

Shortlist revealed for 2017 Sony World Photography Awards, the world's largest photography competition

- Shortlists for Professional, Open, Youth and Student Focus competitions revealed
- Awards' 10th anniversary sees record number of participating photographers
- Photographers competing for cash prizes and Sony digital imaging equipment
- Overall winners revealed April 20, 2017
- Winning and shortlisted images to be exhibited at Somerset House, London, April 21 – May 7, 2017
- All shortlisted and commended images available for publication at press.worldphoto.org

Celebrating its 10th year anniversary, the Sony World Photography Awards is the world's largest photography competition. The awards recognize and reward the finest contemporary photography from the last year entered into any of the awards' four competitions.

"There was a truly global reach to the Sony World Photography Awards judging this year- the images were more diverse and broad ranging than I have ever seen before. In its tenth year, I can confidently say that the Sony World Photography Awards and the fine art of photography are doing extremely well." Zelda Cheatle, Chair of the Professional jury / Curator (UK)

EMBRGOED UNTIL 00.01 GMT ON TUESDAY 28 February 2017: The shortlisted (top 10) and commended (top 50) photographers for all categories of the 2017 Sony World Photography Awards, the world's largest photography competition, are announced today. Photographers entered 227,596 images across the awards' Professional, Open and Youth competitions – shining a spotlight on the medium of photography and the beauty of its art.

Produced by the World Photography Organisation, 2017 marks the 10th anniversary of the awards and a decade-long partnership with its headline sponsor, Sony.

The Sony World Photography Awards' shortlist represents the world's finest contemporary photography captured over the last year, and displays a huge diversity of extraordinary images in terms of genres, styles and subject matter. Forty-nine countries are represented on the shortlist, reinforcing the awards' international appeal and unique ability to present the greatest images taken by photographers from all corners of the world on a truly global scale. Photographers from a further 11 countries are seen within the commended list.

The shortlisted photographers across the Professional, Open, Youth and Student Focus competitions impressed the judges with solid narratives and strong visual language complementing the subject matters. Within the shortlist are stunning architectural images and subtle landscapes alongside

extraordinary series depicting the dominating world events of the last year. Stand out subject matters include a touching insight into the domestic life of women in Saudi Arabia, heartfelt confessions of Chinese school children, Russian body builders preparing to flex muscle on stage and an intimate series of a private battle with a rare medical condition.

Key shortlists facts and stats

- Strong increase in entries on 2016 from Asian and South East Asian countries including; China (90 %); Myanmar (183 %) Vietnam (108 %); Philippines (71 %); and Hong Kong (73 %).
- Youth competition saw a 56 % increase in entries on 2016.
- Entries to the Open competition increased 11 % on 2016.
- Professional competition saw a 13 % increase in the number of photographers entering their work.
- 183 countries were represented in the submissions – with the most entries coming from (in descending order): China, United Kingdom, Italy, United States, Germany, Russia, India, Spain, France and Poland.
- 49 countries are represented on the shortlist, with the most shortlisted photographers coming from Italy (22), Germany (17), UK (15), China (14) and Russia (11)
- Armenia, Cuba, Iceland and Saudi Arabia represented for the first time on the shortlist.

Please see **Notes to Editors** for full list of shortlisted photographers. To view the commended photographers of the Open competition please go to www.worldphoto.org/winners-galleries

Commenting about this year's shortlist, Scott Gray, CEO, World Photography Organisation, notes: "This year, more than any other, the entries to the Sony World Photography Awards have shown great integrity and are characterized by their considered approach. Beautiful works of photographic art, not snapshots, have been presented to the judges and I am delighted to see that our esteemed juries have chosen to reward the pure skill, artistic interpretation and thoughtfulness of the photographer, rather than simply the subject matter the photographer has captured.

He continues: "The Sony World Photography Awards has celebrated photographers and photography throughout its ten-year history, we now look forward to ensuring that photography has a global platform and is recognised as the dynamic, exciting and accessible medium it is."

The Sony World Photography Awards are judged anonymously by internationally acclaimed industry professionals, carefully selected by the World Photography Organisation.

