

PRESS RELEASE

OPEN COMPETITION: CATEGORY WINNERS & SHORTLISTS

- The Sony World Photography Awards announces the 10 category winners and shortlists of the 2025 Open competition, recognising the best single images of 2024
- *Open Photographer of the Year* to be announced on 16 April at a special gala ceremony in London
- 2025 exhibition opens at Somerset House from 17 April – 5 May 2025

LONDON, 11 MARCH 2025 – The Sony World Photography Awards reveals today the 10 category winners and shortlisted photographers in the 2025 Open competition. Now in its 18th year, the Open competition celebrates the ability of an individual photograph to capture and distil a singular moment, and to evoke a broader narrative. Entrants were invited to submit their strongest single images from 2024, and the winners and shortlists represent some of the most arresting photography from the past year.

Across this year's competitions, over 419,000 images from over 200 countries and territories were submitted to the Awards.

The *Open Photographer of the Year* will be announced at the Awards' ceremony in London on 16 April and will receive a \$5,000 (USD) cash prize and a range of Sony digital imaging equipment. Selected winning and shortlisted images will be shown as part of the Sony World Photography Awards exhibition at Somerset House from 17 April – 5 May 2025, and will then travel to other locations.

This year's Open category winners are:

ARCHITECTURE

Xuecheng Liu (China Mainland) for the photograph *Centre of the Cosmos*, which shows New York's iconic Times Square from above, using a very wide angle to highlight the expanse of the city.

CREATIVE

Jonell Francisco (Philippines) for *Kem the Unstoppable*, an elegantly photographed collage portrait, alluding to Renaissance traditions of portraiture.

LANDSCAPE

Ng Guang Ze (Singapore) for his mesmerising black-and-white shot of a stream meandering through grasslands into a lake in the distance, taken in Wenhai, Lijiang.

LIFESTYLE

Hajime Hirano (Japan) for his meticulously composed image of a street vendor selling electronic parts in Akihabara, once Japan's largest electronics town following a period of rapid economic growth in the late 1950s.

MOTION

Olivier Unia (France) for *Tbourida La Chute*, in which the photographer captures the danger and excitement of the moment a rider is thrown from their mount during a 'tbourida,' a traditional Moroccan equestrian performance.

NATURAL WORLD & WILDLIFE

Estebane Rezkallah (France) for *The Whale Raft*, depicting a group of polar bears feasting on the carcass of a whale in east Greenland.

OBJECT

Sussi Charlotte Alminde (Denmark) for *Octopuses in the Sky*, showcasing elaborate handmade kites at the Fanø International Kite Fliers Meeting, one of the world's largest kite flying events.

PORTRAITURE

Yeintze Boutamba (Gabon) for *Encounter*, a tender portrait of two people shot in the intimacy of a bedroom. The photographer wanted to immortalise this moment for the sitters.

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

Khairizal Maris (Indonesia) for *Celebrating Football Club Victories*, which pictures the elation of fans celebrating a win by their local football club by lighting flares in Bandung, West Java.

TRAVEL

Matjaž Šimic (Slovenia) for *Ask a Shaman*, depicting a group of shamans in La Paz, Bolivia, where they play a major role in Native Bolivian traditional culture, shot against the brightly painted local architecture.

This year's Open competition was judged by **Claudia Grimaldi Marks**, Senior Manager, New Creator Strategy at Getty Images.



The overall winners in the Student, Youth, Open and Professional competitions of the Sony World Photography Awards 2025 will be announced on 16 April 2025. For more information about upcoming announcements and winners please visit worldphoto.org.

