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^{for} artists photographers individuals

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FOREWORD Steven Lee, Project Director

Family Matters

We see a couple posing on the bed, the girl's arm resting gently on the man's right shoulder. Except the girl is the man's son, who underwent gender reassignment. We see a woman lying on a little girl's thighs, on a park bench, the girl has her left hand caressing the woman's head. This should be the other way round. We see a Muslim woman in full chador dress tightly holding her child, in a huddled pose. This must be in Somalia or Eritrea, except it's New York City.

We see the back of a man's torso beside a woman in a striped top, both posing with flexed arms and clenched fists displaying their toned muscles. This is Iran.

We often take family photos for granted, they are snapped at weddings, birthdays and funerals, and of course, on holidays. So, it is enlightening that this year's finalists family portraits come from different visual perspectives. No two families are the same, or do the same things, and these 25 images are clearly evident as to how the photographers needed to portray their subjects. Vincent Gouriou's '*Melanie*' captures the delicate moment of a father and son relationship that is so unique, emotionally, since he is now a daughter. Haruka Sakaguchi's painterly portrait of Fatimat and Amina in a small New York apartment is endearing and mimics the Madonna and Child motive in a contemporary setting. Farzane Ghadyanloo's portrait of family members in daily-life settings in Iran gives viewers a glimpse into a society that is wrought with cliches and misperceptions.

This is the beauty of contemporary portraiture. We see more than we can hope for, in the minds and lives of people we would never meet or say hello, from across borders, nations, and in their living rooms – as we delve into their most personal and private circumstances, and in this instalment, their family matters.

I always look forward to the Open category entries. Unbounded by thematic reference there's always some surprises and fresh imagery. This year we have a variety of strong entries from amazing photographers, representing "We often take family photos for granted, they are snapped at weddings, birthdays and funerals, and of course, on holidays. So, it is enlightening that this year's finalists family portraits come from different visual perspectives." artistic headshots as well as straight portraiture. Sandra Chen-Weinstein's portrait of 'D' with it's striking colour palette and strong pose struck a positive chord with the judges as a worthy winner, competing closely with Sandra Mehl's endearing portrait of Maddelena climbing a wall. Marinka Masseus's beautiful portrait highlighting the discrimination and fear of albinism in Tanzania is poignant and timely. From a journalistic viewpoint, Jonathan Bachman's Protestor's Eye is a unique portrait that was included in the Top 25. The judges felt that the genre of portraiture should also include non-traditional representations of identity and persona.

I trust that the accompanying exhibition of all these wonderful portraits will make the viewer look closer once again at the importance of family portraiture fresh eyes and also open our minds to accept new visions and stories from across our world through the medium of photography.

Steven V-L Lee Founder Director Kuala Lumpur International Photoawards





Main Panel Judges

NADIRAH ZAKARIYA

Born and raised in Malaysia, discovered photography at the age of 17 in a small town in Japan and came of age in New York City, Nadirah Zakariya draws inspiration for her works through her non-specific geographical upbringing. Currently based in Kuala Lumpur, Nadirah received her Bachelor in Fine Arts from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. Nadirah is an internationally published photographer with works in numerous magazines such as The New York Times Magazine, NYLON, VICE, and Dazed and Confused Her works have also been exhibited in major cities including New York, London, Paris, San Francisco and Kuala Lumpur.

NICK NG

Currently appointed and sponsored by Sony Malaysia as their Alpha Professional Photographer, Nick sees the world as a living canvas, with her inhabitants as its heart, pulsating with time... giving meaning to the word Life.

Among Nick's achievements are being placed 2nd in the Sony World Photography Award 2016 in the Professional/Candid Category, Low Light/Open Category Winner in the Sony World Photography Award 2015, selected exhibitor in 2015's Taylor Wessing Portrait Prize and Winner in the Tribes Category, Travel Photographer of The Year 2014.

ANDREAS MÜLLER-POHLE

Andreas Müller-Pohle is a Berlin-based media artist and the publisher and editor of European Photography, an independent art magazine for international contemporary photography with 100 issues to date. Andreas has worked with photography and media projects since the late 1970s, the most recent being Hong Kong Waters and Studies on Traffic. His works have been widely published and exhibited and are included in numerous private and museum collections worldwide In 2001, he was awarded the European Photography Prize from the Reind M. De Vries Foundation, a one-time distinction for his achievements in

photography.

TAN LEE KUEN

Tan Lee Kuen is a writer and photographer from Malaysia. She is also the founder of Asia PaperCamera, an online project celebrating photography in Asia with interviews and stories.

