GOLDEN SHOT AWARDS

ANNUAL BOOK 2026



Cover photograph: Winter | Denise Strauch

GS GOLDEN SHOT
INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS

ANNUAL BOOK 2026

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Featured Artists

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INTRODUCTION

Photography has always been more than the act of making an image. It is a way of preserving what might otherwise disappear a moment, an emotion, a place, a truth, or a fragment of human experience. With this belief, we founded the Golden Shot Photography Awards: to create an international platform where photographers from different cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives could bring their visual stories together and allow their work to speak beyond borders.

The 2026 edition marks another important chapter in that journey. This book brings together remarkable photographs created by artists from around the world. Each image carries its own voice and reflects a unique way of seeing. Some document the world as it is; others question it, reinterpret it, or reveal something we may have overlooked. What makes this collection meaningful is not simply technical excellence or visual beauty, but the individuality behind every photograph. Photography remains powerful because no two people see the world in exactly the same way.

It is within these differences that we discover new perspectives, greater understanding, and sometimes a deeper connection with one another. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to every photographer who entrusted us with their work, to our distinguished jury for their time, knowledge, and thoughtful evaluation, and to everyone who contributed to making the 2026 edition possible. To the awarded photographers, congratulations. Your work has earned its place in this collection, and I hope this recognition becomes another meaningful step in your photographic journey.

As Founder of the Golden Shot Photography Awards, I am proud to present this book not only as a record of the 2026 edition, but as a celebration of photography itself of the people behind the camera, the stories they choose to preserve, and the extraordinary diversity of the world as seen through their eyes. May these photographs remain long after the moment of their creation has passed.

Mehdi Nazeri
Golden Shot Photography Awards

ARCHITECTURAL

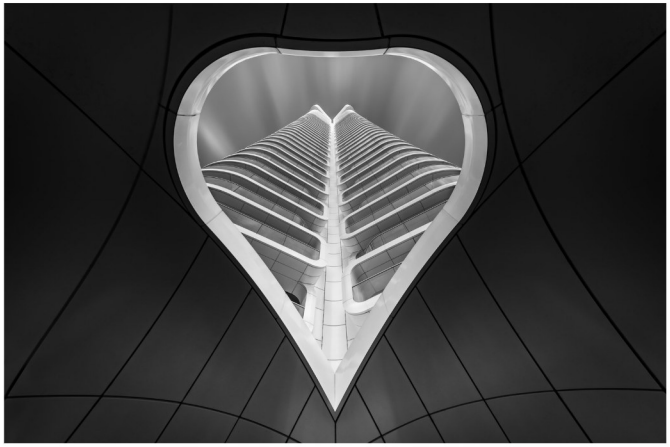


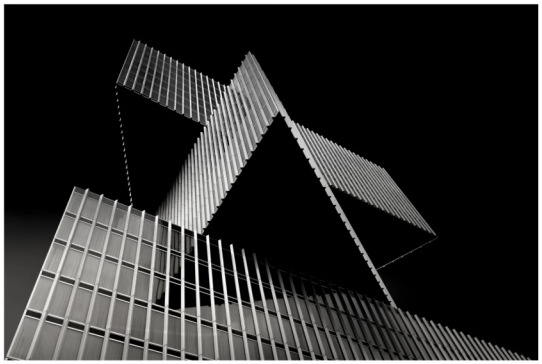
GOLD AWARD

CHRISTIAAN VAN HEIJST

Beautiful Baku

A solitary figure moves through an expansive architectural landscape, where scale and silence







GOLD AWARD

ANNA WACKER

The Geometric Soul

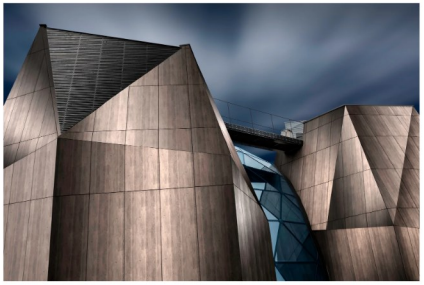
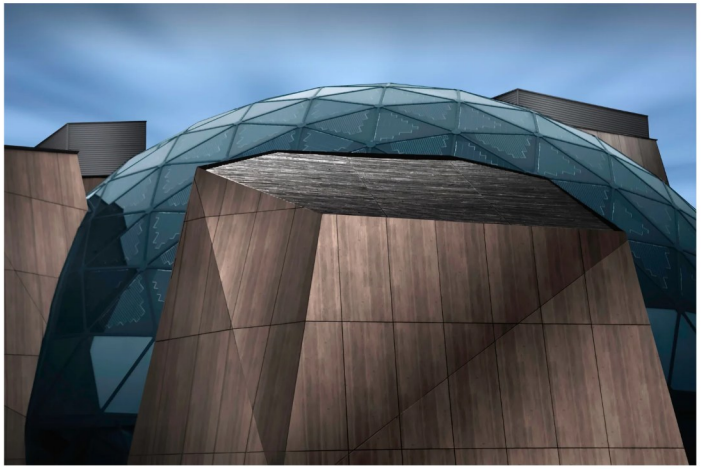
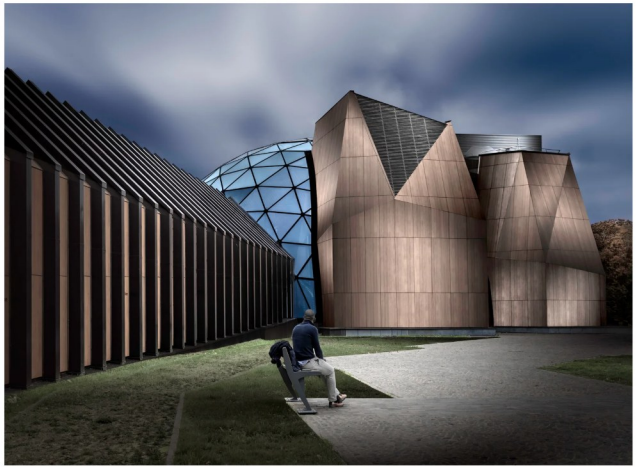
This series is a study of abstract sculptures hidden within Copenhagen, Malmö, Amsterdam and Frankfurt. By isolating structures against high-contrast voids, I focus on the "Geometric Soul" of modern architecture-where a roofline becomes a blade and a facade becomes a rhythm.

These shots are about the tension between light and shadow and the power of a perfect curve. I want the viewer to stop seeing a "building" and see the pure, monumental form that remains when everything else is stripped away.







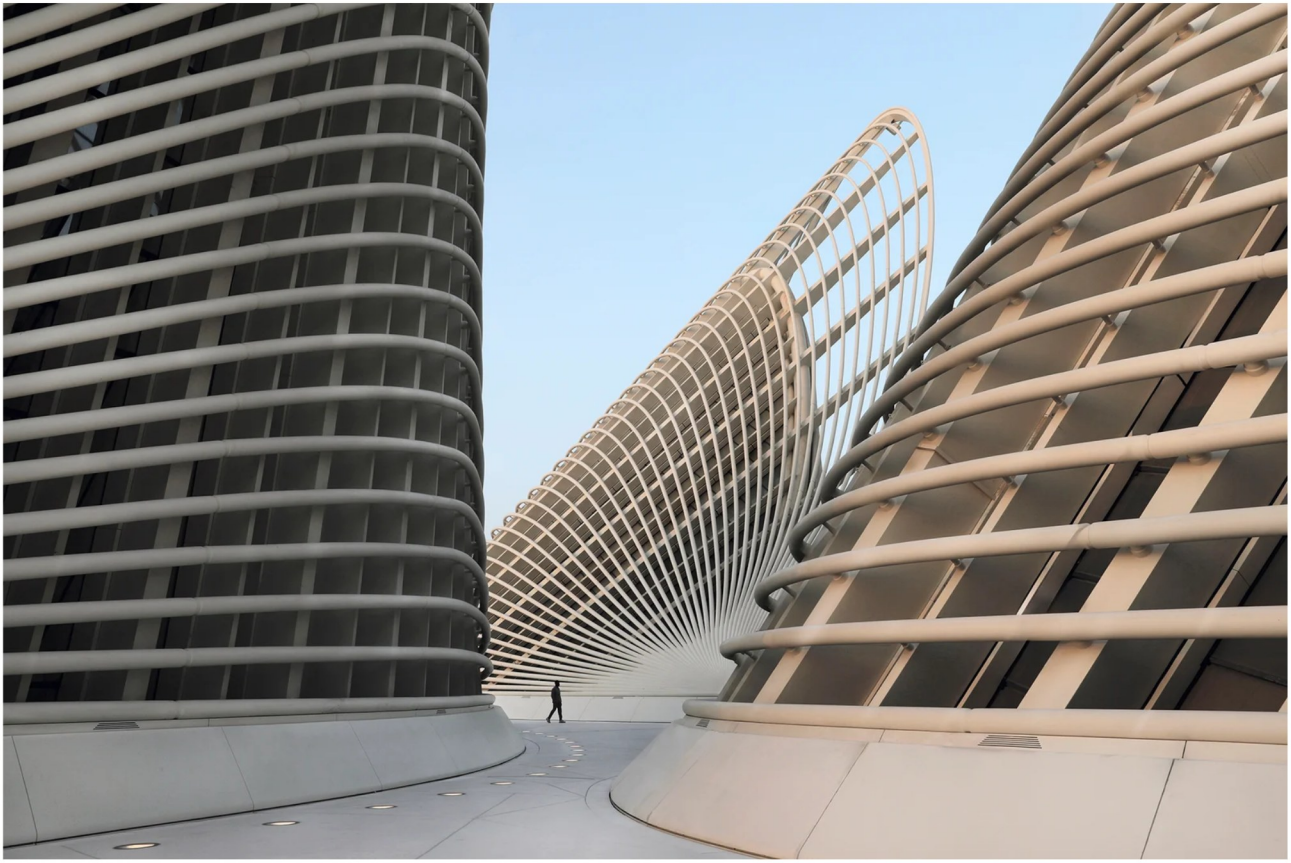
SILVER AWARD

DÁMASO ÁVILA

ROBOT PAVILION

In the Belgian city of Namur, the Robotics and Artificial Intelligence Pavilion, designed by Patrick Genard, has been built.
It houses exhibitions and everything related to the world of technology.





SILVER AWARD

FRANCESCA POMPEI

The great falcon. Zayed National Museum

High ventilation towers modelled on the wings of a falcon signal the new Zayed National Museum, completed by British studio Foster + Partners on Saadiyat Island in Abu Dhabi.

The giant steel towers, with the tallest peaking at 123 metres, are positioned to prevent overshadowing so natural light can enter through their glazed exteriors.

Together, they are intended to emulate bird wings, symbolising the love for falconry of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the UAE founder.







BRONZE AWARD

BERND GANTERT

Auditorio de Tenerife

The auditorium designed by architect Santiago Calatrava had been on my wish list for a long time. In October 2025, the time had finally come. I took long exposures from three locations. For the basic photos #1 and #2, I used the PC-Nikkor Tilt/Shift 24mm f4, and for #3, I used the 24-120mm f4 Z S, as I was standing further away. Through my editing, I use the lighting to emphasise the three-dimensionality of the building, thus setting it apart from its surroundings. But I also emphasise the surro

BRONZE AWARD

TOMOHIKO FUNAI

The Unassigned Door

A building facade repeats rows of brightly colored doors in a strict architectural grid. In the center, a floating figure disrupts the pattern, occupying a space that seems to belong to none of the identical units.

The image reflects on individuality within ordered systems and the quiet tension between conformity and freedom.





HONORABLE MENTION

BARBARA CORSICO

Alice in architectural wonder

Alice in Architectural Wonder

Not Alice in Wonderland, but Alice in awe of the Fiera di Genova. Here, the marvel is not fantasy, but architecture — light, structure, and space shaping emotion. As an architect, I am deeply moved by the power of design. In this image, I stand small yet inspired, lost in the beauty of built form, where geometry becomes poetry and architecture becomes pure wonder.

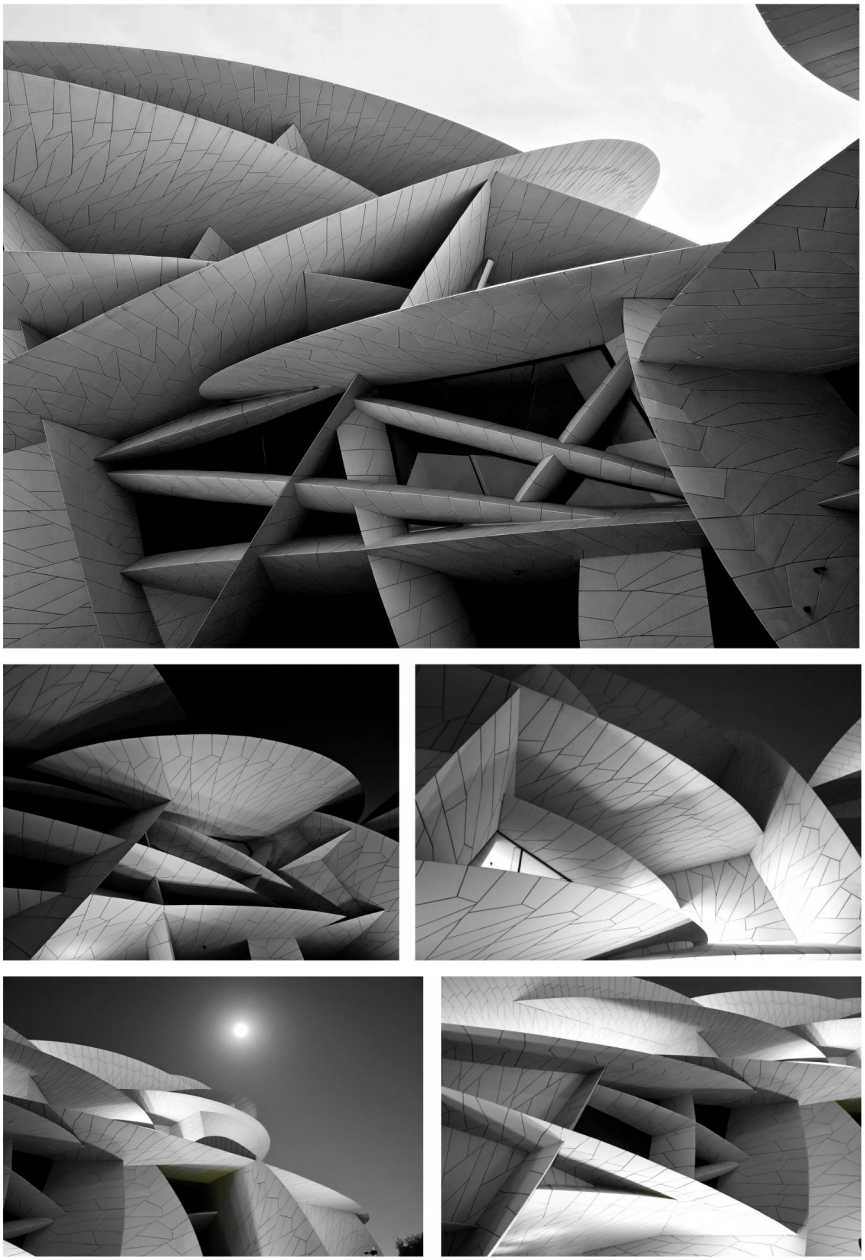
HONORABLE MENTION

JOSE LUIS IBAÑEZ GUTIERREZ

Armonia

Black and white interior of the Trujillo building in Ceuta (Spain)





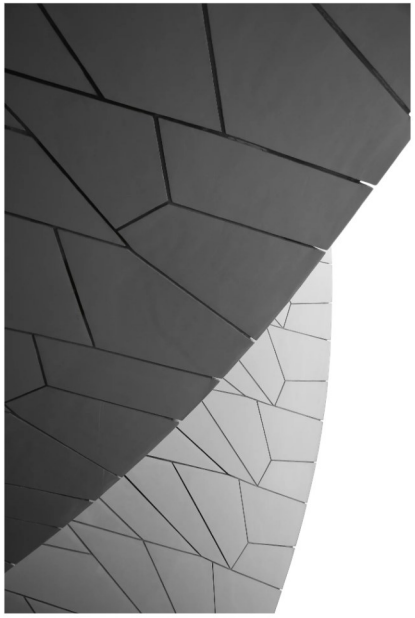
HONORABLE MENTION

DOROTA QAID

Desert Rose

The National Museum of Qatar in Doha. Designed by Jean Nouvel. It reminds of a local crystal called Desert Rose.





