









## 2023 WINNING IMAGES





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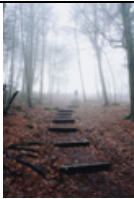

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OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 ANDREJA RAVNAK, SLOVENIA				
	<p>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>Near Pienza, Tuscany, Italy</p> <p>Early in the spring, the first rains allow wheat to grow in the rolling fields. Due to the cold nights, the landscape is often shrouded in beautiful mists on clear mornings during this period. This agricultural landscape is sparsely populated, with land being used to its fullest potential. Farms are located on the top of individual hills.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mavic FC220, 26.3 mm lens, f22, 1/50s, ISO 142</p>	<p>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>South Moravia, near Kyov, Czech Republic (Czechia)</p> <p>In early spring, the soil is still too cold for growth. An interesting pattern occurred while a new orchard was planted on the slope of the hill, making the scene very abstract.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS R6, 60-600mm lens, f8, 1/320s, ISO 200</p>	<p>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>South Moravia, near Cejc, Czech Republic (Czechia)</p> <p>The undulating field is planted with cover crops, which are used to improve soil quality.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 6D, 150-600mm lens, f6.3, 1/1000s, ISO 5000</p>	<p>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>Near Pienza, Tuscany, Italy</p> <p>In search of suitable land for cultivating fertile soil for agricultural purposes, humans have sometimes covered entire hilly landscapes with fields. Hills without natural vegetation are very exposed to erosion, which creates unusual waves on the slopes. This agricultural landscape looks like a soft, undulating carpet, completely otherworldly, as if it had been created by AI. In addition to erosion, the problem with these intensively cultivated areas is also the increasing exhaustion of fertile soil.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 6D, 150-600mm lens, f9, 1/1600s, ISO 640</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	1	2	3	4

				
	<p>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>Savinjska valley, near Zalec, Slovenia</p> <p>A tractor driver maneuvers a high trailer with a crew of workers on top, manually tying strings to steel cables for hop growing. In the spring, the fields must be prepared for a new season and new strings must be strung. The process is done by hand, but there is not enough interest in this type of work in Slovenia, so hop growers hire workers from abroad every year. Seasonal workers from Romania are regular visitors to the Savinja Valley.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7RM4, 200-600mm lens, f6.3, 1/1600s, ISO 2500</p>	<p>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>Savinjska valley, near Zalec, Slovenia</p> <p>Hop growing: when the hop strings are hung on the top steel cables, an unusual curtain of threads is created in the fields. The threads dance in the wind and sparkle in the sunlight. They look like some kind of unusual art installation.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7RM4, 200-600mm lens, f6.3, 1/1600s, ISO 1600</p>	<p>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>Savinjska valley, near Zalec, Slovenia</p> <p>Hop growing: The freely hanging strings need to be stretched and anchored in the ground. This is done by hand and is more often done by women. Here, Aurora, a woman from Romania, is in a good mood, as the work team has a radio with them and they are playing Romanian music in the field.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS R6, 60-600mm lens, f6.3, 1/640s, ISO 500</p>	<p>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023 AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>Savinjska valley, near Braslovce, Slovenia</p> <p>Once all the strings are manually stretched, the workers ensure that the small hop seedlings start climbing vertically. Once this is done, they leave the Savinja Valley for a few months and return in late summer, when the hops are ripe for harvesting.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 6D, 70-300mm lens, f7.1, 1/400s, ISO 100</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	5	6	7	8

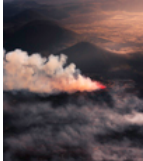



WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023, CADEN SHEPARD CHOI, USA (AGE 14)				
	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023, Caden Shepard Choi, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Chinle, Arizona, United States</p> <p>A mother and daughter herd sheep along the soaring sandstone walls of Canyon de Chelly in Navajo Nation, the spiritual homeland of the indigenous Diné (Navajo) people who have inhabited the land for over 5,000 years. The women herd along the base of a tall cliff. I trail behind, capturing their footprints on the soft canyon floor.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7M3, 24-70mm lens, f6.3, 1/40s, ISO 200</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023, Caden Shepard Choi, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Chinle, Arizona, United States</p> <p>The sheep are herded back to their pen at the entrance of the canyon. They walk through a dust cloud formed by the steady kick of their hooves. The sheep are initially reluctant to enter the mouth of the canyon, but when returning home, they show no resistance. After a long day steering sheep, the two herding dogs now playfully trail behind.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-6300, 18-135mm lens, f8, 1/250s, ISO 500</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023, Caden Shepard Choi, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Chinle, Arizona, United States</p> <p>A Navajo woman uses shearing scissors to fleece her cousin's churro sheep by hand. She kneels beneath the shade of a tree outside the pen. It is an arduous task that takes over an hour per sheep. Although this churro's legs are tied with rope, it does not resist, perhaps because it enjoys the shade on a hot day. The wool is collected, spun, and dyed to make blankets and rugs.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7M3, 24-70mm lens, f11, 1/60s, ISO 100</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2023, Caden Shepard Choi, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Chinle, Arizona, United States</p> <p>A Diné woman works on a rug started by her daughter. At the bottom of the rug is the emblem of a feather, her daughter's unique 'hallmark', or signature. The master weaver sits perfectly still, but her hands are in a constant state of motion. She weaves inside a Hogan, a hexagonal structure with a single door that always opens to the East, a sacred place for the Diné people. The woman positions herself in front of the open door to receive the blessings transmitted by the morning rays.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7M3, 24-70mm lens, f5.6, 1/30s, ISO 640</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	9	10	11	12





<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</p> <p>LILLY ZHANG, USA (AGE 17)</p>				
	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</p> <p>Lilly Zhang, USA (age 17)</p> <p>Exton, Pennsylvania, USA</p> <p>It was a crisp autumn morning, and I went to Marsh Creek State Park in Exton, PA, hoping to see the mist suspended on the water with the fall colors reflecting on the surface. To my surprise, I also saw a great heron perched on a rock by the shore. It was just amazingly beautiful.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D7200, 70-200mm lens, f6.3, 1/125s, ISO 200</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</p> <p>Lilly Zhang, USA (age 17)</p> <p>Exton, Pennsylvania, USA</p> <p>Gold mist is suspended on the still lake surface, and amid this dreamy scene is the coexistence of a fisherman and a duck. Seeing this unlikely duo at Marsh Creek State Park, I knew that I had to capture the scene in a photo.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D7200, 70-200mm lens, f7.1, 1/6400s, ISO 250</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</p> <p>Lilly Zhang, USA (age 17)</p> <p>Exton, Pennsylvania, USA</p> <p>The mist suspended on Marsh Creek lake's surface, signature to its early fall mornings, the quiet morning light illuminating the fall leaves, and the fishermen amidst the mist. Captivated by the quiet beauty of the scenery, I took this photo.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D7200, 70-200mm lens, f6.3, 1/100s, ISO 400</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</p> <p>Lilly Zhang, USA (age 17)</p> <p>Exton, Pennsylvania, USA</p> <p>Every year, small flocks of snow geese rest at the lake in Marsh Creek state park on their arduous journey north. One early morning, when the bare treetops were lit a bright red, I captured this photo of the flock taking flight.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D7200, 70-200mm lens, f5, 1/400s, ISO 200</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	13	14	15	16

				
JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 MATTHEW ARMETT, UK (AGE 18)	JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Matthew Armett, UK (age 18)  Ramshaw Rocks, Peak District National Park, United Kingdom  Frustrating wind and rain nearly pushed us back to the car, but a glimpse of light on the horizon gave us hope for a moody sunset. We headed back towards the start of our walk and my Dad suggested that I take a shot of him standing at the end of the path, whilst the light show began!  TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 80D, 17-50mm lens, f5.6, 1/200s, ISO 250	JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Matthew Armett, UK (age 18)  Buxton, Derbyshire, United Kingdom  A self portrait I took to emphasise the steep incline of the steps through the woodland. I liked the mysterious feel my silhouette gave and how it fills the negative space at the top of the frame. I composed the shot to use the steps as a natural leading line towards the main subject of the image.  TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 80D, 17-50mm lens, f11, 1/6s, ISO 200	JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Matthew Armett, UK (age 18)  Lud's Church, Peak District National Park, United Kingdom  A shot of the iconic Lud's Church in the Peak District. The '18 metre chasm', created by a giant landslip, is a sight to behold and leaves you feeling rather small but amazed at what you are surrounded by. I really wanted to capture this feeling and show the true scale of the location by using my Dad for scale.  TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 80D, 17-50mm lens, f4, 1/40s, ISO 250	JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Matthew Armett, UK (age 18)  Solomon's Temple, Buxton, United Kingdom  The moon lined up with the silhouette of Solomon's temple and one of my friends for scale. It was a challenge to get the line up just right, but it was all the more satisfying once I'd captured this shot with the setting moon.  TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 80D, 55-250mm lens, f5.6, 1/125s, ISO 200
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	17	18	19	20