AZRUL KEVIN ABDULLAH

Azrul K. Abdullah manages a studio based in Kuala Lumpur specialising in architecture and portraiture. He has served as a speaker for Apple Malaysia and numerous imaging companies including Nikon, Hasselblad, Leica and Sony. Azrul has guest lectured at HELP University College, INTI International University, University Malaya, Raffles Design, Malaysian Institute of Art, University Teknologi MARA and Galeri Petronas. He has also served as a facilitator at Nikon Centre Kuala Lumpur and has been called upon as a judge for numerous photography competitions for various organisations.





ALEX MOH Southeast Asia Entry Judge

Alex Moh is an independent photographer, curator, critic, researcher and project coordinator for numerous photography projects at national and international arenas since 1997. Among the institutions he has worked with are : Asia–Europe Foundation, Goethe Institute, International Research Network (IPRN), Singapore International Photography Festival, Chobi Mela Photography Festival, Berlin Photo Festival, Delphic Games, The Month of Photography, Tokyo.

Alex has also been involved in festivals and exhibitions organised by the National Art Gallery Malaysia, private and commercial galleries. He co-wrote History & Beyond, Malaysian Photography from 1900 to the Present Day (2004) and The Loke Legacy: The Private Collection of Loke Wan Tho (2005) both published by National Art Gallery Malaysia.

He now teaches photography and manages the Nikon Centre Kuala Lumpur, the Nikon School and the Nikon Club Malaysia.



LAURA VALENTI

Special Select Juror

Laura Valenti is a photographer, curator, educator, and arts director based in Portland, Oregon. She works as Outreach Director at Photolucida, a nonprofit that works to build connections between photographers and the gallery and publishing worlds. Previously, she worked as Program Director and co-Curator at Newspace Center for Photography. Laura curates photography exhibitions around the country and internationally, including recent exhibits at the Center for Fine-Art Photography, Photographic Resource Center, and RayKo Photo Center. She also recently curated "Place: Framing the Oregon Landscape," a major northwest landscape photography exhibition, for the Oregon Historical Society. A documentary portraiture exhibition Laura curated was shown at the last Lishui International Photography Festival (China).

Laura frequently serves as a juror for photography competitions. She has juried for Center's Director's Choice Awards, Photo District News, The Oregonian, Critical Mass, Rangefinder Magazine, LightBox Photographic, and more. She has also served as a reviewer at various portfolio review events, such as Houston FotoFest, Review Santa Fe, and Photolucida, as well as a number of international reviews.

Laura loves to work with photographers to clarify their vision and produce stronger images. She teaches online courses that focus on helping photographers identify sources of inspiration and reach photographic goals. She also lectures about photography and the creative practice and teaches immersive weekend photography retreats. As a long-time photographer, she has an intimate perspective on the creative process and can work with emerging photographers to develop their skills as well as their creative voice. In addition to her photography work, Laura is also a longtime student of Zen. She has a deep interest in the intersection of mindfulness, spirituality, and the creative practice. Her degree is from Reed College.

THE TROPHY

"Examining Psyche" / KONG WEE PANG



FINAL PROTOTYPE DESIGN 1 - KONG WEE PANG MIX MEDIA - WOOD, FELT, VARNISH, PAINT DIMENSIONS 2" X 4" X 11" 3 PIECES ONLY

The design for the 2017 trophy by artist KONG WEE PANG is truly unique. The sculpture trophy which she names 'Examining Psyche' - is in keeping with the artist's 'illustrative-pop' style approach, and is created using mixed media materials, eg. wood, felt, varnish glue and paint. The winners info and KLPA logo is laser cut onto the face layer and the artist's signature at the rear.

The trophy conveys a 3-dimensional portrayal of the human condition or persona, which is represented by a multi-layered 'bi-concave' head profile signifying the many interpretations or individualities of the human being. Three of these trophies will be made - which will be awarded to the first prize winners of the Theme and Open categories, and the top photographer of the Special Select Juror prize.

www.kongweepang.com



KONG WEE PANG Trophy Designer

Kong Wee Pang is an artist and designer from Malaysia.

She holds a Bachelor's of Fine Arts degree from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore and a Masters degree from Memphis College of Art in the United States. Her work has been featured in solo and group shows in Barcelona, Rome, Florence, Berlin, Atlanta, Memphis, San Francisco, Southeast Asia, and New York City.

Her curious whimsical personality finds expression through mediums like watercolor, charcoal, ink, acrylic, wood stick, felt, silkscreen, digital, animation, 3D sculpture, collage, mixed media and Public Art. She currently resides in Memphis, Tennessee, USA.