HONORABLE MENTION

ANNA WACKER

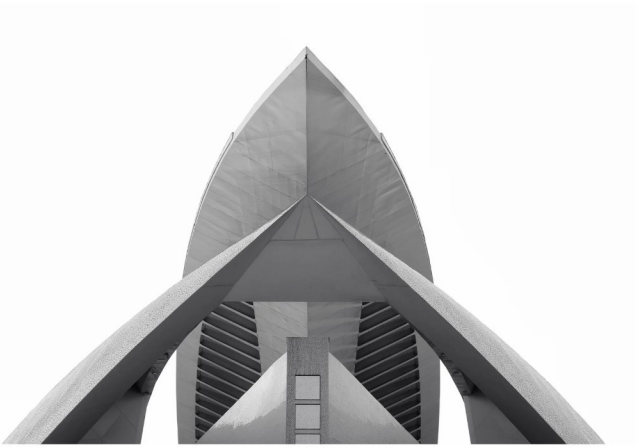
Hymn in Stone

This is my "Hymn in Stone." Beyond the te
symmetry, I wanted to capture the sheer d
gravity of this monolithic structure.

It's an anchor between the heavy
earth and the ethereal light above
- a silent, architectural survivor. A













HONORABLE MENTION

DOUG CAPLAN

Silent Overtures

This series was photographed at the City of Arts and Sciences in Valencia, Spain. The work examines how monumental architecture shapes human perception through scale, repetition, and controlled movement.

Stripped of color, the images emphasize form, geometry, and the tension between openness and constraint embedded in the built environment.

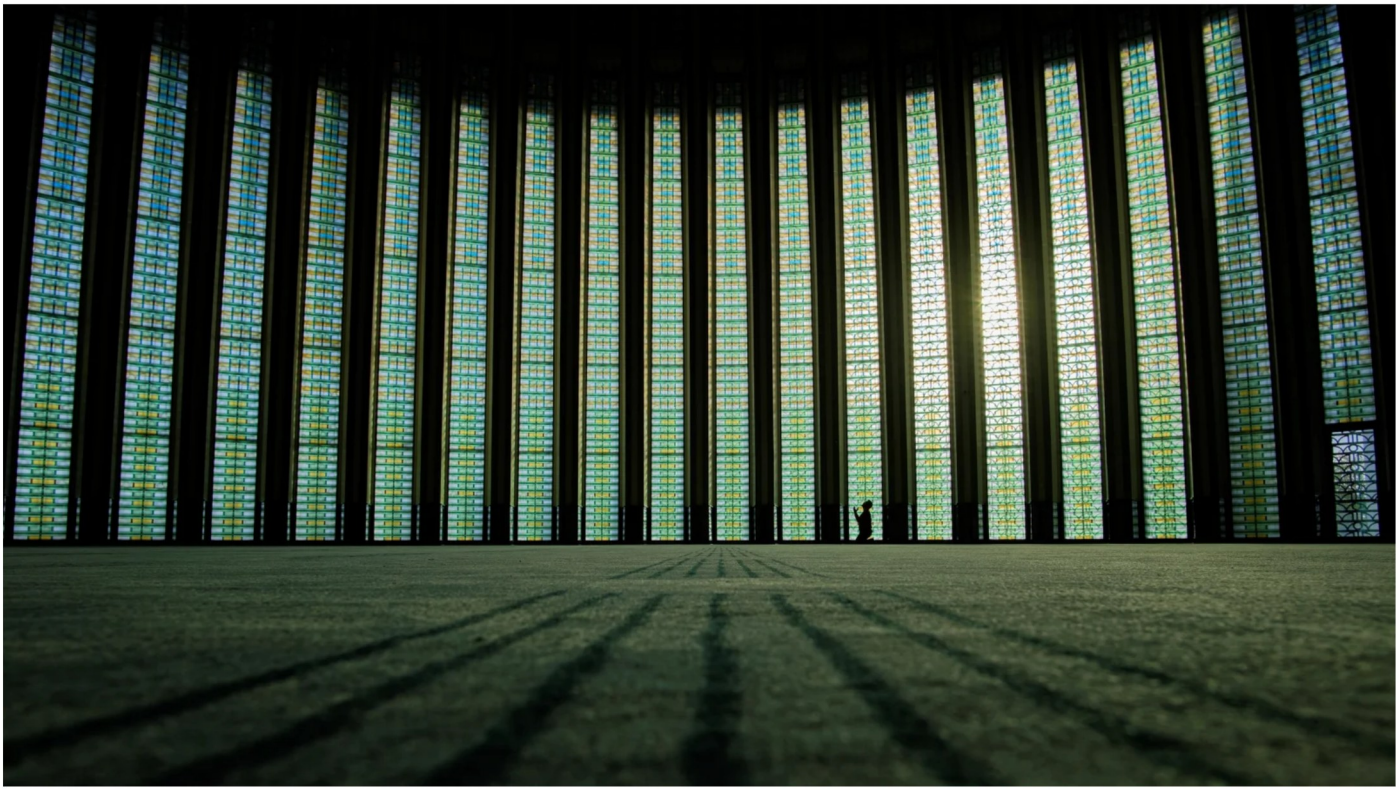
The series invites viewers to consider how contemporary architectural spaces both organize and distance us.

HONORABLE MENTION

OZHAN ARIOGLU

The Path

Light and geometry converge to create a spiritual sanctuary, guiding the eye toward the silent prayer at the heart of the space.





HONORABLE MENTION

BERND GANTERT

University Library of the University of Economics and Business

University Library of the University of Economics and Business | Vienna | Austria

Nikon Z8, Nikkor 14-24mm f/2.8 G + Z-Adapter
14mm, f/14, 1/10s, ISO 50, +1.33 EV

I visited the interior of the university library designed by the
exceptional Iraqi architect Zaha Hadid in 2024 as part of a workshop.
In 2025, I returned to Vienna to photograph certain buildings for my BNW FineArt project. The bright blue sky was too calm for my liking. I didn't want to create artificial clouds in Photoshop.



HONORABLE MENTION

AMIR ALI NAVADEH SHAHLA

baba taher

BLACK AND WHITE

GOLD AWARD

MOHAMMED MUHTASIB

Angry Horse

During a traditional horse competition in Bromo, Indonesia, an enraged horse erupts in defiance, kicking up clouds of volcanic dust as it confronts its handler.

The animal's fierce posture and tense movement capture the raw intensity of the contest, where strength, control, and spirit collide against the stark volcanic landscape.









GOLD AWARD

NATALIA GORSHKOVA

Spin control

This story about people who fallen into a difficult life situation. People who don't give up and find opportunity for a full life. Surgeries, rehabilitation, depression and despair led them to the search for another ways and other meaning for life in new circumstances.
The top of the self-sacrificing desire to conquer the tragic situation for them becomes a playing in basketball. For people who braving itself and who coming to the sports ground to fight and win it’s a kind of challenge to fate.







SILVER AWARD

ALEXANDRO PELAEZ

Saint Paul's

"Saint Paul's" taken in London with a 120mm film camera applying the double exposure technique using a 400 ISO b/w film is part of my LONDONERS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENTS series of double exposure photographs of the different streets and areas of London that captures the surroundings and locations where the Londoners may cross on their way to work as landmarks.

It reveals the true essence of the daily life of Londoners in one of the most if not the most cosmopolitan and challenging city in the world



SILVER AWARD

ANDREA MACI

ice on the sea











BRONZE AWARD

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BRONZE AWARD

ANTONIO COELHO

The city

Still life photo of old screws, over a black glass and black card in the background, to recreate a city skyline.





HONORABLE MENTION

DIANA CHAN

A SMOKER

A smoker enjoying his smoking.



HONORABLE MENTION

CHRISTOPH BASMER

Caribbean Mosaic

A sea turtle glides through darkness, its form revealed in striking black and white. Light traces the intricate patterns of its shell and flippers, while the surrounding void enhances a sense of stillness and mystery.

With one flipper raised mid-motion, the image captures both grace and solitude, transforming the creature into an almost celestial presence.

HONORABLE MENTION

ROLANDAS URBONAVICIUS

Gevorg Tadevosyan's "Summer"

Gevorg Tadevosyan's sculpture "Summer" is a bronze circle with figures of a woman and a man walking around it. In the series of photos I tried to convey the dramatic action of the heroes embodied in the sculpture and the interaction of nature.

Stormy clouds are responsible for implementing the idea.





HONORABLE MENTION

ROLANDAS URBONAVICIUS

In the Rain

The beautiful Étretat coast in France. A sudden heavy rain and a lone fishing



HONORABLE MENTION

BERND GANTERT

University Library of the University of Economics and Business

University Library of the University of Economics and Business | Vienna | Austria

Nikon Z8, Nikkor 14-24mm f/2.8 G + Z-Adapter
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DAILY LIFE











GOLD AWARD

MOHAMMED MUHTASIB

A Day in the Life of a Disabled School Principal

Each morning in Panchdona, Altaf Hossain known as Dukhu Mia rises with quiet determination. Born without arms in 1962, he has built a life not defined by sorrow but by resilience.

His day begins at the school he founded, Protibha Dukhu Mia Kindergarten School. Standing tall before his students, he leads them in their daily parade, instilling discipline and pride.

Inside the classroom, Dukhu Mia grips chalk between his toes,
writing lessons on the blackboard and guiding eager young minds.


অফিস কক্ষ
বিদ্যা অমূল্য সম্পদ
প্রতিভা সূর্যের মত
শিক্ষার জন্য বিদ্যালয়



GOLD AWARD

EMILY WILSON

Shepherdess at Sunrise

A young girl carries a baby goat while helping her family move their herd in the Omo River valley, Ethiopia.





SILVER AWARD

JIHAD ALATTABI

The Omani Dalal A Mediator Between Heritage and Livelihood

In the heart of Nizwa Souq, the Dalal stands as a living witness to Omani heritage. Clad in traditional attire, his features carved by time, he commands the bidding circle with integrity.

As he carries a young goat, he is not just selling a commodity; he is a storyteller weaving a narrative of trust.

Here, a word is a covenant, and the auction is a rhythmic harmony between buyer and seller, proving that Omani identity remains vibrant in a fast-changing world.

BRONZE AWARD

SERKAN DOGUS

Warm Waters in Winter

On a cold winter day, children guide water buffaloes into the warm waters of a natural hot spring. Surrounded by snow and rising steam, the scene captures a unique daily routine where care for animals and life in harsh conditions blend into a quiet, enduring rhythm.





HONORABLE MENTION

SERKAN DOGUS

Among Drying Fish

A young boy moves carefully across wooden racks filled with rows of drying fish, part of a daily routine in a coastal community.

Surrounded by repeating textures and warm light, the scene captures a moment where childhood



HONORABLE MENTION

KEN ANG

Baththime is his favourite time

The street scene depicts a poignant of a child bathing with his grandmother in the slums

HONORABLE MENTION

AMIR ALI NAVADEH SHAHLA

happy day



DOCUMENTARY



GOLD AWARD

STEPHEN WALLACE

Ethiopian Orthodox Church Service

GOLD AWARD

BRICE GELOT

Straight out the hood

This story captures daily life within Tepito, Mexico City, documenting gang (Sureños 13) and cartel culture through immersive photography. Focusing on survival, loyalty, and resilience rather than violence, it humanizes residents, revealing their rituals, faith, and community amidst danger.

From street corners to personal spaces, the series portrays the complex social fabric, offering insight into lives often misunderstood or sensationalized.

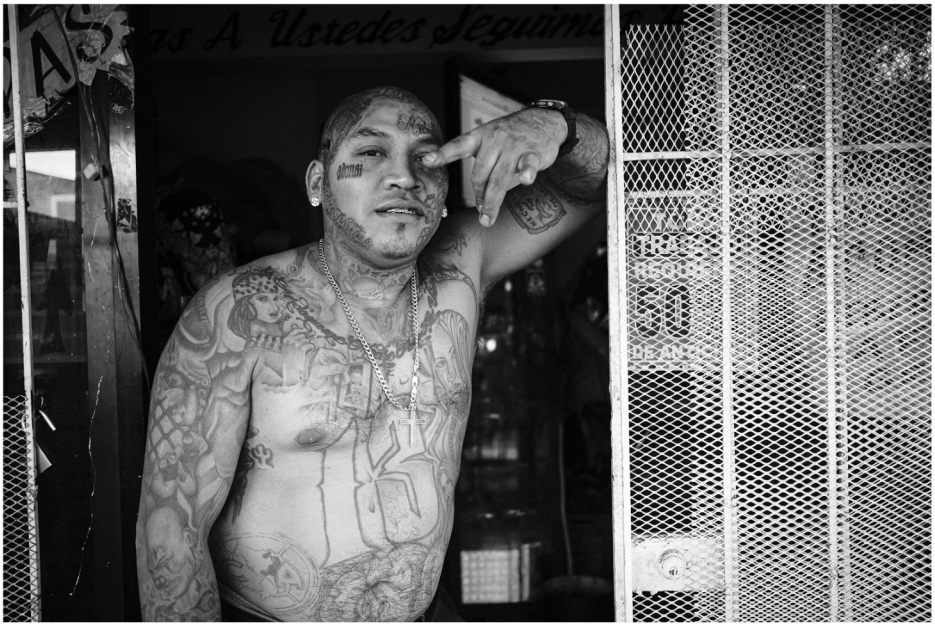
















SILVER AWARD

ANNA CONSILIA ALEMANNO

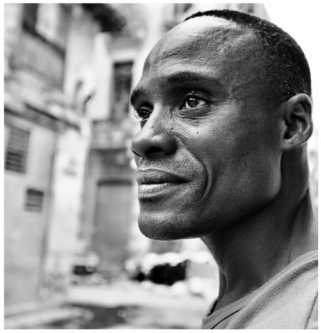
AMOR DEUS

A young mother and her child cross a street in the favela neighborhood of Bairro de Boa Esperança, in Sal Rei, on the island of Boa Vista.According to the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), 24% of the world's urban population lives in slums, favelas, or shantytowns.

