

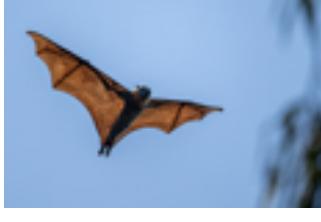
## TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025 WINNING IMAGES

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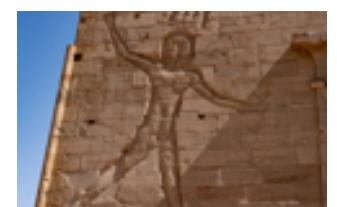
<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b> <b>ATHANASIOS MALOUKAS, GREECE</b></p>				
<p>American-born Piper Mackay lives in Kenya and has been exploring Africa's wilds since 2004, capturing her journey through photography. Initially inspired by the untamed beauty, she began with vibrant color imagery. As technology evolved, she transitioned to a sophisticated monochromatic style, revisiting the wild places she first encountered to create powerful, evocative images.</p> <p>Her work has been featured at prestigious institutions such as the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., The Museum of History and Industry in Seattle, and The Art Wolfe Gallery. Her photographs are part of private collections worldwide.</p> <p>Mackay's work has appeared in notable publications including National Geographic Traveler, Outdoor Photographer, and Nature Photographer. Her images have also been featured in National Geographic and Travel Africa. She has won several prestigious awards, including the African Wildlife Category at Nature's Best and a highly commended portfolio in the 2020 Travel Photographer of the Year.</p>	<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b> Athanasios Maloukas, Greece</p> <p>Zamora, Spain</p> <p>Night of Sorrows: The 'Yacente' Procession of Zamora, Holy Thursday Penitents from the "Yacente" brotherhood take part in the Holy Thursday night procession in Zamora, Spain. Wrapped in white robes with black sashes, they walk in solemn silence, their steps echoing through the narrow streets. The soft flicker of candlelight breaks the darkness, "illuminating" their hidden faces, each step a meditation on death, sacrifice, and hope.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R7, 24-70mm lens, f2.8, 1/20s, ISO 3200</p>	<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b> Athanasios Maloukas, Greece</p> <p>Zamora, Spain</p> <p>Night of Sorrows: The 'Yacente' Procession of Zamora, Holy Thursday Shoulders bowed, two penitents move through the twilight bearing heavy wooden crosses. Their silent offering of endurance and humility forms part of the "Yacente" procession—one of Zamora's most profound Holy Week rituals. The blur of motion reflects not haste but the quiet struggle of devotion, as the weight of the wood becomes a symbol of shared human suffering and faith.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 15-35mm lens, f2.8, 0.4s, ISO 4000</p>	<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b> Athanasios Maloukas, Greece</p> <p>Zamora, Spain</p> <p>Night of Sorrows: The 'Yacente' Procession of Zamora, Holy Thursday A lone penitent walks barefoot across Zamora's Plaza de la Catedral, moments before the brotherhood's final gathering. Behind him, the procession slowly comes to rest, their candles swaying in the night air. Soon, the silence will give way to the haunting chant of the Miserere, closing the "Yacente" procession with a moment of collective sorrow and reflection, well past midnight.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 15-35mm lens, f2.8, 0.2s, ISO 3200</p>	<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b> Athanasios Maloukas, Greece</p> <p>Zamora, Spain</p> <p>Night of Sorrows: The 'Yacente' Procession of Zamora, Holy Thursday The image of Christ's lifeless body, sculpted in 1941 by Ramón Álvarez, rests on a simple bier lit only by candles. Carried through the night by hooded members of the "Yacente" brotherhood, the float becomes more than a procession—it is a collective act of mourning. Beneath the pointed hoods, unseen faces reflect on mortality and redemption, while the silence of the streets deepens the spiritual gravity of the moment.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 15-35mm lens, f2.8, 1/50s, ISO 3200</p>

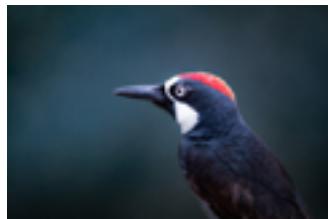
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<b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b> <b>ATHANASIOS MALOUKAS, GREECE</b>				
<p>Athanasiros Maloukos is an award-winning travel photographer specializing in world religions, disappearing rituals, and sacred ceremonies. With a background in Civil Engineering (NPA) and Anthropology of Religion (UCLA), his work spans from Asian shamanism to Anatolian mysticism, from African spiritual trance to Himalayan monastic solitude. Previous TPOTY winner in people and cultures category, his visual storytelling has earned recognition in prestigious international competitions too and has been exhibited worldwide. His images aim to reveal the divine where culture, belief, and mystery converge — in the sacred margins of human experience.</p>	<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b>  Athanasiros Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Konya, Turkey</p> <p>Whirling Devotion: The Ritual Initiation Rooted in Konya, the spiritual heart of Anatolia and resting place of mystic Mevlânâ Rumi, the Sema ceremony is a living expression of Sufism. In this silent moment of entry, a young dervish bows before the Şeyh—spiritual guide and representative of Allah to the ritual — in quiet submission. This gesture marks the sacred beginning of his journey, where the body prepares to whirl and the spirit begins to rise.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA  Canon R5, 24-70mm lens, f4.5, 1/60s, ISO 1600</p>	<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b>  Athanasiros Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Konya, Turkey</p> <p>Whirling Devotion: The Ceremonial Heart As the Sema unfolds, two dervishes whirl in disciplined rhythm, framing the imposing figure of the Şeyh — ceremonial axis and center of the ritual presence. Through gracious moves and quiet motion, his presence reflects more drama to a simple image.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA  Canon R5, 15-35mm lens, f10, 0.13s, ISO 200</p>	<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b>  Athanasiros Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Konya, Turkey</p> <p>Whirling Devotion: Suspended in Prayer Lost in the ritual space, a dervish turns in steady rhythm. Floating in stillness, suspended between earth and sky. His arms are extended, one hand raised to the heavens, the other lowered toward the earth. This posture reflects the Sufi belief in becoming a vessel of remembrance and unity — the body whirling, the spirit elevating.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA  Canon R5, 24-70mm lens, f8, 1/200s, ISO 400</p>	<p><b>OVERALL WINNER – THE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b>  Athanasiros Maloukos, Greece</p> <p>Konya, Turkey</p> <p>Whirling Devotion: End of the Sacred Circle In the final moment of the ceremony, dervishes bow in silence, their bodies folded in reverence. The energy of the ritual has dissolved into the quiet of the divine. What began in stillness, elevated into sacred motion, and now returns in surrender. The arc of the Sema completes itself here — the divine sought through whirling, and found through devotion.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA  Canon R7, 70-200mm lens, f4, 1/50, ISO 400</p>

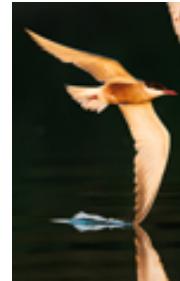
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<b>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025</b> <b>JAMIE SMART, UK (AGE 10)</b>				
<p>I'm a young wildlife photographer from the UK who simply loves being outdoors and noticing the small details that make nature so special. I first picked up a camera when I was six, and ever since then I've enjoyed learning, practising, and spending as much time as I can watching animals and the world around me. Over the years, I've been incredibly lucky to have some of my photos recognised, including winning the Wildlife Photographer of the Year (10 and Under) category and being the overall winner of the British Wildlife Photography Awards. I'm grateful for these opportunities, but I still feel like I'm just at the beginning of my journey, with so much more to learn.</p> <p>I mainly shoot with my Nikon Z9, exploring everything from macro details to birds and wildlife in motion. What I love most about photography is how it helps me slow down, pay attention, and appreciate things many people might walk past.</p> <p>I hope my images encourage others — especially young people — to look a little closer at the natural world and feel inspired to care for it.</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025, Jamie Smart, UK (age 10)</p> <p>Beerwah, Queensland, Australia</p> <p>I was very fortunate to get to travel to Australia and visit the Zoo Hospital and have access to see the incredible work they do there. This is a photo of a veterinary nurse holding a very young bat that had been brought in by a member of the public who had found it out in the wild.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>Nikon Z9, 135mm lens, f1.8, 1/60s, ISO 900</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025, Jamie Smart, UK (age 10)</p> <p>Beerwah, Queensland, Australia</p> <p>Here is an image of a Fruit Bat or Flying Fox that I took during a trip to Australia Zoo Hospital. They rescue and rehabilitate hundreds of animals every year and release them back into the wild to be free and have a second chance at life. Flying Fox numbers have dropped quite dramatically in the last few years in Australia due to habitat loss and human persecution, so vital work is being carried out in animal centres to help conserve the population that remains.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>Nikon Z9, 135mm lens, f1.8, 1/60s, ISO 2800</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025, Jamie Smart, UK (age 10)</p> <p>Yarra Bend, Melbourne, Australia</p> <p>Here is an image of a Grey-Headed Flying Fox in flight during a very hot day in Melbourne, Australia. During my trip to Australia I was lucky to get to see some bats being cared for and rescued at Australia Zoo. We then travelled to Melbourne to find a colony of them living wild in the trees. What a fantastic sight it was! It was such a hot day when we were there that many of the bats would fly around to get some air underneath their wings and cool down a little.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>Nikon Z9, 400mm lens, f4.5, 1/1600s, ISO 100</p>	<p>WINNER, YOUNG TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2025, Jamie Smart, UK (age 10)</p> <p>Yarra Bend, Melbourne, Australia</p> <p>After a very hot day observing these wonderful flying foxes in their roost up in the trees in Yarra Bend, Melbourne, the sun started to set, and all the bats began to leave their roosts to go foraging for food for the night. The scene was just breathtaking, the silent flight of these magnificent animals with the stunning colours of the sunset was beautiful.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>Nikon Z9, 135mm lens, f1.8, 1/800s, ISO 500</p>

REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	9	10	11	12
<b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER</b>  <b>NAOMI CECH, CZECH REPUBLIC/CZECHIA (AGE 11)</b>				
<p>Naomi is 11 years old and has been traveling with her family in a truck across Africa for over three years. Together with her older brother Arthur, she forms the core of their family expedition's photography team. As the family are nature lovers involved in various conservation and environmental projects, she has plenty of opportunities to spend time outdoors observing flora and fauna. She accompanies her brother on his golden hour outings. She also enjoys proxy and macro photography, seeking out new perspectives and noticing details that might otherwise escape us. She enjoys experimenting and learning new photography and image post-processing techniques. Common projects with brother Arthur: - 2025 calendar for Antelope Conservation, a Czech NGO. This calendar helps raise funds for the Giant Eland conservation program. - "Beauty of the West African Savannah," a photo exhibition that turns in the Czech ZOOs and universities</p>	<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Naomi Cech, Czech Republic/Czechia (age 11)</p> <p>Forest near town of Kraliky, the Czech Republic</p> <p>My journey around mushrooms One early morning I have observed a nice tiny mushroom in the Bohemian forest of the Czech Republic... and a few month later I could discovered very different mushrooms during our walks through the Ivorian rain forest of the tropical Africa!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R10, 100-400mm lens, f5.3, 1/6s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Naomi Cech, Czech Republic/Czechia (age 11)</p> <p>Taï National Park, the Ivory Coast</p> <p>My journey around mushrooms One early morning I have observed a nice tiny mushroom in the Bohemian forest of the Czech Republic... and a few month later I could discovered very different mushrooms during our walks through the Ivorian rain forest of the tropical Africa!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R10, 100-400mm lens, f5.6, 1/40s, ISO 16000</p>	<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Naomi Cech, Czech Republic/Czechia (age1)</p> <p>Taï National Park, the Ivory Coast</p> <p>My journey around mushrooms One early morning I have observed a nice tiny mushroom in the Bohemian forest of the Czech Republic... and a few month later I could discovered very different mushrooms during our walks through the Ivorian rain forest of the tropical Africa!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R10, 100-400mm lens, f5.3, 1/80s, ISO 20000</p>	<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Naomi Cech, Czech Republic/Czechia (age 11)</p> <p>Taï National Park, the Ivory Coast</p> <p>My journey around mushrooms One early morning I have observed a nice tiny mushroom in the Bohemian forest of the Czech Republic... and a few month later I could discovered very different mushrooms during our walks through the Ivorian rain forest of the tropical Africa!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R10, 100-400mm lens, f5.6, 1/2500s, ISO 16000</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	13	14	15	16

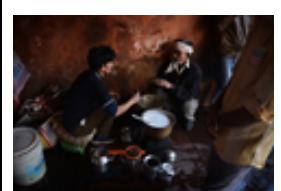
<b>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER</b>  <b>ZOE WACKER, USA (age 12)</b>	 The iconic image of the Sphinx with the Pyramid of Khafre emerging from its back, evoking a Camel-like image.	 The pharaoh Ptolemy XII at the Temple of Kom Ombu Temple. He is looking longingly out of the frame at Sobek, the Crocodile God, with the two sharing a gaze for millennia.	 Hathor, the Cow Goddess, who bestows legitimacy upon the Pharaoh, tops the capitals in at the Temple of Philae in the middle of the Nile.	 Ptolemy XII is vanquishing the enemies of Egypt at the Temple of Isis on Philae.
	<b>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER</b>  Zoe Wacker, USA (age 12)  Giza, Egypt  The iconic image of the Sphinx with the Pyramid of Khafre emerging from its back, evoking a Camel-like image.  TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7riii, 50mm lens, f6.3 1/160s, ISO 50	<b>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER</b>  Zoe Wacker, USA (age 12)  Kom Ombu Temple, Egypt  The pharaoh Ptolemy XII at the Temple of Kom Ombu Temple. He is looking longingly out of the frame at Sobek, the Crocodile God, with the two sharing a gaze for millennia.  TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7riii, 24-70mm lens, f2.6, 1/160s, ISO 5000	<b>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER</b>  Zoe Wacker, USA (age 12)  Philae Temple, Egypt  Hathor, the Cow Goddess, who bestows legitimacy upon the Pharaoh, tops the capitals in at the Temple of Philae in the middle of the Nile.  TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7riii, 24-70mm lens, f6.3, 1/400s, ISO 100	<b>RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER</b>  Zoe Wacker, USA (age 12)  Philae Temple, Egypt  Ptolemy XII is vanquishing the enemies of Egypt at the Temple of Isis on Philae.  TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7riii, 24-700mm lens, f9, 1/160s, ISO 100
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>