OPEN COMPETITION CATEGORY WINNERS AND SHORTLIST

ARCHITECTURE

Winner

Xuecheng Liu, China Mainland

Shortlist

Alessio D'Addato, Italy

Andrew Newman, United Kingdom

David Eliud Gil Samaniego Maldonado, Mexico

Hans Wichmann, Germany

Jason Smith, Australia

Max van Son, Netherlands

Michael Echteld, Netherlands

Michael Echteld, Netherlands

Pati John, Netherlands

Radek Pohnán, Czechia

Robert Fülöp, Romania

Thibault Drutel, France

Ute-Christa Scherhag, Germany

CREATIVE

Winner

Jonell Francisco, Philippines

Shortlist

Ana Leal, Brazil

Ana Peiró Muñoz, United Kingdom

Enda Burke, Ireland

Hardijanto Budyman, Indonesia

Ian Knaggs, United Kingdom

Marina Tsaregorodtseva, United Kingdom

Mobolaji Ogunrosoye, Nigeria

Rachel Nixon, Canada

Vida Khani, Islamic Republic Of Iran

Yijing Yang, China Mainland

LANDSCAPE

Winner

Ng Guang Ze, Singapore

Shortlist

Dan Liao, China Mainland

Francisco Negróni, Chile

KunPeng Zhu, China Mainland

Marcin Zajac, Poland

Martin Stranka, Czechia

Patrick Ems, Switzerland

Timo Zilz, Germany

Victor De Valles Ibañez, Spain

Vilhelm Gunnarsson, Iceland

Witold Ziomek, Poland

Xiaoying Shi, China Mainland

Yoshiaki Kudo, Japan

Zhu Yang, China Mainland

LIFESTYLE

Winner

Hajime Hirano, Japan

Shortlist

Barry Mayes, United Kingdom

Emma Rogers, New Zealand

Enamur Reza, Bangladesh

Kathryn Mussallem, Canada

Kevin Molano, Colombia

Lucero Mora Ardila, Mexico

Maira Ray, Brazil

Scott Seager, United States

Syed Mahabubul Kader, Bangladesh

Wan Yong Chong, Malaysia

Yaping Du, China Mainland

Yevhen Kostyuk, Ukraine

Zhang Xun, China Mainland

MOTION

Winner

Olivier Unia, France

Shortlist

Ahmed Abdallah, Egypt

Alex Halloway, United States

Antonio Flores García, Mexico

Cristopher Rogel Blanquet Chavez, Mexico

Eduardo Schneider, United States

Hao Guo, China Mainland

Joe Wakefield, United Kingdom

Leo Huang, Taiwan

Nick Alston, United Kingdom

Sergey Geller, United States

Swee Choo Oh, Malaysia

Tim Jenka, Switzerland

Tuan Nguyen Tan, Vietnam

Wan Yong Chong, Malaysia

NATURAL WORLD & WILDLIFE

Winner

Estebane Rezkallah, France

Shortlist

Anirban Dutta, India

Christopher Baker, United States

Daniel Hannabuss, United Kingdom

Gianni Maitan, Italy

Hasan Bağlar, Cyprus

Hira Punjabi, India

Ilena Fasci, Italy

Jake Virus, United States

Klára Zamouřilová, Czechia

Martin Steenhaut, Belgium

Mohammad Anisur Rahman, Bangladesh

Pedro Jarque Krebs, Peru

Peter Delaney, Ireland

Tara Keane, Ireland

OBJECT

Winner

Sussi Charlotte Alminde, Denmark

Shortlist

Angelo Brancaccio, Italy

Carol Santiago, Mexico

Edyta Kopcio, Poland

PORTRAITURE

Winner

Yeintze Boutamba, Gabon

Shortlist

Adolphe Maillot, France

Elena Subach, Ukraine

Emmanuel Lucky, Nigeria

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

Winner

Khairizal Maris, Indonesia

Shortlist

Angela Magalhães, Portugal

Francisco Mira Vicent, Spain

Gavin Bragdon, United States



Fabi Bick, Germany
Ieva Gailė, Lithuania
Muhammad Amdad Hossain, Bangladesh
Natalia Hresko, Ukraine
Oliver Lahrem, Germany
Petia Angelova, Bulgaria
Rajeev Gaikwad, India
Rakibul Alam Khan, Bangladesh
Ralf Hanisch, Germany
Robert Bolton, United Kingdom
Yuting Li, China Mainland