Bairro de Boa Esperança, is one of these places: a community where families live in precarious housing and social conditions, in the shadow of the island's thriving tourism industry.











SILVER AWARD

MYRIAM AADLI

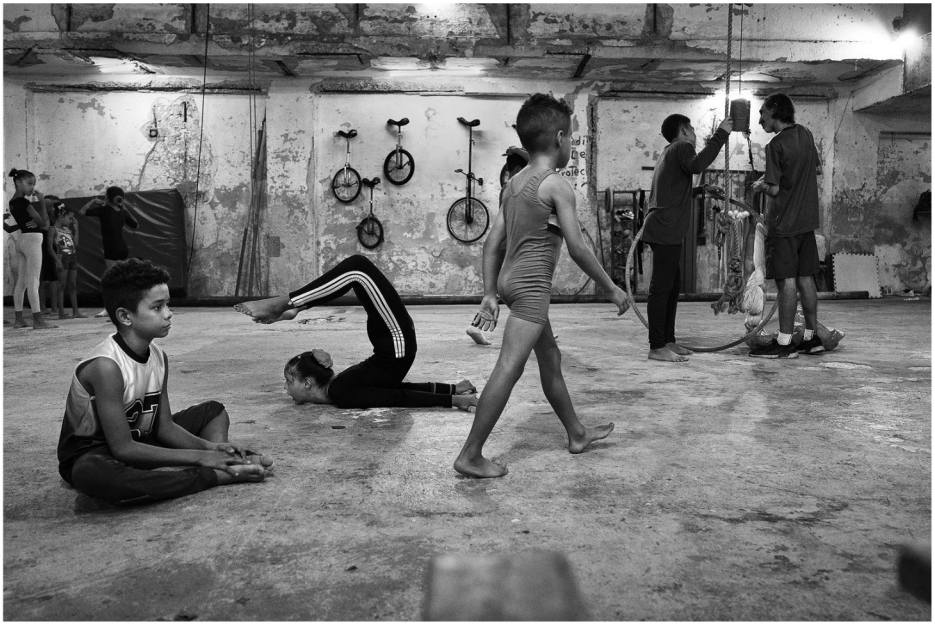
Heirs to Almost Nothing

My work is rooted in a humanist documentary tradition. I privilege natural light and formal rigor, while allowing space for the spontaneity of a raw image.

Photography is both testimony and construction an image must hold from within.I seek a balance between structure and intuition: to represent without dominating, to show without reducing.I began by observing.

Walking became my way of inhabiting the real.Photography emerged as an inner necessity to preserve suspended moments.





BRONZE AWARD

NIKKI RITCHER

Holding the Line

Wildland firefighters work to establish a fireline during the Caldor Fire in Northern California. Photographed





BRONZE AWARD

ROBERTO PAZZI

The Kings of the Cattle

The Mundari are cattle herders who live in symbiosis with their Ankole-Watusi cattle. Their lives revolve around livestock. In the cattle camps, children perform much of the work, collecting fresh cow dung and piling it up to be burned to repel mosquitoes. The ash is rubbed on both people and cattle twice daily.

At sunset, when the sky shifts from pale gold to deep orange, the smoke envelops people and animals, and the bond between the Mundari and their cattle feels timeless and sacred.





HONORABLE MENTION

JURICA GALIC

Bite of Glory

This photograph captures the dramatic energy of Pacu Jawi, a traditional bull race from West Sumatra, Indonesia. During this unique event, a jockey holds onto two running bulls while being pulled through deep mud, creating powerful splashes and intense motion.

Originally held as a post-harvest celebration, Pacu Jawi is not only a competition but also a cultural ritual, where strength,





HONORABLE MENTION

ANDREA FRANCOLINI

Dykes on bikes - the vests

A Dykes on Bikes vest is less clothing, more résumé. Heavy leather, sun-faded and road-tested, it carries patches like medals—rides conquered, causes backed, mischief managed.

Every stitch tells a story, every badge a chapter. It doesn't just fit the rider; it becomes them, louder than any engine.







HONORABLE MENTION

MIQUEL MUÑOZ

LIFE STILL ENDURES UNDER THE SIROCCO

Fifty years after the start of forced exile, the conflict in Western Sahara still leaves a devastating legacy. Among Sahrawis, pride in preserving their identity coexists with growing resignation as hopes for a solution fade under ongoing political pressures.

It is an endless wait to recover a land that has entered a different phase of history. It seems the wind never blows in the Sahrawis' favour, yet they are the only ones who know how to survive under the Sirocco.







HONORABLE MENTION

SERKAN DOGUS

Labor Among the Drying Fish

A worker carefully arranges fish on elevated wooden racks, surrounded by rows of drying catch that define both space and livelihood.

The upward perspective emphasizes the scale of the process and the repetitive nature of the work, reflecting a traditional method of preservation and the human labor behind it.

HONORABLE MENTION

STEPHEN WALLACE

Rohingya Victim

This woman was raped and set on fire by the Myanmar Army. Her face is burned. Thirty percent of her body is burned.

She escaped the fire. She is a member of the Rohingya. The Rohingya was chased out of Myanmar into Bangladesh.

I was with U.N. film crew. This is very disturbing!










HONORABLE MENTION

SUSAN ANTHONY

Rural Life in the Hudson Valley

These photographs are part of a project on rural life in the Hudson Valley. For five years, I have photographed individuals and families in upstate New York.

During the pandemic, I began meeting and photographing local residents. Many have become friends, connecting me to a growing community of multigenerational families whose lives I continue to document over time.







HONORABLE MENTION

ABDELRAHMAN ALKAHLOUT

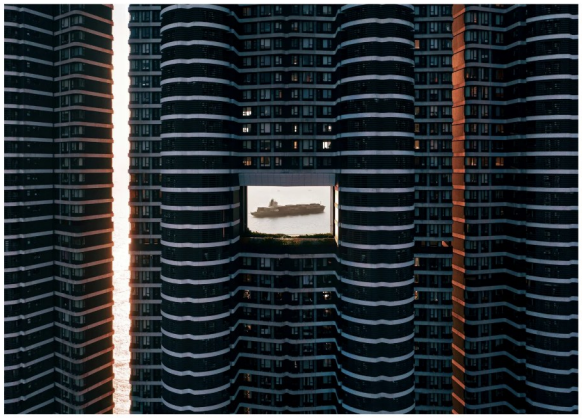
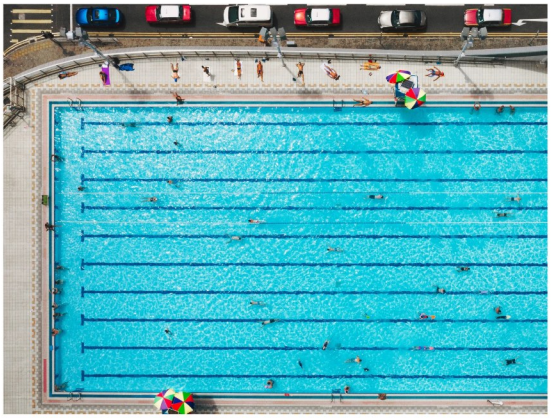
They Destroyed the Mosque, Not the Faith

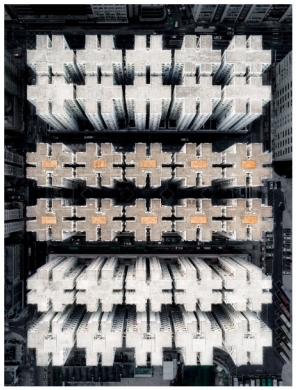
On the ruins of a mosque obliterated by an Israeli airstrike, displaced survivors kneel in prayer in Gaza. Where walls once stood, only debris remains yet their faith rises, unbroken.

Rows of bowed bodies press against the dust of destruction, turning a site of annihilation into an act of defiance.

This is not just prayer; it is resistance, mourning, and survival in its purest form a people refusing to disappear, even as everything around them is erased.

DRONE




GOLD AWARD

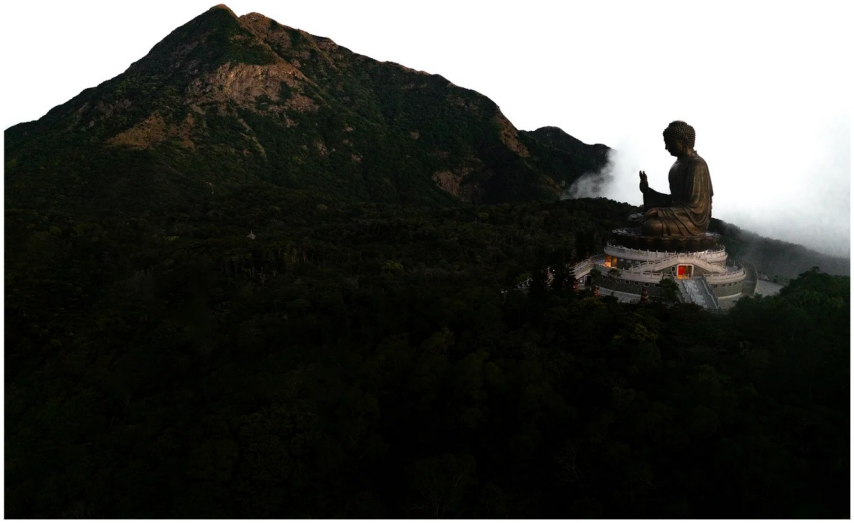
DERRY AINSWORTH

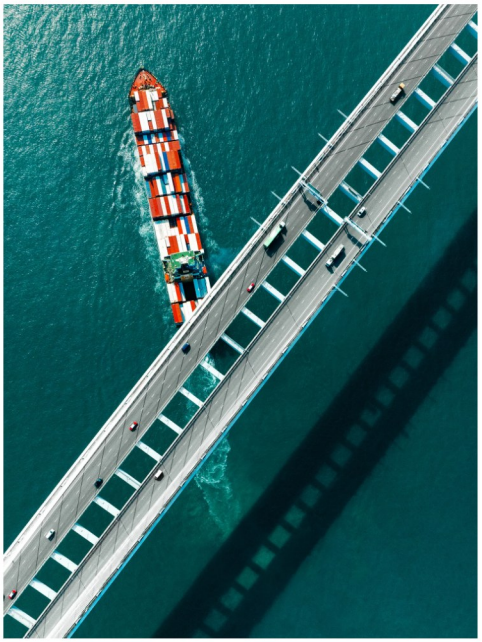
Hong Kong From Above

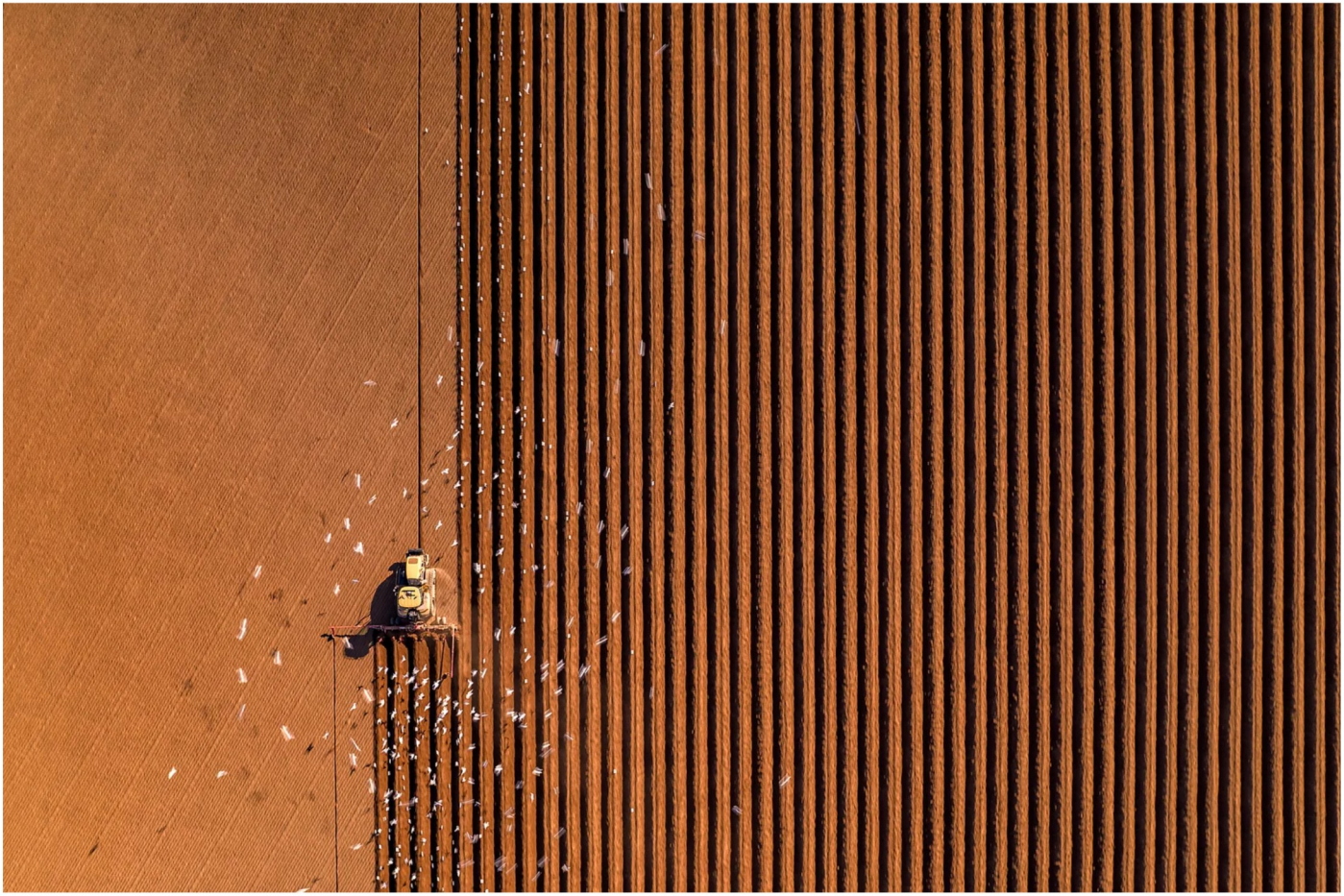
This series presents Hong Kong from above, uncovering a unique aerial perspective where everyday streets become distinct geometry and repeating forms.