<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER</b></p> <p><b>ANKUR CHATTERJEE, USA (age 14)</b></p>				
<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Ankur Chatterjee, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Madera Canyon, Arizona, USA</p> <p>A beautiful, vibrant broad-billed hummingbird perched atop a branch. I had just finished setting up my camera when I saw it flying around. I noticed it had perched on top of this branch a couple of times, so I already knew where to point my camera for the shot I wanted.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon Rebel SL3, 150-600mm lens, f6.3, 1/1000s, ISO 3200</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Ankur Chatterjee, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Madera Canyon, Arizona, USA</p> <p>A moody shot of an acorn woodpecker. When I arrived, I saw it perched and knew I wanted that shot. It stayed just long enough for me to get this photo.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon Rebel SL3, 150-600mm lens, f6.3, 1/1000s, ISO 3200</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Ankur Chatterjee, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Madera Canyon, Arizona, USA</p> <p>A wonderful moody shot of a Mexican Jay with its nictitating membrane closed, giving it a spooky, ghostly appearance. I was chasing an Elegant Trogon in Madera Canyon, AZ whom I could hear high up on a mountain. When I got to the top, the Elegant Trogon had flown away, and I sat there to wait for it. Right then, a beautiful Mexican Jay landed on the rock right beside me. I had no idea I got the shot with the membrane closed until I got home and started processing the images.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon Rebel SL3, 150-600mm lens, f6.3, 1/800s, ISO 3200</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Ankur Chatterjee, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Madera Canyon, Arizona, USA</p> <p>A wonderful moody shot of a Mexican Jay with its nictitating membrane closed, giving it a spooky, ghostly appearance. I was chasing an Elegant Trogon in Madera Canyon, AZ whom I could hear high up on a mountain. When I got to the top, the Elegant Trogon had flown away, and I sat there to wait for it. Right then, a beautiful Mexican Jay landed on the rock right beside me. I had no idea I got the shot with the membrane closed until I got home and started processing the images.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon Rebel SL3, 150-600mm lens, f6.3, 1/800s, ISO 3200</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY 14 YEARS AND UNDER,</b> Ankur Chatterjee, USA (age 14)</p> <p>Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, USA</p> <p>A moody seagull shaking water off of itself. I knew I needed to get as close to it as possible to get the shot I wanted. I kept slowly approaching and taking pictures until it shook water off itself.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon Rebel SL3, 55-250mm lens, f5.6, 1/2500s, ISO 250</p>
<p><b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>

<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</b></p> <p><b>MATEI MĂRĂCINEANU, ROMANIA (AGE 15)</b></p>				
<p>My name is Matei Mărăcineanu, and I'm a 15-year-old wildlife photographer from Romania. I've always felt a strong connection to nature, and photography has become my way of sharing its beauty with others. My fascination with birds began in childhood, when I used to set up feeders with my mother and watch the birds visiting our window. That early curiosity stayed with me. My journey into photography started during the Covid-19 pandemic, when boredom led me to pick up my father's old DSLR. I began by photographing the flowers and insects in our garden, and that simple hobby quickly grew into a deep passion for wildlife and bird photography. A big part of my work is inspired by the desire to bring attention to the wildlife around us, especially in Romania, where I feel nature is often overlooked. I focus mainly on my local area, trying to show the richness of the birdlife found there and to inspire others to appreciate it as well. My dream is to one day work for National Geographic, which I see as the highest achievement in wildlife photography. Until then, I hope to keep documenting the natural world and encouraging others to care for it.</p>	<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</b> Matei Mărăcineanu, Romania (age 15)</p> <p>Morii Lake, Bucharest, Romania</p> <p>I was on an outing with my friend, walking along a path known only to us, when the twittering of Spotted Flycatchers caught our attention, it seemed like there were a lot of them. I moved slowly with my camera ready, trying to spot them, but none were visible at first. Then a sudden movement in a bush drew my eye. A Flycatcher was perched nicely on a twig, singing calmly without being disturbed by our presence. I stepped a little closer and chose to shoot through the bush, knowing the foreground would frame the bird beautifully and create a big circle in the middle that I thought would help a lot with the composition.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b></p>	<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</b> Matei Mărăcineanu, Romania (age 15)</p> <p>Morii Lake, Bucharest, Romania</p> <p>I knew Western Yellow Wagtails nested in this particular area and often perched on thistles, singing. I chose to photograph them at sunset to get a warm orange background. When I spotted one, I lay down and crawled across the ground. I remember getting lots of scratches on my arms and legs that day. Shooting from a low angle, I managed to get quite close. I stayed still and continued photographing, and during one of my bursts the bird suddenly took off, giving me this shot in flight that I'm very proud of..</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b></p>	<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</b> Matei Mărăcineanu, Romania (age 15)</p> <p>Morii Lake, Bucharest, Romania</p> <p>I remember visiting Morii Lake during a period of very low bird activity, so I tried to get creative with my camera while photographing the swans. I was sitting in my usual spot, waiting for some waterfall action, when I suddenly heard the strong wingbeats of a Mute Swan in flight. I turned my camera and began tracking it as smoothly as I could. Capturing a sharp image at such a low shutter speed was pure luck. I was especially fortunate to catch the swan just before it flew behind some green bushes, which created a beautiful green blur on the right side of the frame, adding depth and color to the composition.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon R3, 100-500mm lens, f9, 1/5s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>WINNER, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</b> Matei Mărăcineanu, Romania (age 15)</p> <p>Morii Lake, Bucharest, Romania</p> <p>Morii Lake is home to many beautiful birds, especially the Whiskered Tern, which nests here. One day, I was on an inflatable boat with my father, who carefully followed my instructions, rowing slowly as I focused on capturing flight action. At one point, I spotted two Terns flying together and started shooting. Their movements were so quick that it was hard to keep track of them. By luck, I captured the moment perfectly, the second bird's wings lightly touching the water, while the first bird's tail appeared in the upper right corner. The combination of action and light made this shot one I'm especially proud of.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon R3, 100-500mm lens, f7.1, 1/4000s, ISO 5000</p>

	Canon R3, 100-500mm lens, f7.1, 1/800s, ISO 3200	Canon R3, 100-500mm lens, f7.1, 1/3200s, ISO 1250		
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	25	26	27	28

RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18  KABIUR RAHMAN RIYAD, BANGLADESH (AGE 18)				
RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Kabiur Rahman Riyad, Bangladesh (age ?)  Old Teesta River, Kashim Bazar, Chilmari, Kurigram, Rangpur  As the sun sets over the dried-up riverbed of the Old Teesta River, a group of children and teenagers gather to play football on the open sand. The fading orange and purple light casts them into silhouettes, capturing the energy and freedom of their game. This moment shows the winning team celebrating after scoring the final point, their movements expressive	RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Kabiur Rahman Riyad, Bangladesh (age ?)  Shobujpara, Thanahat, Chilmari, Kurigram, Rangpur  In the small village of Shobujpara, the place where I grew up, two children pause their play as a rainbow appears after a brief rain. They had been running around the open field when the sky shifted into soft colours and the arc of light rose above them. The scene feels simple and familiar, reflecting the everyday beauty of rural Bangladesh and the innocence of village childhood. One child looks toward the horizon while the	RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Kabiur Rahman Riyad, Bangladesh (age ?)  Ramna Ghat, Ramna, Chilmari, Kurigram, Rangpur At Ramna Ghat in Chilmari, as the sun begins to set over the Brahmaputra, the river becomes calm and the world grows quiet. This long exposure was taken during that still moment when the warm sunset light settled over the water and softened every movement. The boats rested almost motionless, their reflections stretching gently across the surface like thoughts settling after a long day. Fishermen had already returned to shore and the river shifted into a peaceful,	RUNNER-UP, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Kabiur Rahman Riyad, Bangladesh (age ?)  Mawlana Bhashani Bridge, Haripur, Chilmari, Kurigram, Rangpur  At the construction site of the Mawlana Bhashani Bridge in Haripur, three workers stand on top of an unfinished span, their figures outlined against a wide blue sky. The bright orange metal truss above them adds a strong geometric presence, emphasizing the scale of the structure they are helping to build. Their stillness in this moment contrasts with the intensity of their work and the complexity of the bridge rising around them. This scene reflects the quiet determination of the laborers who shape Bangladesh's infrastructure and the human effort behind projects	

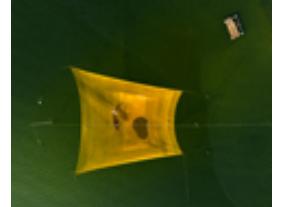
	<p>and joyful against the vast evening sky. The photograph reflects both the resilience and playfulness of youth living along the river, turning a changing landscape into a space for connection, competition, and shared happiness.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon M50, 15-45mm lens, f4.5, 1/160s, ISO 1000</p>	<p>younger boy glances at the camera, capturing a quiet moment shaped by nature, play and the gentle rhythm of life in a Bangladeshi village.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm X-T30, 15-45mm lens, f5.6, 1/350s, ISO 640</p>	<p>contemplative mood. The photograph captures the serene rhythm of life along the Brahmaputra in Kurigram and the beauty that emerges in its quietest moments.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon 2000, 50mm lens, f3.2, 4s, ISO 100</p>	<p>that connect remote communities in Kurigram.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon M50, 15-45mm lens, f6.3, 1/800s, ISO 100</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18</b>  <b>KIRSTY LARMOUR, IRELAND (AGE 17)</b>				
	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Kirsty Larmour, Ireland (age 17)</p> <p>Delhi, India</p> <p>A quintessential part of Indian cities is the vibrant array of street food that is available. During Ramadan, special foods are prepared in huge quantities in the lanes that adjoin Delhi's Jama Masjid. Muslims will stop off at favourite restaurants to pick up meals to break their fast with, in the prayer yard of India's largest mosque. This man squats on a counter for long hours, seasoning pan after pan of chicken dishes.</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Kirsty Larmour, Ireland (age 17)</p> <p>Delhi, India</p> <p>Pooris are a staple breakfast dish in the winding alleyways of Old Delhi. They are frequently on street corners in huge vats of boiling oil, and served with chole, a chickpea dish.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D600, 24-120mm lens, f4, 1/640s, ISO 160</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Kirsty Larmour, Ireland (age 17)</p> <p>Delhi, India</p> <p>Indian street food is best accompanied by a warm cup of masala chai, particularly in the chilly wintertime. This was a busy little stall on the streets of Jaipur, popularly known as the Pink City.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D600, 24-120mm lens, f4, 1/400s, ISO 800</p>	<p>HIGHLY COMMENDED, YOUNG TPOTY AGE 15-18 Kirsty Larmour, Ireland (age 17)</p> <p>Delhi, India</p> <p>I was enroute to my grandmother's house to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Passing by Changzhou Cultural Square, I was immediately attracted by these landmark buildings. When I walked among the buildings, I noticed a visually striking composition. However, because I didn't have a tripod, I had to rest my arms on the railing. In order to perfectly intersect these endpoints of the upper and lower triangles, I spent over an hour overcoming hand tremors and visual deviations. I stayed in these buildings for a whole afternoon, taking pictures for about 4 hours, until I</p>

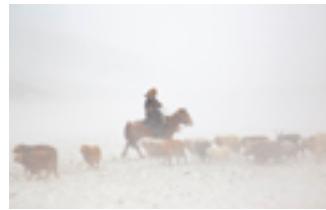
	<p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D600, 24-120mm lens, f4, 1/400s, ISO 800</p>			<p>received a call from my grandmother urging us to go back and have a reunion dinner.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D600, 24-120mm lens, f4, 1/250s, ISO 640</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>

<p><b>WINNER - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>SARA BARDOTTI, ITALY</b></p>				
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<p>My name is Sara Bardotti, born in Siena in 1981, and photography has been my way of seeing the world since childhood, when my father placed an analog camera in my hands. From that moment, I was never in the pictures, I was the one making them, chasing angles, chasing stories. Travel entered my life through stamps. As a child, I would study those tiny windows into distant lands with a magnifying glass, imagining the lives behind them. When independence arrived, I turned imagination into movement, and movement into images. For eighteen years I worked in fashion as a designer and product manager, but eventually I chose a different path, one that allowed me to live simply, travel widely, and dedicate myself to photography. Today I work seasonally as receptionist in Tuscany, and winter becomes my time to journey further, to immerse myself in cultures and document them with honesty. My projects are ethnographic and documentary in spirit. I travel alone, without comfort, blending into daily life, seeking the unplanned and the unexpected. What matters to me is not perfection but truth: the exchange of emotions, the dignity of ordinary gestures, the pulse of reality. Photography is my language, my way of carrying these encounters beyond borders, unfiltered and alive.</p>	<p><b>WINNER, ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Sara Bardotti, Italy</p> <p>Yamal peninsula, Siberia, Russia</p> <p>In the heart of the tundra, where silence bites harder than the cold, two Nenet fishermen carve through the frozen skin of the lake. The storm howls sideways, a curtain of snow blinding every breath. At -40 degrees, even time seems to shiver.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> NIKON D750, 24-70 mm lens, f2.8, 1/400s, ISO 2000</p>	<p><b>WINNER, ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Sara Bardotti, Italy</p> <p>Yamal peninsula, Siberia, Russia</p> <p>The two fisherman, fighting with the snow storm, anchor ropes to wooden stakes, lowering their net into the unknown.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> NIKON D750, 24-70 mm lens, f2.8, 1/400s, ISO 2000</p>	<p><b>WINNER, ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Sara Bardotti, Italy</p> <p>Yamal peninsula, Siberia, Russia</p> <p>It's time to see what the lake has gifted. The ropes begin to dance, whispering of life beneath the ice. It's the lake's quiet offering, a gift wrapped in frost and patience. Another fisherman steps in to aid the two, joining them in hauling up the net, heavy with fish and ice.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> NIKON D750, 24-70 mm lens, f2.8, 1/260s, ISO 2000</p>	<p><b>WINNER, ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Sara Bardotti, Italy</p> <p>Yamal peninsula, Siberia, Russia</p> <p>The moment the fishes touch the ground, the cold claims them. No struggle, no sound—just the swift silence of nature's rhythm. It's not cruelty, but necessity. Out here, survival is swift, and reverence is quiet. The fishermen, exhausted, do not celebrate. They simply nod, as if acknowledging an ancient pact between man and lake. And I, a witness wrapped in layers and awe, feel the weight of that exchange settle into my bones.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> NIKON D750, 24-70 mm lens, f2.8, 1/160s, ISO 2000</p>
<p><b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b></p>	<p><b>37</b></p>	<p><b>38</b></p>	<p><b>39</b></p>	<p><b>40</b></p>