Some of her design works have been featured in HOW MAGAZINE, Communication Art, Print Magazine, Creative Anarchy book, FEFÈ PROJECT Italy Magazine, TENNSHOW, National ADDY, District ADDY and Memphis ADDY.

www.taropop.com

DEFINING FAMILY CATEGORY / SINGLE IMAGES

1ST PRIZE - \$4,000 & Trophy VINCENT GOURIOU France Title: Melanie and her father

2ND PRIZE - \$1,000 MARGARET MITCHELL United Kingdom Title : Steven in his 'Homeless Flat' with photos of his nieces in the background.

3RD PRIZE - \$500 IVANA JAŠMINSKÁ Czech Republic Title: FADING OUT

DEFINING FAMILY CATEGORY / PHOTOSTORIES - SPECIAL SELECT JUROR PRIZE

1ST PRIZE - \$1,500 + TROPHY + POSITIIV Magazine feature DEMETRIS KOILALOUS Greece Series Title: CAESURA - The Duration of a Sigh

HIGHLY COMMENDED - \$500 ALAIN SCHROEDER Belgium Series Title : Rambu Solo Funeral Ceremony

HIGHLY COMMENDED - \$500 JOHN PAUL EVANS **United Kingdom** Series Title: Till Death Do Us Part

OPEN CATEGORY / SINGLE IMAGES

1ST PRIZE - \$4,000 & Trophy SANDRA CHEN-WEINSTEIN USA Title: Untitled from "SHE/They" project

2ND PRIZE - \$1,000 SANDRA MEHL France Title: "The sparkling birthday of Maddelena"

3RD PRIZE - \$500 MARINKA MASSEUS **The Netherlands** *Title: Under The Same Sun*

SOUTH EAST ASIAN ENTRY PRIZE

1ST PLACE - Obscura Festival Workshop Award + Nikon D3400 kit AFFENDI ALIAS Malaysia Title: Defining Family Category / Colours in the rain

2ND PLACE - Invisible Photographer Asia Workshop / Mentorship Programme + Nikon 1 J5 kit GERALD GLOTON Philippines Title: Defining Family PhotoStories / Wave Commandos

3RD PLACE - Nikon Coolpix B500 Camera VITAS TAN JIA YI Malaysia Title: Open Category / Off To School, Jodhpur

1st Place



Vincent GOURIOU

FRA

Melanie and her father

Mélanie's parents are divorced. She lives in her father's house, he supports her highly.

From series ~ Melanie & Her Family

"Melanie is posing with her boyfriend, with her father, her stepmother and her sister. She lives in a little village near Quimper in Brittany. She's in the middle of a sexual reassignment (Male to Female) procedure and is highly supported by her family, her friends and boyfriend. I intend to avoid stigmatisation and categorisation of people through a photographical approach which does not only consist of being an observer but also in getting involved and close to the subject in order to show universality in specificity."



2nd Place



Margaret MITCHELL

UK

Steven in his 'Homeless Flat' with photos of his nieces in the background (Scotland 2016) When you move into a homeless flat they are all the same; same couch, same curtains, same furniture. Everybody knows when they come in that you're in 'the homeless'.

When Steven moved into his flat, his youngest sister Chick gave him things to make it more like a home: "wee things like salt and pepper and mayonnaise and pictures of the weans (children)".

Margaret Mitchell first photographed her sister and her three children – Steven, Kellie and Chick – back in 1994. This portrait is from the 2016/17 updating series 'In This Place' which revisits those children – now adults – and their own children to see how life has turned out for them.



3rd Place



Ivana JAŠMINSKÁ cz

FADING OUT

"Nobody was here all week and everything is happening at once today. One day there are so many things around and after that no one will see us for the whole week. This upsets me. There is so much emptiness for the whole week." Vierka and Zdenka. Sisters. Twins. 88 years of age. They live together for the last 15 years after Vierka became a widow. Their whole world is concentrated in their 2 bedroom flat in Prague. It is a place where they feel safe.

'Well, now we'll get a coffee and we'll be ready' says Vierka and takes a cigarette out of the wooden flowerpot, where the supplies are. Both of the sisters are troubled by progressive loss of hearing and eyesight for the last 10 years. Despite the handicap, Zdenka is capable to take care of the household. Vierka never leaves the flat. 'You know, when somebody is healthy, visitors keep coming. But if someone is ill, no one wants to see them. It's easier for our relatives to call us, so they don't have to see how we live here.' Zdenka puffs a cigarette.