An aerial perspective reveals the city's geometry towering skylines, winding coastlines, and layered neighbourhoods - showing how land and city shape one another.

From these heights, you experience Hong Kong as a living landscape in three dimensions.







GOLD AWARD

CHRIS GURTON

Potato Ridging

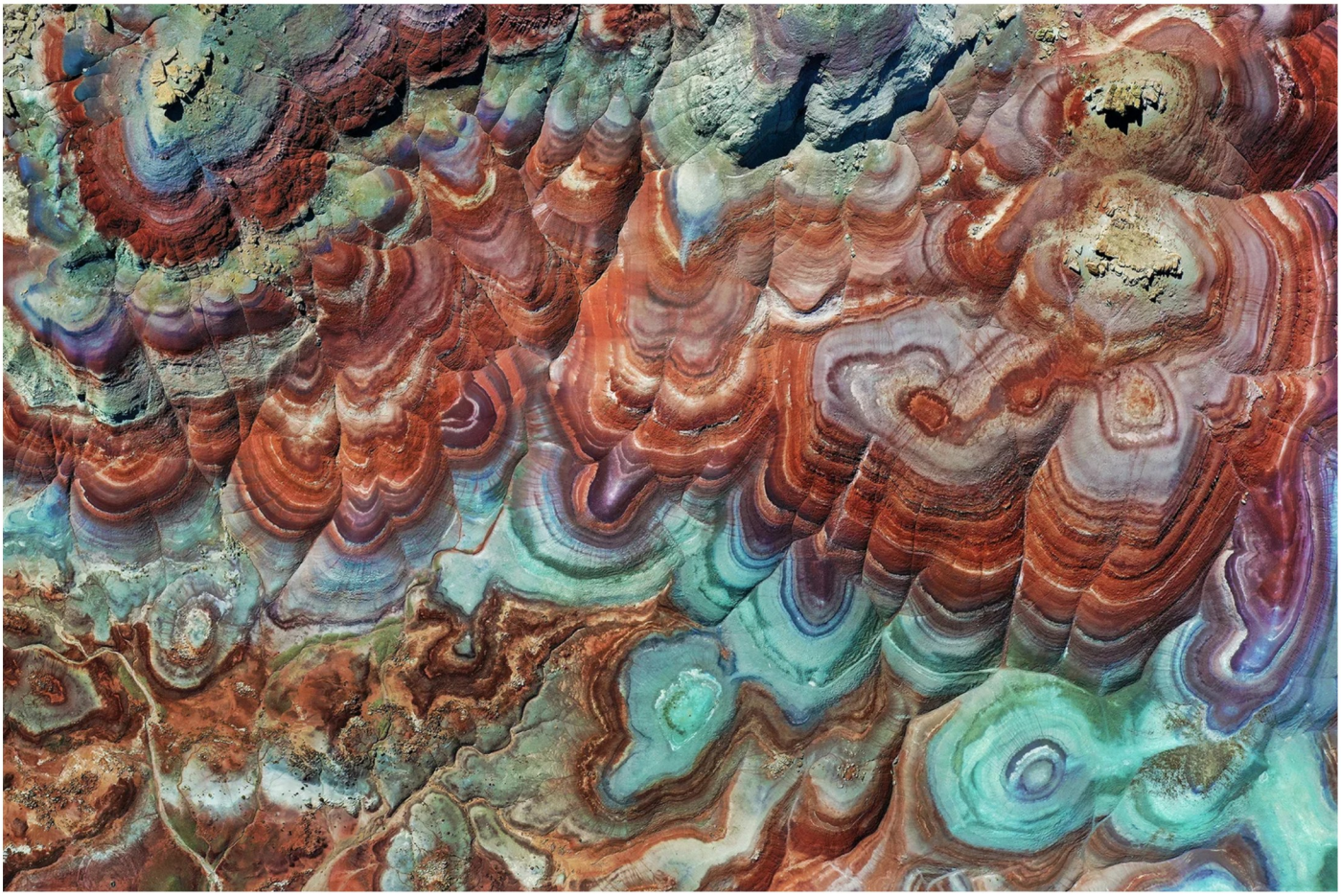
This photo is of a Caterpillar Challenger ridging a field ready for potato harvest in Assington, Suffolk, UK.

SILVER AWARD

CRAIG BILL

Kaliedoscope

The colorful hills from above in Southern Utah, USA





BRONZE AWARD

MARK GRAY

Primordial

An abstract aerial photo of a mine in the remote goldfields region of Australia.



HONORABLE MENTION

DENISE STRAUCH

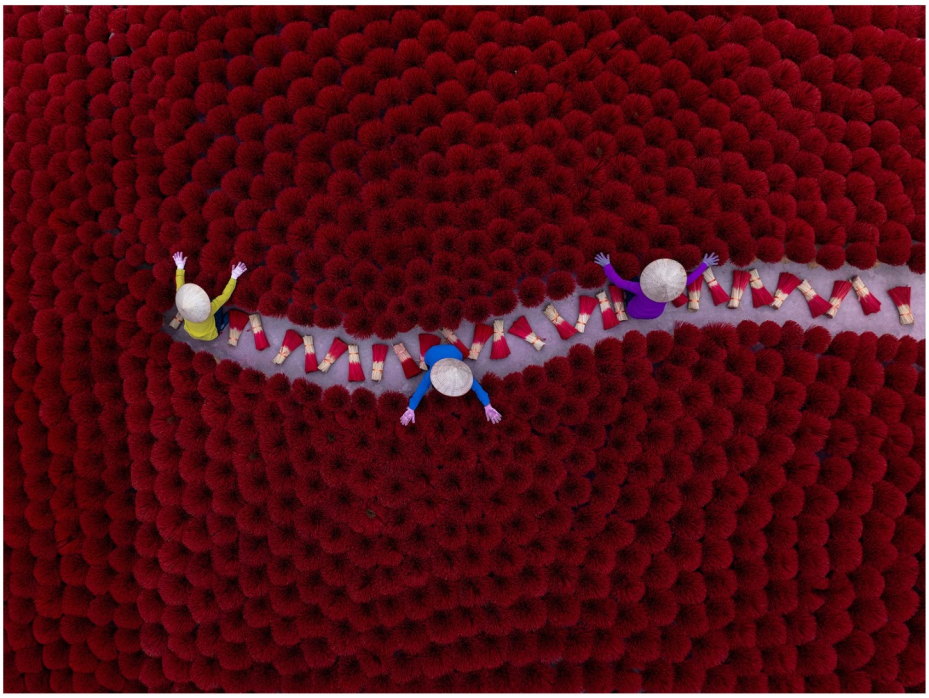
Between Forgotten Circles

HONORABLE MENTION

MOHAMMED MUHTASIB

Incense Vietnam

Workers working in the incense in





HONORABLE MENTION

DENNIS SCHMELZ

THE LONE HORSEMAN

During the magic of blue hour, a lone rider stands atop a rocky outcropping in the heart of Cappadocia. Taken on the very first evening, this photo is one of the highlights of Dennis Schmelz' winter trip to Cappadocia.

Using his drone, Dennis managed to find a unique and breathtaking perspective that has never been captured before in this often-photographed landscape.

Artfully grasping the essence of the moment, Dennis is able to transport the viewer to another world. The rider symbolizes the fr

EDITORIAL/PRESS







GOLD AWARD

ABDELRAHMAN ALKAHLOUT

Faces of Genocide: Gaza's Silent Testimony

This series documents the daily reality of civilians in Gaza under relentless violence. It captures moments of airstrikes, destruction, displacement, and the struggle to survive.

The images show wounded children, grieving families, overwhelmed hospitals, and entire neighborhoods reduced to rubble. They reflect the human cost of war through real lives, real loss, and real suffering.

This work presents a visual record of what civilians endure, revealing a truth that cannot be ignored.







GOLD AWARD

MORTEZA AKHONDI

Minab - 168 Students

The resting place of children whose only “fault” was being children...



SILVER AWARD

BARTOSZ MATENKO

Hardcore wrestling

Isnorr was hospitalized. He underwent major surgery and will likely never return to wrestling. Johnny Blade is so badly scarred that he will carry the scars on his back for the rest of his life.

One works as a teacher, the other as a bartender. Every so often, they transform completely, becoming wrestlers. Ordinary, genuine people, full of passion.

They risk their health to put on the best show possible for the audience.
The photo shows the final match, during which one of them falls into a tab



BRONZE AWARD

MOHAMMED MUHTASIB

Cow Race Festival

The popular bull-running event in Indonesia.

HONORABLE MENTION

ALI NEJATBAKHSH

SOLIDARITY

On June 13, 2025, an Israeli missile strike destroyed a residential building on Patrice Lumumba Street in Tehran, home to nuclear engineering faculty member Ahmadreza Zolfaghari.

This series documents the hours after the impact, as firefighters, rescue teams, and municipal crews cleared debris, controlled fires, and searched for people under unstable conditions using temporary lighting.

The images record emergency response efforts, site conditions, and the aftermath of the attack.











ENVIRONMENTAL



GOLD AWARD

MATEO BORRERO

Water Line

A Ticuna man stands on the side of a 500 years old Ceiba tree in the Peruvian Amazon rainforest. The tree has a water lines that marks where the water level reaches during the rainy season that goes from April to May.

This photograph was taken in May 2024 and by that time, the level should be at the maximum, however, the rains where escarsed by then due to the global warming.

SILVER AWARD

SERKAN DOGUS

Burden of Waste

A lone woman walks across a vast landfill, carrying a heavy sack as birds circle overhead. The stark landscape of accumulated waste highlights the environmental cost of consumption, while her presence reflects the human





BRONZE AWARD

KEN ANG

Man at Work

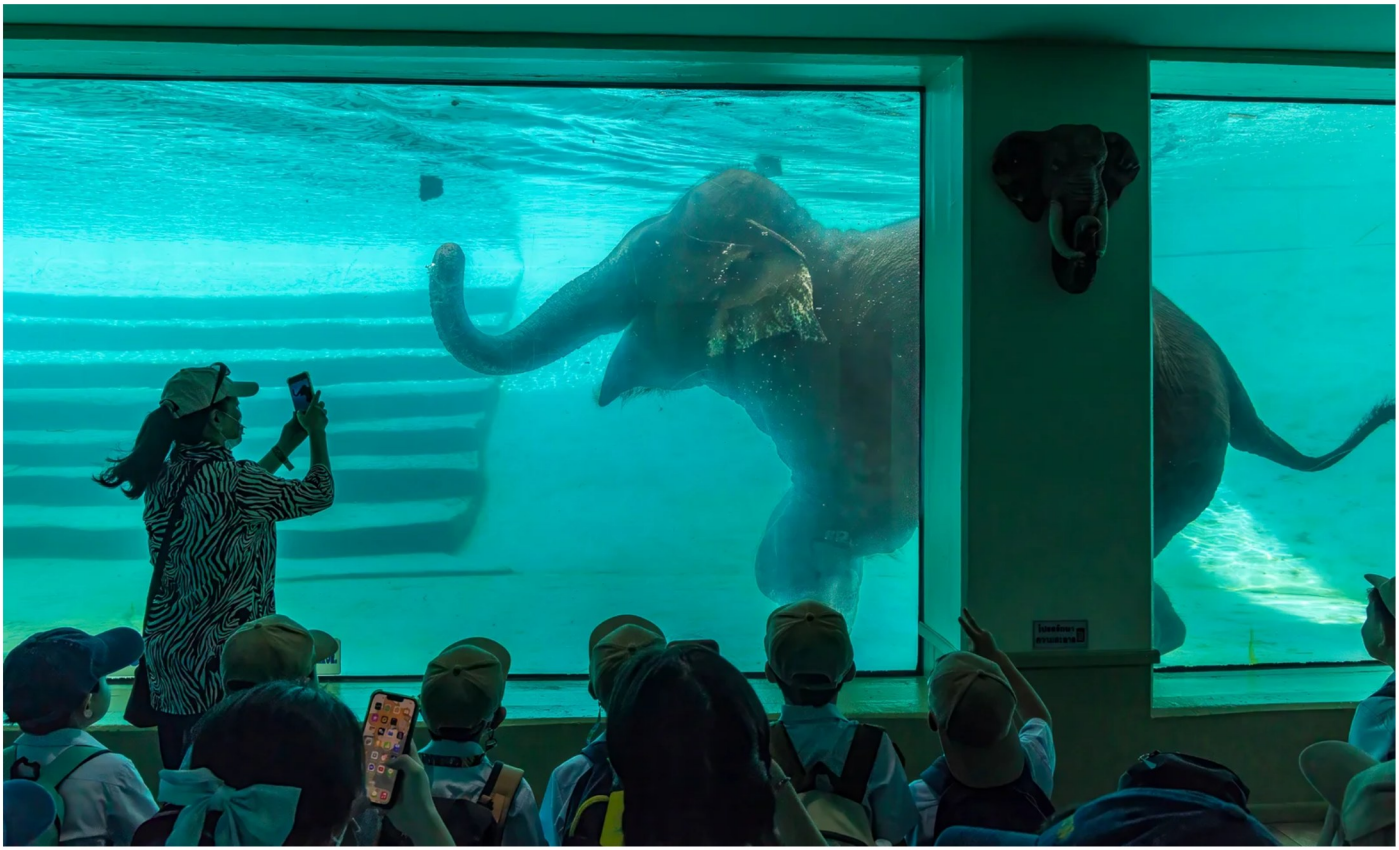
This image depicts an industrial worker performing welding on a large steel pipe, creating bright sparks in a recycling scrapyard.

