

THE NEW VIEW



It's not just clicking a button

Pets

April was National Pets Month and we spoke to lots of pet photographers about their love of pawraits.

Nature

May 10-16 is Mental Health Awareness Week, and this year's theme is nature.

Elke Vogelsang

Comedy Pet Photography of the year 2020 tells us her top five tips for pet photography.

Laura Brown

We take a look at how Laura Brown is raising awareness of poor mental health through photography.

Gez Gethings

Can you match the dogs and cats to their owners?

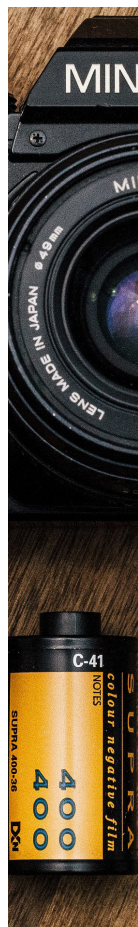
Competitions

Let's take a look at the latest photography competition winning images!



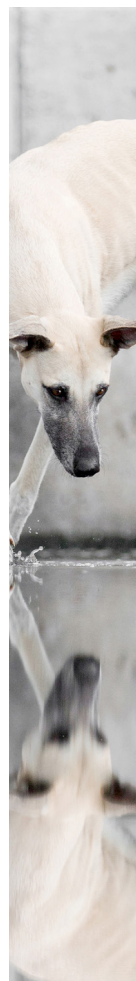
Fujifilm has teamed up with Nintendo to release a new app to print your Pokemon Snaps and Animal Crossing screenshots!

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We are taking a look at how to load film into a film camera.

P. 10



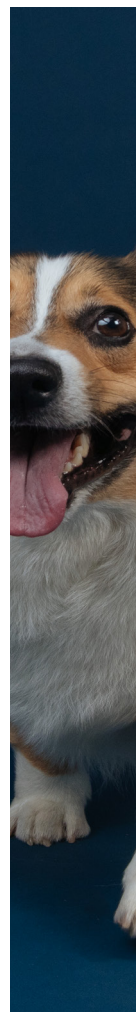
With the perfect model living in her own home, Elke Vogelsang found her passion for photography fourteen years ago. Now, she tells us her top five tips for pet photography!

P. 12



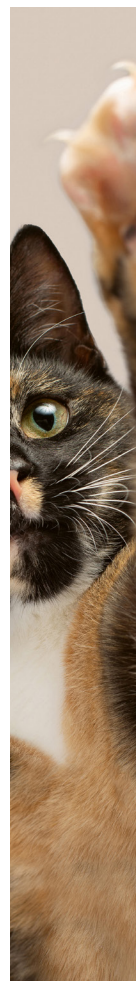
Hitting it off over dinner and drinks, Caitlin J. McColl and Kirstie McConnell bonded over creative marketing for photos and their love of dogs.

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The dream team started up their business with a love of dogs and a goal to meet all the different breeds.

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Meet Gez Gethings and his amazing photo memory games

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We're looking for some fun in the sun with photography as Summer quickly approaches.

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Photographer Laura Brown feels so strongly about raising awareness for poor mental health that she has an Instagram dedicated to it.

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University graduate Jessie Morgan has always been labelled artistic despite finding most traditional art forms challenging. Luckily, Jessie found a creative outlet in photography.

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In the evening of March 31, the British Photography Awards held their award ceremony via a YouTube livestream.

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Early on April 15, the overall winners of the Sony World Photography Awards 2021 were announced via a YouTube livestream.

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Sneak peek for the next issue of The New View

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Fujifilm x Nintendo Switch

Print your Pokémon Snaps with the Instax Mini Link

Nintendo Switch users will be excited to hear that a new app for the Instax Mini Link has arrived in the app store for Nintendo Switch screenshots!

The app, which was released April 30, is called 'Instax Mini Link for Nintendo Switch'.

The app allows Instax Mini Link users to print off their Nintendo Switch screenshots onto Instax Mini Film.

The app came out the same day as the release of long-awaited New Pokémon Snap for Nintendo Switch. So not only are gamers able to capture screenshots of their favourite Pokémon - or Animal Crossing villagers - they're also able to print off their favourite snaps from the game.

The pre-existing Mini Link printer - which has four different colour options - is now available to buy in colour 'Ash White (Red and Blue)' with an adorable Pikachu case, perfect for Pokémon snappers.

The Instax Mini Link came out in 2019 for people to print off their beloved memories from their phone onto Instax Mini Print paper.

