist Ben Rak and Muslim artist Abdullah Syed. Drawing on the historic connections between the Jewish and Muslim faiths, the work features traditional skull caps connected with a woven „umbilical cord“ implying a connection at birth that is currently complicated by entanglement. It is a visual narrative which asks the viewer to suspend their personal judgment and go beyond to a moment that constitutes a poetic faith in unity.
Nadezhda Ermakova

Nadezhda Ermakova is a documentary photographer and a visual storyteller based in Moscow, Russia. She first studied philology and worked as French teacher before turning to contemporary photography in 2016. In photography, her main interest focuses on the problem of cultural identity and social issues. She prefers to go deeply into topics to build trusting relationships with characters and to work on long-term projects. Nadezhda’s work has been recognized with industry awards such as Felix Schoeller, Steinit Contest, and others. Her works have been presented in exhibitions and screens in Russia and abroad. Her works have appeared in multiple online and print publications worldwide. For the moment, she’s studying at the Rodchenko Art School (Moscow). She is a member of The Russian Union of Photographers.

**CATEGORY:** Student Award
**THEME:** Unity in Diversity
**AWARD:** WINNER $3,000

**TITLE:** „Next to me“

Strangers. About two thousand foreign students enter Tambov universities every year. Tambov is a little Russian town where I was born. For over a year, every weekend I traveled from Moscow to Tambov to meet foreign students and get to know them better. I met them their rooms, where they told me about their problems and dreams.

Christiane Fleure from the Ivory Coast: ‘I like studying here but I’m missing African food.’

Landry William Yao from Cameroon: ‘I can’t live without sport. I’m also an amazing cook.’

Sandrine from Cameroon: ‘It’s very difficult to socialize here.’

Owolowo Akorede from Nigeria: ‘Many of our guys want to be friends and hang out with the local girls, but they aren’t very friendly. That upsets me.’
Cocoa Laney

Cocoa Laney (b. 1994) is an American documentary photographer and educator currently based in the UK. Born and raised in Alabama, she is passionate about social justice and her work focuses primarily on issues related to gender and identity. She holds an MFA from Studio Arts College International, an MA in documentary photography and photojournalism from London College of Communication, and is the recipient of the 2019 Royal Photographic Society Postgraduate Bursary Award. Her work has been shown internationally and featured in publications such as The British Journal of Photography, The Observer, LensCulture, Aint-Bad, and The Independent.

Title: “Belle”

Belle is a project exploring Southern culture, shame, and religion among young women in my native state of Alabama. Over the course of six weeks, I visited fifteen different towns meeting young women and non-binary people, many of whom invited me to sleep in their homes for the night. Each participant in the project wrote a letter to the anonymous person I would meet on my next stop, sharing pieces of their individual experiences living in the present-day Bible Belt and creating a network of encouragement among strangers. Beyond this, the trip marks my own attempt to come to terms with the place I still call home. The project was undertaken in the summer of 2019 and was made possible by the Royal Photographic Society Postgraduate Bursary Award.
Zula Rabikowska

Zula Rabikowska is a Polish-British photographer based between London and Kraków. Zula was born in Poland, grew up in the UK and has worked in France, China, South Africa, India, Palestine and the Caribbean. Her practice is influenced by her own experience of immigration, and in her work Zula explores themes of national identity, displacement and belonging. Zula often works with digital and analogue photography and incorporates archival images and documents to challenge conventional visual story-telling norms. Her work has been shown internationally and featured in publications such as the BBC, The Guardian, Saigonese, Café Babel and Notes from Poland. Zula has obtained an MA in Photojournalism and Documentary Photography from London College of Communication and works as a freelance photographer and photojournalist.

CATEGORY: Student Award

THEME: Unity in Diversity

AWARD: HIGHLY COMMENDED

TITLE: „Belle”

One of the biggest contemporary challenges is the human inability to learn from history and how this approach has led to an increase in national populism. There has been a rise of right-wing governments globally, directly connected with xenophobia and racism. To better understand the global political climate, it’s not adequate to document the surface effect, but it’s necessary to investigate the causes that have created an environment where political leaders use difference and “otherness” as a scapegoat.

This series subverts how the Polish society approaches its minority ethnic populations and challenges the way that Poland is perceived by other countries. I highlight the diversity of European identities and promote a sense of unity which is based on the idea that differences and diversity enrich human interactions. I collaborated with the members of the Vietnamese community in Poland to create non-sensational, positive portraits of its members.

I believe it is more important than ever to embrace differences, whether they are physical, cultural, social, religious or political, to stand united against bigger global challenges. By juxtaposing Poland’s and Vietnam’s pasts with contemporary individual stories, I cross ideological boundaries and help bring different communities together and promote a sense of harmony.
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