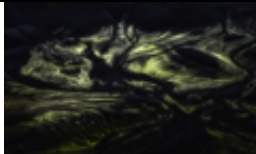
JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 ARTHUR CECH, FRANCE (AGE 15)				
	<p>JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Arthur Cech, France (age 15)</p> <p>Ifrane National Park, Morocco</p> <p>These wild monkeys climb freely on the majestic Atlas cedars in the Moroccan Middle Atlas and it's just great to spend hours and hours watching them. I tried to capture the special atmosphere of the forest and the life of the monkeys: calm, peaceful, cosy, familiar.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 60D, 150-600mm lens, f5, 1/640s, ISO 800</p>	<p>JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Arthur Cech, France (age 15)</p> <p>Ifrane National Park, Morocco</p> <p>These wild monkeys climb freely on the majestic Atlas cedars in the Moroccan Middle Atlas and it's just great to spend hours and hours watching them. I tried to capture the special atmosphere of the forest and the life of the monkeys: calm, peaceful, cosy, familiar.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 60D, 150-600mm lens, f5.375, 1/800s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Arthur Cech, France (age 15)</p> <p>Ifrane National Park, Morocco</p> <p>These wild monkeys climb freely on the majestic Atlas cedars in the Moroccan Middle Atlas and it's just great to spend hours and hours watching them. I tried to capture the special atmosphere of the forest and the life of the monkeys: calm, peaceful, cosy, familiar.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 60D, 150-600mm lens, f5.375, 1/1250s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>JOINT RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Arthur Cech, France (age 15)</p> <p>Ifrane National Park, Morocco</p> <p>These wild monkeys climb freely on the majestic Atlas cedars in the Moroccan Middle Atlas and it's just great to spend hours and hours watching them. I tried to capture the special atmosphere of the forest and the life of the monkeys: calm, peaceful, cosy, familiar.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 60D, 150-600mm lens, f5.375, 1/1000s, ISO 2000</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	21	22	23	24







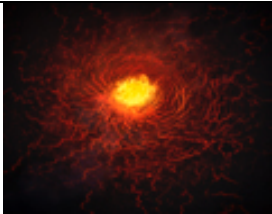

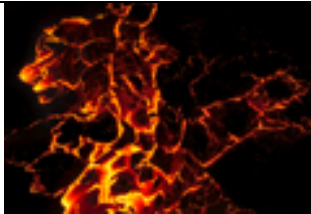
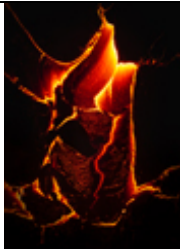
WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, ZAYAN DURRANI, USA (AGE 14)				
.	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, Zayan Durrani, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Litli-Hrutur volcano, Iceland</p> <p>My father and I took a trip to Iceland to visit an ongoing volcanic eruption. I took this image on the first day through the window of a small plane. I love how the setting sun cast shadows through the hills onto the volcano.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D810, 24-70mm lens, f8, 1/2000s, ISO 100</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, Zayan Durrani, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Litli-Hrutur volcano, Iceland</p> <p>My father and I took a trip to Iceland to visit an ongoing volcanic eruption. I was able to witness the formation of new earth right in front of my eyes. We boarded a tiny plane which could barely fit our equipment with us in it. While flying high above the eruption, the pilot opened my window suddenly without warning. The wind was whipping so hard against my face that I could barely think. I was afraid that I would let go of my camera, but I held on tight. I used my frozen, white-knuckled hands to snag some pictures before we landed.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D810, 24-70mm lens, f11, 1/2500s, ISO 320</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, Zayan Durrani, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Litli-Hrutur volcano, Iceland</p> <p>My father and I took a trip to Iceland to visit an ongoing volcanic eruption. I was able to witness the formation of new earth right in front of my eyes. We hiked for 10 miles through rough, mountainous hills and desert, never stopping to rest, just so that we could reach the eruption before it became dark. We were in a race against time because a thick, noxious fog was rolling in and we were told that we would have to evacuate the area. I finally got up close to the fiery eruption. I was able to capture this picture using a drone.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI FC3411 (AIR2S), 22.4 mm lens, f2.8, 1/2500s, ISO 100</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, Zayan Durrani, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Litli-Hrutur volcano, Iceland</p> <p>My father and I took a trip to Iceland to visit an ongoing volcanic eruption. I took this image of the volcano on the first day through the window of a small plane. In this image, you can see Iceland's capital city, Reykjavik, in the background. This gives you a sense of how close the eruption actually was to the city.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D810, 24-70mm lens, f11, 1/8000s, ISO 320</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	25	26	27	28





RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, CADEN SHEPARD CHOI, USA (AGE 14)				
	<p>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, Caden Shepard Choi, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Jeju Island, South Korea</p> <p>The Haenyeo 'sea-mermaids' of Jeju are women who free dive for hours at a time in search of ocean treasures such as abalone and sea urchins. This do this without scuba gear, the way they have been doing it for over a thousand years. I followed closely behind the women making their way to the tip of the volcanic shore for a long day ahead. I captured bursts of color against the backdrop of a gloomy day: neon orange buoys, bright green nets, purple rubber soles.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7M3, 24-70mm lens, f5.6, 1/640s, ISO 100</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, Caden Shepard Choi, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Jeju Island, South Korea</p> <p>The Haenyeo women prepare for their dive. Most of them look like my grandmother, with short permed hair, high cheek bones and fine lines around their eyes. They may be part of the last generation of traditional divers. All the women are busy attending to their equipment; some put on their flippers, some adjust their nets or secure their diving caps. As the women were getting ready for their daily dive, I was preparing myself for an adventure among them.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-6300, 18-135mm lens, f8, 1/60s, ISO 100</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, Caden Shepard Choi, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Jeju Island, South Korea</p> <p>My socks were soaked as I came right up behind a diver about to jump into the water. In her right hand, the Haenyeo steadies a steel hook used to detach abalone from rocks. There are several women ahead of her. The women have lived in the same village all their lives. They stay close together in the water, as they do on land. In the background, a fishing boat and ferry zoom by, a strange juxtaposition of the old and the new. The Haenyeo pay no attention to them. They are focused on their work. One woman tells me later that the ocean is as dangerous as it is beautiful. Many women have lost their lives at sea.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7M3, 24-70mm lens, f3.2, 1/2000s, ISO 100</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER, Caden Shepard Choi, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Jeju Island, South Korea</p> <p>The women dived for hours. I followed them with my lens as they disappeared and reappeared from the sea, the only constant was their orange buoys. I took this image of a Haenyeo just as she plunged back into the ocean with perfect form, as if it were her first dive of the morning. Yellow flippers in the air and a small splash create the foreground. The sea appears so unperturbed around the Haenyeo. In the distance, waves crash over strips of volcanic rock. A light fog rolls in, veiling parts of a small island in the background. The clouds loom mysteriously overhead.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7M3, 24-70mm lens, f5, 1/640s, ISO 100</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	29	30	31	32

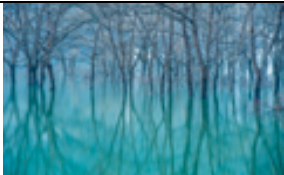
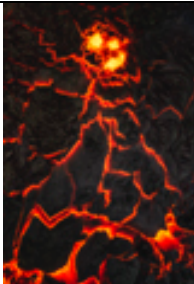
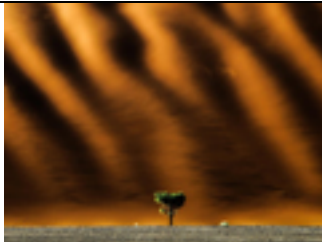
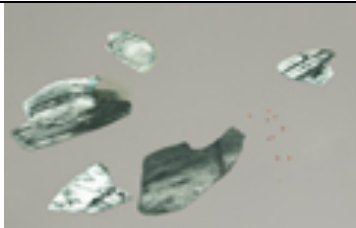


WINNER, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO ARMAND SARLANGUE, FRANCE				
	<p>WINNER, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>Svinafellsjokull, Iceland</p> <p>This 360 degrees panorama was captured with a drone. It shows the whole path of glacial waters, from the Skaftafellsjokull glacier, to the glacial lake, to the glacial river, then to the ocean in the background.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad L1D-20C (mavic pro 2), 10.3mm (28mm equivalent) lens, f3.2, 1/60s, ISO 100</p>	<p>WINNER, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>The Icelandic highlands</p> <p>This image was captured from a Cessna plane, and shows a system of rivers crossing the highlands, bringing life to the surrounding lands and life forms.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f8, 1/1250s, ISO 500</p>	<p>WINNER, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>The Icelandic highlands</p> <p>A lush mountain range covered of moss in the Highlands, with a river snaking between the reliefs from the above glaciers. It will carry precious sediments along the lands before joining a bigger river system, up to the coasts of Iceland where it will connect with the great ocean.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f9, 1/800s, ISO 320</p>	<p>WINNER, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>The Icelandic highlands</p> <p>High contrast between light and darkness on the volcanic reliefs of the Highlands. The snow has melted already, leaving only some traces of the water spreading in the valleys. Now only dark patterns remain, witnesses of past rivers flowing. Captured from a Cessna plane.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f9, 1/1250s, ISO 400</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	33	34	35	36