The 2017 **Professional competition** was judged by **Zelda Cheatle** (Chair of the Judges), Curator (UK); **Aida Muluneh**, Founder/Director, Addis Foto Fest (Ethiopia); **Allegra Cordero di Montezemolo**, Curator & Head of Exhibitions, Centro de la Imagen (Mexico); **Denis Curti**, Curator and Journalist (Italy); **Russ O'Connell**, Picture Editor *The Sunday Times Magazine* (UK) and **Françoise Callier**, Program Director at Angkor Photo Festival & Workshops (France). The **Open and Youth competitions** were chaired by **Damien Demolder**, Photographer and Journalist (UK), and **Student Focus** was judged by **Andrea Kurland**, Editor-in-Chief of *Huck* (UK); **Dan Rubin**, Photographer & Artistic Director (UK) and **Jennifer Shaw**, Founder and Creative Director, PhotoNOLA (USA).

Commenting on the Open and Youth shortlists, **Damien Demolder** said: "It has been a pleasure and an inspiration to be exposed to such a volume of great work, and a privilege too that I could share in the personal moments, the joys, tears, life and losses of photographers from all around the globe

who recorded their experiences through their pictures. The Youth competition was a special delight to judge and I was touched on many occasions by the openness and fearless expression of the entries."

Student Focus judge **Andrea Kurland** adds: "This year's shortlist helps cement why awards like these are more important than ever. The work submitted was original, thoughtful and brave - a healthy reminder that talent will always win out and rise above the noise."

The shortlisted photographers now compete for the latest Sony digital imaging equipment and inclusion in the 2017 awards' book plus cash prizes of \$25,000 (USD) for the Photographer of the Year, \$5,000 (USD) for the overall Open winner and €30,000 (Euros) of equipment for the university of the Student Focus winner. All winners will be announced at an awards ceremony in London on April 20, 2017.

The winning, shortlisted and commended images will all be exhibited as part of the **Sony World Photography Awards & Martin Parr - 2017 Exhibition** at Somerset House, London. The large-scale exhibition will open April 21 and will feature rarely seen work by Martin Parr, recipient of the awards' Outstanding Contribution to Photography prize. The exhibition will run in London until May 7 and will then go on a worldwide tour. Exhibition tickets are available via www.worldphoto.org/2017exhibition

All shortlisted and commended images are available to download for publication at www.worldphoto.org/press

For further information please contact:

Jill Cotton or Kristine Bjørge, Press Department, World Photography Organisation
press@worldphoto.org / +44 (0) 20 7886 3043 / 3049

NOTES TO EDITORS

- 227,596 images were submitted to the 2017 Sony World Photography Awards across all competitions
 - Professional competition: 110,270 entries
 - Open competition: 105,692 entries
 - Youth: 11,634 entries

Sony World Photography Awards forthcoming announcements

- March 28, 2017 – Open and National Award winners announced
- April 20, 2017 – Photographer of the Year plus Professional category winners and Open, Youth and Student Focus Photographers of the Year revealed at ceremony held in London
- April 21 – May 7, 2017 – Sony World Photography Awards & Martin Parr - 2017 Exhibition at Somerset House, London

SHORTLISTED PHOTOGRAPHERS

PROFESSIONAL CATEGORIES

Rewarding the best body of work across 10 categories. Up to 10 photographers shortlisted in each category. Category winners will be announced April 20, alongside the Photographer of the Year chosen from the ten category winners.

Architecture

- Adi Bulboacă, Romania

- Alessandro Piredda, Italy
- Alissa Everett, US
- Diego Mayon, Italy
- Dongni, China
- Julien Chatelin, France
- Marvin Systemans, Germany
- Zsolt Hlinka, Hungary

Conceptual

- Alexander Anufriev, Russia
- Carla Sutura Sardo, Italy
- Jeroen De Wandel, Belgium
- João San, Brazil
- Sabine Cattaneo, Switzerland
- Gao Peng, China

Contemporary Issues

- Amber Bracken, Canada
- Andrea Foligni, Italy
- Danial Khodaie, Iran
- Javier Arcenillas, Spain
- Li Song, China
- Lorenzo Maccotta, Italy
- Tasneem Alsultan, Saudi Arabia

Current Affairs & News

- Alessio Romenzi, Italy
- Asger Ladefoged, Denmark
- Ivor Prickett, Ireland
- Javier Arcenillas, Spain
- Joe Raedle, US
- Karl Mancini, Italy
- Paşa İmrek, Turkey
- Sebastian Castañeda, Peru