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<b>RUNNER-UP - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b>  <b>TEO CHIN LEONG, SINGAPORE</b>				
	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore</p> <p>Hoi An, Vietnam</p> <p>This is a large net set up in the middle of a river in Vietnam. There is a motor which when activated, will raise the nets and catch any fish trapped in it. I was happy to be here to document this scene during the golden dawn hours. The light was gentle and could interplay with the yellow of the nets for a great composition.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad, 20mm lens, f2.8, 1/640s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore</p> <p>Hoi An, Vietnam</p> <p>This is a large net set up in the middle of a river in Vietnam. There is a motor which when activated, will raise the nets and catch any fish trapped in it. I was happy to be here to document this scene during the golden dawn hours. The light was gentle and could interplay with the yellow of the nets for a great composition.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad, 20mm lens, f2.8, 1/640s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore</p> <p>Hoi An, Vietnam</p> <p>This is a large net set up in the middle of a river in Vietnam. There is a motor which when activated, will raise the nets and catch any fish trapped in it. I was happy to be here to document this scene during the golden dawn hours. The light was gentle and could interplay with the yellow of the nets for a great composition.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad, 20mm lens, f2.8, 1/640s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore</p> <p>Hoi An, Vietnam</p> <p>This is a large net set up in the middle of a river in Vietnam. There is a motor which when activated, will raise the nets and catch any fish trapped in it. I was happy to be here to document this scene during the golden dawn hours. The light was gentle and could interplay with the yellow of the nets for a great composition.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad, 20mm lens, f2.8, 1/640s, ISO 100</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>44</b>

<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b>  <b>ALESSANDRA MANZOTTI, ITALY</b>				
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	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Alessandra Mazzotti, Italy</p> <p>Altai Mountains, Western Mongolia</p> <p>During winter months every body of water freezes over, as temperatures plummet to an average of -35/40C. Animals are afraid of the ice because they can slide, fall and injure themselves. During the 150km, 5 days Winter Migration, animals have to cross many bodies of water. In this image a herd of animals is circumnavigating a frozen lake. Often this causes the journey to become longer.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Conon 5D MkIII, 24-105 lens, f11, 1/250s, ISO 160</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Alessandra Mazzotti, Italy</p> <p>Altai Mountains, Western Mongolia</p> <p>During the Winter Migration it is not uncommon to encounter bad weather. In the afternoon of day three we got hit by a crazy snow blizzard. Temperatures plummeted very quickly to -45C and visibility became very poor. Everyone was struggling, but mostly the animals. Keeping the herd compacted and moving turned out to be a great challenge as many of them gave up and refused to move.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Conon 5D MkIII, 24-105 lens, f8, 1/1000s, ISO 500</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Alessandra Mazzotti, Italy</p> <p>Altai Mountains, Western Mongolia</p> <p>A year old bactrian camel is no longer able to walk the due to exhaustion and lack of food; so he hitches a ride on one of the older camels. Bactrian camels are the power houses of the migration. They are strong, resilient and because of their very thick fur they can withstand very harsh conditions. Because of their strength, they can carry heavy loads as well as other animals in distress.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Conon 5D MkIII, 24-105 lens, f9, 1/500s, ISO 320</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Alessandra Mazzotti, Italy</p> <p>Altai Mountains, Western Mongolia</p> <p>A group of Kazakh eagle hunting nomads of Western Mongolia sit down for a soup break during the 150km, 5 days winter migration. As temperatures range between -35 and -40C keeping food hot is quite the challenge. Hot food/drinks stay warm for a very short time, often less then one minute.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Conon 5D MkIII, 24-105 lens, f5.6, 1/400s, ISO 200</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>48</b>

<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> <b>ANGIOLO MANETTI, ITALY</b>				
	<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Angiolo Manetti, Italy  Tuzbair Salt Flat, Mangystau, Kazakhstan  A simple tent to experience spending a night next to the cliffs of the Tuzbair salt marsh, which, according to scientists, was once the bottom of the Tethys Ocean, located between the supercontinents of Laurasia and Gondwana, about 250 million years ago  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f13, 1/250 sec, ISO 200	<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Angiolo Manetti, Italy  Bozjyra Plateau, Mangystau, Kazakhstan  Bozjyra is a magnificent creation of erosion and weathering, located on the Ustyurt Plateau. The contrast with the person climbing it gives a sense of its grandeur  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f13, 1/250 sec, ISO 200	<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Angiolo Manetti, Italy  Kyzylkup, Mangystau, Kazakhstan  The wonder of venturing into the spectacular Tiramisu Canyon as its shapes and lines absorb the colors of the sunset  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f13, 1/250 sec, ISO 200	<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Angiolo Manetti, Italy  Tuzbair Salt Flat, Mangystau, Kazakhstan  The Tuzbair Salt Flat is a vast area measuring 15 by 4 kilometers. The cliffs are composed of ancient Cretaceous deposits from the Tethys Ocean, rising over 60 meters. Wind, water, and the passage of time have shaped the rocks into fascinating forms. Spending one or more nights inside this wonder makes you feel at one with nature  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f11, 1/250 sec, ISO 320
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>

<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b>  <b>KATY GOMEZ</b> <b>CATALINA, SPAIN</b>				
<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Katy Gomez Catalina, Spain  Altai Mountains, Mongolia  We are surrounded by the immensity of the Altai Mountains, a corner of Mongolia where Russia, China and Kazakhstan converge, and where Kazakh nomadic herders have, for centuries, forged a unique bond with the majestic golden eagles. More than a tradition, this relationship is a symbiosis between human and animal, an ancestral legacy passed down from generation to generation. Her name is Erbod, and she proudly holds the eagle she inherited from her recently deceased father.  TECHNICAL DTA fujifilm X-H2, 17-70mm lens, f4, 1/60 sec, ISO 400	<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Katy Gomez Catalina, Spain  Altai Mountains, Mongolia  The hunters capture young eagles, give them a name, and raise them with dedication. It is not only about training them for hunting, but about integrating them into the family as one more member. These birds grow up surrounded by care and respect, strengthening a bond that transcends the merely functional.  TECHNICAL DTA fujifilm X-H2, 17-70mm lens, f7.1, 1/126 sec, ISO 125	<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Katy Gomez Catalina, Spain  Altai Mountains, Mongolia  When the moment of the hunt arrives, the nomads of the Altai ride with astonishing skill on their small but resilient horses. At the precise instant, they release their eagles, which dive in a swift and majestic flight toward the prey. It is a spectacle of harmony and mutual trust, an atavistic dance that unites sky and earth.  TECHNICAL DTA fujifilm X-H2, 55-200mm lens, f8, 1/2000 sec, ISO 500	<b>COMMENDED - ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Katy Gomez Catalina, Spain  Altai Mountains, Mongolia  Today, however, this legacy of strength and tradition is threatened by the impact of climate change and, above all, by the desire of younger generations to abandon the hardships of nomadic life and move to the city. Many families, aware of this, send their children to distant boarding schools, hoping to offer them a safer and less relentless future than the one the vastness of the Altai Mountains affords.  TECHNICAL DTA fujifilm X-H2, 17-70mm lens, f2.8, 1/280 sec, ISO 125	
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<a href="#">53</a>	<a href="#">54</a>	<a href="#">55</a>	<a href="#">56</a>

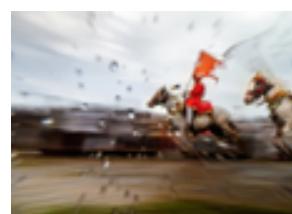
<p><b>BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>FREDERICO FIGUEIREDO</b> <b>CERDEIRA, BRAZIL</b></p>				
<p>As a surfer, surfing trips have always been my main goal, but we face a lot of flat days on those trips (days with no waves), so to kill time I stared taking pictures and it quickly became a passion! It was about 15 years ago and ocean and waves were naturally my first subject. Today waves and photos walk side by side in my heart.</p> <p>Flat days are not a problem anymore.</p>	<p><b>BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> Frederico Figueiredo Cordeiro, Brazil</p> <p>Cloudbreak Reef, Tavarua Island, Fiji</p> <p>Every time a surfer dodges a wave, an unique new world is created, this image brings this world to live, showing what is happening down there.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon 5D MkIV, 8mm lens, f8, 1/160s, ISO 125</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION, ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> F.Dilek Yurdaku, Turkey</p> <p>Döşemealtı Antalya, Turkey</p> <p>Carpet Fields in Döşemealtı Antalya Türkiye. After the carpets are woven, they are kept under the sun in these fields until their colors reach the desired tone. During the day, the workers regularly turn their carpets inside out.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> ?, ?mm lens, f?, 1/?, ISO ?</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION, ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO</b> <b>Yohan Terraza, France</b></p> <p>France</p> <p>?</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> ?, ?mm lens, f?, 1/?, ISO ?</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION, ADVENTURES PORTFOLIO</b> <b>Beata Whitehead, USA</b></p> <p>Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Uganda</p> <p>Trekking into Uganda's Bwindi Impenetrable National Park began in the rolling tea plantations, we smelted of fresh leaves warmed by the sun. A tea picker passed us with a gentle gracefulness between the rows with a weight on her back. From the edge of the plantations, we followed our guides up a steep, humid path. Tugged at our legs and the forest closed in. We searched for the gorilla family without success. A trail pulled us back downhill. Partway up, a rustle above revealed our first glimpse of a gorilla feeding quietly, hidden high behind the leaves..</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon R5, 200-800mm lens, f9, 1/160s</p>

REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	109	110	111	112
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	<p>SPECIAL MENTION, ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO Teo Chin Leong, Singapore</p> <p>Hoi An, Vietnam</p> <p>This is a large net set up in the middle of a river in Vietnam. There is a motor which when activated, will raise the nets and catch any fish trapped in it. I was happy to be here to document this scene during the golden dawn hours. The light was gentle and could interplay with the yellow of the nets for a great composition.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Hasselblad, 20mm lens, f2.8, 1/640s, ISO 100</p>	<p>SPECIAL MENTION, ADVENTURES &amp; EXPERIENCES PORTFOLIO Leisel Geertsema, New Zealand</p> <p>Everest Valley, Nepal</p> <p>This was the view that greeted me one morning on my way to Everest Base Camp. Travel provides food for the soul. It is an opportunity to look at the world from a new perspective, to connect with the past, with people who live differently, and to marvel at the wildlife we share our planet with. It is also a chance to slow down, appreciate our blessings, and enjoy the simple pleasure of a spectacular sunrise in a beautiful landscape.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony ILCE-1, 70-200mm lens, f4, 1/4000s, ISO 100</p>		

REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	113	114		

<b>WINNER - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b>  <b>MITCHELL KANASHKEVICH, AUSTRALIA</b>				
I'm a travel and documentary photographer driven by curiosity, adventure, and a desire to learn from cultures very different from my own. Most of my subjects come from chance encounters on the road, but I'm especially drawn to ancient traditions that are still alive today, to people working in unique or challenging environments, and to those living closely connected with nature. My goal is to create images that carry a strong sense of story and communicate what it genuinely felt like to stand with the people I met in the places I visited.	<p><b>WINNER - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Mitchell Kanashkevich, Australia</p> <p>Abuna Yemata Guh, Tigray Region, Ethiopia</p> <p>During morning mass, a young deacon holds aloft a scripture book for the priest in the dim, flickering interior of Abuna Yemata Guh — the 'Church in the Sky' whose height, history, and hidden rites still draw the faithful.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon 5D MkII, 16-35 mm lens, f2.8, 1/40, ISO 3200</p>	<p><b>WINNER - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Mitchell Kanashkevich, Australia</p> <p>Ouadane, Mauritania</p> <p>Boys in a dimly lit classroom recite verses from memory, their wooden tablets (lawh) marked with inked script. The repetition and vocal rhythm form both prayer and pedagogy, a practice rooted in West African Islamic education for over a millennium.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon 5D MkII, 16-35 mm lens, f5.6, 1/60, ISO 3200</p>	<p><b>WINNER - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Mitchell Kanashkevich, Australia</p> <p>Ouadane, Mauritania</p> <p>A young girl recites her verses with focus, her voice rising among her classmates. In many Mauritanian madrasas, boys and girls study together in early stages before continuing advanced recitation and commentary.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon 5D MkII, 70-200mm lens, f5, 1/400, ISO 250</p>	<p><b>WINNER - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Mitchell Kanashkevich, Australia</p> <p>Ouadane, Mauritania</p> <p>Outside the classroom walls, a girl holds her lawh, the board used for learning Qur'anic verses. When lessons are memorized, the boards are washed clean. The water is sometimes kept as baraka, or blessing. In the silence of the desert, the act of learning becomes an act of devotion.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon 5D MkII, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/1250, ISO 250</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	57	58	59	60