RUNNER-UP, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO TIM BIRD, UK/FINLAND				
	<p>RUNNER-UP, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Tim Bird, UK/Finland</p> <p>Obama Onsen, Nagasaki prefecture, Japan</p> <p>The onsen - hot springs - in and around the town of Obama Onsen in the Nagasaki prefecture in Japan are often wrapped in a steamy cloud. These landscaped gardens near the springs were magically obscured by sudden snow flurries.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T1, 18-55mm lens, f5.6, 1/150s, ISO 800</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Tim Bird, UK/Finland</p> <p>Obama Onsen, Nagasaki prefecture, Japan</p> <p>The onsen - hot springs - in and around the town of Obama Onsen in the Nagasaki prefecture in Japan are often wrapped in a steamy cloud. These landscaped gardens near the springs were magically obscured by sudden snow flurries.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T1, 18-55mm lens, f4.5, 1/150s, ISO 800</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Tim Bird, UK/Finland</p> <p>Obama Onsen, Nagasaki prefecture, Japan</p> <p>The onsen - hot springs - in and around the town of Obama Onsen in the Nagasaki prefecture in Japan are often wrapped in a steamy cloud. These landscaped gardens near the springs were magically obscured by sudden snow flurries. I had to shoot fast - my camera wasn't weather proof, and the snow didn't cling for long. A fleeting, delicate image...</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T1, 18-55mm lens, f5.6, 1/125s, ISO 800</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Tim Bird, UK/Finland</p> <p>Obama Onsen, Nagasaki prefecture, Japan</p> <p>The onsen - hot springs - in and around the town of Obama Onsen in the Nagasaki prefecture in Japan are often wrapped in a steamy cloud. These landscaped gardens near the springs were magically obscured by sudden snow flurries. This image shows how the snow had settled between the flurries.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T1, 18-55mm lens, f4, 1/150s, ISO 800</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	37	38	39	40





HIGHLY COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO ARMAND SARLANGUE, FRANCE				
	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>Fagradalsfjall volcano, Iceland</p> <p>Like a living galaxy of fire ready to explode from the inside... A secondary fissure turned into a lava fountain spreading 1200° hot lava over the lava fields, a few hundreds meters from the main crater. It was captured with a drone during a mahor storm, with rain and strong wind making the capture process very complicated. This fissure lasted for few hours before disappearing. Later that day the site was closed by authorities due to dangerous conditions because of the storm, which is why this image is unique.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad L1D-20C (mavic pro 2), 10.3mm (28mm equivalent) lens, f2,8, 1/60s, ISO 100</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>Fagradalsfjall volcano, Iceland</p> <p>In the flowing lava display I saw a surprising and mysterious silhouette. This series is called 'Creatures of Lava'.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad L1D-20C (mavic pro 2), 10.3mm (28mm equivalent) lens, f4,5, 1/100s, ISO 100</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>Fagradalsfjall volcano, Iceland</p> <p>The great spirit of fire takes form in the lava field of Fagradalsfjall volcano... This image shows the lava field captured from high above. The lava was flowing in a way that looked like a majestic silhouette with floating hairs.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad L1D-20C (mavic pro 2), 10.3mm (28mm equivalent) lens, f2,8, 1/13s, ISO 100</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>Fagradalsfjall volcano, Iceland</p> <p>An impossible 'egg' of lava ready to hatch... While photographing these fascinating lava patterns with my drone from approximately 30m high, I was wondering what sort of creature would actually come out of this mysterious egg....</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad L1D-20C (mavic pro 2), 10.3mm (28mm equivalent) lens, f2,8, 1/20s, ISO 100</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	41	42	43	44





<p>COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO</p> <p>KAZUAKI KOSEKI, JAPAN</p>				
	<p>COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO</p> <p>Kazuaki Koseki, Japan</p> <p>Lake Shirakawa, Iide Town, Yamagata Prefecture, Japan</p> <p>For a period from the end of winter to early summer, Lake Shirakawa is filled with water from melting snow and a 'submerged forest' appears. The water in the lake changes colour between light blue and light green, and mist, combined with the reflections which look like a submerged forest create a fantastic landscape.</p> <p>In March, Lake Shirakawa, covered with deep snow, was changing little by little. It was a beautiful morning wrapped in mist and light. A beautiful light shone through the misty trees for a short time.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D4S, 70-200mm lens, f8, 1/400s, ISO 100</p>	<p>COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO</p> <p>Kazuaki Koseki, Japan</p> <p>Lake Shirakawa, Iide Town, Yamagata Prefecture, Japan</p> <p>For a period from the end of winter to early summer, Lake Shirakawa is filled with water from melting snow and a 'submerged forest' appears. The water in the lake changes colour between light blue and light green, and mist, combined with the reflections which look like a submerged forest create a fantastic landscape.</p> <p>In April, the season of sprouting had arrived in the submerged forest. In the soft light before sunrise, the submerged forest quietly welcomed the morning. I chose a bluish time before sunrise to erase the reality and emphasize the fantastic sight, and set the shutter speed to 30 seconds to flatten the water surface.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D4S, 70-200mm lens, f8, 30s, ISO 100</p>	<p>COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO</p> <p>Kazuaki Koseki, Japan</p> <p>Lake Shirakawa, Iide Town, Yamagata Prefecture, Japan</p> <p>In May, the green season comes to Shirakawa Lake. The sun was shining on one side and it was a fantastic morning, wrapped in deep mist. The river cormorants perched quietly in the trees covered with fresh greenery. These river cormorants are waterfowl not previously found in the area. Many river cormorants appeared this winter when there was very little snow. This is likely due to global warming and climate change. River cormorants are reported to be plentiful in many places, eating river fish. This place also fears that the natural cycle will be lost.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D4S, 70-200mm lens, f11, 1/400s, ISO 200</p>	<p>COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO</p> <p>Kazuaki Koseki, Japan</p> <p>Lake Shirakawa, Iide Town, Yamagata Prefecture, Japan</p> <p>The fresh green season has arrived, the sun shines, and the trees shine beautifully. The fog continues to change like a living thing. I was able to wait for the sun to shine and the fog and submerged forest to have a beautiful composition.</p> <p>For a period from the end of winter to early summer, Lake Shirakawa is filled with water from melting snow and a 'submerged forest' appears. The water in the lake changes colour between light blue and light green, and mist, combined with the reflections which look like a submerged forest create a fantastic landscape.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D4S, 70-200mm lens, f8, 1/60s, ISO 100</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	45	46	47	48





				
	<p>WINNER, BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN A LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO KAZUAKI KOSEKI, JAPAN</p> <p>For a period from the end of winter to early summer, Lake Shirakawa is filled with water from melting snow and a 'submerged forest' appears. The water in the lake changes colour between light blue and light green, and mist, combined with the reflections which look like a submerged forest create a fantastic landscape.</p> <p>In April, the season of sprouting had arrived in the submerged forest. In the soft light before sunrise, the submerged forest quietly welcomed the morning. I chose a bluish time before sunrise to erase the reality and emphasize the fantastic sight, and set the shutter speed to 30 seconds to flatten the water surface.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D4S, 70-200mm lens, f8, 30s, ISO 100 Nikon D4S, Nikon 70-200mm lens, f8, 30s, ISO 100</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION Armand Sarlangue, France</p> <p>Fagradalsfjall volcano, Iceland</p> <p>In the flowing lava display I saw a surprising and mysterious silhouette. This series is called 'Creatures of Lava'.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad L1D-20C (mavic pro 2), 10.3mm (28mm equivalent) lens, f4.5, 1/100s, ISO 100</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION Jaroslav Hora, Czech Republic (Czechia)</p> <p>Namib desert, Namibia</p> <p>The Namib desert has already been photographed many times. On my last visit, I tried to find a combination of graceful curves and living and dead trees in this almost lifeless place.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA OM Digital Solutions OM-1, 150-400mm lens, f11, 1/60s, ISO 200</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION Marek Biegalski, Poland</p> <p>Southern Iceland</p> <p>Kayaking on the Sólheimajökull Glacier Lagoon. The flat grey colour of the water and the green shades of the ice viewed from the top creates an unreal feel – like a video game – but this is what we see from overhead.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mavic 2pro, 10.26mm lens, f2.8, 1/640s, ISO 200</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	46	50	51	52





				
	<p>SPECIAL MENTION Sergey Gorshkov, Russia</p> <p>Namib desert, Namibia</p> <p>A running Oryx in the dunes of Namibia.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D4, 70-200mm lens, f5.6, 1/3200s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION Marek Biegalski, Poland</p> <p>Italy</p> <p>A flock of sheep shelters in the shadow of the tree in the Autumn.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad L1D-20c, 28mm lens, f2.8, 1/320s, ISO 100</p>		
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	53	54		