Originally only available in pink, grey, and blue, the Instax Mini Link also has a fourth special edition colour which can be pre-ordered for a mid-May release date.

The Pikachu-design silicone case is only available with this special

edition 'Ash White (blue and red) printer.

The app's special features will include: three different character designs for app layout (New Pokémon Snap, Super Mario, or Animal Crossing: New Horizons), wireless printing, and a variety of frames for your prints!

You can purchase an Instax Mini Link for £109.99 and New Pokémon Snap for £50 from Amazon.



Good riddance Twitter crop



Artists and photographers alike were over the moon to discover the Twitter crop is now gone. Before, Twitter would automatically crop posted photos into a 2:1 aspect ratio, effectively ruining the experience of artists and photographers sharing square or portrait pictures, with some users saying it ruined their art

browsing experience. As of May 5, the Twitter crop has been removed and photos can be seen in full and 'Twitter Crop' quickly started trending on the platform. "I wholeheartedly celebrate it," says London-based fashion and portrait photographer Kid Circus. "Honestly, that auto-

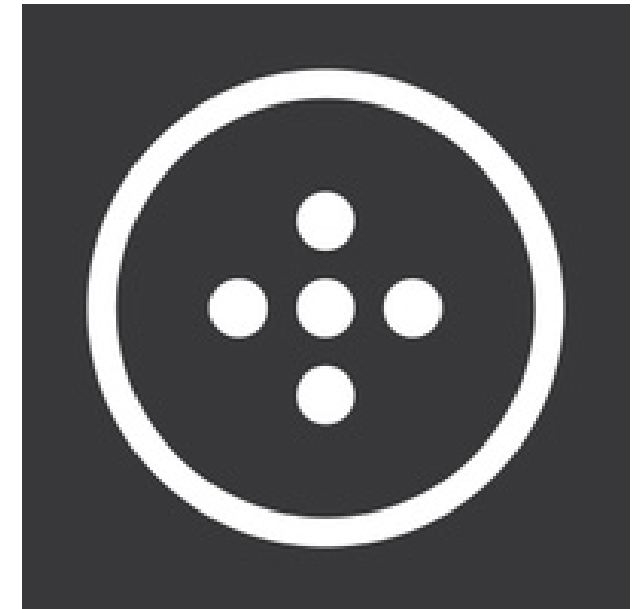
cropping used to drive me mad." When uploading a photo, Twitter users can click on their image and edit the crop. Photos in the typical aspect ratio - such as 16:9 - can be automatically posted with no crop. "No bird too tall, no crop too short," Twitter wrote in their announcement tweet.

Should photographers sign up to The Dots?

Promising to help you find your dream job, The Dots is "the professional network for people who don't wear suits to work." "The platform has been so helpful to give me opportunities, converse with other fashion photographers, and so much more," said Jess Brittain. "This year I managed to assist Kid Circus twice, from putting out a question that I wanted to assist in editorial shoots. I would recommend all creatives to use it, as it can be useful just to be a part of a community!" Founder of The Dots, Pip Jamieson, told Product Hunt "I started The Dots because the world of work has changed forever. In essence, we were built for the future of work - that future just arrived a little faster than I expected." The Dots community and has over half a million members, with 68% being female, 32% BAME, and 16% LGBT+ according to Pip.

"What I'm passionate about is not only building a professional network that's fit for a modern workforce but more importantly, a kind, inclusive and values-driven alternative to existing social networks." The UK-based community has a US launch coming soon, and even has an app for iOS. One user said: "The one thing that has gone right

in 2020 is using The Dots for both my personal and business worlds. "Our community has grown rapidly using the platform and it makes it super easy to connect with one another." You can post your work, collaborate with people, and even find your dream job on The Dots. The Dots is the perfect community for creatives. Sign up today.





тобом и над тобом само небеско плаветнило.
За тиха времена могло се видети сунце, које
се указивало попут каква пурпурна цвета ц.
из своје чашице излива сву ону светлост.

Свака мала кнегиња имаше своје ме.
це у врту, где могаше по милој вољи копати и
садити. Једна је својим цветним лејама д.
облик кита, другој се свиђало да јој је кут.
налик на малу сирену, а најмлађа свој врти.
заокруживала, да буде округао попут сунца,
а и цвеће јој било јарко и румено као сунце.