<p><b>RUNNER-UP - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>DASHAWATAR GOPALKRISHNA BADE</b></p>				
	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Dashawatar Gopalkrishna Bade, India</p> <p>Bajirav Vihir, Natepute, Solapur, Maharashtra, India</p> <p><b>FEET IN THE MUD , HEARTS IN THE DIVINE _BAJIRAV VIHIR - 2</b> In the foreground, two men—Warkaris—are joyfully performing a traditional dance or mock stick-play (dand patta-style movement). Their clothes are smeared with mud, symbolizing the earthy, devotional spirit of the journey. One of the men is smiling widely, clearly immersed in the rhythm and devotional enthusiasm. Both hold long bamboo sticks adorned with orange flags (Bhagwa dhwaj) waving dramatically against the wind. The low-angle shot makes their movements look grand and dynamic, while the crisp blue sky with scattered clouds creates a stunning backdrop.</p>	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Dashawatar Gopalkrishna Bade, India</p> <p>Alandi, Pune, Maharashtra, India</p> <p>In the sacred town of Alandi, the heartbeat of the Wari comes alive in a whirlwind of devotion. This photograph captures the transcendent moment when Warkari devotees, dressed entirely in white, break into a circular dance around a lone drummer whose rhythm anchors the spiritual storm. Their bodies blur into flowing arcs of motion—visual echoes of faith passed down through centuries—as saffron flags rise like flames behind them. The vibrant red carpet beneath their feet contrasts dramatically with the serene whites, while the decorated temple façade frames the gathering with timeless grace. Around the dancers, hundreds of pilgrims stand shoulder to</p>	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Dashawatar Gopalkrishna Bade, India</p> <p>Pattankodoli, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, India</p> <p>The Golden Oracle – Vitthal Birdev Yatra, Pattankodoli Captured at the peak moment of the Vitthal Birdev Festival in Pattankodoli, this photograph reveals the explosive intensity of a centuries-old ritual where devotion, dust, and divine frenzy merge into a single, unforgettable frame. At the heart of the swirling yellow clouds stands the Farande Baba—the revered oracle—performing the sacred prophecy that draws thousands of Dhangar devotees every year. The image is a symphony of motion and emotion: concentric circles of worshippers sit tightly packed, their bodies drenched in turmeric, while musicians on the periphery beat traditional</p>	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Dashawatar Gopalkrishna Bade, India</p> <p>Alandi, India</p> <p>A large group of Warkaris, all dressed in traditional white attire and Gandhi-topis, gather in a circular formation as part of the ritualistic procession. The central focus is on a dhol player, standing on a red carpet, his drum slung over his shoulder, keeping rhythm for the devotees dancing around him. The dancers form a blurred circular motion, I have used a slower shutter speed to portray the energy, devotion, and continuous movement of the performers. Their swirling motion creates a mesmerizing halo-like effect, symbolizing spiritual ecstasy and unity during bhajan and dance. Around the dancers, a thick crowd of Warkaris holding orange flags (Bhagwa Dhwaj) stands in devotion. The background shows a</p>

	<p>In the background, a large group of Warkaris—men and women dressed in traditional white attire, colorful saris, turbans, and topis—sit in a semicircle, clapping and cheering. Their expressions show delight, devotion, and communal joy. Some carry palkhi flags and other sacred symbols associated with the Wari procession. The ground is bare earth, typical of the rural paths the Warkaris travel. The entire scene radiates community, devotion, energy, and cultural richness, capturing the spirit of the Pandharpur Wari—where singing, dancing, and unity are as sacred as the pilgrimage itself.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon z9, 35mm lens, f5.6, 1/4s, ISO 800</p>	<p>shoulder, embodying the unity, discipline, and collective surrender that define the Wari tradition. The image becomes more than a documentation of a festival—it is a visual hymn to Maharashtra's living heritage, a moment where devotion, rhythm, and humanity converge into pure, pulsating energy.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon z9, 35mm lens, f5.6, 1/4s, ISO 800</p>	<p>drums that pulse through the air. As the turmeric powder erupts outward like a radiant sunburst, the scene transforms into a living canvas of faith—raw, primal, and magnificently chaotic. The golden haze softens every contour, turning the crowd into silhouettes of devotion and creating an otherworldly aura that transcends time. This photograph not only documents a ritual—it captures the soul of a community, the power of collective belief, and the timeless rhythm of India's rural spiritual traditions. A rare alignment of color, culture, and human energy, this frame stands as a tribute to the enduring heritage of the Dhangar community and the mystical magnetism of Birdev Maharaj's annual yatra.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D500, 10-20mm lens, f4.5, 1/100s, ISO 4500</p>	<p>temple-like structure decorated with marigold garlands and colorful festoons, adding to the festive atmosphere.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon z9, 35mm lens, f5.6, 1/4sec, ISO 80</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>64</b>

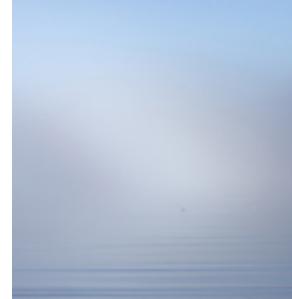
<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> <b>TEO CHIN LEONG</b>				
	<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore  Tokyo, Japan  Sumo wrestling is a revered sport in Japan. The broad rules of this sport is that a wrestler should force his opponent out of a circular ring or into touching the ground with any body part other than the soles of his feet. Often, the winning margin is razor thin and it is impossible to tell which wrestler wins till the last second.  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony 7C, 24-105mm lens, f4, 1/800s, ISO 4000	<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore  Tokyo, Japan  Sumo wrestling is a revered sport in Japan. The broad rules of this sport is that a wrestler should force his opponent out of a circular ring or into touching the ground with any body part other than the soles of his feet. Sumo is steep in tradition, with wrestlers still adorning historical garments with designs passed down from yester-years. Before every bout, wrestler performs traditional rites and stretching exercises, such as the lifting of legs.  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony 7C, 24-105mm lens, f4, 1/320s, ISO 1600	<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore  Tokyo, Japan  Sumo wrestling is a revered sport in Japan. The broad rules of this sport is that a wrestler should force his opponent out of a circular ring or into touching the ground with any body part other than the soles of his feet. In this photo, the losing wrestler cries out in the agony of defeat as he is thrown onto the ground.  <b>ECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony 6500, 70-360mm lens, F6.3, 1/1000s, ISO 6400	<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore  Tokyo, Japan  Sumo wrestling is a revered sport in Japan. The broad rules of this sport is that a wrestler should force his opponent out of a circular ring or into touching the ground with any body part other than the soles of his feet. In this photo, the winning wrestler basically arm locked his smaller opponent and carried him out of the rink and to the latter's defeat.  <b>ECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony 7C, 24-105mm lens, f4, 1/800s, ISO 4000
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>68</b>

<b>COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b>  <b>THIBAULT GERBALDI, FRANCE</b>				
	<p><b>COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Thibault Gerbaldi, France</p> <p>Varanasi, India</p> <p>From above Dashashwamedh Ghat in Varanasi, the scale of the Ganga Aarti becomes visible: hundreds of boats crowd the river, illuminated by reflections of prayer lamps, while thousands gather along the ghats for the ritual dedicated to the Ganges. Each evening the ceremony unfolds in a blaze of fire and devotion as people watch from the steps and from gently drifting boats, witnessing a tradition that has endured along this timeless river.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mini Mavic, 25-35mm lens, f1.7, 1/13s, ISO 590</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Thibault Gerbaldi, France</p> <p>Varanasi, India</p> <p>At dawn, priests perform the Ganga Aarti in Varanasi using large oil lamps, incense, and rhythmic chanting. As the flames rise toward the river, hymns and bells echo across the ghat, marking one of Hinduism's most significant daily acts of devotion.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Leica SL3, 24-90m lens, f3.7, 1/100s, ISO 1000</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Thibault Gerbaldi, France</p> <p>Varanasi, India</p> <p>In the morning light, the Ganga Aarti in Varanasi unfolds with synchronized offerings of fire, smoke, and mantras. The priests' movements follow a precise ritual sequence, honoring the Ganges as a life-giving and purifying force for millions of devotees.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Leica SL3, 24-90m lens, f3, 1/100s, ISO 640</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Thibault Gerbaldi, France</p> <p>Varanasi, India</p> <p>An aerial view reveals the dense concentration of boats anchored shoulder to shoulder as pilgrims watch the Ganga Aarti in Varanasi. The riverfront glows with fire, incense, and movement, highlighting how central this ritual remains to Varanasi's spiritual life.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mini Mavic, 25-35mm lens, f1.7, 1/6s, ISO 840</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>72</b>

<b>BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> <b>ALAIN SCHROEDER, BELGIUM</b>				
<p>Myself Dr.Dashawatar G.Bade, am a consultant paediatrician by profession, am practising paediatrics and neonatology since last 30 years, am a hobby photographer, started photography since 2013, am interested in Landscape, Street, Macro, Travel, Abstract, Wildlife, Portraits, Nature genres of photography, I have acquired EFIP and EFIAP also. My image was featured in coffee table book of HIPA in 2019, also my image was awarded as remarkable artwork in Sienna international photography awards in 2020, also I was gold medallist in claws n wings international photography competition 2017, my images have been exhibited in Jahangir photoart gallery, Nagpur and various places nationally and internationally.</p>	<p><b>RUNNER-UP - CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b>  Dashawatar Gopalkrishna Bade, India</p> <p>Bajirav Vihir, Nateguppe, Solapur, Maharashtra, India</p> <p><b>FEET IN THE MUD, HEARTS IN THE DIVINE _BAJIRAV VIHIR - 2</b> In the foreground, two men—Warkaris—are joyfully performing a traditional dance or mock stick-play (dand patta-style movement). Their clothes are smeared with mud, symbolizing the earthy, devotional spirit of the journey. One of the men is smiling widely, clearly immersed in the rhythm and devotional enthusiasm. Both hold long bamboo sticks adorned with orange flags (Bhagwa dhwaj) waving dramatically against the wind. The low-angle shot makes their movements look grand and dynamic, while the crisp blue sky with scattered clouds creates a stunning backdrop. In the background, a large group of Warkaris—men and women dressed in traditional white attire, colorful saris, turbans, and topis—sit in a semicircle, clapping and cheering. Their expressions show delight, devotion, and communal joy. Some</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b>  Tittu Shaji Thomas, India</p> <p>Tamil Nadu India</p> <p>This photograph was taken during Kulasai Dasara, a distinctive coastal festival held in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu, India, in devotion to Goddess Mutharamman. The festival is marked by intense rituals performed under extreme heat, where devotees endure long hours in the sun and participate in fire-based ceremonies as acts of faith and surrender. Children are an integral part of this celebration, taking part in processions and ritual roles alongside adults. After completing their spiritual duties, many enter the sea to cool their bodies, turning the shoreline into a space of relief and release. This moment captures the transition from ritual intensity to playful freedom, where devotion, endurance, and childhood</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b>  Dashawatar Gopalkrishna Bade, India</p> <p>Alandi, India</p> <p>A large group of Warkaris, all dressed in traditional white attire and Gandhi-topis, gather in a circular formation as part of the ritualistic procession. The central focus is on a dhol player, standing on a red carpet, his drum slung over his shoulder, keeping rhythm for the devotees dancing around him. The dancers form a blurred circular motion, I have used a slower shutter speed to portray the energy, devotion, and continuous movement of the performers. Their swirling motion creates a mesmerizing halo-like effect, symbolizing spiritual ecstasy and unity during bhajan and dance. Around the dancers, a thick crowd of Warkaris holding</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b>  Trevor Cole</p> <p>Bauchi, Nigeria</p> <p>Men of the Hausa in Bauchi, Northern Nigeria. With the sighting of the new moon in Saudi Arabia and neighbouring countries, the first day of Eid (Eid El-Fitr) was celebrated on Sunday, March 30. In Kano and Northern Nigeria this is Sallah and the start of the incredible Durbar festival which is an annual cultural, religious, and equestrian celebration, particularly prominent in Northern Nigeria, showcasing the rich heritage and traditions of the Hausa people, often coinciding with major Muslim festivities.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b>  Nikon Z8, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/800s, ISO 400</p>

	<p>carry palkhi flags and other sacred symbols associated with the Wari procession. The ground is bare earth, typical of the rural paths the Warkaris travel. The entire scene radiates community, devotion, energy, and cultural richness, capturing the spirit of the Pandharpur Wari—where singing, dancing, and unity are as sacred as the pilgrimage itself.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon z9, 35mm lens, f5.6, 1/4s, ISO 800</p>	<p>coexist against the power of the ocean.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Fujifilm XT3, 10-24mm lens, f7.1, 1/250, ISO 80</p>	<p>orange flags (Bhagwa Dhwaj) stands in devotion. The background shows a temple-like structure decorated with marigold garlands and colorful festoons, adding to the festive atmosphere.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon z9, 35mm lens, f5.6, 1/4sec, ISO 80</p>	
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>118</b>
				
	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> Yousef Naser, Egypt</p> <p>Qena, Upper Egypt</p> <p>Horsemen sprint across the arena in the traditional mermah, one of the most anticipated rituals of the Mawlid. The scene blends speed, dust, and the raw energy of inherited horsemanship—skills passed down through families who have practiced this art for centuries. In this fleeting moment of motion, the celebration</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN CULTURES, HERITAGE &amp; BELIEFS PORTFOLIO</b> <b>Guillaume Petermann, France</b></p> <p>Lake Manchar, Sindh Province, Pakistan</p> <p>The Mohana, often called the “bird people,” are an indigenous community who have lived for generations on the waters of Lake Manchar, Pakistan’s largest freshwater lake. They carry on an</p>		

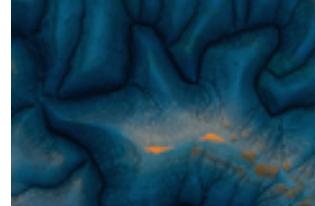
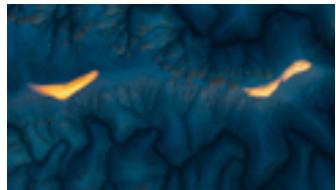
	<p>reveals its dynamic spirit and the enduring pride of the people of Upper Egypt.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Fujifilm X-T3, 18-55mm lens, f11, 1/20s, ISO 80</p> <p>ancestral tradition found nowhere else in the world: hunting birds... with birds.</p> <p>Herons, cormorants, pelicans... Birds are at the heart of Mohana culture. The most distinctive aspect of this community is their special bond with these creatures, their ability not only to tame them but also to train them to assist in hunting.</p> <p>Ali Kasghar is one of the last masters of this ancient technique. Submerged up to the neck, with a stuffed bird fixed on his head as camouflage, he glides slowly across the lake's surface. Led by a live bird tethered to the end of a slender branch, he approaches other birds without alarming them until the final moment. Fooled by the decoy, the birds suspect nothing. he snatches them with lightning speed.</p> <p>Blending patience, ingenuity, and an intimate understanding of nature, this ancient ritual reflects a rare harmony between the Mohana and the wild — an echo of a bond that has endured for centuries on the waters of Lake Manchar.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f14, 1/250s, ISO 100</p>		
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	119	120	