<p>WINNER, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO MARTIN BROEN, USA</p>				
	<p>WINNER, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Martin Broen, USA</p> <p>La Ventana, Baja California, Mexico</p> <p>A split shot of a Mobula ray fever cruising below the divers' boat as part of their annual migration in the waters of Baja California.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony a1, 8-15mm lens, f9, 1/125s, ISO 100</p>	<p>WINNER NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Martin Broen, USA</p> <p>La Ventana, Baja California, Mexico</p> <p>A panorama of the Mobula ray fever - a dynamic pattern of shadows and textures framed by the morning sun rays</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony a1, 8-15mm lens, f7.1, 1/160s, ISO 500</p>	<p>WINNER, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Martin Broen, USA</p> <p>La Ventana, Baja California, Mexico</p> <p>A Mobula ray breaches outside of the water as part of their social behavior.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony a1, 8-15mm lens, f5.6, 1/1600s, ISO 800</p>	<p>WINNER, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Martin Broen, USA</p> <p>La Ventana, Baja California, Mexico</p> <p>The Mobula ray fever reaches towards the surface.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony a1, 28mm lens, f7.1, 1/160s, ISO 500</p>
<p>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</p>	<p>55</p>	<p>56</p>	<p>57</p>	<p>58</p>

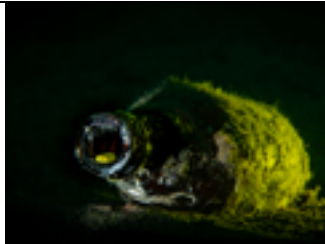



				
	<p>RUNNER-UP, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Sam Turley, UK</p> <p>Wild is Life Sanctuary, Harare, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Every day, Mateo and Marimba the pangolin walk together in search of termites and ants. If Mateo can see that Marimba is struggling to dig through the hard soil he will often help her out and provide her with an easy meal. Marimba, a ground pangolin, was around a year old when her mother was poached for her scales. Marimba was simply too young to fend for herself and so the decision was made to take her to Wild is Life sanctuary in Harare, Zimbabwe, where she met her full-time carer Mateo. Pangolins are notoriously difficult to look after in captivity, requiring particular and personal care. Mateo's gentle nature seemed like a perfect fit, and a remarkable relationship was born. Marimba and Mateo have spent ten hours a day together for the past 13 years, and it shows – they are inseparable. Many attempts have been made to rewild Marimba, but she always finds a way back to Mateo who refers to her as his last born child.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T3, 16-55mm lens, f11, 1/90s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Sam Turley, UK</p> <p>Wild is Life Sanctuary, Harare, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Mateo carries Marimba in his backpack while he transports her to the best foraging spots for ants and termites. Marimba, a ground pangolin, was around a year old when her mother was poached for her scales. Marimba was simply too young to fend for herself and so the decision was made to take her to Wild is Life sanctuary in Harare, Zimbabwe, where she met her full-time carer Mateo. Pangolins are notoriously difficult to look after in captivity, requiring particular and personal care. Mateo's gentle nature seemed like a perfect fit, and a remarkable relationship was born. Marimba and Mateo have spent ten hours a day together for the past 13 years, and it shows – they are inseparable. Many attempts have been made to rewild Marimba, but she always finds a way back to Mateo who refers to her as his last born child.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T3, 16-55mm lens, f11, 500s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Sam Turley, UK</p> <p>Wild is Life Sanctuary, Harare, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Mateo leaves his hand on Marimba's scales as he places her on the ground to start her foraging for the day. Marimba, a ground pangolin, was around a year old when her mother was poached for her scales. Marimba was simply too young to fend for herself and so the decision was made to take her to Wild is Life sanctuary in Harare, Zimbabwe, where she met her full-time carer Mateo. Pangolins are notoriously difficult to look after in captivity, requiring particular and personal care. Mateo's gentle nature seemed like a perfect fit, and a remarkable relationship was born. Marimba and Mateo have spent ten hours a day together for the past 13 years, and it shows – they are inseparable. Many attempts have been made to rewild Marimba, but she always finds a way back to Mateo who refers to her as his last born child.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T3, 16-55mm lens, f5.6, 1/240s, ISO 250</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Sam Turley, UK</p> <p>Wild is Life Sanctuary, Harare, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Mateo smiles as Marimba nestles into her safe place, tucked under Mateo's chin. Marimba, a ground pangolin, was around a year old when her mother was poached for her scales. Marimba was simply too young to fend for herself and so the decision was made to take her to Wild is Life sanctuary in Harare, Zimbabwe, where she met her full-time carer Mateo. Pangolins are notoriously difficult to look after in captivity, requiring particular and personal care. Mateo's gentle nature seemed like a perfect fit, and a remarkable relationship was born. Marimba and Mateo have spent ten hours a day together for the past 13 years, and it shows – they are inseparable. Many attempts have been made to rewild Marimba, but she always finds a way back to Mateo who refers to her as his last born child.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T3, 16-55mm lens, f2.8, 1/500s, ISO 1000</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	59	60	61	62

				
	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Roie Galitz, Israel</p> <p>Tarangire National Park, Tanzania</p> <p>The Last Embrace - a young female lioness feeds on a dead female elephant. This is a huge feast for the entire pride, that will provide them with nutritional intake while the surrounding environment of Tarangire national park suffers from draught.</p> <p>For predators each meal is a huge and risky battle. This series shows are four mammalian predators from four continents, facing the same challenges as the climate changes.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 180-400mm lens, f5, 1/200s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Roie Galitz, Israel</p> <p>Svalbard, Norway</p> <p>Polar bears mostly hunt in the springtime, when the ringed seals are abundant and hunting success is greater. Each seal caught is a valuable source of calories and blubber, which will be the reserve for the harsh summer to come. As sea temperatures are rising, there is less ice, and hunting opportunities become scarce. Without enough body fat, this mother's milk will dry up and her cubs won't survive, and the mother could die as well.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D810, 600mm lens, f10, 1/1000s, ISO 200</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Roie Galitz, Israel</p> <p>Lake Kurile, Kamchatka, Russia</p> <p>Brown bears follow the Sockeye salmon's path, and must eat as many as 30 salmon a day to gain enough body fat to survive winter's hibernation. The Sockeye salmon are on their final journey in life, to their breeding streams. Over-fishing in the sea of Okhotsk has a huge impact on the bear population of Kamchatka, with starvation becoming more frequent.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D810, 500mm lens, f7.1, 1/400s, ISO 800</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Roie Galitz, Israel</p> <p>Pantanal, Brazil</p> <p>The Giant River Otter is an endangered species with less than 5000 in the wild, and their numbers are decreasing due to habitat loss and water pollution. They reach lengths of up to 2 meters and weigh 25kg, and must eat around 5kg of food per day to survive. They eat bottom-dwelling fish and are one of the first animals to disappear when a water system is contaminated.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon Z7, 180-400mm lens, f5.6, 1/500s, ISO 2000</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	63	64	65	66

				
	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Lalith Ekanayake, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Eastern Province, Sri Lanka</p> <p>A procession of Asian elephants weaves through a desolate landscape, designated as a dumping ground for humanity's excesses. The sight is both tragic and emblematic of the Anthropocene, an era where human influence shapes the geological narrative. Amidst the discarded remnants of our civilization, these gentle giants unknowingly navigate a perilous course. Plastic waste, an unwelcome intruder, infiltrates their dung and stomachs, a poignant reflection of our collective failure in waste management. The echoes of burning refuse reverberate, as millions of tons of unutilized waste enter the bellies of both wild creatures and their human counterparts, a heartbreaking testament to our shared vulnerability in this modern age.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mavic 2 Pro, f5, 1/320s, ISO 100</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Lalith Ekanayake, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Monaragala, Sabaragamuwa Province, Sri Lanka</p> <p>The silent suffering of domesticated Asian elephants on the highway. Two Asian elephants, captives of domestication, endure their journey in an open truck. Concealed beneath their noble facade, they silently bear the weight of their restricted existence, their natural instincts curtailed. A reminder of the complex relationship between humans and these intelligent creatures.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mavic 2 Pro, f5.6, 1/240s, ISO 400</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Lalith Ekanayake, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Sabaragamuwa Province, Sri Lanka</p> <p>On the roads of Sabaragamuwa Province in Sri Lanka, wild elephants are a common sight. Despite the risks and prohibitions, some passengers in vehicles passing by offer bananas and other fruits to these majestic creatures. From my aerial view, I witnessed the behavior of one such elephant who was approached by a passenger in a passing minivan, attempting to make a mockery of the giant. In response, the elephant unleashed a sudden burst of anger, almost toppling the van and shattering its windows. Luckily, the driver was quick enough to escape before a certain disaster. It's a reminder of the importance of respecting these powerful and magnificent animals in their natural habitat.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mavic 2 Pro, f5.6, 1/500s, ISO 200</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Lalith Ekanayake, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Eastern Province, Sri Lanka</p> <p>This aerial view of wild elephants foraging in a garbage dump is both captivating and heartbreaking. These giants, with their strong scavenging senses, have developed this dangerous habit in search of food, consuming piles of plastic and sharp objects that could prove fatal. The scene is a testament to the harmful impact of human waste on wildlife, as the elephants are surrounded by colorful garbage while Common Egrets and Brahminy kites fly above. While it is a sorry sight to witness, it serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of proper waste management and conservation efforts to protect these magnificent creatures.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mavic 2 Pro, f2.8, 1/160s, ISO 400</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	67	68	69	70