HONORABLE MENTION

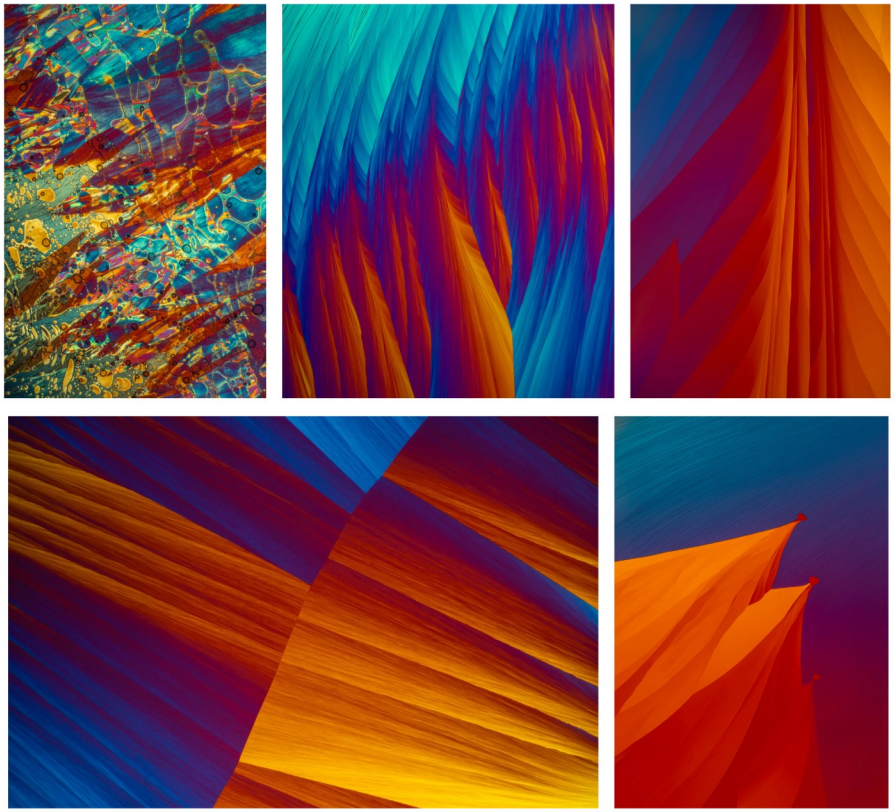
TOM SVENSSON

Just for fun?

To make elephant swim and dive just so people can have some fun is just strange and why??



FINE ART



GOLD AWARD

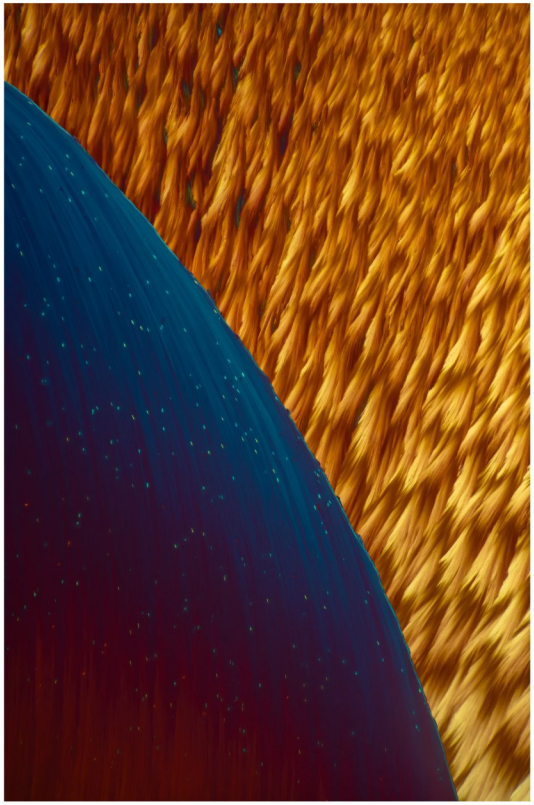
BEVIL TEMPLETON-SMITH

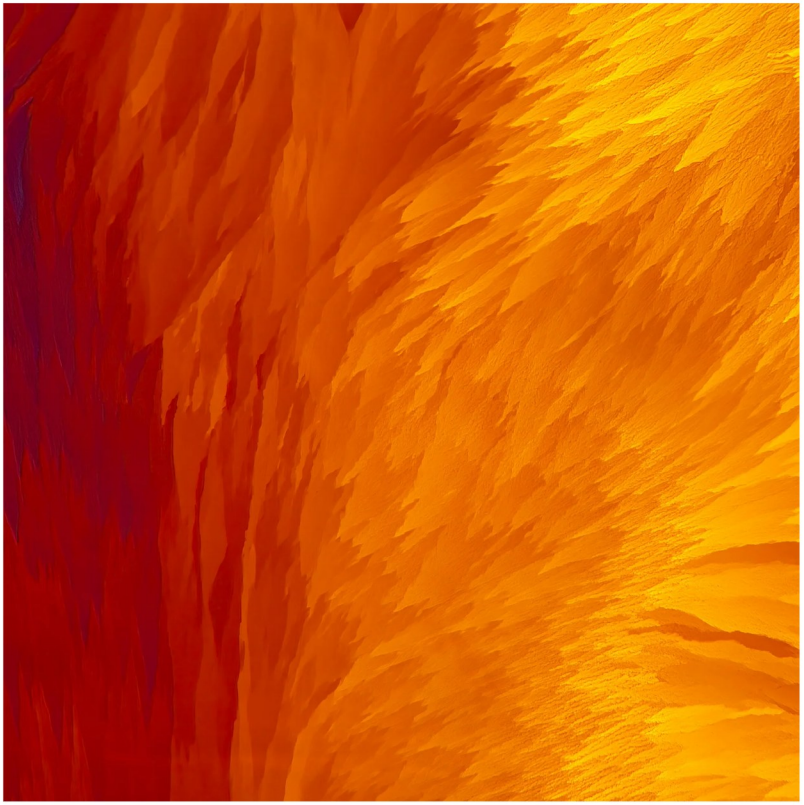
Across the Universe

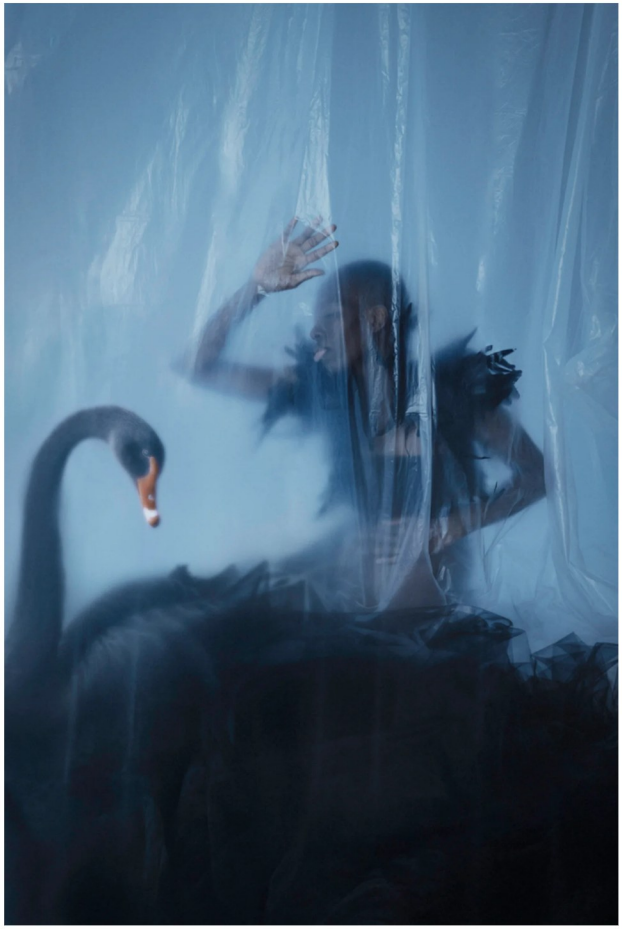
My work sits at the intersection of science, experimentation and fine art. Using a 1970 polarising microscope and a modern digital camera I photograph microscopic crystals on glass slides in polarised light, with a very un-scientific wave plate (sheets of mica / cd case / cellophane etc.).

The colour and form seen in these images are produced by optical interference within the crystal itself rather than manipulation or AI.

Ordinary materials given a chance to show their hidden nature. All real.







GOLD AWARD

KATRINE MOITE

Black Swan

“Black Swan” is a visual poem about rare motherhood, mystery, and the sacred, irreversible power of creation. Through a translucent veil, a pregnant woman emerges like a shadowed deity — soft yet unbreakable, suspended between who she was and who she is becoming. The veil becomes a membrane between worlds, marking the quiet death of one life and the birth of another.
In the foreground, the black swan stands as her guardian and mirror — a symbol of rarity, inner rebellion, feminine power.



SILVER AWARD

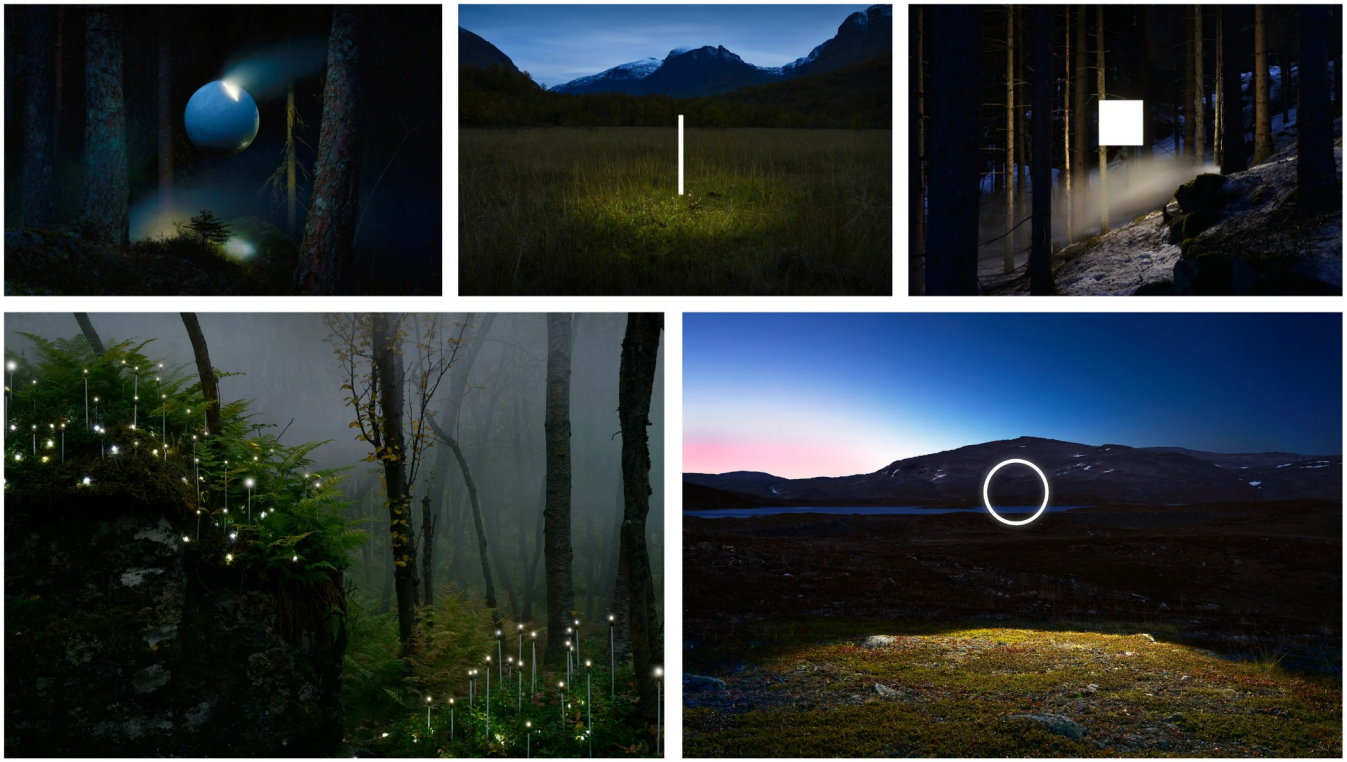
NADIYA DINI

Death in a cocoon

Death in a Cocoon

The body is wrapped in layers of translucent fabric; a cocoon that is both protective and imprisoning. “Death” here is not the end, but the dissolution of a former identity; a moment before metamorphosis.

The fading and repetition of the face suggests the multiplicity of “the self”—the self that must disappear to allow for another birth. The work is about the suspension between being and becoming; where there is no butterfly yet, but the past no longer exists.



SILVER AWARD

GJERT ROGNLI

What nature knows

In the project What Nature Knows, the artist draws on his connection to Arctic Northern Norway, exploring themes of light, darkness, and the shifting seasons.

He transforms familiar landscapes into enigmatic, otherworldly spaces, guiding viewers on a visual journey through evening light and the atmosphere of the night.

Working at the intersection of photography, environmental art, surrealism, and sculpture. He used techniques such as smoke cartridges, LED lights and long shutter speeds.







BRONZE AWARD

PIETER CLICTEUR

Animalia Humanitas

In this portrait series, I photograph animals as individual characters, using studio setups and careful post-processing to give them personality and symmetry inspired by classical portraiture.

I focus on unusual or overlooked species and adapt lighting to their needs. The images blur the line between human and animal, inviting empathy and reflection on our connection with nature.







BRONZE AWARD

ANTONIO COELHO

Spicy Explosion

19 photos used to create this explosion of spicy.

HONORABLE MENTION

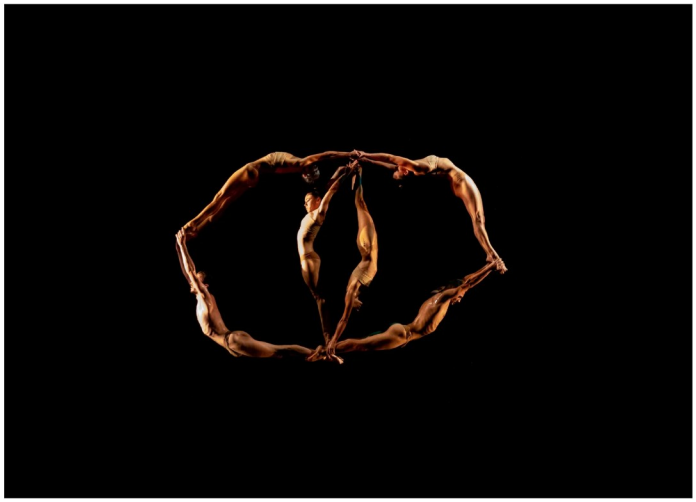
ALESSIA SANTAMBROGIO

Dante's Inferno - Tableaux Vivants

“Dante's Inferno” is a project in which evocative images of Dante's infernal atmosphere come to life, images tied to an unconventional interpretation of dance that breaks with traditional and stereotypical views, leading to abstraction.

