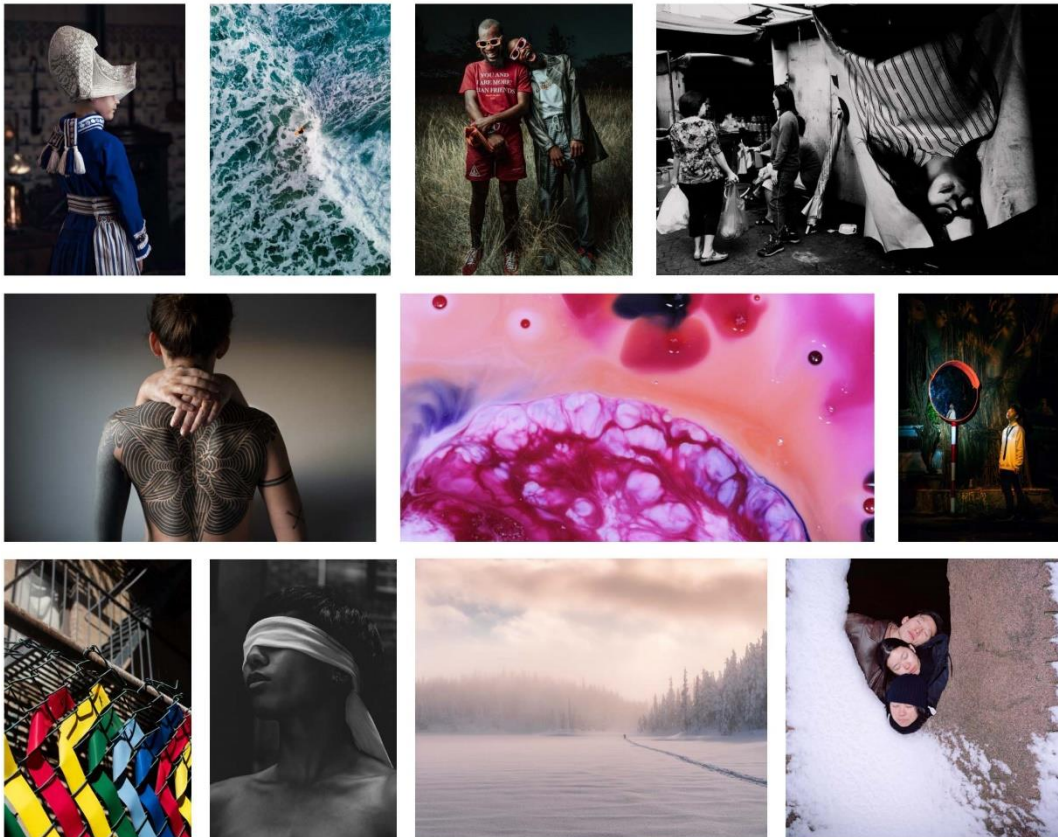


PRESS RELEASE | 18 JANUARY 2022

STUDENT AND YOUTH COMPETITIONS 2022

SHORTLISTS ANNOUNCED

EXHIBITION: 13 APRIL – 2 MAY 2022 | SOMERSET HOUSE, LONDON



The World Photography Organisation announces today the shortlisted photographers in the Student and Youth competitions of the Sony World Photography Awards 2022. Winners of *Student Photographer of the Year* and *Youth Photographer of the Year* will be announced on 12 April and will go on display as part of the Sony World Photography Awards 2022 exhibition at Somerset House, London.

STUDENT COMPETITION SHORTLIST

The Student shortlist showcases series of works by 10 students at leading international higher education institutions. For the 2022 competition, students were invited to submit a series of five to 10 images interpreting the brief *Connections*. Over the past two years we have had to think differently about how we connect in more ways than we could have imagined. The shortlisted entries have each been chosen for their nuanced and intelligent responses to this brief.

Connections to cultural identity and community are examined by several of the projects, such as *The Identity of Holland* by **Ezra Bohm** (The Netherlands, Nederlandse Academie voor Beeldcreatie) which

focuses on the inhabitants of the Dutch village of Urk, the last people in the Netherlands to still wear traditional dress; *Becoming South African* by **Aidan Murgatroyd** (South Africa, Stellenbosch Academy of Design and Photography) follows the photographer's journey in search of a greater understanding and sense of connection to his home country after prolonged absences; *Theologians* by **Sergey Pronin** (Russian Federation, Docdocdoc School of Modern Photography) captures participants seeking spiritual connection in the summer camp of St. Tikhon's Orthodox University's Theological faculty; *The Butcher* by **Dennis Mubanga Kabwe** (Zambia, Open Window University Zambia) spotlights a local butcher at work in the heart of the market-place; and *Cariño* by **Chris Rosas Vargas** (USA, Parsons), a series of sentimental portraits of public spaces in the Bronx and Harlem;

Elsewhere the series explore connections through representations of togetherness as in *Tiramisu* by **Alexander Komenda** (Canada, Aalto University, Finland) which depicts Komenda's playful collaborations with fellow students to help pass the time during the lockdowns; and *Disconnected* by **Oriel Naxhielly Martins** (Argentina, ENFO Escuela De Fotografía), where the photographer focuses on moments of physical intimacy and the struggle of coping with isolation during the pandemic.