'Once I retired I thought I will visit my cousins and now I sit at home all the time. When I could do so I didn't have time, now that I have time, I cannot. I would love to go Pilsner to see my father's side of the family, where I was born. I would love to see my brother there, but I cannot like that.' Weird energy is thrown out at you, energy of two women, hurt by their health condition. 'I don't know how this is possible. Mummy and daddy could see really well. Even when they were old, they used the glasses. I tell you; sometimes I don't sleep, because I think about my eyes.'



CATEGORY B: OPEN

1st Place



Sandra CHEN-WEINSTEIN

USA

Untitled from "SHE/They" project

Her mind is a wonderland, chaotic and free.

The inside of "D's" mind is a wonderland, chaotic, and unorganized. The only the thing that makes sense in her mind is that nothing does and the only order, is no order.

"D" had a tough time growing up - constantly bullied at school. She left home when a late teen from Los Angeles.

Women in every society face the task of transforming these expectations of others in order to match their own sensibilities and ambitions. The series of candid yet intimate women portraits illuminates the dynamic and complex feminine psychology, the perception of tradition, love, identity and ideals in life. As a whole the work seeks to demonstrate how women inhabit diverse bodies and express complex forms of self-determination.



2nd Place



Sandra MEHL

FRA

The sparkling birthday of Maddelena Maddelena, 11 years old, climbing the wall of the building where she has always lived with her sister llona and her two parents, in a working class neighborhood of Montpellier, in the southern France, on her birthday.



3rd Place



Marinka MASSÉUS

NL

'Under the Same Sun'

This series was created in collaboration with the Josephat Torner Foundation and 'Stichting Afrikaanse Albino's' to raise awareness about the circumstances of people with albinism in Tanzania.

In Tanzania, when you have albinism, you are thought to be evil. There even is a price on the head of children with albinism since killing a person with albinism is considered to bring good luck. The fears and superstitions surrounding albinism run very deep in Tanzanian society. So deep that many women who give birth to a child with albinism are told to kill the baby at birth. If she refuses, she and the baby will become outcasts.

Many children with albinism are denied the most fundamental of human rights. They are despised and taught that they are evil, that their existence is a curse. They live in constant fear of brutal attacks.



SELECT JUROR AWARDS / LAURA VALENTI, PHOTOLUCIDA

1st Prize











Demetris KOILALOUS

GRE

Caesura - The Duration of a Sigh

Counter clockwise (selected images from series):

No. 1 Young brothers collecting wood for the family stove near an impromptu refugee camp in Polykastro-Greece.

No. 2 Lady's wallet found on the beach with photographs of husband and child and an unused 'Hansaplast' wound plaster.

No. 3 'Family in a wallet'.

No. 4 Mother and child in the island of Chios.

No. 5 Young Syrian man with a photo of himself with his family in Syria before he entered Greece, holding a Greek flag.

Highly Commended





Alain SCHROEDER BEL

Rambu Solo Funeral Ceremony



In Toraja (Indonesia), the rituals associated with death are complex, require extensive planning and are expensive. Therefore, when a person dies, it can take weeks, months even years for the family to organize the funeral. During this time, the deceased is considered to be "sick" and kept at home. Relatives continue to interact with them offering gifts of cigarettes and betel leaves, drinking coffee, having meals by their side and conversing with them. While, it remains a sad time, the transition from life to death is a slow and peaceful process strengthening family bonds. Depending on the family, the body may be kept uncovered, bundled in layers of cloth or in a coffin.

The funeral ceremony, Rambu Solo, lasts 3 to 7 or more days according to the social status of the family and includes, traditional dances and processions for receiving guests, buffalo and coq fighting, animal sacrifice and large feasts.

In the region of Pangala, the Ma' Nene, or cleaning of the corpses, ceremony takes place in August after the rice harvest. Coffins are removed from their burial sites and opened. The mummies are cleaned, dried in the sun and given a change of clothes. Expressions of sadness are mixed with the overall happy atmosphere surrounding these moments of bonding with loved ones and honoring ancestors.