Daily Life

- Alice Cannara Malan, Italy
- Asger Ladefoged, Denmark
- Christina Simons, Iceland
- Ioana Moldovan, Romania
- Majlend Bramo, Italy
- Michael Tummings, UK
- Nader Saadallah, Egypt
- Sandra Hoyn, Germany
- Toby Binder, Germany
- Yulia Grigoryants, Armenia

Landscape

- Dino Kuznik, Slovenia
- Frederik Buyckx, Belgium
- Jayanta Roy, India
- Kurt Tong, UK
- Peter Franck, Germany
- Tom Jacobi, Germany

Natural World

- Ami Vitale, US
- Christian Vizl, Mexico
- Esther Whyatt, UK
- Felicity McCabe, UK
- Mariusz Prusaczyk, Poland
- Tommaso Rada, Italy
- Will Burrard-Lucas, UK

Portraiture

- Craig Easton, UK
- Dario Mitidieri, Italy
- George Mayer, Russia
- Giulia Piermartiri & Edoardo Delille, Italy
- Mahesh Shantaram, India
- Romina Ressa, Argentina
- Ren shi Chen, China
- Snezhana von Buedingen, Russia

Sport

- Andrea Rossato, Italy
- Eduard Korniyenko, Russia
- Jason O'Brien, Australia
- Mark Gong, US
- Yuan Peng, China
- Luo Pin Xi, China

Still Life

- Ansgar Sollmann, Germany
- Julien Caïdos, France
- Christoffer Askman, Denmark
- Grant Hegedus, UK
- Henry Agudelo, Colombia
- Paul Sanders, UK
- Shinya Masuda, Japan

OPEN CATEGORIES

Rewarding the best single images across 10 categories. Up to 10 photographers shortlisted in each category. Category winners will be announced March 28, and Open Photographer of the Year revealed April 20.

Shortlist

Architecture

- Barry Tweed-Rycroft, UK
- Claudio Cantonetti, Italy
- Frank Machalowski, Germany
- Franklin Neto, Portugal
- Lester Koh Meng Hua, Singapore
- Nick Frank, Germany
- Oscar Lopez, Germany
- Robert Walker, UK
- Tim Cornbill, UK
- Ute Scherhag, Germany

Culture

- Beniamino Pisati, Italy
- Emrah Karakoç, Turkey
- Jianguo Gong, China
- Mark Languido Vicente, Philippines (based in Kuwait)
- Michal Plachta, Poland
- Paweł Jędrusik, Poland
- Foley Hits, Malaysia
- Radu Dumitrescu, Romania
- Salvatore Mazzeo, Italy
- Vito Leone, Italy

Enhanced

- Alex Andriesi, Romania
- Andrea Torres Balaguer, Spain
- Tong Chun Kin, TOMY, China
- Gil Josquin, Brazil
- Harry Botley, UK
- John Chen, China
- Julian Schievelkamp, Germany
- Lise Johansson, Denmark
- Sergey Dibitsev, Russia
- Yong Lin Tan, Malaysia

Motion

- Jimmy Reid, Scotland
- Olga Sinenko, Russia
- K. W. Hon (OqWing), China
- Argus Paul Estabrook, US (based in South Korea)
- Gül Yıldız, Turkey
- Stacy Anguiano Cain, US
- Mariusz Stanosz, Poland
- Oktay Subaşı, Turkey

- Camilo Diaz, Colombia
- Luigi Panico, Italy

Nature

- Francesco Russo, Italy
- Miyono Okamoto, Japan
- Hiroshi Tanita, Japan
- Christina Roemmelt, German (based in Austria)
- Ann Ric, Malaysia
- Sorin Rechitan, Romania
- Josselin Cornou, France (based in Australia)
- Sakuma Masayasu, Japan
- Elzbieta Kurowska, Canada
- Maximilian Conrad, Germany

Portraits

- Dalibor Tomic, Serbia
- Carl Jeffers, UK
- Saeid Moridi, Iran
- Alexey Munich, Russia
- Carloman Macidiano Céspedes Riojas, Peru (based in Argentina)
- Anisleidy Martínez Fonseca, Cuba (based in the Netherlands)
- Alexander Vinogradov, Russia
- Tim Topple, UK
- Fajar Kristianto, Indonesia
- Tadas Kazakevicius, Lithuania

