PRESS RELEASE | 15 APRIL 2020

OPEN COMPETITION 2020
CATEGORY WINNERS AND SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED

The World Photography Organisation is delighted to announce this year’s category winners and shortlist in the Open competition of the Sony World Photography Awards 2020, recognising the best single images from 2019.

More than 100 photographers were shortlisted in the 2020 competition alongside ten category winners. Each winner receives the latest digital imaging equipment from Sony to develop their vision and will go on to compete for the prestigious Open Photographer of the Year title and a $5,000 (USD) reward. The overall Open winner will be announced on 9th June on the World Photography Organisation and Sony’s online platforms.

The ten category winners are:

ARCHITECTURE
Rosaria Sabrina Pantano (Italy) for Emotional Geography, a black & white image featuring 38° Parallelo, a pyramid shaped sculpture by Mauro Staccioli which stands at the exact point where the geographical coordinates touch the 38th parallel.

CREATIVE
Suxing Zhang (China Mainland) for Knot, a portrait of a young woman with a collage of symbolic elements. This single black & white image is part of the series Hua (meaning flower in Chinese) which looks at flowers as metaphors of femininity.
CULTURE
Antoine Veling (Australia) for Mark 5:28, a photograph capturing the moment when members of the audience were invited on stage to dance at an Iggy Pop concert in the Sydney Opera House on 17 April 2019. Depicting Iggy Pop in a crowd of dancing fans, the image focuses on the singer, a woman reaching to touch him and a stage assistant struggling to keep people at bay. The scene, which was likened to a Caravaggio painting, conjures a biblical passage: Because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” (Mark 5:25-34, line 28).

LANDSCAPE
Craig McGowan (Australia) for Ice Reflections, an image of a solitary iceberg, set against the fjord walls in Northeast Greenland National Park. The iceberg and surrounding landscape are perfectly mirrored in the clear waters of the river resulting in a painterly and abstract photograph.

MOTION
Alec Connah (UK) for Going Down!, a record of the moment the four cooling towers of Ironbridge Power Station in Shropshire were demolished on 6 December 2019.

NATURAL WORLD & WILDLIFE
Guofei Li (China Mainland) for Tai Chi Diagram, taken in Botswana, the picture features two cheetahs licking each other clean following a successful hunt – their position in the frame resembles the shape of a Yin and Yang symbol.

PORTRAITURE
Tom Oldham (UK) for Black Francis, a black & white portrait, originally taken for MOJO Magazine, of Pixies frontman Charles Thompson (aka Black Francis). When approaching the assignment Oldham, an experienced portrait photographer, was painfully aware of the many photoshoots his sitter has been the subject of and asked him to acknowledge his frustration with the process. The resulting image, picturing the singer digging his hands into his face, offered the perfect gesture and ran as the lead image for the article.

STILL LIFE
Jorge Reynal (Argentina) for A Plastic Ocean, a photograph of a dead fish seemingly struggling for breath in a plastic bag. The image aims to highlight the plastic pollution crisis impacting our oceans.

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY
Santiago Mesa (Colombia) for Colombia Resiste, the photograph documents a protester in the city of Medellin where workers and street vendors were taking part in a march when the Medellin riot squad dispersed them. This demonstration is one of many that have broken out across Latin America in recent years for reasons including the rising cost of living, inequality and lack of opportunity.

TRAVEL
Adrian Guerin (Australia) for Riding a Saharan Freight Train, an image taken from the top of the rear carriage of the iron-ore train in Mauritania as it was making its 700km long journey from the coastal town of Nouadhibou to the Saharan wilderness of Zouérat. Stretching 2.5km in length, it’s one of the longest trains in the world transporting more than 200 carriages loaded with rocks.

Standout images from this year’s shortlist include Pinball Pier by Stephen Tomlinson (UK, Architecture), a bird’s-eye view of Brighton Pier lit up at dusk; Metamorphism by Stanislav Stankovskiy (Russian Federation, Creative), a cinematic image of car lights illuminating the darkness on a foggy night; Rivers by Or Adar (Israel, Landscape), a look from above at the network of rivers and creeks in a swamp area near Venice, Italy; That’s Nothing to Laugh About by Adam Stevenson (Australia, Natural World & Wildlife), a photograph of a lone kookaburra perched on a burnt tree branch surveying the damage left in the wake of one of the many devastating bushfires that gripped Australia; and Mother Love by Ottavio Marino (Italy, Portraiture), a poignant illustration of the deep bonds that exist between a mother and her child.

This year’s Open competition was judged by Gisela Kayser, Managing Director and Artistic Director, Freundeskreis Willy-Brandt-Haus e.V., Berlin.

Winning and shortlisted images will be celebrated across the World Photography Organisation’s online channels and platforms using dedicated content including videos, presentations and Q&As. This follows the cancellation of the Sony World Photography Awards 2020 exhibition due to the current pandemic.
In response to recent events, the World Photography Organisation has also launched the Stay Connected page, featuring a varied programme of online initiatives, activities and resources which aims to support and inspire audiences and photographers recognised at this year’s Awards.