SELECT JUROR AWARDS / LAURA VALENTI, PHOTOLUCIDA Highly Commended











John Paul EVANS UK Till Death Do Us Part Counter clockwise (selected images from series)::

- No. 1 -till death us do part 1
- No. 2 Greek love through the looking glass
- No. 3 till death us do part 15
- No. 4 home sweet home- how the other half live
- No. 5 till death us do part 6

CATEGORY: SOUTHEAST ASIA ENTRY PRIZE / ALEX MOH, NIKON CENTRE, MALAYSIA

1st Prize



Affendi ALIAS MAS

Colours In The Rain



CATEGORY: SOUTHEAST ASIA ENTRY PRIZE / ALEX MOH, NIKON CENTRE, MALAYSIA

2nd Place





Gerald GLOTON

PHI

Defining Family PhotoStories / Wave Commandos



Counter clockwise (selected images from series)::

No. 1 -till death us do part 1 No. 2 - Greek love through the looking glass

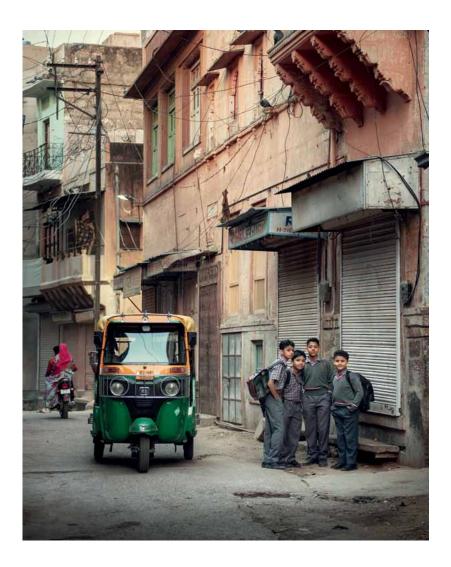
No. 3 - till death us do part 15

No. 4 - home sweet home- how the other half live

No. 5 - till death us do part 6

In San Juan, La Union, a surf town in the Philippines, I interacted with their locals who suggested that I reach out to this surfing 'power couple', Jeff De La Torre and Daisy Valdez. I was able to locate the home of these award-winning surfers. Unfortunately, the waves were flat so I couldn't shoot them doing what they're best at. But they openly welcomed me to their home, a home that was built and funded by their winnings.

I let them do their thing: watch TV, prepare food, pamper their kids whom they treat as their greatest prize and training them to continue the legacy of their passion. The power couple is indeed living up to their brand. Jeff and Daisy are champions, even beyond riding surfboards and braving waves.



Vitas Jia Yi TAN

MAS

Open Category / Off To School, Jodhpur

3rd

Category A **Finalists**



Antonina ANDREEVA

The Holy Virgin of the 21st Century.

This photo was taken by accident. One morning I looked out the window and in the house opposite I saw a woman with a baby in her arms.



Iraida ARSOVA RUS

Lera and Mira. They are looking at each other.

Lera brings up her daughter Mira by herself without the help of the kid's father, but she isn't going to put up with the phrase "all women live this way". Finalists



Diana BAGNOLI

POLYAMORY

Federica, Chiara and Pier in their bed in Turin.

Chiara and Pier are normally married but they have a polyamorous relationship so they are in a love relationship with Federica too.



Gabriel CARPES

BRA

Sister (from series).

"Sister" is from my photo essay called "We're Happy Together"a project about grief, happiness and family.

CATEGORY A: DEFINING FAMILY Finalists



David CHANCELLOR

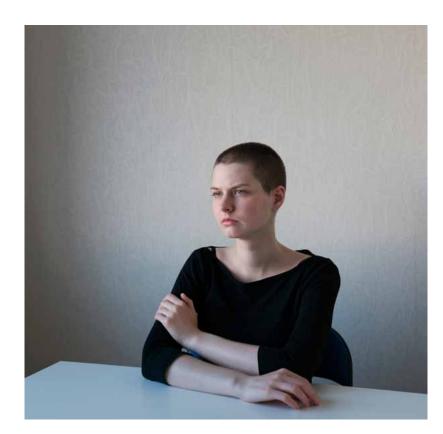
Us all, Zurich, Switzerland - from the series 'handle like eggs'.

'Handle Like Eggs' where two worlds of family and wildlife intermingle, each body of work activates the other: love and loss intertwined forever.



Ivan CLEMENTE

My youngest son, Alex, I guess he is always missing something. I am divorced. **Finalists**



Mary GELMAN RUS

Nastya, 20, Moscow.

Series «You are mine»

«You are mine» is a series of stories of Russian women who endured domestic partner violence.



Farzane GHADYANLOO

From series: Thursdays.

To begin with, I have to clarify my most prominent aspiration which is to portray an intimate yet realistic image of an Iranian middle-class family and meanwhile attempt to avoid clichés and mawkishness.

CATEGORY A: DEFINING FAMILY Finalists



Charlotta HAUKSDOTTIR USA

Ramona Street, 2013.

From series "A Matter of Some Moments" photographing families at home, several photographs, taken over time.



Ryotaro HORIUCHI JPN

From series: Gabor Gabor.