				
	<p>COMMENDED NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Donna Feledichuk, Canada</p> <p>Lac La Biche, Alberta, Canada</p> <p>A family of red foxes denning in a log pile. The kits had been playing on the logs and when the mother returned, she was quickly mobbed as the kits vied for positions to nurse and nuzzle her for food</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 400mm lens, f4, 1/1000s, ISO 800</p>	<p>COMMENDED NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Donna Feledichuk, Canada</p> <p>Lac La Biche, Alberta, Canada</p> <p>The kits were out playing when they paused and were distracted by a raven flying overhead. The foxes were backlit by the setting sun that was filtering through the trees</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 400mm lens, f2.8, 1/2000s, ISO 125</p>	<p>COMMENDED NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Donna Feledichuk, Canada</p> <p>Lac La Biche, Alberta, Canada</p> <p>The fox kits were playing and chasing each other when one kit stopped and the other kit ran into the back of the first and so appeared to be draped over its sibling</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 400mm lens, f2.8, 1/800s, ISO 500</p>	<p>COMMENDED NATURE, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Donna Feledichuk, Canada</p> <p>Lac La Biche, Alberta, Canada</p> <p>The fox kits had to either climb down and back up over logs in some spots or jump across the gaps in the logs. Having watched the foxes for a few days I knew where they jumped across logs and waited, camera posed on this spot, for one of the kits to leap across.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 400mm lens, f2.8, 1/800s, ISO 640</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	71	72	73	74




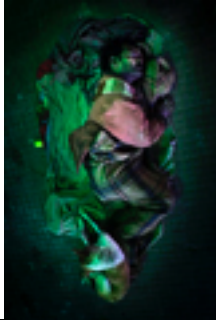


				
	<p>WINNER, BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN A WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO Martin Broen, USA</p> <p>Anilao, Philippines</p> <p>A yellow Goby watches the ocean from the entrance of his crystal palace, a glass bottle at the bottom of the sea of the worst ocean polluter on the planet.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony a1, 90mm macro lens, f13, 1/125s, ISO 400</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Donna Feledichuk, Canada</p> <p>Lac La Biche, Alberta, Canada</p> <p>I was sitting in the middle of a gravel road watching this owl hunt. It was perched on the end of the fence and I noticed a movement to the left. I fixed my camera on the owl and held down the shutter as a hawk dove right at the owl and the owl raised its wings in a defensive pose but remained on the post as the hawk flew within inches.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 150 -600mm lens, f6.3, 1/1000s, ISO 640</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Sam Turley, UK</p> <p>Imire Rhino and Wildlife Conservancy, Hwedza, Mashonaland East, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Makhavusi walks hundreds of miles a week in search of food and so does Marupia, to make sure that the elephant doesn't stray into local communities. Makhavusi was rescued from the illegal wildlife trade and, too young to fend for himself, and traumatised by his ordeal, was hand raised and bottle fed. During this process, Mak naturally became increasingly dependent on human interaction, and could not be released back into the wild. After such a traumatic start to life at the hands of people, Mak's temperament is unbelievable. He has formed incredible relationships with conservancy staff members, and none are stronger than the bond he has with Marupia. Hundreds of tourists now visit Mak each year and while Marupia educates visitors about how incredible and important elephants are, Mak shows them. A true ambassador for his species.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T3, 16-55mm lens, f5.6, 1/300s, ISO 640</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Barbara Dall'angelo, Italy</p> <p>Sumba Island, Indonesia</p> <p>The dancing trees of a remote Indonesian island immediately captured my soul. They are unique - unlike all the other mangroves in the world, which exist in groups, these were born isolated and they have adapted to the difficult weather conditions inventing these amazing choreographies. I positioned my tripod in order to see the trees responding to each other in a kind of dancing choreography.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon Z7II, 24-70mm lens, f14, 5s, ISO 80</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	75	76	77	78


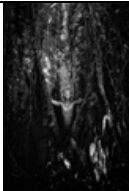








				
	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION:</b> Sam Turley, UK</p> <p>Wild is Life Sanctuary, Harare, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Mateo smiles as Marimba nestles into her safe place, tucked under Mateo's chin. Marimba, a ground pangolin, was around a year old when her mother was poached for her scales. Marimba was simply too young to fend for herself and so the decision was made to take her to Wild is Life sanctuary in Harare, Zimbabwe, where she met her full-time carer Mateo. Pangolins are notoriously difficult to look after in captivity, requiring particular and personal care. Mateo's gentle nature seemed like a perfect fit, and a remarkable relationship was born. Marimba and Mateo have spent ten hours a day together for the past 13 years, and it shows – they are inseparable. Many attempts have been made to rewild Marimba, but she always finds a way back to Mateo who refers to her as his last born child.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Fujifilm X-T3, 16-55mm lens, f2.8, 1/500s, ISO 1000</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION:</b> Guangming Hu, China</p> <p>Chunhua mountain village, Changsha County, Hunan Province, China</p> <p>The mantis lives carefree and free among the flowers.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Olympus M1MkIII, 60mm macro lens, f4, 1/320s, ISO 200</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION:</b> Andrew Parkinson, UK</p> <p>Pantanal wetlands, Brazil</p> <p>A yellow armadillo, in mid-air, comes galloping down a pathway at a secluded lodge in the Southern Pantanal.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon Z9, 400mm lens, f2.8, 1/1000s, ISO 800</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION:</b> David Newton, UK</p> <p>Sepilok Orang Utan rehab area, Borneo, Malaysi</p> <p>A mother and baby orang utan in an embrace. The baby clings tight to the mother while the mother sits on a tree branch keeping a protective watch.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon EOS R7, 100-500mm lens, f7.1, 1/320s, ISO 2000</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>82</b>

WINNER, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO, ATHANASIOS MALOUKOS, GREECE				
	<p>WINNER, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO, Athanasios Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Lake Baikal, Siberia, Russia</p> <p>The Buryatian shaman Vitalli performs a ritual to connect with the spirits on frozen Lake Baikal, with the sacred Ogoi (Dragon) cape in the background. Siberia is considered the heartland of Shamanism, with Lake Baikal its most sacred place.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS R5, 15-35mm lens, f18, 1/125s, ISO 100</p>	<p>WINNER, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO, Athanasios Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Lake Baikal, Siberia, Russia</p> <p>Shaman Aleksandr in an ice cave by the cliffs of Olgoi Island. Ice caves are considered the refuges of the middle-world spirits where humans live, while the 'upper world' is reserved for good deities and the 'lower world' for the dark forces.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS R5, 15-35mm lens, f8, 1/250s, ISO100</p>	<p>WINNER, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO, Athanasios Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Lake Baikal, Siberia, Russia</p> <p>Performing a libation ritual to ask the spirits for a successful day. No pictures would be taken before making sure that the spirits of the 'upper world' are favourable.</p> <p>A shaman serves as a healer, problem solver, protector from hostile spirits, a guide and a medium between the spiritual and human worlds.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS R5, 15-35mm lens, f8, 1/250s, ISO 100</p>	<p>WINNER, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO, Athanasios Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Lake Baikal, Siberia, Russia</p> <p>A Tuvan Shaman, on his seventh out of nine stages of training, connects with the celestial spirits on the frozen and cracked Lake Baikal next to cape Khoboi.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS R5, 15-35mm lens, f2.8, 1/160s, ISO 100</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	83	84	85	86



				
	<p>RUNNER-UP, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Alain Schroeder, Belgium</p> <p>Kolkata, India</p> <p>People sleeping, day and night, alone or in groups, are an integral part of the Indian landscape. All types of social groups find it perfectly normal to sleep in what might be considered unusual places.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro2, 14mm lens, f3,2, 1/56s, ISO 1600</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Alain Schroeder, Belgium</p> <p>Kolkata, India</p> <p>People sleeping, day and night, alone or in groups, are an integral part of the Indian landscape. All types of social groups find it perfectly normal to sleep in what might be considered unusual places.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro2, 14mm lens, f3,2, 1/75s, ISO 1600</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Alain Schroeder, Belgium</p> <p>Kolkata, India</p> <p>People sleeping, day and night, alone or in groups, are an integral part of the Indian landscape. All types of social groups find it perfectly normal to sleep in what might be considered unusual places.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro2, 18mm lens, f4,0, 1/125s, ISO 400</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Alain Schroeder, Belgium</p> <p>Kolkata, India</p> <p>People sleeping, day and night, alone or in groups, are an integral part of the Indian landscape. All types of social groups find it perfectly normal to sleep in what might be considered unusual places.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro2, 18mm lens, f2,0, 1/15s, ISO 1600</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	87	88	89	90