<b>WINNER – LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b>  <b>PAUL SANsome, UK</b>				
Paul Sansome is a professional nature and travel photographer, based in both the UK and Vietnam. When he became a professional in 2003 it was largely as a landscape photographer, but the experiences of travel has lead to a love of trying to capture story telling images of people. Paul leads several photography tours each year to destinations through Asia and Europe as well as selling his photography as wall art.	<b>WINNER – LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Paul Sansome, UK  Nordurfjordur, Árneshreppur, Iceland  In a week of touring North Iceland there had been no quality light for landscape photography at all. The day started as all the others had, with a bland blue sky and sunshine. However within 10 miles we drove into a bank of sea fog and a session with such beautiful light filtering through the fog onto the calm sea. The fog thinning and thickening to reveal and then hide elements of the landscape.  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b>	<b>WINNER – LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Paul Sansome, UK  Nordurfjordur, Árneshreppur, Iceland  In a week of touring North Iceland there had been no quality light for landscape photography at all. The day started as all the others had, with a bland blue sky and sunshine. However within 10 miles we drove into a bank of sea fog and a session with such beautiful light filtering through the fog onto the calm sea. The fog thinning and thickening to reveal and then hide elements of the landscape.  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b>	<b>WINNER – LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Paul Sansome, UK  Nordurfjordur, Árneshreppur, Iceland  In a week of touring North Iceland there had been no quality light for landscape photography at all. The day started as all the others had, with a bland blue sky and sunshine. However within 10 miles we drove into a bank of sea fog and a session with such beautiful light filtering through the fog onto the calm sea. The fog thinning and thickening to reveal and then hide elements of the landscape.  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b>	<b>WINNER – LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Paul Sansome, UK  Nordurfjordur, Árneshreppur, Iceland  In a week of touring North Iceland there had been no quality light for landscape photography at all. The day started as all the others had, with a bland blue sky and sunshine. However within 10 miles we drove into a bank of sea fog and a session with such beautiful light filtering through the fog onto the calm sea. The fog thinning and thickening to reveal and then hide elements of the landscape.  <b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon R5, 100-500mm lens, f11, 1/800s, ISO 400

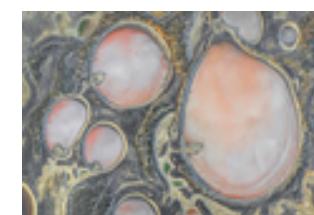
	Canon R5, 100-500mm lens, f11, 1/800s, ISO 400		Canon R5, 100-500mm lens, f11, 1/800s, ISO 400	
<b>SELECT IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>76</b>

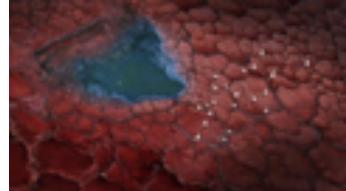
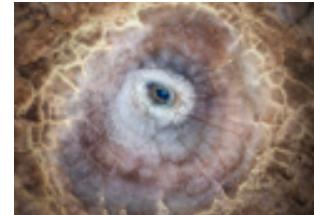
<b>RUNNER UP - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b>  SULIMAN ALATIQI, KUWAIT				
<b>RUNNER UP - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait  Cenote Nicte Ha, Tulum, Quintana Roo, Mexico  A water lily garden against a perfectly still water surface makes the texture of the landscape greenery indistinguishable from the scene below the water. The tiny fish in the water column contrasting with the blue sky helps situate the underwater scene. Cenotes form a network of a subterranean water system stretching over a thousand kilometers throughout the Yucatan Peninsula's forests.	<b>RUNNER UP - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait  Cenote Nicte Ha, Tulum, Quintana Roo, Mexico  A focused look of water lilies floating on the surface. The leaves can float due to special air chambers that give them buoyancy which helps them maximize sunlight for photosynthesis. Even in deeper water, the leaf stalks (petioles) grow long enough to allow the leaves to reach the surface, connecting them to their main body (rhizome) which sits in the sediment.	<b>RUNNER UP - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait  Cenote Nicte Ha, Tulum, Quintana Roo, Mexico  An underwater garden of lilies blends with the lush green landscape above the surface, creating a palette of nature's essential colors. Water lilies require sufficient sunlight to grow, and they can therefore be found in openings and other pockets of cenotes. In turn, the shade created by the lilies prevents algal blooms which helps maintain clear water, creating spectacular high visibility scenes.	<b>RUNNER UP - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait  Cenote Nicte Ha, Tulum, Quintana Roo, Mexico  A focused look of water lilies floating on the surface. The leaves can float due to special air chambers that give them buoyancy which helps them maximize sunlight for photosynthesis. Even in deeper water, the leaf stalks (petioles) grow long enough to allow the leaves to reach the surface, connecting them to their main body (rhizome) which sits in the sediment.	<b>RUNNER UP - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait  Cenote Aktun Ha, Puerto Morelos, Quintana Roo, Mexico  TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 28-70mm lens, F9, 1/250s, ISO 100

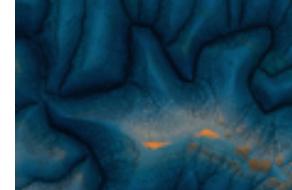
	TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 28-70mm lens, F10, 1/125s, ISO 100	Nikon D850, 28-70mm lens, F10, 1/125s, ISO 100	TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 28-70mm lens, F10, 1/60s, ISO 120	
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	77	78	79	80

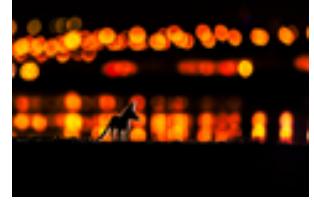
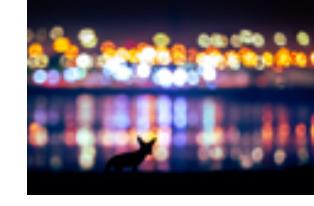
<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b>  <b>MAREK BIEGALSKI, POLAND</b>				
	<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Marek Biegalski, Poland  Factory butte, Utah  Utah's breathtaking landscapes towering rocks, expansive deserts, and serene canyons offer an unparalleled canvas for nature's artistry. Light plays a key role in transforming these dramatic terrains, revealing a spectrum of contrasts from soft, pale hues at dawn to bold, saturated tones at sunset. It doesn't just illuminate the scenery, it	<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Marek Biegalski, Poland  Factory butte, Utah  Utah's breathtaking landscapes towering rocks, expansive deserts, and serene canyons offer an unparalleled canvas for nature's artistry. Light plays a key role in transforming these dramatic terrains, revealing a spectrum of contrasts from soft, pale hues at dawn to bold, saturated tones at sunset. It doesn't just illuminate the scenery, it	<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Marek Biegalski, Poland  Factory butte, Utah  Utah's breathtaking landscapes towering rocks, expansive deserts, and serene canyons offer an unparalleled canvas for nature's artistry. Light plays a key role in transforming these dramatic terrains, revealing a spectrum of contrasts from soft, pale hues at dawn to bold, saturated tones at sunset. It doesn't just illuminate the scenery, it	<b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Marek Biegalski, Poland  Factory butte, Utah  Utah's breathtaking landscapes towering rocks, expansive deserts, and serene canyons offer an unparalleled canvas for nature's artistry. Light plays a key role in transforming these dramatic terrains, revealing a spectrum of contrasts from soft, pale hues at dawn to bold, saturated tones at sunset. It doesn't just illuminate the scenery, it

	<p>brings it to life, creating moods and enhancing textures in ways that captivate the soul. This photograph below captures the eroded textures and unique geological formations of Utah's deserts Factory Butte, showcasing the mesmerizing beauty of places like the Badlands, Canyonlands, or Escalante. The interplay of deep blue tones and glowing orange highlights illustrates the incredible power of light. As sunlight grazes the surface at just the right angle likely during the golden hours it transforms the rugged terrain into an evocative masterpiece. Utah's landscapes shift dramatically under changing light, transitioning from vibrant and saturated to soft and muted. This image is a perfect reminder of how dynamic and alive this incredible state truly is! peace in this troubled land.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Dji Mavic Pro 3, 19mm lens, f2.8, 1/20s, ISO 100</p>	<p>illuminate the scenery, it brings it to life, creating moods and enhancing textures in ways that captivate the soul. This photograph below captures the eroded textures and unique geological formations of Utah's deserts Factory Butte, showcasing the mesmerizing beauty of places like the Badlands, Canyonlands, or Escalante. The interplay of deep blue tones and glowing orange highlights illustrates the incredible power of light. As sunlight grazes the surface at just the right angle likely during the golden hours it transforms the rugged terrain into an evocative masterpiece. Utah's landscapes shift dramatically under changing light, transitioning from vibrant and saturated to soft and muted. This image is a perfect reminder of how dynamic and alive this incredible state truly is!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Dji Mavic Pro 3, 19mm lens, f2.8, 1/20s, ISO 100</p>	<p>creating moods and enhancing textures in ways that captivate the soul. This photograph below captures the eroded textures and unique geological formations of Utah's deserts Factory Butte, showcasing the mesmerizing beauty of places like the Badlands, Canyonlands, or Escalante. The interplay of deep blue tones and glowing orange highlights illustrates the incredible power of light. As sunlight grazes the surface at just the right angle likely during the golden hours it transforms the rugged terrain into an evocative masterpiece. Utah's landscapes shift dramatically under changing light, transitioning from vibrant and saturated to soft and muted. This image is a perfect reminder of how dynamic and alive this incredible state truly is!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Dji Mavic Pro 3, 19mm lens, f2.8, 1/20s, ISO 100</p>	<p>moods and enhancing textures in ways that captivate the soul. This photograph below captures the eroded textures and unique geological formations of Utah's deserts Factory Butte, showcasing the mesmerizing beauty of places like the Badlands, Canyonlands, or Escalante. The interplay of deep blue tones and glowing orange highlights illustrates the incredible power of light. As sunlight grazes the surface at just the right angle likely during the golden hours it transforms the rugged terrain into an evocative masterpiece. Utah's landscapes shift dramatically under changing light, transitioning from vibrant and saturated to soft and muted. This image is a perfect reminder of how dynamic and alive this incredible state truly is!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Dji Mavic Pro 3, 19mm lens, f2.8, 1/20s, ISO 100</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>84</b>

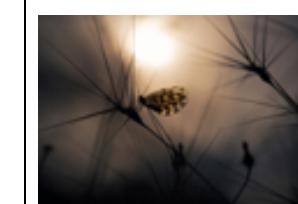
<p><b>COMMENDED, LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>IGNACIO PALACIOS, SPAIN/ AUSTRALIA</b></p>				
	<p><b>COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Ignacio Palacios, Spain/Australia</p> <p>Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>Aerial image of the colorful Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>DJI mavic 4 pro, 14.4mm lens, f7.1, 1/80s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Ignacio Palacios, Spain/Australia</p> <p>Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>Aerial image of the colorful Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>DJI mavic 4 pro, 14.4mm lens, f7.1, 1/80s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Ignacio Palacios, Spain/Australia</p> <p>Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>Aerial image of the colorful Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>DJI mavic 4 pro, 14.4mm lens, f7.1, 1/80s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Ignacio Palacios, Spain/Australia</p> <p>Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>Aerial image of the colorful Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>DJI mavic 4 pro, 14.4mm lens, f7.1, 1/80s, ISO 100</p>
<p><b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b></p>	<p><b>85</b></p>	<p><b>86</b></p>	<p><b>87</b></p>	<p><b>88</b></p>

<p><b>BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>LAETITIA GUICHARD, FRANCE</p>				
<p>I am a French professional photographer- I am 49 years - I travel when I can and I try to find the most beautiful pictures of the world</p> <p><b>WINNER - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>Laetitia Guichard, France</b></p> <p>Ferté Alais, France</p> <p>I took this photo during an air show in France, at La Ferté-Alais. A funnel cloud formed during the show; some planes continued to fly, although there was still some distance between the planes and the funnel. Shortly afterwards, the weather cleared up</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon R7, 70-200mm lens, f7.1, 1/2500s, ISO 800</p>	<p><b>WINNER - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>Laetitia Guichard, France</b></p> <p>Ferté Alais, France</p> <p>I took this photo during an air show in France, at La Ferté-Alais. A funnel cloud formed during the show; some planes continued to fly, although there was still some distance between the planes and the funnel. Shortly afterwards, the weather cleared up</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon R7, 70-200mm lens, f7.1, 1/2500s, ISO 800</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Xuejun Long, China</p> <p>Lake Magadi, Kenya</p> <p>Aerial photography of Lake Magadi, coinciding with the rapid transition from the rainy season to the dry season, caused by the evaporation of fresh water, the proportion of the lake water increased, and chemical sediment at the bottom of the lake surfaced, forming a large number of connected patterns. These patterns often lasted only a few days. With the arrival of the dry season, only a few centimeters deep large area of the lake surface would become a dry riverbed. I was fortunate to have caught this opportunity, and groups of flamingos came to cheer up, bestowing a dreamy beauty from heaven.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon Z9, 70-200mm lens, f8, 1/2000s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Magdaléna Straková</p> <p>Los Barruecos, Spain</p> <p>Los Barruecos, protected as a Natural Monument since 1996, is a striking landscape of massive rounded granite boulders scattered across open ground in Extremadura, Spain. The site is equally known for a unique phenomenon: white storks nesting directly on rocks. Each spring, the skyline here is defined not only by huge boulders and dramatic skies, but also by the storks returning to the colony.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon R5, 100-500mm lens, f7.1, 1/160s, ISO 500</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p>Pawel Zygmunt, Poland</p> <p>Hveravellir, Iceland</p> <p>An aerial view of the Hveravellir geothermal area in Iceland reveals a striking formation that resembles an animal's eye staring up from the earth. At the center lies a deep-blue pool, dark and almost circular, surrounded by pale mineral crust that forms a natural "iris." Beyond it, the ground shifts into layered rings of brown and grey textures shaped by heat, minerals, and time. The cracked, barren terrain around the pool adds to the illusion, making the formation stand out sharply against the rugged landscape. The scene has a raw, almost living quality, as if the land itself were watching.</p> <p><b>TECHNICA DATA</b> DJI Mavic 2 Pro, 20mm lens, f3.5, 1/24s, ISO 100</p>
<p><b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b></p>	<p><a href="#">121</a></p>	<p><a href="#">122</a></p>	<p><a href="#">123</a></p>	<p><a href="#">124</a></p>