They have the same family name, Gabor. They are hardworking Roma who have particular jobs and handle their own language.

Finalists



Gillian HYLAND

Eyes Shut.

This photograph is part of a series of images called 'Windows Into Havana', the narrative series is an insight into life in Cuba and captures just a drop of the spirit you feel from the city and it's people. Each picture is a story influenced by whom I met and what I saw.



Ivana JAŠMINSKÁ cz

RUSYNS

Everyone has their own sort of spiritual place in this world. A place that is often connected to our childhood and our families.

CATEGORY A: DEFINING FAMILY Finalists



Andrew KOVALEV RUS

Four Generations of Georgian Women.

This image is the first in Andrew Kovalev's personal project "Tbilisi Fairytales" – a family portrait of four generations of Georgian women.



Marinka MASSËUS

Serenity ~ A car with this beautiful Serene family turning left and passing me by at a small intersection in Jordan. The briefest of encounters, forever etched in my mind's eye. **Finalists**



Sandra MEHL

llona and Maddelena first communion.

Maddelena (on the right), 11 years old, and her sister Ilona, 12 years old, in the working class neighborhood of Montpellier, where they have always lived with their two parents Thierry and Françoise, before their first communion ceremony.



Mike MILLS NO

Alone time.

Our three children together with our five grandchildren enjoy a winter holiday skiing in the mountains every february in Norway. After the fun and exercise on the cross-country trails or the downhill slopes it's time to relax in the cabin.

This is our 5 year old granddaughter on her mother's iPad while the grown ups prepare dinner.



Jarred MULLENGER

AUS

'Like Mother, Like Daughter'.

Mother and Daughter stand in their matching dressing gowns, getting ready for bed.

This image is from a larger series titled 'Its 11:00am and I'm still in my dressing gown', which focuses on the family dynamics in my house, looking at the changes that have occurred over time.



Greta PRATT USA

Julee and Her Daughters.

Julee is on the left and these are her four daughters and one granddaughter. They are all expert cowgirls and Mormons living in Arizona, USA.

This photo is part of an "in progress" series on the American West titled A Cloud of Dust. **Finalists**



Diego RAVIER BEL

Everything about my Mother_2.

My mother is the only family I have. Our dual privileged relation is what makes our family structure unique.

In this photo she is at the center of a new framework. She looks at her stereotyped role as caring mother almost mocking it. Her place in society is redefined through the reinterpretation of her past; present and future self.

Haruka SAKAGUCHI USA

Fatimat is a young mother living with her daughter Amina in a one-bedroom apartment in Newark, New Jersey.

This photo was taken in their Prayer Room, where they perform salat five times each day. During the months leading up to the election of Donald J. Trump, Fatimat and Amina moved temporarily to Cairo, Egypt to learn Arabic and be closer to Islam.





Olha STEPANIAN

Fathers and Sons.



Eric TSCHAEPPELER

From series It Takes A Village.

It Takes a Village is about isolation. It is a personal work motivated by the memory of my mother's depression during my early years.

Category B: Open Finalists



Craig ASTAPHAN USA

Untitled image from the series "Hybride (Hybrid)".

Hybride (Hybrid) is a study on the adoption of non-traditional fabrics within the African diaspora.



Jonathan BACHMAN

Protester's Eyes.

A man is detained by law enforcement while protesting the shooting death of Alton Sterling outside the headquarters of the police department in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, U.S. July 9, 2016.

Finalists



Justin BARTON

Max, 26 Republic of Congo from the series 'Cold War'.

Since the Cold War Russia has taken soldiers from a few countries in Africa including Angola, The Republic of Congo and Mozambique to train them to fly and crew helicopters.



Fabio BUCCIARELLI

Zahar.

Zahar, from the Iraqi city of Makhmur, poses for a portrait in the temporary hospital of Ashti Internal Displaced person (IDP) camp in the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah, on December 12, 2016.





Dylan COLLARD

Creative Women : Elbe.

One of a series of images celebrating female creativity in all walks of life.

Maëlle COLLIN USA

Zuzanna.

Zuzanna, young polish girl photographed in her hometown: Rockaway. At the end of the A-train, a sliver of land just eleven miles into water, separating Bay from Ocean...

Finalists



Julia DOTTER

USA

Whale watcher.

This image was taken off the coast of Maui while watching Humpback Whales. I found myself just as interested in my fellow passengers as I was in the whales. We were tightly packed in a small boat and people were jumping over each other for the best views and images.

I started to think about the nature of "eco-tourism" and its potentially harmful effects on the environment. I liked the way this woman's plastic poncho billowed in the wind to take up the entire frame. It was an unnatural sight in a natural setting. It made me wonder – what do the whales think of us?