				
	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Cliff Fawcett, UK</p> <p>Havana, Cuba</p> <p>Just outside the crumbling city of Old Havana, buried amongst dilapidated buildings and apartments, lies a small, open-air boxing gym. It doesn't look like much, yet the gym is renowned for creating champion after champion. Whilst the credit has to go to the coaches, perhaps when you have legendary figures like Che Guevara watching every swing and upper cut you push that little bit harder!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D-810, 18-200mm lens, f8, 1/1600s, ISO 200</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Cliff Fawcett, UK</p> <p>Havana, Cuba</p> <p>It is incredible watching the effort every fighter puts in, not just in the bouts but in all elements of training. The tension and strain are palpable in the small courtyard, intensified by the midday Cuban heat beating down on stone walls - walls which surround and tantalise with murals of past champions, medals and glory.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D-810, 18-200mm lens, f5, 1/1250s, ISO 800</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Cliff Fawcett, UK</p> <p>Havana, Cuba</p> <p>The bouts themselves take place under the shade of a corrugated tin roof. Whilst it offers some respite from the sun, the intensity of the fights never seems to let up. Following a particularly consuming bout a poignant moment presents itself, where walls seemingly come alive to gloat and reign victorious over the vanquished.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D-810, 18-200mm lens, f8, 1/5000s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Cliff Fawcett, UK</p> <p>Havana, Cuba</p> <p>As another day's training draws to a close, you can sense how the boxers leave it out in the ring. One boxer emanates defeat and dejection, and the very ritual of unwrapping his fists becomes about leaving it all in the ring.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D-810, 18-200mm lens, f5, 1/1000s, ISO 500</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	91	92	93	95





				
	<p>COMMEDED, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Jacopo Maria Della Valle, Italy</p> <p>Siberut, Mentawai islands, Indonesia</p> <p>The indigenous people of Mentawai, living isolated into the jungle, are culturally and spiritually different from the Indonesian people of the mainland. Mentawai observe their own traditional religion called Arat Sabulungan, which literally means 'religion of leaves, to indicate the importance of the forest. Arat Sabulungan has been practiced for centuries and regulates the relationships between humans and the spirits of Nature to live in harmony and peace in the jungle.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D750, 85mm lens, f3.5, 1/200s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>COMMEDED, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Jacopo Maria Della Valle, Italy</p> <p>Siberut, Mentawai islands, Indonesia</p> <p>The Mentawai people have a very strong bond with the jungle they live in. They treat the forest with love and respect because they believe that everything in Nature has a spiritual essence and their religion, Arat Sabulungan, regulates the relationship between humans and the spirits of the jungle. While for us it seems so difficult, immense and powerful, Mentawai have lived in the jungle since birth and even children are serene because they know every path, plant, tree or animal. Pete is 15 years old and showed me one of the biggest trees of kakadut: he felt the strength of the tree and it seemed he was charging in it.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon Z6, 35mm lens, f5, 1/200s, ISO 2000</p>	<p>COMMEDED, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Jacopo Maria Della Valle, Italy</p> <p>Siberut, Mentawai islands, Indonesia</p> <p>The Mentawai are an ethnic tribe with a fascinating and well preserved traditional culture. They are dedicated to hunting and gathering, but they take only what they really need from the forest to survive. Pittoro, like all the Mentawai, raises pigs and chickens in his 'uma' (wooden longhouse), but on special occasions he hunts game wild boar, small monkeys and monitor lizards with his spear. Before hunting, Pittoro apologizes to the corresponding spirit and explains the reason for this action. Mentawai never kill an animal or a plant without asking for its spirit's forgiveness.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon Z6, 35mm lens, f4.5, 1/160s, ISO 3200</p>	<p>COMMEDED, PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Jacopo Maria Della Valle, Italy</p> <p>Siberut, Mentawai islands, Indonesia</p> <p>The Mentawai are indigenous people living in the jungle and still maintaining their distinctive ancient lifestyle. Fishing is a job done by the women and I followed Salamon down the river to find some fish for dinner. She wore a skirt made of banana leaves and she slipped under the quay of the bank with her net to let the fish in. Unfortunately the fishing was poor because the rain of the previous hours had caused the fish to be dragged away by the current.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon Z6, 35mm lens, f4.5, 1/200s, ISO 2000</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	95	96	97	98





				
	<p>WINNER, BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN A PEOPLE AND CULTURES PORTFOLIO Jack Lawson, UK</p> <p>Lagos, Nigeria</p> <p>Four members of The Special Eagles, Nigeria's national amputee football team, stand looking out into the ocean at a day on the beach.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 5DS R, 24-70mm lens, f4.5, 1/400s, ISO 100</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Ben McRae, Australia</p> <p>Epupa, Kunene Region, Namibia</p> <p>As new generations come Himba elders wonder how their culture will fare. More roads, schools and medical facilities are opening up in previously inaccessible areas, this spreading the threat of traditions fading away. It is up to the mothers and the family unit to pass on their traditions and way of life.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon 5D MKIV, 85mm lens, f5, 1/2500s, ISO 640</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Sun Bin, China</p> <p>Zhuomulang Village, Weishan County, Dali, Yunnan, China</p> <p>A Yi family in their centuries-old house.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Leica M10P, 35mm lens, f4.8, 1/45s, ISO 200</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Julian Elliott, UK</p> <p>Hoi An, Quang Nam province, Vietnam</p> <p>Early in the morning on the Thu Bon river near Hoi An during the summer months, you can catch the fishermen lifting their nets to see their catch.</p> <p>Having photographed the fisherman a few months earlier I asked the boat owner who took me out how close we could get to the net. To her credit, she was able to get the boat right up to the net and I was able to shoot through the netting to create a more distinct-looking image.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 24-105mm lens, f6.3, 1/100s, ISO 400</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	99	100	101	102











				
	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Athanasios Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Panteón Xoxocotlán, Oaxaca, Mexico</p> <p>The iconic figure of La Catrina, first depicted in one of Diego Rivera's famous murals, has become associated with the Day of the Dead, one of the most distinctive festivals in the world, which honours death by celebrating life.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS R7, 24-105mm lens, f4, 1/100s, ISO 6400</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Shyjith Onden Cheriya, India</p> <p>Al Qusais Cattle Market, Dubai, United Arab Emirates</p> <p>Camels are a vital part of the culture and economy in the United Arab Emirates, and ensuring their proper nutrition is crucial. Camel feed mixing at the Al Qusais Cattle Market involves the blending of various ingredients to create a balanced and nutritious diet for the camels. This process takes into account the specific dietary needs of camels, which often includes a combination of grains, legumes, hay, and other essential nutrients.</p> <p>The goal of camel feed mixing is to provide camels with the energy and nutrients required to maintain their health and strength, particularly given the demands of their traditional roles in transportation, racing, and cultural events.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T3, 10-24mm lens, f9, 1/500s, ISO 1600</p>		
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	103	104		

WINNER, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, ALAIN SCHROEDER, BELGIUM				
	<p>WINNER, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, Alain Schroeder, Belgium</p> <p>Manhattan, New York, USA</p> <p>2022 USATF Masters Indoor Championships at The Armory.</p> <p>Carolyn Cockey, (89), approaches the finish line of the W85 (Women 85-89) 200 meter dash, finishing second with a time of 2:46.66. She also participated in the 60 meter dash, and the 400 meter dash.</p> <p>General Caption : Meet the seniors defying norms in categories such as 85 - 89, 95-99 and even over 100, for whom age is just a number, and absolutely no deterrent to performance goals!</p> <p>Deafening cheers accompany every athlete, while friends congratulate and console each other in an emotionally charged atmosphere where every participant is a big winner.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro4, 55mm lens, f5, 1/500s, ISO 2500</p>	<p>WINNER, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, Alain Schroeder, Belgium</p> <p>Manhattan, New York, USA</p> <p>2022 USATF Masters Indoor Championships at The Armory.</p> <p>Dixon Hemphill (97) - Potomac Valley Track Club, crosses the finish line in the M95 (Men 95- 99) 200 meter dash, accompanied by a young woman for safety. Dixon Hemphill is running out of competition. At 97, it's hard for him to find anyone to race against in the M95 (Men 95-99) category.</p> <p>Hemphill rediscovered athletics in his seventies. "I got a medal and thought, well, this is fun. That was 50 years ago, and I've been running ever since." Hemphill, who has run hundreds of races including, marathons, triathlons, and has held world records added, "but now my body can't handle long races anymore, so these days, my racing distance peaks at a mile.»</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro4, 18mm lens, f3.6, 1/250s, ISO 1600</p>	<p>WINNER, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, Alain Schroeder, Belgium</p> <p>Manhattan, New York, USA</p> <p>2022 USATF Masters Indoor Championships at The Armory.</p> <p>John Macdonald (85) - Shore Athletics Club, catches his breath after winning the 200 Meter Dash in the M85 (Men 85-89) category.</p> <p>General Caption : Meet the seniors defying norms in categories such as 85 - 89, 95-99 and even over 100, for whom age is just a number, and absolutely no deterrent to performance goals!</p> <p>Deafening cheers accompany every athlete, while friends congratulate and console each other in an emotionally charged atmosphere where every participant is a big winner.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro4,, 18mm lens, f2.8, 1/140s, ISO 1600</p>	<p>WINNER, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, Alain Schroeder, Belgium</p> <p>Manhattan, New York, USA</p> <p>2022 USATF Masters Indoor Championships at The Armory.</p> <p>Richard Soller (95) on the left wearing bib #819, greets his friend Vance Genzlinger (92) - Philadelphia Masters Club, wearing bib #309. Though they are close in age, Genzlinger runs in a younger category M90 (Men 90-94). Richard Soller won his race in the M95 (Men 95-99) category.</p> <p>General Caption : Meet the seniors defying norms in categories such as 85 - 89, 95-99 and even over 100, for whom age is just a number, and absolutely no deterrent to performance goals!</p> <p>Deafening cheers accompany every athlete, while friends congratulate and console each other in an emotionally charged atmosphere where every participant is a big winner.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro4, 18mm lens, f3.2, 1/170s, ISO 1600</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	105	106	107	108