				
<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait</p> <p>Cenote Nicte Ha, Tulum, Quintana Roo, Mexico</p> <p>A water lily garden against a perfectly still water surface makes the texture of the landscape greenery indistinguishable from the scene below the water. The tiny fish in the water column contrasting with the blue sky helps situate the underwater scene. Cenotes form a network of a subterranean water system stretching over a thousand kilometers throughout the Yucatan Peninsula's forests.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 28-70mm lens, F10, 1/120s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Marek Biegalski, Poland</p> <p>Factory butte, Utah</p> <p>Utah's breathtaking landscapes towering rocks, expansive deserts, and serene canyons offer an unparalleled canvas for nature's artistry. Light plays a key role in transforming these dramatic terrains, revealing a spectrum of contrasts from soft, pale hues at dawn to bold, saturated tones at sunset. It doesn't just illuminate the scenery, it brings it to life, creating moods and enhancing textures in ways that captivate the soul. This photograph below captures the eroded textures and unique geological formations of Utah's deserts Factory Butte, showcasing the mesmerizing beauty of places like the Badlands, Canyonlands, or Escalante. The interplay of deep blue tones and glowing orange highlights illustrates the incredible power of light. As sunlight grazes the surface at just the right angle likely during the golden hours it transforms the rugged terrain into an evocative masterpiece. Utah's landscapes shift dramatically under changing light, transitioning from vibrant and saturated to soft and muted. This image is a perfect reminder of how dynamic and alive this incredible state truly is!</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Dji Mavic Pro 3, 19mm lens, f2.8, 1/20s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN LANDSCAPE, WEATHER &amp; CLIMATE PORTFOLIO</b> Ignacio Palacios, Spain/Australia</p> <p>Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>Aerial image of the colorful Pithara Lakes, Western Australia</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI mavic 4 pro, 14.4mm lens, f7.1, 1/80s, ISO 100</p>		
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>127</b>	

<p><b>WINNER - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO,</b> <b>MOHAMMAD MURAD, KUWAIT</b></p> <p>I am Mohammad Murad, a Kuwaiti wildlife photographer and Canon EMEA Ambassador whose work blends emotion, motion, and storytelling. After beginning my journey in 2015, I transitioned from a career in communications engineering to a life devoted to nature and the craft of visual expression. Growing up in Kuwait, a land of harsh deserts and delicate ecosystems, shaped my fascination with resilience in the natural world—an idea that continues to guide my photography.</p> <p>My work takes me from Kuwait's scorching 53°C summers to Mongolia's -35°C snowstorms and the frozen north, documenting the lives of foxes, owls, eagles, wolves, and the many silent stories found in the wild. I often use slow shutter and motion techniques to reveal not just what animals look like, but what they feel like—capturing rhythm, tension, stillness, or the pulse of movement.</p> <p>I have been fortunate to receive international recognition for my images, a reminder of how powerful nature's stories can be when shared with honesty and respect.</p> <p>Today, I continue exploring remote landscapes and urban edges alike, working to highlight the fragile connections between wildlife and the changing world around them. Photography, for me, is both a responsibility and a lifelong conversation with nature.</p>				

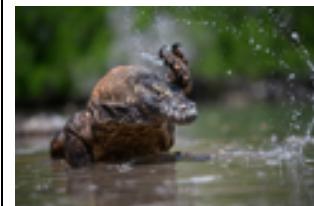
		Canon 1D Mk II, 500mm lens, f4, 1/25s, ISO 6400		
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>JOINT RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b>  <b>EMMA PARKER, USA</b>				

	<p>RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Emma Parker USA Broome, Western Australia</p> <p>On the sunlit mudflats, a crab seizes a blue-spotted mudskipper with a powerful upward snap of its claw, lifting the wriggling fish clean from the mud.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 500 mm lens, f6.3, 1/4000s, ISO 500</p>	<p>RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Emma Parker USA Broome, Western Australia</p> <p>Two blue-spotted mudskippers fight to defend territory and access to resources, engaging in rapid lunges, fin-flares and mouth-gaping displays to establish dominance and protect their burrows, feeding grounds and potential mates along the exposed mudflats.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 500 mm lens, f8, 1/2500s, ISO 400</p>	<p>RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Emma Parker USA Broome, Western Australia</p> <p>A striated heron stands poised on the mudflats, inching forward with deliberate precision as it watches for the slightest movement before striking swiftly at unsuspecting prey.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 500mm lens, f7.1, 1/2500s, ISO 320</p>	<p>RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Emma Parker USA Broome, Western Australia</p> <p>Barred Mudskipper, the smallest in the Broome mud flats, shows off their territorial display as another mudskipper appears close by - this behaviour could also be a lead up to mating.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 500mm lens, f6.3, 1/4000s, ISO 500</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>JOINT RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> <b>PANAGIOTIS DALAGIORGOS, GREECE</b>				
	<p>RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Panagiotis Dalagiorgos, Greece</p> <p>Athens, Greece</p>	<p>RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Panagiotis Dalagiorgos, Greece</p> <p>Athens, Greece</p>	<p>RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Panagiotis Dalagiorgos, Greece</p> <p>Athens, Greece</p>	<p>RUNNER UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Panagiotis Dalagiorgos, Greece</p> <p>Athens, Greece</p>

	<p>A backlit photo of a Nemoptera coa among some plants. I took this photo in May 2025 on a mountain near Athens, Greece. I loved the contrast between the delicate insect and the rough plants which is why I chose to emphasize it with a backlit harsh light shot.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7C II, 60 mm lens, f2.8, 1/8000s, ISO 100</p>	<p>An impressionistic style photo of a Nemoptera coa on Helichrysum. I took this photo in May 2025 on a mountain near Athens, Greece. I wanted to capture the fleeting feeling I got when this insect landed on the flower, which is why I chose this approach for my frame.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7C II, 60 mm lens, f2.8, 1/250s, ISO 400</p>	<p>A low angle shot of a Nemoptera coa on Helichrysum. I took this photo in May 2025 on a mountain near Athens, Greece. I went for a low angle approach because it had its wings wide spread, and I felt I was peeking at heaven and seeing an angel.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7C II, 60 mm lens, f2.8, 1/320s, ISO 200</p>	<p>A photo of a Nemoptera coa on Helichrysum. I took this photo in May 2025 on a mountain near Athens, Greece. I utilized a dandelion in the background for the round white area above the insect, while placing my camera among the plant's branches gave me this impressionistic effect.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Sony A7C II, 90 mm lens, f2.8, 1/800s, ISO 100</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100</b>

<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>GIACOMO MARCHIONE, ITALY</b></p>				
	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> Giacomo Marchione, Italy</p> <p>Moal Boal. Cebu island. Philippines</p> <p>I took image 1 of the portfolio along the shores of White Beach in Moal Boal, Cebu Islands.</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED UP - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> Giacomo Marchione, Italy</p> <p>Moal Boal. Cebu island. Philippines</p> <p>A show large schools of sardines moving quickly as predators and humans approach, forming large masses that resemble clouds during a thunderstorm. Here, a</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> Giacomo Marchione, Italy</p> <p>Moal Boal. Cebu island. Philippines</p> <p>A show large schools of sardines moving quickly as predators and humans approach, forming large masses that resemble clouds during a thunderstorm. Here, a</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> Giacomo Marchione, Italy</p> <p>Moal Boal. Cebu island. Philippines</p> <p>A large school of sardines stands out against the sunlight, creating plays of light and reflections</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D800E, 16mm lens, 1/125s, ISO 160</p>

	<p>A large schools of sardines moving quickly as predators and humans approach, forming large clusters that resemble clouds during a thunderstorm..</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D800E, 16mm lens, , 1/125s, ISO 160</p>	<p>free diver puts on a show, parting the school as he passes.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D800E, 16mm lens, , 1/125s, ISO 160</p>	<p>free diver puts on a show, parting the school as he passes.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D800E, 16mm lens, , 1/125s, ISO 160</p>	
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>104</b>

<p><b>COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>SULIMAN ALATIQI, KUWAIT</b></p>				
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	<p>COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait</p> <p>Komodo Island, West Manggarai Regency, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia</p> <p>Komodo dragons, native to a few Indonesian islands, primarily inhabit savanna grasslands which are ideal for their hunting style and tropical forests which provide shelter and shade. Coastal shorelines and mangrove forests, however, are also an important part of their environment and lifestyle. Komodo dragons are good swimmers and use their tail for propulsion (similar to crocodiles), though always while keeping their head above the water. While they are adept at swimming in the deep, when possible, they prefer traversing in shallow waters where they can more comfortably walk across the seabed.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 70-200mm lens, f20, 1/200s, ISO 250</p>	<p>COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait</p> <p>Komodo Island, West Manggarai Regency, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia</p> <p>As cold-blooded animals, Komodo dragons rely on external sources to regulate their body temperature. During the scorching midday heat, they can be seen lying in shallow water or mud to lower their body temperature.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/800s, ISO 180</p>	<p>COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait</p> <p>Komodo Island, West Manggarai Regency, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia</p> <p>A Komodo dragon scavenging the intertidal zone. As opportunistic carnivores, they will feed on carcasses in addition to hunting for live prey, one of the key reasons behind their survival success. Moreover, their highly developed forked tongue helps them detect food sources from miles away and aids in direction—as the Komodo dragon retracts its tongue, it compares the intensity of the chemical signals between the right and left forks. Therefore, during low tide, Komodo dragons are commonly seen scavenging the intertidal zone for washed-up dead marine life such as fish, turtles and birds.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/3200s, ISO 125</p>	<p>COMMENDED - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Suliman Alatiqi, Kuwait</p> <p>Komodo Island, West Manggarai Regency, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia</p> <p>To regulate their body temperature, in the early hours of the day they are commonly seen walking along the beach to warm up their bodies.</p> <p>.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mavic 3, 24mm lens, f2.5, 1/1600s, ISO 100</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>108</b>

<p><b>BEST SINGLE IMAGE IN WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b></p> <p><b>Kevin Yu Shi, USA</b></p>				
<p>I'm a retired tech exec who decided to pick up a camera and become a photographer. I'm all about telling stories through my photos, and I'm particularly drawn to travel and people photography. Lately, I've been exploring the world and capturing the beauty of nature and the connections between humans and wildlife.</p>	<p><b>WINNER - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> Kevin Yu Shi, USA</p> <p>Torres del Paine, Chile</p> <p>Chile's Torres Del Paine is famous for its stunning landscapes, but it's also home to a fierce predator - the puma. These majestic creatures primarily feed on guanacos. However, the hunting success rate for pumas is not very high, especially for female pumas. They primarily rely on the abundance of guanacos for their survival. It's a rare treat to see a puma hunting right in front of you. We followed a female puma for a few days, and she had two adorable cubs who depended on her to bring them food. In this particular early morning, she had been keeping a guanaco close by for a while, and finally, she had the chance to get close enough to jump on it. She tried to pull down the guanaco a few times, and she was really close to biting into the neck and suffocating the guanaco .. But guess what? The guanaco was a tough cookie, and it managed to escape!</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> Mohammad Murad, Kuwait</p> <p>Tarangire National Park, Tanzania</p> <p>They say the world of art is limitless! Unusual Forms of Art for a baby elephant and its mother taken in Tanzania I have this inside desire to photograph in slow shutter .. something about it just fascinates me and i'm not talking about panning technique here i'm talking about reinventing the scene adding a touch of mystery to it something to represent me, something to reflect my inner self It's like when a violinist plays his melody in his own way to express something inside him, maybe a feeling, a happy or a sad feeling. Maybe you will not understand and maybe you will but that won't affect the violinist at all, he just want to be heard he will leave the interpretation to whomever they are Photography is an Art form that represent me well every image that i take is like reinventing a part of me .. adding a touch of mystery to it .. something to reflect my inner self</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> DJI Mavic 3, Hasselblad lens, f2.8, 1/120s, ISO 800</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> Emma Parker, Australia</p> <p><b>Canarvon, Western Australia</b></p> <p>A female dawsons burrowing bee takes flight from the nest chamber to collect more provisions for the larvae in the chamber</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon Z9, 800mm lens, f7.1, 1/1600s, ISO 40000</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL MENTION - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO</b> Javier Herranz Casellas, Spain</p> <p><b>La Gomera Island, Canarias, Spain</b></p> <p>The red crab (<i>Grapsus adscensionis</i>) lives among the rocks of the Atlantic coasts of the Macaronesian islands (Canary Islands, Azores, Savage Islands, Madeira, and Morocco). In the photos, it appears enveloped by a fine curtain of water produced by the waves crashing against the rocks where it searches for small crustaceans and plants on which it feeds.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon D810, 80-400mm lens, f10, 1/8s, ISO 100</p>

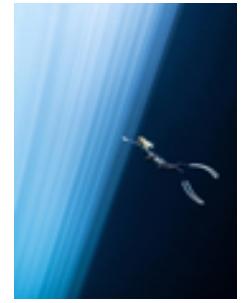
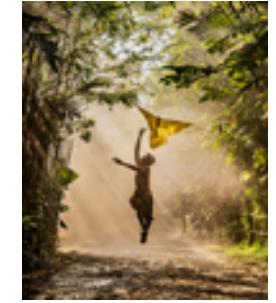
	TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 600mm lens, f6.3, 1/2000s, ISO 1000			
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	128	129	130	131
				