Била она необично дете, тихо и замишље.
но док би се остале сестрице китиле најчуд.
нијим стварчицама што би их узимале из по.
тонулих бродова, њој — осим њезина руменог
и жарког цвећа што подсећаше на сунце —
бејаше најмилији леп мраморни кип што при.
казиваше красна дечака; кип био исклесан у
белу, чисту камену, а на мореко је дно доспео
приликом неког бродолома. Мала је сирена
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лосну врбу, што је дивно израсла те свиђала
своје свеже гране над кином и спуштала их
све до модрога пешчаног тла где се указивала
љубичаста сенка, што се, баш као и гране,
непрестано помицала; чинило се да се вршци
савијају да целују корење.

Не бејаше за малу сирену веће радости
доли да чује штогод о онима горе, о људима.

Scanning my old film photos



Back in 2017, I studied photography for a year at college and my favourite part by far was working in the darkroom. Recently, I've decided to go through my old college sketchbooks and I came across my old film projects, which included this double exposure project featuring Minnie Mouse.



A step-by-step guide into film photography

In our May edition of The New View, we are taking a look at how to load film into a film camera. I'll be working with a Minolta X-700. Our next edition will show you how to develop film.

You will need:

- A film camera
- A roll of 35mm film (or 50mm if you're using a 50mm film camera)



First, you need to pull up the rewind knob, which is located on the left side of the camera. This will open up the back of the camera so you can place your film canister just enough of the film out of the canister so it can be placed into the 'take-up spool'. The take-up spool makes sure the film moves so you can take another photo. Place the film into the left side of the camera, pushing the rewind knob to make sure the film doesn't fall out of the pocket. Insert the narrow end of the film that you took out of the canister into the slot on the right - the 'take-up spool'. Make sure the film won't come out of the spool by using the film advancer. Do this twice. The film advancer is the mechanism at the back of the camera that you can pull back with your thumb. Close the back of the camera and use the film advancer again twice. We wind on twice after we have closed the back of the camera due to part of the film being exposed to light. This means the film won't capture a photo and will instead turn out black.

If the film has been loaded properly, the rewind knob will turn every time you crank the film advance lever and take a picture. Make sure the film speed is to your preference by rotating the shutter speed ring to your preference. This will control the length of exposure. Make sure your light meter is never below 60 as this will result in underexposed negatives. Take your photos until you can not crank the film advancer lever anymore. This means your roll is finished. Under the camera is a little button, which is called the rewind release button. Press the button. Pull up the release handle, which is located on the left side of the camera. There will be an arrow next to it indicating clockwise movement. Move the handle in a clockwise motion until the red line on the right side of the camera disappears or until it becomes easier to rewind. Your film is back safely inside the canister and you can open the back of the camera now. Take the film canister out and prepare for developing your film.



Key Words

- 35mm Film - This is the name of the film format. The images will be 36x24mm
- Rewind Knob - The rewind knob allows you to rewind the film at the end of your photoshoot to put all the film back into the canister and avoid risking exposure to your film.
- Take-Up Spool - The take-up spool is where the film you've used goes during the photoshoot to make room for another strip of film to be exposed for a photo.
- Film Advancer - The film advancer is the lever on the back of the camera that you pull after taking each photo to take a new photo. When you can no longer pull this, the roll of film is done.
- Negatives - A negative is the photos on the roll of film after you have developed it.

Elke Vogelsang's Perfect Pet Paw-traits!

With the perfect model living in her own home, Elke Vogelsang found her passion for photography in Noodles the dog fourteen years ago. Delving deeper into photography to relieve the stress of caring for her mother-in-law with dementia, Elke planned to start a picture-a-day project from January 1 2010.

"Shortly before this, at Christmas 2009, I found my husband unconscious in the bathtub," Elke recalled.

Elke's husband had suffered a severe brain haemorrhage due to a ruptured aneurysm, and she said he was found in time thanks to her dogs'

Noodles and Scout, who alerted her that there was a problem.

"I decided to start the project despite my husband being in the hospital, or rather because of it. I wanted to try to keep up a bit of normality and have something like a visual diary for my husband while he was in an induced coma."

Her dogs rovided Elke with an appreciated distraction as they often ended up in front of the camera.

Now, with almost ten years of experience being a registered business, Elke works full-time as an animal portrait photographer and has

accomplished some amazing things.

Elke won the Comedy Pet Photographer of the Year 2020 title, participated in The Photography Show's March virtual event, and even has two books out - Nice Nosing You, and Workshop Hundefotografie.

"It was super exciting; I feel very honoured," Elke said about being asked to participate in The Photography Show.

Elke's pup portraits are on social media under @wieselblitz, and she even has an Instagram for cat portraits @wieselcats.