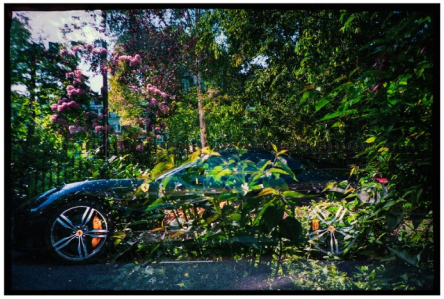
Scenes of a surreal dance, a journey of the soul. The tableaux vivants, which start from entirely real elements to arrive at surreal images, become the means to evoke evocative sensations, engaging and surprising the viewer.













HONORABLE MENTION

ALEXANDRO PELAEZ

Disguise

“Disguise” is a four-year photographic series using double exposure on 35mm film to capture cars and their surroundings in various global cities, creating images where vehicles blend into colorful environments, each with unique personality traits.

Trying to convey the essence of cities through double-layered scenarios that balance colors and shapes, offering surreal and visionary perspectives that elevate the visual experience to a new level of abstract beauty.

HONORABLE MENTION

AMIR AFROOZEH

Folded Into Silence

Curled into herself like an unspoken truth, she withdraws from the world —not as an escape, but as a return. In this fragile posture, protection and vulnerability become indistinguishable.

Time stretches, thoughts dissolve, and what remains is a quiet confrontation with the self. Her silence is not emptiness, but a space where hidden solitude surfaces—where existence sheds its illusions, and being reveals itself as something unresolved,





HONORABLE MENTION

PAOLA FRANCESCA BARONE

L'abbraccio mancato

The photograph reveals adults' failure to care for new generations. A hyper-hedonist ideology dismantled education, leaving youth without reference points.

A reversed Oedipus: fathers refuse to stop being children. Generation Z watches helplessly, orphans without being so. In the era of the father's evaporation, alongside self-destruction, grows the possibility of reinventing the relationship between self and other.

HONORABLE MENTION

TOMOHIKO FUNAI

Lunch Break in Zero Gravity

A giant sushi display dominates the scene while a floating figure drifts beneath it. Colors across the composition quietly align: red clothing echoes the tuna, white pants mirror the rice, and darker tones blend with the wall's patterns.

The image turns an ordinary moment—a lunch break—into a surreal pause where gravity and scale no longer behave normally.





HONORABLE MENTION

DIANA CHAN

Meeting Up

The two ants are captured on a beautifully curved



HONORABLE MENTION

CHRISTY LEE ROGERS

Myths and Legends

Photographed underwater at night, my works inhabit a realm where darkness and light converge—where myth and reality intertwine. Beneath the surface, movement slows, gestures expand, and the boundaries between the physical and the spiritual begin to dissolve.

Through my use of water, colour, and light, I hope to reinterpret ancient archetypes—heroes, lovers, seekers—as modern emotional figures, suspended in moments of grace, turmoil, and longing.







HONORABLE MENTION

DÁMASO ÁVILA

PALACE OF FAIRS

The photo shows a perspective of the Trade Fair and Congress Center in the Spanish

HONORABLE MENTION

ROLANDAS URBONAVICIUS

Sculptures | Tuileries Garden

The idea to create this series came while visiting the Tuileries Garden in Paris. The masterpieces of 17th century sculptors fascinate many people.

I sought to turn the photos into a mystical story about the heroes of the sculptures. To implement my idea, I used fog filters for photography.















LANDSCAPE



GOLD AWARD

CRAIG BILL

Stormy Waves

I was Lucky. Normally you have to win a lottery system that the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) set up.

I just drove days to get there, but I had no idea that this system was in place. I now understand why.

Only twenty people a day are allowed into this wilderness area. It was very easy to get lost as the directions in this beautiful desert formation are unclear for most casual hikers.

At least limiting the amount of people a day makes it easier to find them if lost.

SILVER AWARD

CRAIG BILL

Gateway to the Stars

This image is captured from over 600 twenty five second long exposures, five different programs and over a 3 months to plan/develop as well as a couple weeks alone to process and refine the resulting photograph with test prints.

The colorful vibrant circles and arcs come from the stars subtle intrinsic colors and filters, thin cloud movements and even air quality.

Too many clouds, however, can ruin the entire night.





BRONZE AWARD

ALEXEY MORKVASHENTSEV

Miracle in Navarre Desert

The photo of Weird pyramidal object in Navarre desert has been made in September last year in wonderful weather conditions.

HONORABLE MENTION

ROLANDAS URBONAVICIUS

Floating Trees

I find peace and harmony in long-exposure photography, where each image captures more than a fleeting moment—it becomes a meditative journey.

In my work, I experiment with exposures of different lengths, aiming to highlight the uniqueness of the scene and evoke a sense of purity and tranquility.





HONORABLE MENTION

DON HURZELER

Lava Pyramid

Lava from the Kilauea volcano hitting the ocean and building a delta. Shot this rapid fire to catch the lava on the right side slightly underwater...a moment later it was all steam from the 1600 degree lava. Taken from a boat.



HONORABLE MENTION

DIANA CHAN

MAGICAL BLUE

This image is taken at blue hour with a beautiful blue environment in which there are warm light.



HONORABLE MENTION

MARK GRAY

Temple

During early 2026, I took 3 flights from Australia to Iceland, the other side of the world. I was hopeful that I would be able to capture some unique photos of ice caves.

In particular, I wanted to access a secret lagoon on the south coast of Iceland. During Winter when it's below freezing for long enough, the lagoon freezes over.

This gives you the unique opportunity to walk out among the icebergs that have been subsequently locked into the lagoon!

MINIMALIST



GOLD AWARD

THOMAS DE FRANZONI

The Gathering

This black and white fine art photograph features a lagoon inhabited by a group of flamingos. The scene is shrouded in fog, creating a soft and muted ambiance.

The flamingos, with their long legs and necks, stand quietly in the water, adding a sense of calm to the composition.

The monochromatic tones capture the details of their feathers and the tranquility of the lagoon environment.



SILVER AWARD

JOSHUA HOLKO

On the Ridge

In a world reduced to near nothingness, a single presence holds the frame. The landscape dissolves into white—sky and ground indistinguishable, a seamless expanse that strips away depth, direction, and distraction. There is no horizon to anchor the eye, no texture to guide it—only silence, suspended. In this void, a slight rise of scattered stones interrupts the purity, a fragile seam between earth and air.

And there, almost ghostlike, stands the fox.



BRONZE AWARD

DENISE STRAUCH

Winter



HONORABLE MENTION

SALMAN BOHLOULI

Amidst the Silence

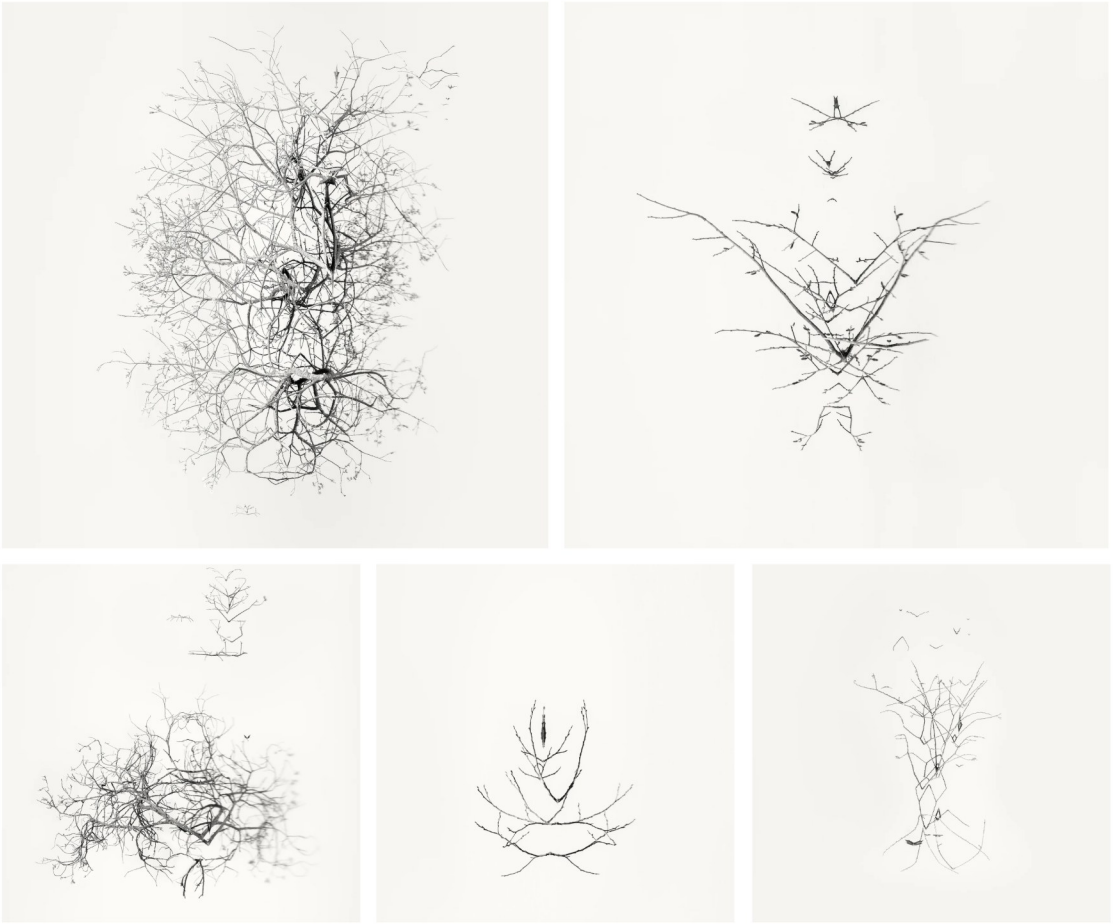
Between lifeless branches and a pale winter sky, a solitary bird takes flight — a glimpse of freedom within stillness.
This image explores the dialogue between the opposing forces of nature: death and life, silence and motion, gravity and lightness.

HONORABLE MENTION

DENISE STRAUCH

Blue



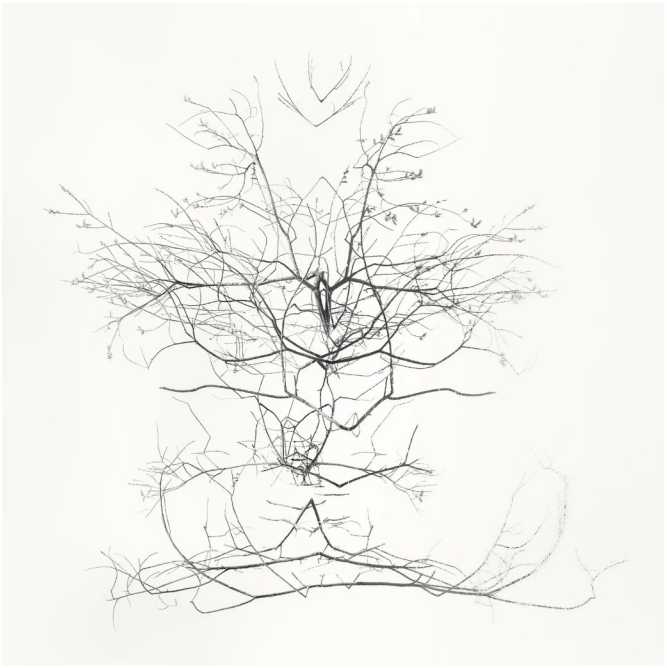


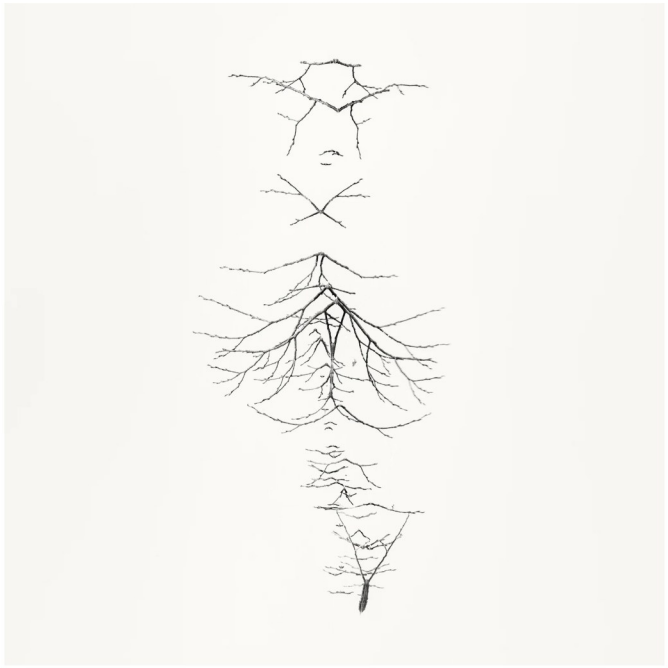
HONORABLE MENTION

ROLANDAS URBONAVICIUS

Early Spring. In the Mirror

This series of photos gives everyone the opportunity to transport their thoughts to a surreal fantasy















HONORABLE MENTION

MATEO BORRERO

Fishermen of the Ciénaga

This series documents fishermen working in the wetlands of northern Colombia. In the shallow waters of the ciénaga, small wooden boats move slowly across an open landscape where the horizon between water and sky often disappears.

The photographs observe daily fishing practices and the relationship between local communities and this fragile wetland ecosystem,



HONORABLE MENTION

SERKAN DOGUS

Play Between Baskets

A child plays by rolling a tire through neatly arranged bamboo baskets in a rice drying field. The repeating circular forms and open

MOBILE PHOTOGRAPHY

GOLD AWARD

JURICA GALIC

Back to the Past

The photograph shows a member of the nomadic Mundari people of South Sudan decorating the enormous horns of Ankole cattle.