Connections to the past, and to family history were also central to several of the projects including *Connections* by **Sachi Deshmukh** (India, Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti, Italy), which juxtaposes past and present through old photographs of her then newly married parents held by their now aged hands and linked together with red thread; *Memories of Family* by **Xu Han** (China Mainland, Nanjing University of the Arts) uses close-up abstract images of paint droplets and patterns to explore the photographer's relationship with family; and *Even When We're Breathing, We're Moving* by **Angela Stoll** (Australia, University of Wollongong) examines the idea of movement as a passage of time through long-exposure black and white images of a dancer within an abandoned space.

The winner of Student Photographer of the Year 2022 will be selected from the ten students and announced on 12 April. The overall winning university is given Sony digital imaging equipment worth €30,000.

This year's Student shortlist was judged by **Colin Czerwinski**, Founder of NOICE Magazine.

YOUTH COMPETITION SHORTLIST

The Youth competition shortlist features seven category winners from June to December 2021, who each responded to a different monthly theme.

Winner of the June competition, **Elijah Baptiste** (USA, 15 years old, Composition & Design) photographed his subject blindfolded and shot from below in black and white, emphasising the grace of his pose. **Zinuo Shi** (China Mainland, 17 years old, Street Photography) captures two women in conversation in a marketplace, while in the foreground the upside-down poster of a model gives a surreal edge to the picture. **Emery Sanderson** (Canada, 19 years old, Landscape) depicts a serene snowy scene, interrupted only by a solitary figure and the tracks they have left behind. Likewise, **Cameron Borg** (Australia, 17 years old, Culture & Travel) shows a lone human set against nature, this time a surfer photographed from above in the turbulent swell. **Rayhan Mundra's** (USA, 15 years old, Wildlife & Nature) image displays a brown bear in the split-second moment of catching a salmon from a stream. **Tri Nguyen** (Vietnam, 18 years old, Portraiture) uses a street mirror to create a portrait from two angles, in the glow of the moonlight. **Benjamin Joel** (USA, 17 years old, Open Call) captured the strength and determination of a national fencing champion.

Youth Photographer of the Year is judged by **Hideko Kataoka**, Director of Photography at Newsweek Japan. The winner will receive a range of Sony digital imaging equipment to nurture their vision.

The overall winners in the Student, Youth, Open and Professional competition of the Sony World Photography Awards 2022 will be announced on 12 April 2022. For more information about upcoming announcement and winners please visit www.worldphoto.org

STUDENT COMPETITION 2021 SHORTLIST

Aidan Murgatroyd, South Africa
Stellenbosch Academy of Design and Photography

Alexander Komenda, Canada
Aalto University, Finland

Angela Stoll, Australia
University of Wollongong

Chris Rosas Vargas, USA
Parsons

Dennis Mubanga Kabwe, Zambia
Open Window University Zambia

Ezra Bohm, The Netherlands
Nederlandse Academie voor Beeldcreatie

Oriel Naxhielly Martins, Argentina
ENFO Escuela De Fotografía

Sachi Deshmukh, India
Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti, Italy

Sergey Pronin, Russian Federation
Docdocdoc School of Modern Photography

Xu Han, China Mainland
Nanjing University of the Arts

YOUTH COMPETITION 2021 SHORTLIST

COMPOSITION & DESIGN: Elijah Baptiste, USA

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY: Zinuo Shi, China Mainland

LANDSCAPE: Emery Sanderson, Canada

CULTURE & TRAVEL: Cameron Borg, Australia

WILDLIFE & NATURE: Rayhan Mundra, USA

PORTRAITURE: Tri Nguyen, Vietnam

OPEN CALL: Benjamin Joel, USA

IMAGES AVAILABLE AT [WORLDPHOTO.ORG/PRESS](http://worldphoto.org/press)

PRESS CONTACTS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

ABOUT SONY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS

Established 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 15th year, the free-to-enter Awards are a global voice for photography, providing a vital insight into contemporary photography and offering leading and emerging artists world-class opportunities for exposure of their work. The Awards additionally recognises the world's most influential artists working in the medium through the *Outstanding Contribution to*

Photography; the acclaimed Canadian photographer Edward Burtynsky is the 2022 recipient of this award joining a distinguished list of iconic names including Martin Parr, William Eggleston, Candida Hofer, Nadav Kander, Gerhard Steidl, Graciela Iturbide. The Awards showcase the works of winning and shortlisted photographers at a prestigious annual exhibition at Somerset House, London. 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 220 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 globe. 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](https://www.instagram.com/worldphotoorg)), Twitter ([@WorldPhotoOrg](https://twitter.com/WorldPhotoOrg)) and LinkedIn/Facebook ([World Photography Organisation](https://www.facebook.com/WorldPhotographyOrganisation)). Our hashtags to follow are #sonyworldphotographyawards #swpa #swpanews.

SONY GROUP CORPORATION

Sony Group Corporation is a creative entertainment company with a solid foundation of technology. From Game & Network Services to Music, Pictures, Electronics Products & Solutions, Imaging & Sensing Solutions 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.com/en

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Sony Corporation is responsible for the Electronics Products & Solutions (EP&S) business in the Sony Group. With the vision of "continuing to deliver *Kando* and *Anshin* to people and society across the world through the pursuit of technology and new challenges," Sony will create products and services in areas such as home entertainment & sound, imaging, and mobile communications. For more information, visit: sony.net

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