	SPECIAL MENTION - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Falko Düsterhöft, Germany  Bokspits, Kalahari, South Africa  Two meerkats enjoy the sunset in the Kalahari Desert.  TECHNICAL DATA Canon 5D MkIV, 400mm lens, f3.5, 1/640s, ISO 640.	SPECIAL MENTION - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Yoshiki Nakamura, USA  <b>Mount Vernon, Skagit Valley, Washington, USA</b>  At sunset, thousands of snow geese erupted into the sky, some sweeping across the horizon while another flock surged forward toward me. Using a slow shutter, I captured the layered movements, where overlapping wings and shifting directions created a three- dimensional impression of motion. The blurred forms convey both chaos and harmony, transforming the flock into a living tapestry of light and energy—an image that embodies the dynamic spirit of migration as it unfolds in ever-changing patterns.  TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 600mm lens, f25, 1/15s, ISO 64	SPECIAL MENTION - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Ponlawat Thaipinnarong, Thailand  Huai Chorakhe Mak Reservoir, Ban Bua, Meung Buriram, Buriram, Thailand  In a breeding season, A couple of Sarus Cranes made a nest in rice paddies and taught their chicks to walk around. I laid down for several hours a day to get the good aspect of pictures and made them calm down. They rested on the nest. In the evening, It took care and cleaned up its chick. I saw the bird bent down a head to a chick and made beak-to-beak connection. I understood profoundly that a sarus crane made intimate relationship with chicks.  TECHNICAL DATA Sony A1, 400mm lens, f5.6, 1/320s, ISO 1600	SPECIAL MENTION - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Charlie Wemyss-Dunn, UK  Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska, USA  Sockeye salmon spawn in large numbers at the end of their annual run from the Alaskan coast back to the rivers and creeks of their birth. The salmon turn bright red during spawning before reaching the end of their life cycle, providing nutrients to the riverbeds and sustenance to the brown bears roaming the area. This natural phenomenon is now threatened by both climate change impacting water temperatures and by

				proposed mining development in the region.  TECHNICAL DATA Canon R6 MkII, 100-500mm lens, f5, 1/500s, ISO 1600
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	132	133	134	135
				
	<p>SPECIAL MENTION - WILDLIFE, SEALIFE, BIRDLIFE PORTFOLIO Catherine Holmes, UK</p> <p>Los Islotes, La Paz, Mexico</p> <p>“The Boss”. A large bull Californian sealion (<i>Zalophus Californianus</i>) comes in close to check I am no threat after his playful pups frolic close to my fins. He regularly passes protecting his harem of females above, all living in the Unesco marine protected marine park of Espiritu Santo, where both sealife and birds flourish</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p>			

	Nikon D500, 8-15mm lens, 11, 1/250s, ISO 400.			
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	136			

<b>WINNER - ONE SHOT – GREEN PLANET</b>  <b>JOHN EDWARDS, USA</b>				
I am a lifelong photography enthusiast with a deep love for striving to capture the feeling of those special moments in nature that make our eyes smile. My journey began many years ago with a Canon AE-1, and I've never put the camera down. In recent years, I've been fortunate to devote more time to photography, and that focus has led to much-appreciated external recognition, including being named a Winner in the 2025 World Nature Photography Awards and receiving an Honorable Mention in the 2025 reFocus Awards. Beyond photography, my professional career is devoted to developing treatments for cancer and rare diseases—a mission that inspires the same passion and persistence I enjoy bringing to my photography.	<p><b>WINNER - ONE SHOT – GREEN PLANET</b> John Edwards, USA</p> <p>Sukhothai, Thailand (Sukhothai Historical Park)</p> <p>I captured this image shortly after sunrise in a quiet region of Thailand, whose name fittingly translates to “Dawn of Happiness.” I noticed how perfectly the Buddha’s figure reflected in the still water. To convey the spirit of the moment, I inverted the photograph, turning the reflection into an illusion where the sky above the Buddha becomes a tapestry of floating flowers and drifting plants. My intention was to create an image that mirrors the peaceful, dreamlike feeling of this sacred location, where the green textures and beautiful flowers of</p>	<p><b>RUNNER UP - ONE SHOT – GREEN PLANET</b> Yuan Xu, USA</p> <p>Palouse region, Idaho, USA</p> <p>This photo was taken on a late May morning atop Steptoe Butte. Because it had rained the night before, the temperature was low. About half an hour after sunrise, a low-hanging cloud, perhaps fog, suddenly drifted in, enveloping the windmills in the wheat field, making them appear and disappear intermittently. The sunlit fields and the windmills shrouded in mist created a dreamlike scene of hopeful beauty.</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - ONE SHOT – GREEN PLANET</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore</p> <p>Fukuoka, Japan</p> <p>Adult damselflies only have a lifespan of several weeks. They are hence in a hurry to feed and pass on their genes to the next generation. This photo was taken in Fukuoka, Japan during the summer, when intense rains pelt the lands in June. A pair of damselfly was seemingly undaunted with the rain drops falling on them, as they continue their love deed.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony a6500, 90mm lens, f22, 1/160, ISO 1000</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - ONE SHOT – GREEN PLANET</b> Trevor LaClair, USA</p> <p>Katmai National Park, Alaska, USA</p> <p>While leading a bear photography workshop along the coast of Alaska, myself and the other bear guide scanned the landscape with our binoculars for any good photography opportunities. We were lucky to spot this single cub and his mother from a distance. After spotting them, we crossed a couple rivers and a few meadows to get within range of the two bears so we could capture the relationship between the mom and her yearling cub. Focused on the cub with my 600 mm lens, I knelt down in the vegetation to become eye-level with the animal. Both the mom and cub grazed nearby. The cub would rip at the vegetation</p>

	<p>our world can be transformed into a new and unexpected reality.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Nikon D850, 24-70mm lens, f6.3, 1/100s, ISO 100</p>			<p>then study us with his glowing expression. Upon lifting his head, I would fire away, capturing a series of images as he turned his head, looking right at me. I was ecstatic to have captured this adorable image of the cub with grass in its mouth. Studying the image, it reminded me of those times when a waitress at a restaurant asks about your food at the exact moment you stuffed your mouth full. I love photographing bears and always look forward to returning to Alaska as they awaken from hibernation.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R5, 600mm lens, f4.5, 1/1250s, ISO 400</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	137	138	139	140

<p><b>WINNER - ONE SHOT – SLOW TRAVEL</b> <b>TEO CHIN LEONG, SINGAPORE</b></p>				

<p>Chin Leong is a Singapore national who has lived and worked in countries as diverse as the United States, Saudi Arabia, China, Indonesia and Japan. This globetrotting experience has created a desire in him to connect the different cultures of the world through photography and the visual arts. Chin Leong started his photography pursuit in 2013 and quickly gained international recognition and accolades for his photography work.</p>	<p><b>WINNER - ONE SHOT – SLOW TRAVEL</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore</p> <p>Tokyo, Japan</p> <p>A lone corporate worker hurries across a large junction in Tokyo, the only human being in the frame. This series depicts the overwhelming loneliness and the hectic pace of living in a large city.'</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony ILCE-6500, 55-210mm lens, f6.3, 1/400s, ISO 200</p>	<p><b>RUNNER UP- ONE SHOT – SLOW TRAVEL</b> Yousif Albadi, UAE</p> <p>Abu Dhabi, UAE</p> <p>At the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, beauty reveals itself in slow rhythm, in hands that unroll patterned carpets across marble mosaics of flowers and light. To pause here is to witness devotion not just in prayer, but in preparation. Each gesture honors tradition, each shadow moves with the day. Slow travel is not always a journey across distance; sometimes, it is a quiet moment of seeing the world in its most intricate detail.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> NIKON Z 7_2, 7-14mm lens, f2.8, 1/320s, ISO ?</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - ONE SHOT – SLOW TRAVEL</b> Tori Savage, Australia</p> <p>Moorak, (Limestone Coast) South Australia</p> <p>A freediver rises through the void, a shaft of light piercing the serene depths of Kilsby Sinkhole.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Olympus E-M1 MkII, 7-14mm lens, f12.8, 1/60s, ISO 800</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - ONE SHOT – SLOW TRAVEL</b> Thibault Gerbaldi, France</p> <p>East Bali, Indonesia</p> <p>On a quiet rural path, a boy leaps into the morning light to chase his handmade kite. Far from screens and traffic, his play follows a slower rhythm shaped by nature and imagination. In these still corners of Bali, time stretches differently, revealing a world where simplicity and joy move at their own pace.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Leica SL3, 24-90mm lens, f5.6, 1/640s, ISO 200</p>
REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	141	142	143	144

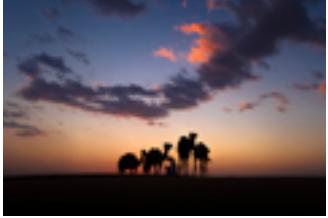
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<p><b>WINNER - ONE SHOT – TRAVEL IN MONOCHROME</b></p> <p><b>DANA ALLEN, USA</b></p> <p>THIS IMAGE IS ALSO THE TRAVEL IMAGE OF THE YEAR</p>				
<p>Dana Allen: naturalist, author, guide, educator, artist and professional wildlife photographer. Originally from California, Dana has lived and worked in Southern, Central and East Africa for the past thirty years and currently resides in Zimbabwe. Acquiring his first camera at an early age, Dana studied photography at Arizona State University and was awarded both a Bachelor and a Masters Degree in Fine Arts with the highest honors. Dana has taught photography in universities and technical colleges both in the United States and Zimbabwe. Dana has been leading small groups of enthusiastic visitors around Africa and the Arctic for many years. His keen knowledge of not only wildlife and environmental issues but also his understanding of local culture and customs make him uniquely suited to the task. Enthused with the environment and its inhabitants, Dana is dedicated to portraying the natural world around us. He founded PhotoSafari in 1991 and has specialized in photographing wildlife, the environment and tourism activities in the southern, eastern and central African regions ever since. Millions of viewers have enjoyed his images through various publications, cards, calendars and books.</p>	<p><b>WINNER - ONE SHOT – TRAVEL IN MONOCHROME</b> Dana Allen, USA</p> <p>Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tanzania</p> <p>A massive bull elephant showers himself in dust.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony A1 II, 200-600mm lens, f6.7, 1/750s, ISO 1000</p>	<p><b>RUNNER UP - ONE SHOT – TRAVEL IN MONOCHROME</b> Prashant Chacko, India</p> <p>Lake Clark National Park, Alaska</p> <p>Being a mother bear is hard work! The cubs need constant feeding as they need to double in weight every fortnight to have any chance of surviving the winter months. Even if they solve for body weight, multiple other factors mean that bear cub mortality rates are obscenely high. As we tracked this mother bear at Lake Clark National Park, we got some insight into why this could be. Aggressive male bears everywhere and other female bears a-plenty, this mom was always alert and proactively keeping her cubs away from the slightest danger. Yet she did so with great calm, grace and seeming good spirit. So much so that this cub seems to be looking up at her saying 'Thank you. You are my hero!'</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon Z8, 400mm lens, f4, 1/1250s, ISO 640</p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED - ONE SHOT – TRAVEL IN MONOCHROME</b> Shyjith Onden Cheriyath, India</p> <p>Al Qudra, Dubai, UAE</p> <p>On a foggy morning at Al Qudra Cycling Track, this black-and-white silhouette photograph highlights a group of cyclists slicing through the haze with synchronized motion. The iconic spire of the Sustainability &amp; Innovation Centre at the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park rises in the background, subtly piercing the mist. A favorite among Dubai's fitness enthusiasts, Al Qudra's 86-kilometer track transforms into a dreamlike scene in low visibility, emphasizing both human endurance and architectural ambition. The image speaks to the harmony between sustainable progress and active living in the UAE's ever-evolving landscape.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Canon R5, 100-400mm lens, f14, 1/1000s, ISO 400</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED - ONE SHOT – TRAVEL IN MONOCHROME</b> Robert Bolton, UK</p> <p>Man-made dam in the countryside near Ubud, Bali.</p> <p>A friendly local made an interesting composition by sitting in front of the falls of this dam. A sort of Buddhist contemplative pose. This was a longish exposure (6 Secs) but he remained stock still which made this unusual and evocative image for me. Monochrome worked well given the tones in the water.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Fujifilm GFX 100s, 45-100mm lens, f20, 6s, ISO 50</p>

REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER	145	146	147	148
<b>WINNER - ONE SHOT – TRAVEL POTRAITS</b> <b>Rahsan Firtina, Turkey</b>				
<p>I started photography in 2019, initially as a simple hobby. Over time, my interest—especially in street and travel photography—grew into a true passion. My academic background is in physical education teaching, and I also work as an actress in TV series, films, and commercials.</p> <p>As I continued photographing, traveling and connecting with people became essential parts of my life. I am currently in a period where I am focusing more deeply on photography and preparing my own solo exhibition. For me, photography has become both a form of expression and a way of understanding the world.</p>	<p><b>WINNER - ONE SHOT – TRAVEL POTRAITS</b> Rahsan Firtina, Turkey</p> <p>Hanoi, Vietnam</p> <p>Photo of a man sitting at the foreground, lost in thought, while retired colonel's play table tennis behind him.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony 7RM5, 28-70mm lens, f2.8, 1/320s, ISO 400</p>	<p><b>RUNNER UP - ONE SHOT – TRAVEL POTRAITS</b> Teo Chin Leong, Singapore</p> <p>Mekong Delta, southern Vietnam</p> <p>This is a 100-year old Vietnamese man living in a rural village in southern Vietnam. His home is sparse but fills with the remnants of his memories of yester-years. Hanging on the wall is a traditional straw hat commonly worn by Vietnamese farmers. Propped against the wall is a walking stick. His fit body belies his age.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHLY COMMENDED- ONE SHOT – TRAVEL POTRAITS</b> Rahsan Firtina, Turkey</p> <p>Hanoi, Vietnam</p> <p>I took this photo in Hanoi, Vietnam. The woman was weaving traditional bamboo baskets, and her joyful smile immediately caught my attention. Her blackened teeth are part of an old Vietnamese beauty tradition, where women dyed their teeth black as a symbol of elegance and cultural identity. I wanted to capture her warmth, her craft, and the heritage she represents</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony 7RM5, 28-70mm lens, f4.5, 1/250s, ISO 400</p>	<p><b>COMMENDED- ONE SHOT – TRAVEL POTRAITS</b> Trevor Cole, Ireland</p> <p>Bauchi, Northern Nigeria</p> <p>A Gobirawa woman with distinctive facial scarification. The Gobirawa live near the town of Bauchi and are pastoralists. They are a sub group of the Hausa and have a long history of living in Northern Nigeria.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Nikon Z8, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/1600s, ISO 400</p>