**OPEN COMPETITION 2020 CATEGORY WINNERS AND SHORTLIST**

**ARCHITECTURE:**
- **Category Winner:** Rosaria Sabrina Pantano, Italy
- **Shortlist:**
  - Justin Chui, Hong Kong
  - Massimo Crivelli, Italy
  - Paul Crudgington, United Kingdom
  - Marcin Giba, Poland
  - Iraklis Koukemitros, Greece
  - Alexandre B. Lampron, Canada
  - Peter Li, United Kingdom
  - Wen Lu, China Mainland
  - Liliana Ochoa, Colombia
  - Peter Plorin, Germany
  - Eleni Rima Tonantaki, Greece
  - Franco Tessarolo, Switzerland
  - Eng Tong Tan, Malaysia
  - Stephen Tomlinson, United Kingdom

**CREATIVE:**
- **Category Winner:** Suxing Zhang, China Mainland
- **Shortlist:**
  - Lucia Benavento, Argentina
  - Cristina Corai, Italy
  - Henry Oude Egberink, Netherlands
  - Julian Fabioloato, United States
  - Katie Fan, United Kingdom
  - Erica de Haas, Netherlands
  - Martina Holmberg, Sweden
  - Marek Juras, Czech Republic
  - Stanislav Stankovskiy, Russian Federation
  - David Swindler, United States
  - John White, United Kingdom

**LANDSCAPE:**
- **Category Winner:** Craig McGowan, Australia
- **Shortlist:**
  - Or Adar, Israel
  - Hong Chen, Hong Kong
  - Marcin Giba, Poland
  - Kai Hornung, Germany
  - Stanley Lin, Taiwan
  - Marco Minischtjii, Italy
  - Viktor Einar Nilholmsson, Iceland
  - Hsiang Hui (Sylvester) Wong, Malaysia

**CULTURE:**
- **Category Winner:** Antoine Veling, Australia
- **Shortlist:**
  - Ignacio Alvarez Barutell, Spain
  - Diana Buzoianu, Romania
  - Kinyas Bostanci, Turkey
  - Sergio Carrasco, Mexico
  - Sathheeth Chandran, India
  - Gil Kreslavsky, Israel
  - Ted Lau, United Kingdom
  - Mahesh Lonkar, India
  - Antonino Maurizio Clemenza, Italy

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**PORTRAITURE:**
- **Category Winner:** Tom Oldham, United Kingdom
- **Shortlist:**
  - Frederic Aranda, United Kingdom
  - Will Boswell, United Kingdom
  - Laurent Caltucuti, France
  - Gareth Cattermole, Ireland
  - Lorena Zscherber Guimarães, Brazil
  - Katinka Herbert, United Kingdom
  - Justin Keene, United Kingdom
  - Ottavio Marino, Italy
  - Sawamaru Pokiru, Japan
  - David Ridgway, United Kingdom
  - Ulana Swituchna, Canada
  - Dmitrii Fulmenytev, Russian Federation
  - Greg Turner, United Kingdom
  - Tales Yuan, China Mainland

**STILL LIFE:**
- **Category Winner:** Jorge Reynal, Argentina
- **Shortlist:**
  - Javier De Benito, Spain
  - Simone Bramante, Italy
  - Antonio Coelho, Portugal
  - Kunkun Liu, China Mainland
  - Ian Knaggs, United Kingdom
  - Igor Kryukov, Russian Federation
  - Arnaud Montagard, France
  - Chris Patterson, United Kingdom
  - Khoyoung You, Republic of Korea

**TRAVEL:**
- **Category Winner:** Adrian Guerin, Australia
- **Shortlist:**
  - Kendall Greene, United States
  - Trung Pham Huy, Viet Nam
  - Chen Jun, China Mainland
  - Kaitlyn Kampschroer, United States
  - Veliko Karachiev, Bulgaria

**STREET PHOTOGRAPHY:**
- **Category Winner:** Santiago Mesa, Colombia
- **Shortlist:**
  - Indranil Aditya, India
  - Peter Brooks, United Kingdom
  - Jaime Diaz, Spain
  - Daniel Hellig, Hungary
  - Misha Japaridze, Russian Federation
  - Tim Johnston, United Kingdom
  - Jon Liu, China Mainland
  - Joaquín Luna, Spain
  - Bülent Suberik, Turkey
  - Xun Yuan, China Mainland

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  - Xun Yuan, China Mainland
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PRESS CONTACTS
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Inbal Mizrahi on press@worldphoto.org

NOTES TO EDITORS

ABOUT SONY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS
Produced by the World Photography Organisation, the internationally acclaimed Sony World Photography Awards is one of the most important fixtures in the global photographic calendar. Now in its 13th year, the free-to-enter Awards are a global voice for photography and provide a vital insight into contemporary photography today. For both established and emerging artists, the Awards offer world-class opportunities for exposure of their work. The Awards additionally recognise the world’s most influential artists working in the medium through the Outstanding Contribution to Photography Awards; previous recipients include Martin Parr, William Eggleston and Nadav Kander. The Awards showcase the works of winning and shortlisted photographers at a prestigious annual exhibition at Somerset House, London. To book tickets please visit worldphoto.org/sony-world-photography-awards-exhibition

ABOUT WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY ORGANISATION
The World Photography Organisation is a global platform for photography initiatives. Working across up to 180 countries, our aim is to raise the level of conversation around photography by celebrating the best imagery and photographers on the planet. We pride ourselves on building lasting relationships with both individual photographers as well as our industry-leading partners around the world. The World Photography Organisation hosts a year-round portfolio of events including the Sony World Photography Awards, one of the world’s leading photography competitions, and PHOTOFAIRS.
leading international art fairs dedicated to photography. For more details see worldphoto.org. Follow the World Photography Organisation on Instagram (@worldphotoorg), Twitter (@WorldPhotoOrg) and LinkedIn/Facebook (World Photography Organisation). Our hashtags to follow are #sonyworldphotographyawards #swpa.

ABOUT SONY CORPORATION

Sony Corporation is a creative entertainment company with a solid foundation of technology. From game and network services to music, pictures, electronics, semiconductors and financial services - Sony's purpose is to fill the world with emotion through the power of creativity and technology. For more information, visit sony.net

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