Ivana Dostálová, Czechia
Mark Harrison, United Kingdom
Mark Harrison, United Kingdom
Matthieu Quatravaux, France
Panagiotis Rontos, Greece
Piotr Skubisz, Poland
Robbie Murrie, United Kingdom
Svetlana Jovanovic, Netherlands

Kathryn Mussallem, Canada
Manex Sungahid, Philippines
Nina Papiorek, Germany
Osvaldo Torres Reyes, Mexico
Pranto Chakraborty, Bangladesh
Samuel Terry, United Kingdom
Sean Lim Choon Hean, Malaysia
Seyed Ali Hosseini Far, Islamic Republic Of Iran
Sohel Ahmed, Bangladesh
Stefano Ruggiero, Italy
Yusof Salimi Namin, Islamic Republic Of Iran

TRAVEL

Winner

Matjaž Šimic, Slovenia

Shortlist

Akram Menari, Algeria
Arun Saha, India
Britt Knierim, Netherlands
Chim Oanh, Vietnam
Karolina Jurkiewicz, Poland
Khai Chuin Sim, Malaysia
Kunal Gupta, India
Liu Song, China Mainland
Mike Hellebrand, United Kingdom
Nicola Ducati, Italy
Ryo Yamamoto, Japan
Shubhodeep Roy, India
Spyridon Gennatas, Greece

NOTES TO EDITORS

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A selection of images is available to download on press.creoarts.com.

SONY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS

Produced by Creo under its photography strand 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 18th 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 award; the acclaimed photographer Susan Meiselas is the 2025 recipient of this award, joining a distinguished list of iconic names including William Eggleston (2013), Mary Ellen Mark (2014), Martin Parr (2017), Graciela Iturbide (2021), Edward Burtynsky (2022) and Sebastião Salgado (2024). The Awards showcase the works of winning and shortlisted photographers at a prestigious annual exhibition at Somerset House, London. worldphoto.org/exhibition

WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY ORGANISATION

World Photography Organisation is a leading global platform dedicated to the development and advancement of photographic culture. Its programming and competition initiatives provide valuable opportunities for artists working in photography and help broaden the conversation around their work. The Sony World Photography Awards is



World Photography Organisation's principal programme. Established in 2007, it is one of the world's biggest and most prestigious photography competitions; celebrating the work of leading and emerging practitioners and attracting tens of thousands of visitors annually to its exhibitions worldwide. World Photography Organisation is the photography strand of Creo, which initiates events and programming across three sectors: photography, film and contemporary art. worldphoto.org

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CREO

Creo initiates and organises events and programming across three key strands: photography, film and contemporary art. Established in 2007 as World Photography Organisation, Creo has since grown in scope, furthering its mission of developing meaningful opportunities for creatives and expanding the reach of its cultural activities. Today, its flagship projects include the Sony World Photography Awards, Sony Future Filmmaker Awards, PHOTOFAIRS and Photo London. Working in partnership with Angus Montgomery Arts, Creo helps deliver the group's ventures, comprising some of the world's leading art fairs. Taking its name from the Latin for 'I create', it is in this spirit that Creo sets out to empower and give agency to creative voices. creoarts.com

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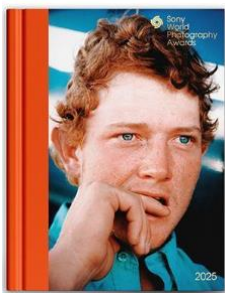
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*Kando is a Japanese word that roughly translates to the sense of awe and emotion you feel when experiencing something beautiful and amazing for the first time.

SONY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS 2025 BOOK



The hardback exhibition book will be available to purchase at the exhibition shop in Somerset House and is available to pre-order on shop.worldphoto.org (£24.99).

This collectible hardcover book celebrates remarkable photographs from the past year and delves into the compelling stories, both big and small, that inspired them. Enjoy award-winning images of all styles, genres and topics and immerse yourself in the unique perspectives of photographers from around the world as you look through its pages. Alongside the acclaimed images, readers will also be able to enjoy an essay dedicated to this year's *Outstanding Contribution to Photography* recipient Susan Meiselas.