To protect themselves from mosquitoes, they burn dried cow dung every day, which — combined





SILVER AWARD

DERRY AINSWORTH

Chasing Colours

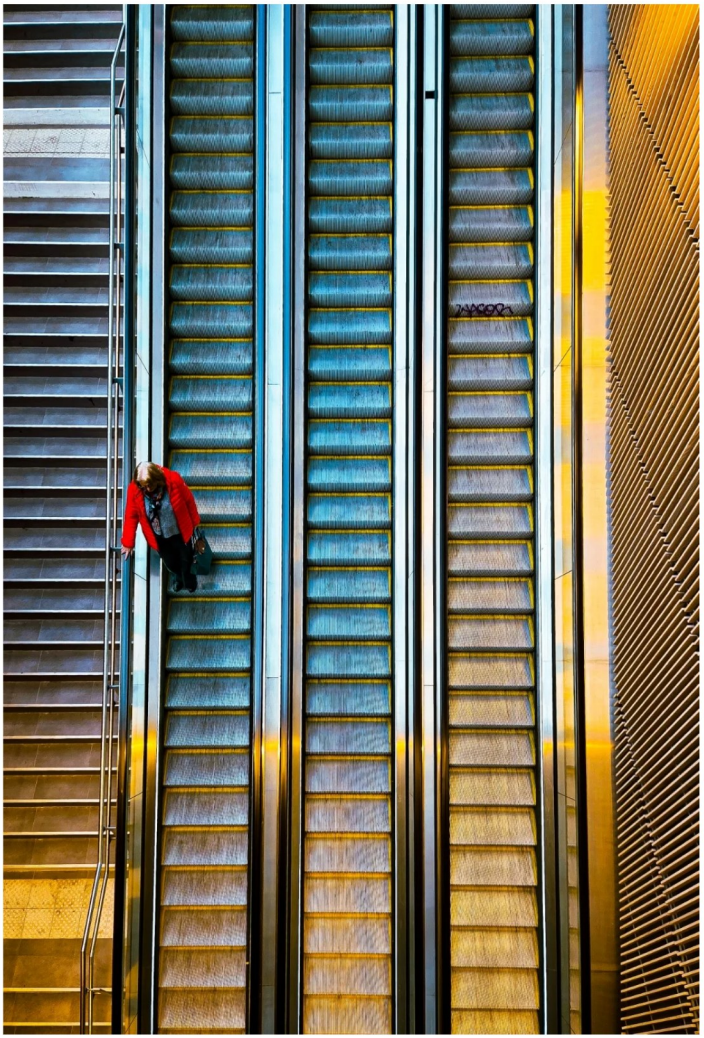
A young girl chases a balloon across the colourful backdrop of Choi Hung Estate in Hong Kong.

BRONZE AWARD

STEPHANE NAVAILLES

Red coat.

Minimalism point of view street urban graphical atmosphère.





HONORABLE MENTION

WILLIAM SHUM

Echoes of Identity

This striking composition captures a gallery wall adorned with powerful black-and-white portraits. The surreal alignment of passing pedestrians' legs with the frames creates a bridge between art and reality.

It's a beautiful moment where cultural history meets modern movement, turning a static exhibition into a living, breathing narrative.



HONORABLE MENTION

LACE WEI

Into the Grey

This picture was taken during a big canoe trip at Espinoza Inlet and Nuchatlitz provincial park, Vancouver Island, Canada.

NATURE/WILDLIFE

GOLD AWARD

JOSHUA HOLKO

Fox Fight Club!

Snow fills the air like static, each flake catching the light as two blue Arctic foxes collide in a fleeting storm of motion and intent.

Their bodies blur at the edges, but their expressions are sharp —teeth bared, lips curled, eyes lo
s





GOLD AWARD

RANDALL BALL

The Burden of Reign

The Burden of Reign examines the solitary weight of dominance. Among lions, power is earned, contested, and never secure. To hold the pride is to live in constant vigilance, where presence must deter challenge and authority is measured in endurance.

These portraits reveal the quiet strain behind power—carried in scars, in time, and in isolation—where dominance is never possessed, only maintained for a while.







SILVER AWARD

TOM SVENSSON

Go away

Hippos are very interesting to study since there is



SILVER AWARD

NIKITA CHICHERIN

Held by the Artic Gaze

In the Arctic, survival depends on constant awareness. These portraits capture rare moments when that vigilance turns outward - when the fox meets the viewer directly.

Eye contact transforms distance into connection, revealing curiosity, tension, and presence within a harsh and fragile environment.





BRONZE AWARD

XIAOPING LIN

Pass By

The big fish chased the small fish and rushed out of the water together, passing the egret. The egret looked surprised and did not know where the small fish would go under the laws of nature?

Just like a poem: I passed you by. You hurried here. Before I noticed, you had gone far away, leaving me a regretful back.



BRONZE AWARD

BENOIT RONDELET

The vulnerable temple of the orange spirit

The name orangutan comes from the Malay word orang hutan, which literally means man of the forest. In 20 years, orangutan populations have lost 80% of their range and have shrunk by half.

The rate at which animal and plant species are disappearing is leading to a considerable loss of biodiversity. The causes of this decline are anthropogenic: deforestation, expansion of agricultural areas, overexploitation of natural resources, climate change, pollution, epidemics, etc.







HONORABLE MENTION

CHRISTOPH BASMER

Caribbean Mosaic

A sea turtle glides through darkness, its form revealed in striking black and white. Light traces the intricate patterns of its shell and flippers, while the surrounding void enhances a sense of stillness and mystery.

With one flipper raised mid-motion, the image captures both grace and solitude, transforming the creature into an almost celestial presence.

HONORABLE MENTION

NIKITA CHICHERIN

Eye To Eye

A puffin locks eyes with the lens, its beak packed with shimmering fish from the sea. This close encounter





HONORABLE MENTION

DON HURZELER

Jump!

Wildebeest jumping into the Mara River during the annual migration...Tanzania. I

HONORABLE MENTION

PANAGIOTIS DALAGIORGOS

Mantis on a crocus

A low angle photo of an Ameles heldreichi on a Crocus nivalis. I took this photo on a mountain near Athens.

I love the threat the mantis adds to the otherwise peaceful and serene image.





HONORABLE MENTION

TOM SVENSSON

The future

Lioness looking out over

OTHER



GOLD AWARD

MARCEL VAN BEEK

Chlorophyll Trance II

Layered Monstera leaves turn the image into a field of botanical apertures, where one plane opens onto another. Soft focus, droplets and shadow suggest forms that seem to emerge and dissolve at once, as if insect life or moisture were briefly taking shape within the foliage.

The work shifts plant structure into a state of quiet hallucination, balancing sensual detail with visual uncertainty.

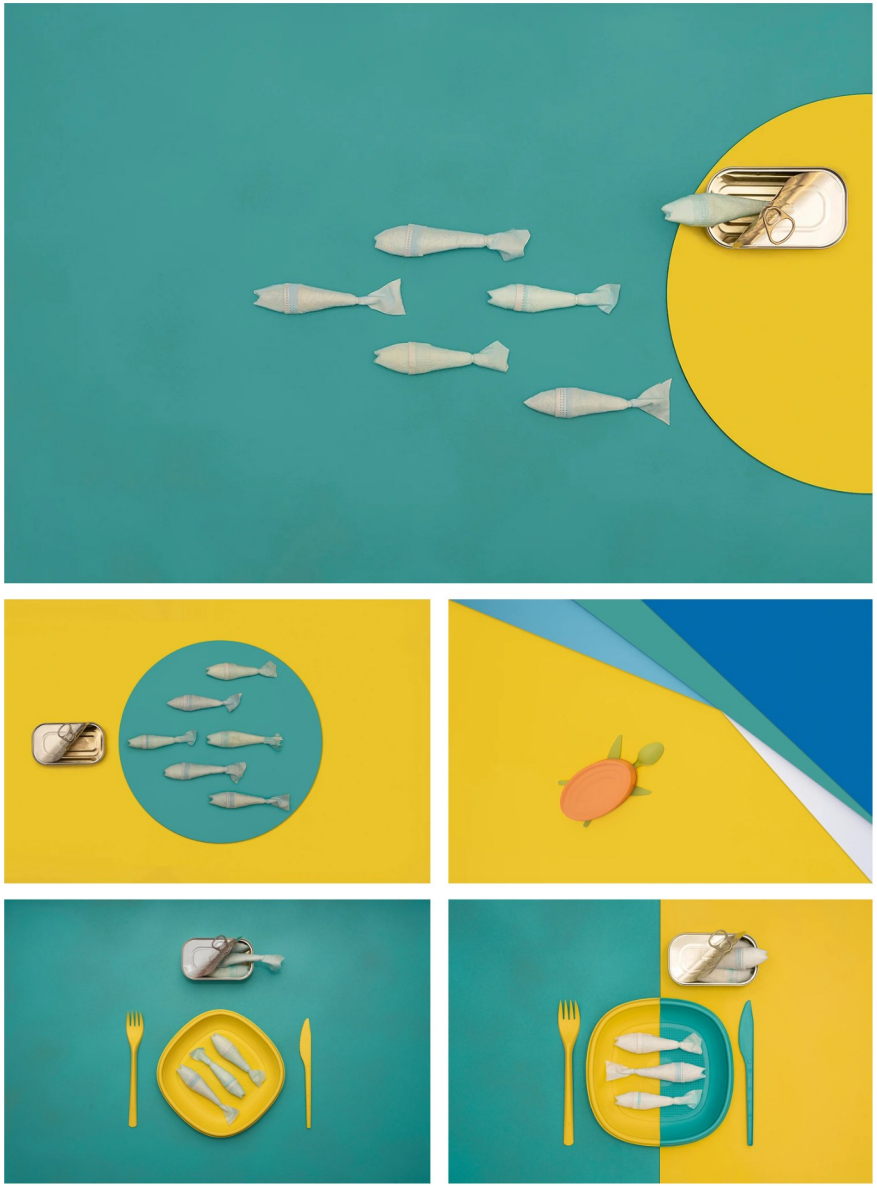
GOLD AWARD

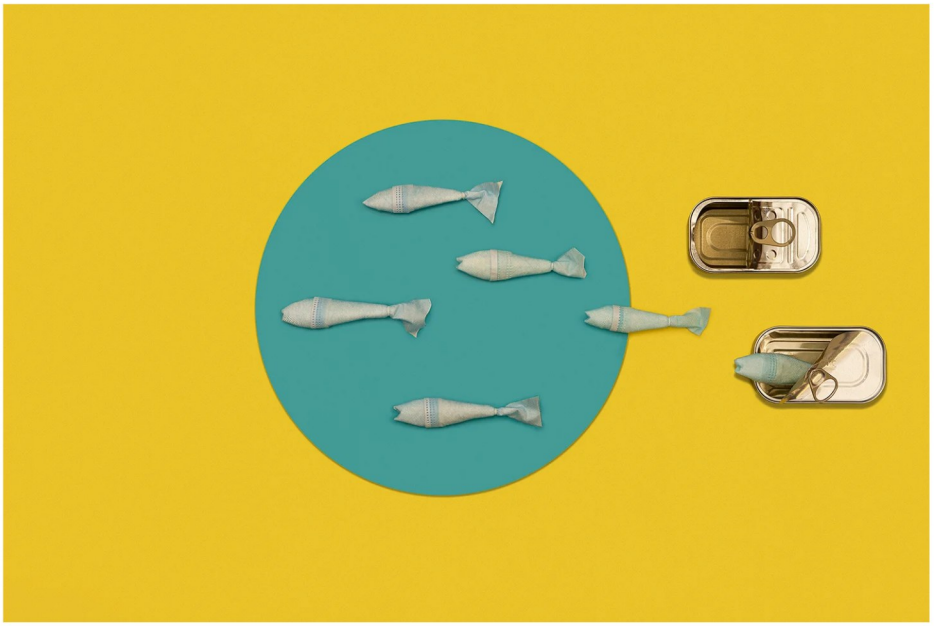
ANTONIO COELHO

Weaknesses of the oceans

Sustainability means using finite resources responsibly, considering long-term impacts. Sustainable practices promote ecological, human, and economic health. Oceans, which produce 50% of the world's oxygen, face global warming, pollution, microplastics, and overfishing, leading to species extinction and pH changes.

The series raises awareness of these issues and was created







SILVER AWARD

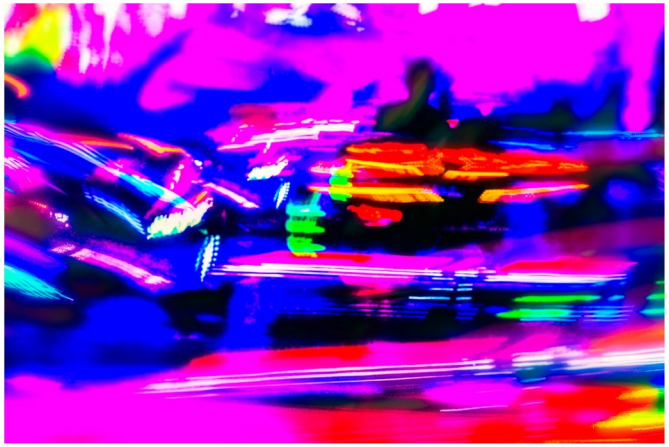
KYLO-PATRICK HART

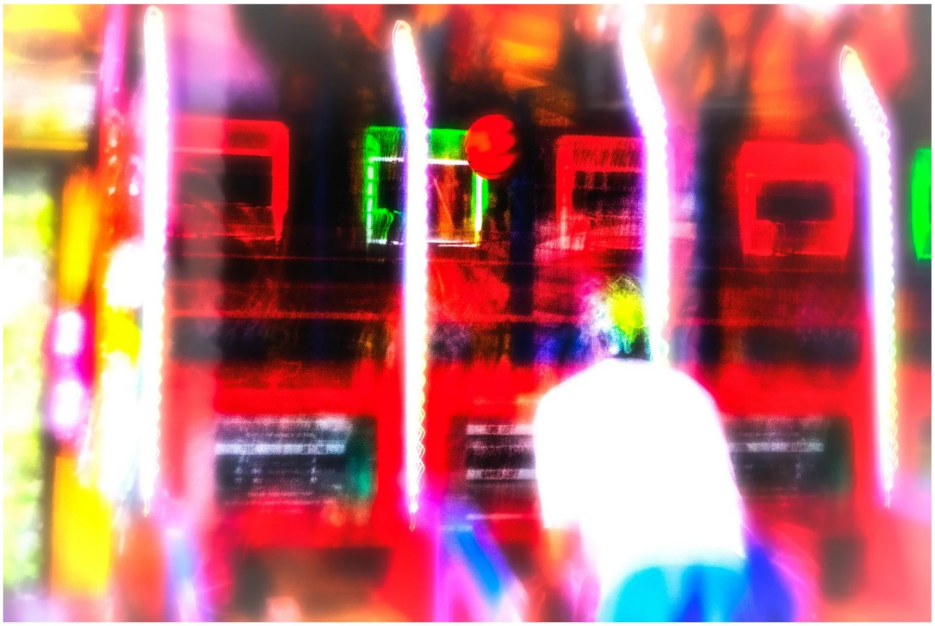
Carnival Delights

The seven photographs in this series, captured in summer 2025 and culled from my current project titled Carnival Delights, combine the aesthetic appeals of abstraction and intentional camera movement













SILVER AWARD

CARLOS ROTELLAR

PLEIADES (The Seven Sisters)

Pleiades also known as the Seven Sisters is a star cluster in Taurus constellation, located 440 light years away. It contains more than a 1,000 stars, of which only a few can be seen with the naked eye between October and April.

It contains clouds of dust and gas illuminated by the stars as they pass through the nebulae (seen in blue in the image).

Pleiades is about 100 million years old and it is expected to last another 250 million years before the stars disperse.