Takako FUKAYA JPN

No face, no identity?

Summer at the age of 12.

My oldest daughter AKANE is in the summer at the age of 12. The age of 12 is just before adolescence as well as the last year of preteen.

CATEGORY B:OPEN Finalists



Marcin GLABUS

Helena.

Photographer amateur, freelancer based in Poznań Poland.

Photography plays an important role in my life. For as long as I can remember, it has always accompanied me and allowed me to perceive hidden worlds.



Ryotaro HORIUCHI JPN

Descendant of Samurai.

They are contemporary Samurais living today in Fukushima, Japan.

Finalists



Gillian HYLAND

The Hearts Shadow.

This photograph is part of a series of images called 'Windows Into Havana', the narrative series is an insight into life in Cuba and captures just a drop of the spirit you feel from the city and it's people.



David JOHNEDIS

"This Is My Body" is a series of portraits of young, professional Muay Thai boxers in Bangkok. I made the images at a training camp in the city's most notorious slum.





"What He Left Behind".

There is a horrific beauty to my images-deep reds and purples transform my settings into a twisted, violent Valentines where reality is warped.



Geoffrey KROLL

Linda.

Finalists



Andy MASSACCESI

LIM Dejay & Music Artist Portrayed in her Home in Como (Italy).



Paubel FRANCK

TWINS TOWN INDIA

The small village of Kodhini, called "Twin Town" located in south west of India, has one the biggest rate of twins in the world, about 400 pairs of twins among the population. This is an unexplicated phenonemon so far.



Jitske SCHOLS

NL

SORA

This is SORA, whom I photographed for a series about identity. She has both Dutch and Moluccan roots. The first ten years of her life she never had to do with her Moluccan background.



Duncan STAFFORD

UK

Backstage with Lady Gaga at Le Poisson Rouge New York.

Finalists





Boy SURMINSKI

Portrait of Varusa.

Bastiaan WOUDT

NL

'J'

CATEGORY B:OPEN Finalists





Lana YANOVSKA

Basak.

Basak from project "Polarity". Androgyny scares, baffles and fascinates at the same time. Androgynous people live between the polarities of a binary society: visually they fit neither the female nor male stereotype. Their dual natures coexist in each world like cross-faded images contained in one frame. Separating them into two classic genders makes this polarity visible and present while mirroring back the viewer's norms and stereotypes.



Natalina ZAINAL

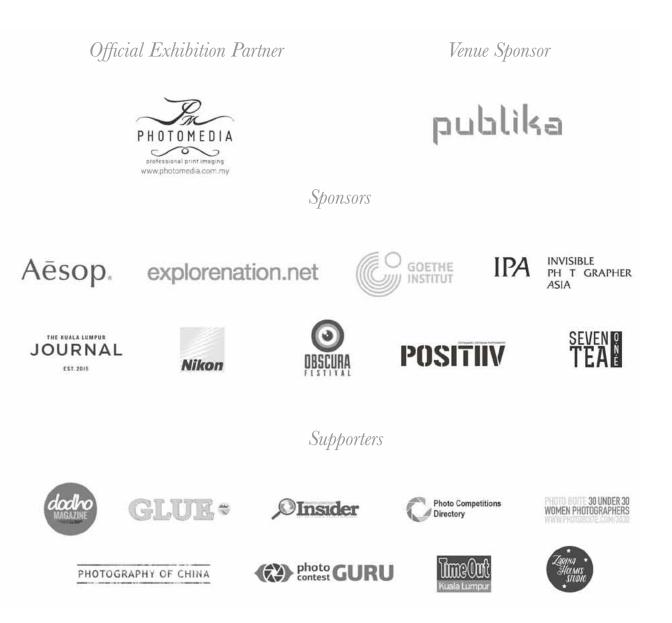
SUI

From series Fake Folklore.

With modern times, tradition and its customs are passing away. Why not create some new ones? With costumes inspired by existing tribes combined with modern items, and in collaboration with dancers and artists who bring them alive, I give myself the opportunity to make portraits like the explorers of ancient times. – on-going project.