				
	<p>RUNNER-UP, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Islamabad, Pakistan</p> <p>Brick kilns in Southeast Asia are notable for causing environmental pollution, violating children's rights, and working conditions that violate the most basic of human rights. Soot and harmful gases from the factory chimneys fill the air. Without respiratory masks, the polluted air finds its way straight to the lungs. The presence of these kilns is not unknown, and yet they're still operating unabated. These enterprises not only cause terrible damage to the environment but also have terrible and unlawful working conditions and must be urgently inspected and controlled. This system of economic slavery and plunder of the environment must end. Photographs should be the voice of those who have no voice.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 24-70mm lens, f10, 1/500s, ISO 640</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Islamabad Pakistan</p> <p>Brick kilns in Southeast Asia are notable for causing environmental pollution, violating children's rights, and working conditions that violate the most basic of human rights. Soot and harmful gases from the factory chimneys fill the air. Without respiratory masks, the polluted air finds its way straight to the lungs. The presence of these kilns is not unknown, and yet they're still operating unabated. These enterprises not only cause terrible damage to the environment but also have terrible and unlawful working conditions and must be urgently inspected and controlled. This system of economic slavery and plunder of the environment must end. Photographs should be the voice of those who have no voice.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 24-70mm lens, f2.8, 1/1250s, ISO 400</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Islamabad, Pakistan</p> <p>Brick kilns in Southeast Asia are notable for causing environmental pollution, violating children's rights, and working conditions that violate the most basic of human rights. Soot and harmful gases from the factory chimneys fill the air. Without respiratory masks, the polluted air finds its way straight to the lungs. The presence of these kilns is not unknown, and yet they're still operating unabated. These enterprises not only cause terrible damage to the environment but also have terrible and unlawful working conditions and must be urgently inspected and controlled. This system of economic slavery and plunder of the environment must end. Photographs should be the voice of those who have no voice.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 24-70mm lens, f11, 1/500s, ISO 400</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Islamabad, Pakistan</p> <p>Brick kilns in Southeast Asia are notable for causing environmental pollution, violating children's rights, and working conditions that violate the most basic of human rights. Soot and harmful gases from the factory chimneys fill the air. Without respiratory masks, the polluted air finds its way straight to the lungs. The presence of these kilns is not unknown, and yet they're still operating unabated. These enterprises not only cause terrible damage to the environment but also have terrible and unlawful working conditions and must be urgently inspected and controlled. This system of economic slavery and plunder of the environment must end. Photographs should be the voice of those who have no voice.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 24-70mm lens, f2.8, 1/400s, ISO 400</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	109	110	111	112





				
	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, Johan Gerrits, Netherlands</p> <p>Guelta d'Archei, Chad</p> <p>Caravans of traditional nomads enter the oasis of Guelta d'Archei, after a long journey trough the Ennedi desert. Every day, hundreds of dromedaries are herded into the knee-deep water of the guelta, by passing caravans for them to drink and rest. Dung from thousands of dromedaries excreted over hundreds of years has turned the water black. Even here a little population of west african crocodiles survives. Adding to the atmosphere is the sound of bellowing dromedaries echoing around the rock walls.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 5D Mk III, 70-200mm lens, f8, 1/500s, ISO 800</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, Johan Gerrits, Netherlands</p> <p>Guelta d'Archei, Chad</p> <p>A Toubou nomadic woman waiting with her goats in the row for watering. Caravans of traditional nomads enter the oasis of Guelta d'Archei, after a long journey trough the Ennedi desert. Dung from thousands of dromedaries excreted over hundreds of years has turned the water black. Even here a little population of west african crocodiles survives. Adding to the atmosphere is the sound of bellowing dromedaries echoing around the rock walls.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 5D Mk III, 70-200mm lens, f13, 1/1250s, ISO 800</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, Johan Gerrits, Netherlands</p> <p>Guelta d'Archei, Chad</p> <p>Every day, hundreds of dromedaries are herded into the knee-deep water of the guelta, by passing caravans for them to drink and rest. Dung from thousands of dromedaries excreted over hundreds of years has turned the water black. Even here a little population of west african crocodiles survives. Adding to the atmosphere is the sound of bellowing dromedaries echoing around the rock walls.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 5D Mk II, 16-35mm lens, f4, 1/8000s, ISO 1250</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, Johan Gerrits, Netherlands</p> <p>Guelta d'Archei, Chad</p> <p>A Toubou nomad brings his dromedaries back to the herd, after enjoying the cool water of the Guelta d'Archei oasis.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 5D Mk II, 16-35mm lens, f20, 1/1000s, ISO 1250</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	113	114	115	116


				
	<p>COMMENDED, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Kalash Valley, Chitral, Pakistan</p> <p>In Pakistan, an Islamic Republic, there is no co-education in public schools. Boys and girls receive Islamic education in separate classrooms and schools. The Kalash live within the borders of Pakistan and neighboring Afghanistan, yet their schools are still co-educational. Gender diversity and unity are viewed as nothing to fear. Children are educated equally and together.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 24-70mm lens, f8, 1/200s, ISO 1250</p>	<p>COMMENDED, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Kalash Valley, Chitral, Pakistan</p> <p>In Pakistan, an Islamic Republic, there is no co-education in public schools. Boys and girls receive Islamic education in separate classrooms and schools. The Kalash live within the borders of Pakistan and neighboring Afghanistan, yet their schools are still co-educational. Gender diversity and unity are viewed as nothing to fear. Children are educated equally and together.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 24-70mm lens, f3.2, 1/60s, ISO 1250</p>	<p>COMMENDED, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Kalash Valley, Chitral, Pakistan</p> <p>In Pakistan, an Islamic Republic, there is no co-education in public schools. Boys and girls receive Islamic education in separate classrooms and schools. The Kalash live within the borders of Pakistan and neighboring Afghanistan, yet their schools are still co-educational. Gender diversity and unity are viewed as nothing to fear. Children are educated equally and together.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 16-35mm lens, f3.5, 1/60s, ISO 1250</p>	<p>COMMENDED, VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO, F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Kalash Valley, Chitral, Pakistan</p> <p>In Pakistan, an Islamic Republic, there is no co-education in public schools. Boys and girls receive Islamic education in separate classrooms and schools. The Kalash live within the borders of Pakistan and neighboring Afghanistan, yet their schools are still co-educational. Gender diversity and unity are viewed as nothing to fear. Children are educated equally and together.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 24-70mm lens, f2.8, 1/250s, ISO 1250</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	117	118	119	120





				
	<p>WINNER, BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN A VISUAL STORIES PORTFOLIO F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Kalash Valley, Chitral, Pakistan</p> <p>In Pakistan, an Islamic Republic, there is no co-education in public schools. Boys and girls receive Islamic education in separate classrooms and schools. The Kalash live within the borders of Pakistan and neighboring Afghanistan, yet their schools are still co-educational. Gender diversity and unity are viewed as nothing to fear. Children are educated equally and together.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7rIII, 24-70mm lens, f2.8, 1/250s, ISO 1250</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Nicolo Brugnara, Italy</p> <p>Near the Ijen volcano, Java, Indonesia</p> <p>Before the arrival of multinationals, people lived a simple life connected with the cycle of nature. The rice fields bordering the volcano were the primary source of subsistence. Not more than 80 years ago, some 'wise' entrepreneur realised that there was the possibility of extracting an immense amount of money in that idyllic place. Thanks to the geological activity of the volcano, infinite sulphur could be removed and used to produce cosmetics on a large scale. Thus, since the 1940s, poor agricultural workers, attracted by a better wage, have become sulphur miners.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7RM4A, 24mm lens, f9, 1/250s, ISO 500</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Nicolas Castermans, France</p> <p>Perito Moreno, Patagonia, Argentina</p> <p>This image was taken at the Perito Moreno glacier in Argentina in winter. Two people were kayaking next to an iceberg during a snowstorm. It is part of a series showing how fragile and threatened such environments are.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm XS10, 16-80mm lens, f7.1, 1/1100s, ISO 640</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION: Stephen Bell, UK</p> <p>Cité de la Mer maritime museum, Cherbourg, France</p> <p>During a family holiday in France, we had landed at Cherbourg and saw the information about the maritime museum and made it one of our targets. I was amazed to find that there was a decommissioned French nuclear submarine that we could walk around and through! I was struck by the propeller that had pushed the submarine along for more than 790,000 miles... the equivalent of 32 trips around the world. It also struck me as incongruous that this monster casting, some 30 feet wide, is so reminiscent of a natural form such as a flower - on a machine that carried 16 nuclear warheads around the world's oceans for 20 years.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7r Mk4, Sigma 14-14mm lens, f4, 1/4000s, ISO400</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	120	122	123	124