BRONZE AWARD

ALEXANDRO PELAEZ

Disguise

“Disguise” is a four-year photographic series using double exposure on 35mm film to capture cars and their surroundings in various global cities, creating images where vehicles blend into colorful environments, each with unique personality traits.

Trying to convey the essence of cities through double-layered scenarios that balance colors and shapes, offering surreal and visionary perspectives that elevate the visual experience to a new level of abstract beauty.





BRONZE AWARD

BERNARD SIM

Resilience in a Gentle Soul

Colbie was always gentle—soft-eyed, curious, and full of quiet sweetness.

At 12, a small white spot in her eye changed everything. What seemed like a cataract was cancer. Her eye had to be removed, and though a prosthetic followed, something in her spirit felt dimmed. It was only after its removal that Colbie began to return—lighter, more at ease, herself again. Today, she is cancer-free.

At 13, she moves through life with the same curiosity and warmth, a little older, a little wiser—carrying

HONORABLE MENTION

DAISHI MIYAGAWA

Shining Gradient

The change in the sky from evening onwards is beautiful.
The beautiful and captivating sky is spread all over the world.

















HONORABLE MENTION

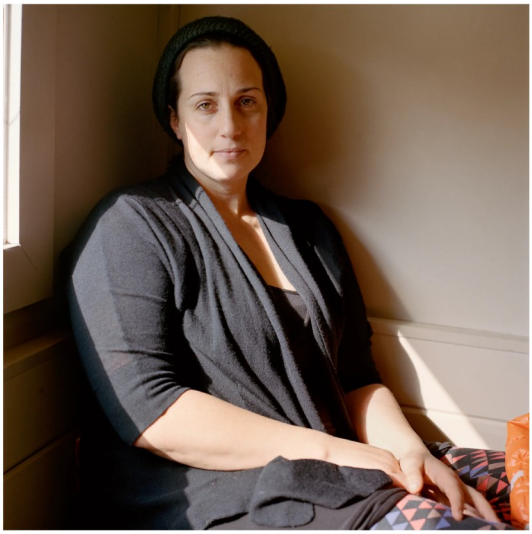
MARCEL VAN BEEK

Water as a Scriptor: Citrinitas

Citrinitas explores the transitional phase of material transformation. This series captures the 'yellowing' of surfaces, where light and chemical residue intersect to create a luminous, golden topography.

It is a study of brilliance emerging from decay, focusing on the formal beauty of overlooked environmental processes

PORTRAIT







GOLD AWARD

SUSAN ANTHONY

Collar City

Collar City is set in Troy, an industrial town once known for brick, iron, and shirt collar factories. Some remain, many have closed.

Its character lies in contrast—graffiti-covered factories beside grand 19th-century mansions. As new residents restore homes and preserve its historic details, this project becomes a tribute to the people who have become part of my life.







GOLD AWARD

STEPHEN WALLACE

Novice Monks of Myanmar

Novice monks studying by candlelight. Near Bagan, Myanmar



SILVER AWARD

ANDREA FRANCOLINI

Dykes on Bikes

We are Dykes on Bikes Sydney—loud engines, louder laughs, leather with heart, and community in our fuel tanks. We ride for pride, visibility, solidarity, and the pure joy of twisting a throttle with chosen family beside us.

From parades to charity runs, we roll in united, polished boots first, chrome sparkling in the sun and mischief in our eyes.

Serious about inclusion, casual about speed limits, and always ready for another lap around town.


BUTCH
I KNOW RIGHT FROM WRONG WRONG IS THE FUN ONE
LOUD PIPES SAVE LIVES
LOYALTY MAKES YOU FAMILY
RIDE WITH PRIDE


SYDNEY
DYKES ON BIKES
RIDE WITH PRIDE
CURVES
SASSY STACEY
BITZY
D.O.B. COMMITTEE
2023



SILVER AWARD

STEFANO VIANI

Jenny -

"Checkmate Confidence" presents a powerful blend of strength and poise, embodied by the woman poised beside a chessboard. Her intense gaze and relaxed posture reveal a quiet mastery, while the interplay of light highlights her tattoos and delicate attire, challenging conventional expectations.

This piece expresses a bold narrative of inner power and calculated resolve.

BRONZE AWARD

DENNIS SCHMELZ

Child of Shiva

In Varanasi, devotion begins early. A young girl dressed for Shiva stands on the banks of the Ganges, surrounded by smoke, prayer,





BRONZE AWARD

BARTOSZ MATENKO

Portraits of wrestlers

This series depicts wrestlers after leaving the ring, suspended between their roles and their selves. Shot frontally against a black backdrop, the portraits, devoid of spectacle, reveal sweat, exhaustion, and tension.

Wrestling is a fiction, yet these faces defy illusion—revealing an identity in flux,
between public myth and private reality, where performance collides with authenticity.















HONORABLE MENTION

JEREMY LAFLEUR

Captain Jack Sparrow

"May this day be remembered
as the day you almost captured
Captain Jack Sparrow..."
This photoshoot has a special
significance for a pirate fan like me.
Organized with Johnny Steff, the French
Johnny Depp lookalike, this session aims
to pay homage to the most famous
buccaneer of the Caribbean, adding a





HONORABLE MENTION

TOMOHIKO FUNAI

Crimson Reverie

Surrounded by a field of red wagasa umbrellas, a woman in kimono floats gently through the scene while holding a traditional umbrella.

The presence of a broom introduces a subtle Western witch motif within a distinctly Japanese setting. This dreamlike image blends cultures and folklore, creating a quiet moment where









HONORABLE MENTION

LUCIANA TRAPPOLINO

Inter-twining

Decontextualized portraits, African women from the remote tribes of southern Angola, shot from behind: an intentional choice dictated by the desire to represent the harsh condition of women whose dominant patriarchal culture, in their respective tribes, prevails, forcing them to suffer injustice, violence and abuse. Women who stand out for the beauty of their hairstyles. Yet, even in this aesthetic expression, they conform to the social, cultural and religious conditioning of their ethnic group.







HONORABLE MENTION

XUEJUN LONG

She Ethnic Woman

The She ethnic group has formed a traditional life characteristic of men farming and women weaving through long-term historical migration and ethnic development.

The traditional handicrafts of She women, such as spinning threads, weaving fabrics, weaving brocade belts, embroidery, etc., have been passed down from generation to generation and preserved to this day.



HONORABLE MENTION

SUSANNE MIDDELBERG

Susanne

Self portrait
These portraits were created during a period of overwhelming fear, grief, and confusion. The feeling was intense and unmistakable, yet its cause remained hidden from me. I only knew something was deeply wrong.
Much later, I came to understand what lay beneath. I had been in a long-term relationship with a man who was living a double life—built on manipulation, secrecy, and emotional control. At the time the portraits were made, I did not know this. But my body did.



HONORABLE MENTION

SARB VASILE

Unspoken motions

The series of photographs features conceptual face painting in a studio, with white symbolizing purity and sincerity. The girl wears a traditional Romanian blouse, with a folk motif painted on her forehead, inspired by authentic embroidery.

Red and black geometric elements, in cross-stitch style, evoke ancestral protective motifs. The contrast highlights the duality and beauty of Romanian tradition, blending modern art with cultural heritage, creating a bridge between past and present.

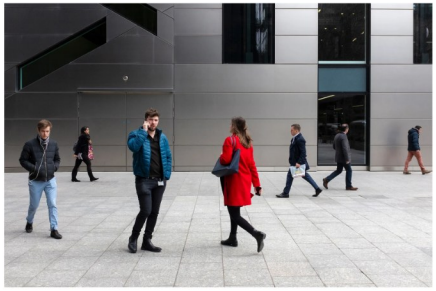




STREET





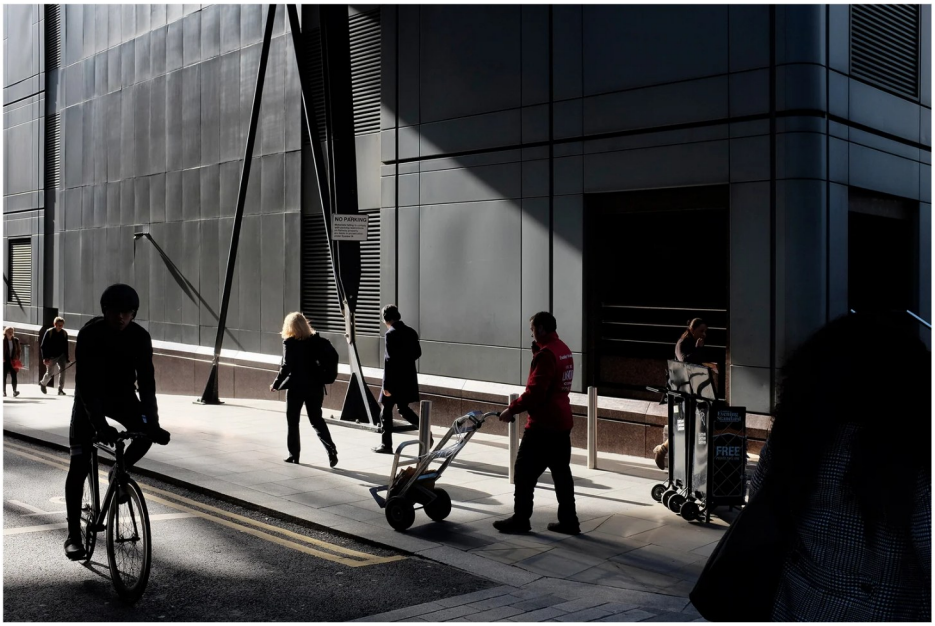



GOLD AWARD

STREETMAX 21

260319-250325

There is waiting, often for long periods, for the right organic distribution of people to form precise compositions.
The rigid compositional style and exact creative execution is key.
The intention is to unsettle.
The photographer uses a hand held camera. This is not a breach in control as the camera movement repays the automaton-like movement of its subjects.
The resulting images seem fictitious but are shot in real time.
Other-worldly street scenes create tension between appearance and reality


NO PARKING
FREE





GOLD AWARD

MOHAMMED MUHTASIB

Toji train station in Dhaka

Toji Train Station, located in Dhaka, Bangladesh, is a bustling transportation hub that serves as a vital link for commuters and travelers alike. Situated in the heart of the city, Toji Station is a pivotal node in Bangladesh's railway network, connecting Dhaka with various destinations across the country.
Despite its modest size, Toji Station plays a crucial role in facilitating the movement of thousands of passengers daily. It provides access to both intercity and commuter train services.



SILVER AWARD

VIKAS NAMA

Binary: Duality of Being

A meditation on the fragile dance between opposites—life and death, creation and erasure. Within this tension, the essence of being unfolds.

Light and shadow trace the pulse of existence: one cannot exist without the other. Figures emerge and dissolve, forms waver between presence and absence, revealing quiet conflicts where survival meets loss.

The series lingers in the space where opposites collapse into one another, where goodness bears its shadow, and darkness carries a trace of light.





SILVER AWARD

HUDSON BOOSE

The Double Shoulder

This photo named "The Double Shoulder" is from my ongoing series “Experimentations in Intensity.” This series is more than photography.

It's a way of life. I push myself to go outside of my comfort zone, using a flash to bring out the emotions of San Franciscan’s.

I put my body on the line for the photo and I have found myself in the process.





BRONZE AWARD

XUEJUN LONG

A Glimpse of Havana 10

On November 19, 2024, on the streets of Havana, Cuba, a girl hurriedly walking in front of the camera and a boy walking in the same direction complement each other.

Within the framework of the street structure, a vibrant urban painting leaps and bounds.



BRONZE AWARD

JULEAH CLAAR

In Passing, And Gone

This black and white series focuses on fleeting moments encountered while photographing everyday life in Zurich. It captures subtle, unposed fragments of the city - transient gestures, passing figures, and quiet intersections of light and shadow.

Each frame reflects an intuitive response to the rhythm of urban life, where chance encounters and impermanent scenes form a visual record of presence, absence, and everything in between.







HONORABLE MENTION

FANJA HUBERS-DE JONG

Beach life

Normany, France

HONORABLE MENTION

SHOURJENDRA DATTA

CAUGHT YOU ON TAPE

A graffiti on the colorful wall of a dingy and dark North Kolkata alley shows a cinematographer shooting





HONORABLE MENTION

TONI RASINKANGAS

Hockey Hooligan Afterparty

Shortly after midnight a small group of Finnish hockey fan hooligans used red torches in the city center after a victorious hockey game.

The culturally and historically valuable block is protected by the city of Hämeenlinna. The use of torches is illegal in non-emergency situations.

These pyrotechnics produce intense heat, blinding light and



HONORABLE MENTION

OZHAN ARIOGLU

The Circle of Solitude

An intimate vignette of urban isolation, framed within the stark geometry of the

TRAVEL

GOLD AWARD

MOHAMMED MUHTASIB

Echoes originality

In Rabat, Morocco, this shot captures a display of Tabourida, a historic equestrian tradition where synchronized riders charge and fire in unison.

I took this image to show the power and heritage of a ritual that has symbolized skill, honor, and communal pride in Morocco for centuries.









GOLD AWARD

XUEJUN LONG

Labor Beauty

In the coastal areas of southern China, women have played important roles in fishing, weaving nets, and grazing from ancient times to the present.

Traveling here, you can see hardworking beauties everywhere, becoming a unique and beautiful scenery.







SILVER AWARD

ANDREA GABRIELI

Eagle hunter

Eagle Hunter in traditional clothes, riding his horse with an eagle on the arm.



BRONZE AWARD

AHMAD KHAMIS

The Pacu Jawi Race

An action-packed moment from the traditional Pacu Jawi race in West Sumatra, Indonesia, where a skilled jockey



HONORABLE MENTION

KEN ANG

Eagle Eye

This image depicts a young Kazakh eagle hunter with his eagle in Mongolia. These hunters belong to the Kazakh ethnic group residing in the mountainous western region of Mongolia, particularly in Bayan-Ölgii province.

They train golden eagles, typically captured from the wild as eaglets, to hunt small game such as foxes and hares.

This ancient tradition, dating back thousands of years, is still practiced today and is a vital part of their cultural identity.



HONORABLE MENTION

KUOLUN HSU

Gilded Reflections

A puddle mirrors Samarkand's ancient turquoise dome, layered with carved walls and autumn gold. A mother and child stand quietly within, the everyday meeting a thousand years of history.

Where reflection blurs reality, time stands still, and the past continues to burn, gilded and unbroken.

HONORABLE MENTION

DIANA CHAN

Phuket Vegetarian Festival

The photos were captured during the Phuket Vegetarian Festival, a old traditional celebration at Phuket. A





HONORABLE MENTION

KEN ANG

Riding the Clouds

This image captures traditional Kazakh eagle hunters, known as Berkutchi, training their golden eagles in the Altai Mountains of Western Mongolia.



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