ALIAS, Affendi MAS	FUKAYA, Takako JPN	MILLS, Mike NO
ANDREEVA, Antonina RUS	GELMAN, Mary RUS	MITCHELL, Margaret UK
ARSOVA, Iraida RUS	GHADYANLOO, Farzane IRAN	MULLENGER, Jared AUS
ASTAPHAN, Craig USA	GLABUS, Marcin POL	PRATT, Greta USA
BACHMAN, Jonathan USA	GLOTON, Gerald PHI	RAVIER, Diego BEL
BAGNOLI, Diana ITA	GOURIOU, Vincent FRA	SAKAGUCHI, Haruka USA
BARTON, Justin UK	HAUKSDOTTIR, Charlotta USA	SCHOLS, Jitske NL
BUCCIARELLI, Fabio ITA	HORIUCHI, Ryotaro JPN	SCHROEDER, Alain BEL
CARPES, Gabriel BRA	HYLAND, Gillian UK	STAFFORD, Duncan UK
CHANCELLOR, David UK	JAŠMINSKÁ, IVANA CZ	STEPHANIAN, Olha UKR
CHEN-WEINSTEIN, Sandra USA	JOHNEDIS, David USA	SURMINSKI, Boy NL
CLEMENTE, Ivan SPA	KROLL, Geoffrey USA	TAN, Vitas Jia Yi MAS
COLLARD, Dylan UK	KLUITERS, Virginia USA	TSCHAEPPELER, Eric CAN
COLLIN, Maëlle USA	KOVALEV, Andrew RUS	WOUDT, Bastiaan NL
DOTTER, Julia USA	MASSACCESI, Andy ITA	YANOVSKA, Lana UKR
EVANS, John Paul UK	MASSËUS, Marinka NL	ZAINAL, Natalina CH
FRANCK, Paubel FRA	MEHL, Sandra FRA	



Kuala Lumpur International Photowards 2017

This catalogue accompanies the KLPA2017 Winners & Finalists Exhibition held at Whitebox, PUBLIKA, Kuala Lumpur from 9 - 19 September, 2017

The Kuala Lumpur International Photoawards / KLPA is an annual global portrait photography contest seeking the best entries from all over the world in Open and Themed categories since 2009. Join us for the next Call by registering your email at info@klphotoawards.com

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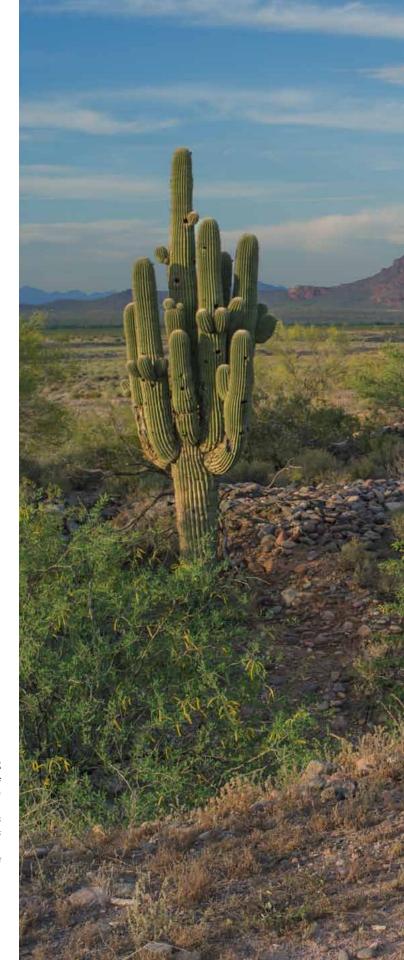
Images presented went from highly traditional static portraits that reminded me of August Sander, some took the form of pseudo-journalistic imagery; some were abstract, almost Dadaistic imagery. We were ultimately looking for something refreshing yet doesn't depart from what the tenets of portraiture are. Photographs of people never fails to attract the eye, but searching for a great portrait stems not from hard and fast rules of photography itself, but from imagery that moves. Imagery that speaks of the human condition; the uncanny, and sometimes the untold.

- AZRUL KEVIN ABDULLAH KLPA2017 JUDGE

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The entries were wide ranging, but all delved deep into the topic at hand: Defining Family. I was struck by entries that shed light on how global politics affects families, entries that highlighted rich cultural traditions, and entries that turned a finely-tuned artistic eye on intimate relationships. The photographers I selected all have delicate sensibilities and a wonderful ability to bring emotion alive in their work. The images go far beyond straightforward reporting to showcase very human stories in a rich, compelling way. It was a pleasure to immerse myself in the work and I thank all the artists for submitting their hard-earned images to this prestigious competition.

> - LAURA VALENTI KLPA2017 SPECIAL SELECT JUROR



COVER IMAGE Julee and Her Daughters by Greta Pratt (USA)

Julee is on the left and these are her four daughters and one granddaughter. They are all expert cowgirls and Mormons living in Arizona, USA. This photo is part of an "in progress" series on the American West titled A Cloud of Dust.