				
	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION:</b> Pawel Sadaj, Poland</p> <p>Śliwiczki, Bory Tucholskie, Pomorskie, Poland</p> <p>This is from a series which tells the story of a large cattle herd, which for many years was an intrinsic element of the landscape of a the Polish village. One day the flock simply disappeared. The animals were sold, taken to the slaughterhouse and killed within moments. At the same time, information about the new milking technology appeared in the press. Now, rather than grazing fields, 60 cows stand in boxes arranged in a circle, they are fed and milked without human intervention. They are deprived of contact with other animals, with the sky, grass, fresh air. They spend their entire lives locked up. This technology increases the productivity of dairy cows by 30%, but after 2 years their productivity drops significantly, so they end up in the slaughterhouse, and another, new 60 cows stand in the circle. This image shows a cow's throat and two flies flying under her. It is a symbol of danger, they herald the coming death. The composition can be viewed as an aerial photograph showing a fragment of land and water. This is a presentation of the problem of industrial animal husbandry in a wider context.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon 5D Mk II, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/3200s, ISO 160</p>			
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>125</b>			

MPB ONE SHOT: A QUIETER LIFE				
	<p>WINNER, MPB ONE SHOT: A QUIETER LIFE Ignacio Palacios, Australia/Spain</p> <p>La Puna, Argentina</p> <p>Walking on a white sand dune in La Puna, Argentina</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon, 70-200mm lens, f8, 1/1250s, ISO 200</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, MPB ONE SHOT: A QUIETER LIFE Thomas Ackermann, Germany</p> <p>Gobi Desert, Mongolia</p> <p>A 'time traveller' enjoys the evening magic in the Gobi Desert. Camera in hand, I was following the two people walking with the camels though the sand dunes. At the top they stopped and set down to watch the sunset, which is when I realized that two men on motor bikes were doing the same at the base of the dune – a contrast in ancient and modern forms of transport.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon 6D Mk II, 80-200mm lens, f5.6, 1/250s, ISO100</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, MPB ONE SHOT: A QUIETER LIFE Justin Cliffe, UK</p> <p>Hook of Holland, Netherlands</p> <p>This image, of a man relaxing on a bench with a half-drunk glass of beer at his feet, was taken onboard the MV Stena Britannica ferry when it was docked at the Hook of Holland, shortly prior to its departure for the overnight journey to Harwich.</p> <p>The industrial part of Rotterdam, Europoort, is in the background, the scene being lit by the setting sun which had just appeared through the clouds following torrential rain all day. Ironically I only ended up on this ferry because Covid restrictions put in place during my trip meant that returning to the UK from Germany through France would have meant a 10 day quarantine period upon arrival in the UK!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X100F, f5.6, 1/160s, ISO 200</p>	<p>COMMENDED, MPB ONE SHOT: A QUIETER LIFE Jochen Bongaerts, Belgium</p> <p>Fanal forest, Madeira, Portugal</p> <p>Life can be hectic at times. This photo is about being able to unwind and finding solace in the simple beauty of the world.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7RIII, 14-24mm lens, f8, 1/250s, ISO100</p>
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	<p>COMMENDED, MPB ONE SHOT: A QUIETER LIFE Angiolo Manetti, Italy</p> <p>Tromsø, Norway</p> <p>A bonfire is the perfect place to warm up in the intense cold of a starry night under a green sky coloured by the Aurora Borealis.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f2.8, 1s, ISO1000</p>			
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MPB ONE SHOT: ABOVE, EYE LEVEL, BELOW				
	<p>WINNER: MPB ONE SHOT: ABOVE, EYE LEVEL, BELOW, Josien van Geffen, Netherlands</p> <p>Reutte, Austria</p> <p>Under the Highline 179 suspension bridge, you get a completely different view when you look up. The bridge and the people on it now appear like a scene from an old video game.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-7RM3, 70-300mm lens, f5.6, 1/200s, ISO 50</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, MPB ONE SHOT: ABOVE, EYE LEVEL, BELOW, Sergey Gorshkov, Russia</p> <p>Kamchatka, Russia.</p> <p>A brown bear, viewed from below.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon 2DX, 12-24mm lens, f9, 1/250s, ISO 100</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, MPB ONE SHOT: ABOVE, EYE LEVEL, BELOW, Laura Storm, UK</p> <p>Lembah Strait, Molucca Sea, Indonesia</p> <p>Showing its ability to hide in plain sight, a Ghost goby uses the lace-like textures of a pink sponge to camouflage its presence. Melding with its host, the tiny fish improves its chances of survival. Blue and green iridescent eye reflections are produced by my lights, illuminating the scene from above.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS 800D, 60mm lens, f14, 1/80s, ISO 200</p>	<p>COMMENDED, MPB ONE SHOT: ABOVE, EYE LEVEL, BELOW, AndreJa Ravnak, Slovenia</p> <p>Hamnoy, Lofoten islands, Norway</p> <p>As Douglas Adams wrote in his brilliant <i>Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i>, Norway and its stunning fjord-lined coast were reportedly designed by a very talented planetary landscape designer named Slartibartfast. Norway is indeed stunning, but a particularly special gem is the Lofoten archipelago in the Arctic north. Here, spiky black mountains, clad in white snow blankets, rise out of turquoise blue sea. It was a challenge for me to capture Hamnoy in its true, Arctic image. The weather on the archipelago is extremely fickle, with beautiful conditions quickly turning into dangerous snowstorms with high winds. Winters are long and for several months there is very little daylight. These are the authentic Lofoten islands.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon EOS R6, 14-24mm lens, f2.8, 5s, ISO 640</p>
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	<p>COMMENDED: MPB ONE SHOT: ABOVE, EYE LEVEL, BELOW, Pier Luigi Dodi, Italy</p> <p>Fidenza, Emilia-Romagna, Italy</p> <p>I'm a vet, and, late afternoon when I was leaving my department at the university, I saw this cow and wondered: "Is it an optical illusion or genetic mutation?!"</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA iPhone 11 Pro Max, f1,8, 1/128s, ISO 32</p>			
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MPB ONE SHOT: LEISURE AND ADVENTURE				
	<p>WINNER, MPB ONE SHOT: LEISURE AND ADVENTURE Andrea Peruzzi, Italy</p> <p>Petra, Jordan</p> <p>As the last rays of the sun illuminate the iconic Treasury of Petra, a Bedouin enjoys jumping between the overhanging rocks. At sunset, it's as if the once-lost city has two profoundly different souls, divided between day and night. When tourists leave this iconic destination, the Bedouins reawaken the ancient soul of Petra by repopulating the site, to eat around the bonfires and stay connected to the traditions handed down by their ancestors.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-Pro3, 23mm lens, f5.6, 1/250s, ISO 250</p>	<p>RUNNER-UP, MPB ONE SHOT: LEISURE AND ADVENTURE F.Dilek Yurdakul, Turkey</p> <p>Erbaa, Tokat, Turkey</p> <p>Children from different families and different ethnic identities play together in a ruined historic Turkish bath. There is no racism or discrimination for the children. It is instilled in their minds by adults as they grow up.</p> <p>Erbaa Municipality has announced that they will soon restore this historical building, which was damaged in the 1939 earthquake.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7r+, 16-35mm lens, f6.3, 1/60s, ISO 640</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED. MPB ONE SHOT: LEISURE AND ADVENTURE Erhan Coral, Turkey</p> <p>Budaklı Thermal Springs, Güroymak, Bitlis, Turkey</p> <p>The open-air spa in the village of Budaklı, which is seven kilometers away from the Güroymak district of Bitlis, is preferred by those who seek healing in the summer and those who want to bathe their buffalo and horses in the winter.</p> <p>In the village, where the air temperature drops to 20 degrees below zero, buffalo and horses, which cannot be taken out of the stables due to heavy winter conditions, are taken to the spa at regular intervals for relaxation. The animals are bathed in the hot spring water at 40 degrees but covered with snow, for about 2 hours. Hot water of the spa cleans away lice and parasites.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Leica Q 116, 28mm lens, f16, 1/250s, ISO 100</p>	<p>COMMENDED, MPB ONE SHOT: LEISURE AND ADVENTURE Dmytro Geshengorin, Germany</p> <p>On the main beach of Jericoacoara, Brazil.</p> <p>I met Carlos, a breakdance artist from Jericoacoara, on the beach practising his moves and we decided to use the beautiful backdrop of Jeri's sunset for a photography session showcasing his skills and freezing him mid flight. Now I am back in Germany but we still chat once in a while and this is what I like about travelling. It is not only about leisure and adventure but also about meeting people and collaborating with them on creative projects.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7III, 28-75mm lens, f8, 1/2500s, ISO 1250</p>
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WINNER, PEOPLE'S CHOICE VOTE Rohan Neel Shah, Kenya (age 16)		<p>Maasai Mara, Kenya</p> <p>A young wildebeest lost in the Great Wildebeest Migration madness. He stands there confused whilst other wildebeest rush to cross the river.</p>	<p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon Z9, 200-500mm lens, f32, 1/6s, ISO 64</p>	REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER 140