Still Life

- Nick Pershai, Belarus
- Gijs van den Berg, Netherlands
- Zani Arkadina, Ukraine (based in Germany)
- Sergey Dibtsev, Russia
- Iwona Czubek, Poland
- Maxim Korotchenko, Russia
- Wilson Lee, Hong Kong
- Esthaem, Austria
- Andres Gallardo Albajar, Spain (based in Estonia)
- Massimiliano Balo', Italian (based in the UK)

Street Photography

- Caio Vita, Brazil (based in the Netherlands)
- Jelena Janković, Serbia
- Jian Seng Soh, Malaysia
- Gimmi Corvaro, Italy
- Constantinos Sofikitis, Greece
- Ge Wang, China
- Dina Alfasi, Israel
- Hendra Permana, Indonesia

- Ash Shinya Kawaoto, Japan
- Tavepong Pratoomwong, Thailand

Travel

- Jose Maria Perez Nuñez, Argentina
- Stephane Couture, Canada (based in the US)
- Rob Wilson, Canada
- Placido Faranda, Italy (based in Switzerland)
- Zhu Jianxing, China
- Vladimir Zhoga, Russia
- Ralph Gräf, Germany
- Swapnil Deshpande, India
- Achim Thomae, Germany
- Fanjing Lu, Chinese

Wildlife

- Andreas Hemb, Sweden
- Alessandra MENICONZI, Switzerland
- Jan Ryser, Switzerland
- Eugene Kitsios, Netherlands (shortlisted twice)
- Fan Chen, China
- Bar Kaufman, Israel
- Natsumi Handa, Japan
- Nigel Hodson, UK

Commended

For the full list of commended photographers in the Open competition (up to 40 per category) please go to www.worldphoto.org/winners-galleries

YOUTH COMPETITION

Photographers aged 12-19 were asked to respond to a theme of 'beauty' with a single image. The Youth Photographer of the Year will be announced April 20.

- Helen Kiparissa, Greece
- Bella Wong, China (based in the UK)
- Andrej Kiripolský, Slovakia
- Taciú Rares, Romania
- Katelyn Wang, US
- Iryna Sylennyk, Ukraine
- Yujia Dou, China
- Tanya Chinareva, Russia
- Frederik Marks, Germany
- Johnathan Chen, US

STUDENT FOCUS

Open to all students worldwide studying photography. The Student Photographer of the Year will be announced April 20.

- Shravya Kag, School of Visual Arts, US, (Indian nationality)
- Tatsuki Katayama, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Japan
- Stewart Main, Edinburgh Napier University, Scotland
- Ruby Gaunt, Nottingham Trent University, UK
- Cole Ndelu, Stellenbosch Academy of Design & Photography, South Africa
- Nursyafiqah Azlan, Multimedia University, Malaysia
- Nadine Hackemer, Nuremberg Institute of Technology Georg-Simon-Ohm Faculty of Design, Germany
- Sarah Schrimpf, Academy of Fine Arts Munich, Germany
- Michelle Daiana Gentile, Motivarte, Argentina
- Tayla Martin, Charles Sturt University, Australia

FURTHER NOTES

The Professional competition of the Sony World Photography Awards is judged by an independent panel of industry experts selected by the World Photography Organisation. The headline sponsor of the awards, Sony, is not involved in the image selection of judging of this competition.

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 and our industry-leading partners around the world. We host a year-round portfolio of events including: the Sony World Photography Awards (the world's largest photography competition, marking its 10th anniversary in 2017), various local meetups/talks throughout the year, and PHOTOFAIRS, International Art Fairs Dedicated to Photography, with destinations in Shanghai and San Francisco.

About Sony Corporation

Sony Corporation is a leading manufacturer of audio, video, imaging, game, communications, key device and information technology products for the consumer and professional markets. With its music, pictures, computer entertainment and online businesses, Sony is uniquely positioned to be the leading electronics and entertainment company in the world. Sony recorded consolidated annual sales of approximately \$72 billion for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016. Sony Global Web Site: <http://www.sony.net/>