		Sony 7C, 24-105mm lens, f4, 1/125s, ISO 1000		
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>152</b>
				
	COMMENDED – ONE SHOT – TRAVEL PORTRAITS Alessandra Manzotti, Italy  Eagle hunter's child, Altai Mountains, Western Mongolia  ???			
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>153</b>			

<b>RISING TALENT</b>				

<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b></p> <p><b>Maruša Urnjek, Slovenia</b></p>			
<p>Originally from Slovenia and raised partly in Egypt, I have spent much of my life between countries, which naturally led to a strong interest in travel and the landscapes and cultures that shape different places. I am now based in the UK, where I work in sales, and photography is the creative balance to my professional life. My interest in photography began early, inspired by my father documenting our family's years abroad. Many of my earliest memories are of carrying a disposable film camera with me, convinced I would one day have a "big camera" of my own. I received my first DSLR as a university graduation gift, and although photography moved in and out of my life for a time, it became a more focused pursuit in recent years. My work centres on travel photography, exploring both landscapes and the cultures connected to them. I'm drawn to atmospheric scenes, patterns and textures, and have developed a growing interest in aerial perspectives. In my photography I look for quieter moments and the unique perspectives that often sit within seemingly ordinary</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Maruša Urnjek, Slovenia</p> <p>Sharqiya Sands, Oman</p> <p>Captured in the stillness of the Omani desert, this photograph reflects the connection between humans, animals, and the landscape that has shaped them both. As the sun sinks beneath the horizon, the silhouettes of camels and their handler stand in harmony against a sky painted with the last hues of day.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R6 MkII, 24-105mm lens, f9, 1/320s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Maruša Urnjek, Slovenia</p> <p>Jebel Shams, Oman</p> <p>A man sits in the frame of an unfinished building in Oman, watching the last light fall over the mountains. His shadow stretches across the glowing wall, creating a contrast between the raw interior and the serenity of the landscape beyond.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA Canon R6 MkII, 24-105mm lens, f7.1, 1/250s, ISO 200</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Maruša Urnjek, Slovenia</p> <p>Sharqiya Sands, Oman</p> <p>In the early morning light, a camel herder crosses the dunes of Oman, their long shadows stretching across the rippled sand. From above, the vast landscape becomes a canvas of curves and light, capturing a quiet moment of movement within the desert's timeless rhythm.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA DJI Mavic 3, 20mm lens, f5.6, 1/500s, ISO 100</p>
<p><b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b></p>	<p><b>154</b></p>	<p><b>155</b></p>	<p><b>156</b></p>

<b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> <b>SILKE HULLMANN, GERMANY</b>			
<p>I was born in Düsseldorf but grew up in a small rural town, spending much of my childhood exploring forests, watching wildlife, and developing a deep connection to nature. This early bond led me to train in gardening and landscape architecture, where I spent nearly a decade working creatively with plants and outdoor spaces. Those years outdoors shaped my way of seeing the world. After completing a commercial degree, I moved into management consulting and later into the telecommunications industry. Although this career path was very different from my earlier work, my love for nature never faded. I travelled whenever possible, seeking landscapes, wildlife, and cultural experiences that reconnected me with the natural world. Travel has since become a central part of my life, with the African continent holding a particularly special place in my heart. Its wildlife, diversity, and sense of vastness continue to inspire me deeply. Photography grew naturally from these travels. What began as a hobby is now a core part of my life—a way to observe, understand, and honour nature. I photograph only wild animals in their natural habitats, aiming to capture their beauty and integrity without disturbance. For me, photography is both creative expression and a way to share the message: appreciate and protect our wildlife.</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b>  Silke Hullman, Germany</p> <p>The image was taken from a helicopter with open doors flying over Lake Magadi in the South of Kenya.</p> <p>“On the way to Mars” The landscape is extremely hostile, harsh, dry and the water evaporates very fast. As the shallow, highly alkaline water of Lake Magadi is rich in algae and microorganisms, which give it its blood-red color. From a bird's eye view, the structures of the subsoil also become visible, opening up the same unique perspective that the flamingos have. Looking at the image it almost felt that the birds are on a mission to explore planet Mars.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b>  Nikon Z 7-2, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/2000s, ISO 640</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b>  Silke Hullman, Germany</p> <p>Amboseli National Park in Kenya</p> <p>“African Icons” The area around Africa's highest mountain and the bed of Lake Amboseli is one of the continent's most famous regions. In addition to the Big Tuskers, elephant bulls with huge tusks and an impressive presence, it is also home to large family groups of female elephants and their young. The elephant mother Garbatulla and her calf spent the afternoon on the wide grasslands against the backdrop of Kilimanjaro and allowed us to follow them every step of the way, resulting in this picture with the African icons.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b>  Nikon Z 6-2, 70-200mm lens, f8, 1/1250s, ISO 6250</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b>  Silke Hullman, Germany</p> <p>Lake Natron in the South of Kenya next to the border of Tanzania.</p> <p>“In the Whirlpool of life” The seemingly inhospitable, almost cosmic-looking environment is a paradise for thousands of flamingos and other water birds, which find perfect living conditions here. In the salty environment, white caps dance on the water's surface, creating magical patterns like an artist with a paintbrush.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b>  Nikon Z 9, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/3200s, ISO 1250</p>
<b>REQUEST IMAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>159</b>

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<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b></p> <p><b>CHRISTOPHER HARRISON, UK</b></p>			
<p>Based in London, Christopher Harrison is a landscape and nature photographer whose work is defined by transforming the ordinary into the extraordinary - combining unexpected elements of light, weather, or seasonality with excellent composition. With a background in Mathematics and a career in technology in London he brings a methodical precision to his creative practice, meticulously scouting &amp; revisiting locations to capture conditions others might miss. Entirely self-taught, photography has been a lifelong passion for Christopher, though his journey as a more serious photographer began in earnest only three years ago during a trip to Vietnam when he started his Instagram account. Since then, he has secured wins in prestigious competitions including the Drone Photo Awards (Nature Category), the British Photography Awards, and the Sigma Photographer of the Year, alongside gaining agency representation for his aerial work. Balancing a demanding corporate career and new fatherhood, he creates his award-winning imagery in the margins of daily life, often shooting during pre-dawn starts in British woodlands or on travels with his family. His portfolio stands as proof that with discipline</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Christopher Harrison, UK</p> <p><b>Henley-on-Thames, England</b></p> <p>I arrived early on this morning, and I am glad I did. It was still blue hour, giving this scene along the River Thames an eerie cold feel with the soft light interacting with the mist. I had to patiently wait for a flock of these Canada geese to fly past in just the right spot to make this composition work. In addition, the geese still resting on the water softly sit in the mist, adding further layers to this composition.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony A7RIV, 70-200mm lens, f2.8, 1/160s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Christopher Harrison, UK</p> <p><b>Marrakech, Morocco</b></p> <p>On this stiflingly hot summer day in Marrakech, my preferred time to explore was during the late evenings when the streets were mostly empty. This scene caught my eye, as the light cast shadows through the tarp that usually shelters the shop stall on this street. The cat further up the street was a happy coincidence.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony A7RIV, 24-70mm lens, f2.8, 1/160s, ISO 12800</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Christopher Harrison, UK</p> <p><b>South Oxfordshire, England</b></p> <p>On the first day of meteorological spring, the warm sunrise light filtered through the low-lying mist, casting a striking long shadow behind this small cluster of trees atop an ancient Bronze Age burial mound. Using my drone enabled me to get this unique perspective, looking down to see the shadow.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> DJI Air 2S, in-built mm lens, f2.8, 1/320s, ISO 210</p>

and a good eye, a passion can evolve into something more.				
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<b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b>  <b>Sue O'Connell, UK</b>				
Travel has always been part of my life, whether for my work in education or for the pure pleasure of exploration, and photography has now become an essential component - a wonderful way to relive precious experiences and also to share them with others. I enjoy a wide range of genres including wildlife, landscapes, documentary, and abstracts, but above all I enjoy engaging with, and photographing people. Photography is a constant learning curve and I have found entering salons and competitions a useful touchstone for my work. Over the years I have also climbed various distinction ladders and I was proud to become a Fellow of the Irish Photographic Federation in 2019.		<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Sue O'Connell, UK</p> <p>OvanKhumbi Village, Southern Angola</p> <p>"Cartwheel Hairstyles, Angola" These girls, members of a remote OvanKhumbi community in southern Angola, are wearing the distinctive hair style known as "ndava" which marks the completion of their initiation ceremony. In this intricate design, the strands of hair are woven together with natural fibres into a cartwheel on each side of the head, symbolizing their transition to adulthood and representing a mark of cultural identity</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Sue O'Connell, UK</p> <p>Hoque Market, Southern Angola</p> <p>"Motherhood" This Ovahanda woman was visiting a small local market in the Lubango area with her tiny charge securely strapped to her back. The elaborate beading ornamentation is a tribal tradition, now sadly in decline as Westernization takes its toll on tribal communities who live in the vicinity of ever-expanding urban areas.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Sue O'Connell, UK</p> <p>Iguazu, Brazil</p> <p>"Waterscape with Snail Kites" Some places are so remarkable that it is impossible not to respond to their drama and magic, and that is certainly true of Iguazu Falls on the Brazil/Argentina border. The sheer scale is awe-inspiring (they are both taller and wider than Niagara) and the accompanying sound is simply overwhelming. This image captures the Falls from the Brazilian side. The birds in flight are snail kites, one of the few animals to thrive in these extreme conditions, flying low over the churning water in search of their favourite prey, apple snails</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p>

My work has appeared in exhibitions including RPS Travel Group, the London Salon, PAGB Masters of Print, as well as TPOTY!		Fujifilm X-T5, 50-140mm lens, f2.8, 1/180s, ISO 125	Fujifilm X-T5, 50-140mm lens, f2.8, 1/1800s, ISO 125	Fujifilm X-T2, 18-135mm lens, f8, 1/2000s, ISO 1600
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<b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> <b>LIESEL GEERTSEMA, NEW ZEALAND</b>				
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<p>A year ago, I was a sports physician. Sports medicine was kind to me, taking me to Everest Base Camp, working as a ski doctor on an active volcano in New Zealand, and to international sports events. But I realised there was more to life than medicine, and wanted to experience it fully. I've loved photography since buying my first camera in 1992 for a travel adventure to Hong Kong. Giving up medicine for photography was bittersweet, but the right decision. I love travelling to beautiful places with a strong connection to nature and adventure, but living among different cultures is a deeper exploration. Growing up in South Africa, I developed a deep connection to nature and wildlife. Living in beautiful New Zealand taught me about fairness and equity. However, living in Qatar has challenged my preconceived notions about cultures beyond my own. In an increasingly polarised world, travel allows us to appreciate diverse social structures, challenge our own, and experience the exotic while discovering our shared humanity. As a photographer, I hope to demonstrate that common human values apply to most of us, making it easier to accept and celebrate cultural differences.</p>		<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Liesel Geertsema, New Zealand</p> <p>Wadi Rum, Jordan</p> <p>T.E. Lawrence ("of Arabia") wrote: "The camel is the most wonderful of all creatures. He endures heat, thirst, blows, and abuse beyond belief, and still plods on his long, swinging stride, patient and proud. He knows his master's mood and will, and is better taught and more discreet than any horse." Camels have been a part of Bedouin culture and survival since 4000 years ago. The Nabateans used them to carry goods, travellers and water through Wadi Rum, located on the ancient trade route between the Arabian Peninsula and the Mediterranean. Today, they continue to represent endurance, freedom and harmony with the desert - values that define the Bedouin identity.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony ILCE-7RM2, 85mm lens, f3.2, 1/3200s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Liesel Geertsema, New Zealand</p> <p>Svalbard, Norway</p> <p>Svalbard, close to the North Pole and one of the world's northernmost inhabited areas, is home to more polar bears than people. Snowmobiles offer the best way to appreciate the stunning, vast landscape of glaciers, mountains, frozen fjords and tundra - and escape from a chance encounter with a polar bear!</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony ILCE-7RM2, 24mm lens, f8, 1/320s, ISO 100</p>	<p><b>WINNER - RISING TALENT</b> Liesel Geertsema, New Zealand</p> <p>Epta Piges, Rhodes, Greece</p> <p>Although peacocks are not native to Rhodes, they have lived there for centuries - possibly since antiquity. In Greek Mythology, they were sacred to Hera, the queen of the gods. According to myth, Hera placed the hundred eyes of Argus on the peacock's tail. Therefore, the peacock became a symbol of watchfulness, immortality, and divinity in ancient Greek culture. They were also revered in medieval and Ottoman times, symbolising prosperity, pride and protection. Today, they are a beloved emblem of Rhodian culture and a symbol of the island's beauty and multicultural past.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DATA</b> Sony ILCE-1, 70-200mm lens, f8, 1/250s, ISO 1000</p>
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<p><b>WINNER, PEOPLE'S CHOICE VOTE</b></p> <p><b>MARK JULIAN EDWARDS, UK</b></p>				
	<p><b>WINNER, PEOPLE'S CHOICE VOTE</b></p> <p><b>Mark Julian Edwards, UK</b></p> <p>Jaffna bus station, Sri Lanka</p> <p>As the bus prepared to pull away from the bustling Jaffna bus station, a young boy leaned toward the window, his gaze fixed somewhere beyond the crowds. I wondered what hopes or questions were stirring in his mind. The bus itself seemed worn by time - its chipped paint and dented panels telling their own stories - yet the boy's expression carried a quiet energy, as if he couldn't wait to see what lay ahead on the road.</p> <p>TECHNICAL DATA</p> <p>Canon 750D, 50mm lens, f1.8, 1/320s, ISO 500</p>			
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<p><b>VIDEO CATEGORIES</b></p>				

<b>WINNER - OUR WORLD VIDEO</b> <b>No winner awarded</b>	<b>Highly Commended - OUR WORLD VIDEO</b> <b>Christian Weiser, Germany</b>	<b>Highly Commended - OUR WORLD VIDEO</b> <b>??</b>		
<b>WINNER – SHOOTING TRAVEL VIDEO</b> <b>No winner awarded</b>				