"Being able to spend my time with photography and animals is a dream come true."



@wieselblitz



5 top tips for pet photography with Elke Vogelsang



Here are the top five things Elke thinks you should know about getting into the world of photography.

Every pet is different - behaviourally and photogenically

"How you handle your model is the most important part of pet photography," Elke says. With different breeds of dogs posing challenges and different needs - from a terrier being more likely to prefer physical activity and playing with a ball than a herding dog, Elke believes it's important to

gain experience with as many pets as possible and study their behaviour. "The more time you spend with pets and the more pets you meet, the better your pet pictures will become."

Elke suggests finding pets to study in friends homes, dog training centres, and rescue centres.

It's also important to know how to adapt your camera settings for the dog.

"Knowing how to dial in the settings of your camera is the absolute basics in my opinion." In her virtual session in The Photography Show,

Elke explains that the dog has "a huge influence on our camera capabilities." Elke tells us that the camera has more difficulty focusing when the subject is a brown dog with brown eyes, but an easier subject is a black dog with blue eyes due to the contrast.

Getting the best photos

There's no doubt that pets are unpredictable so to get the best shots, Elke suggests plenty of fun, limited distractions, and a lot of patience.

"Be patient - always. That's the only rule that



should never be broken," Elke said. Elke likes to think of photography sessions as both a bonding experience and entertainment for her and the pets. She suggests avoided busy parks as it may lead to a hard time to keep the attention of your pet, and says that photographers need to "pay attention to the capabilities of your model."

Know Your Camera

Elke says it is very

important to know everything about your camera and be prepared before the shoot. "Don't bore the dog by fiddling with your camera settings." As mentioned before, the camera has more difficulty focusing on certain dogs, so it's important to be prepared.

Keep your model calm

It's a good idea to get to know your models and let them know they're in a safe space. It can be for a dog to have a camera in it's face

and bright lights. "Some dogs might find the studio atmosphere to be very scary, therefore it might be better to do the photography shoot outdoors." When shooting outdoors, Elke uses available light and prefers a overcast day or the shade to avoid harsh shadows. When shooting in the studio, Elke usually uses a single strobe so the dogs don't get too overwhelmed with bright lights. She also uses reflectors to direct light to the contours of the dog. "The strobe is capable

of high speed synchronisation, which is handy when taking pictures of pets, as you make absolutely sure to freeze the action and can still use available light or continuous light as your model light." Elke suggests that if your dog is feeling intimidated reward them whilst they acclimatise, allowing your model to link the shutter clicking sounds with a reward. She also suggests frequent breaks

Reward frequently and shoot fast

Elke advises to find out what your model likes best, saying: "some might do anything for treats, others love to release energy with play or by running." Elke also reminds us that some dogs tire easily, and says to make sure you adapt you session to fit your model's age, health, and fitness. "My sessions

don't last longer than 60 to 90 minutes. I always shoot the portraits at the beginning of my session, because later on the dog might not be able to concentrate anymore and look tired." "The key is patience, a calm and positive attitude, repetition and lots and lots of bribery."

Elke shoots with Fujifilm X cameras, favouriting the X-T3 for commercial and editorial work. For outdoor shots, she opts to use prime lenses, and the Fujinon 16-55 when indoors. "I use it in the wide-angle range for some funny shots and at around 55mm for more elegant portraits."



THE PET PHOTOGRAPHERS CLUB



with
KIRSTIE MCCONNELL & CAITLIN J. MCCOLL

Hitting it off over dinner and drinks, Caitlin J. McColl and Kirstie McConnell bonded over creative marketing for photos and their love of dogs.

"We met years ago, when Kirstie hired (me) for a photoshoot with her dog Flee," Caitlin remembers. The two best friends run their own separate photography businesses. Caitlin owns Ragamuffin Pet Photography in Newport, Australia, which she launched in 2010, and Kirstie runs Bitsa Bernard Photography,

which she built up in Victoria, Australia before she moved to Italy with her husband and dogs. As their friendship grew and their businesses took off, the close friends decided to launch The Pet Photographers Club in 2018. "Every time Kirstie was in Melbourne, we'd meet up and over dinner we would get geeky talking all things pet photography for hours and hours." The two cherished the times they were able to meet up, saying running a business in a relatively

new industry can get lonely.

"It occurred to us that there were probably pet photographers all around the world who felt the same way.

"Wouldn't it be incredible if we could build a community of other like-minded pet photographers, so we can all share ideas, inspiration and knowledge?" The pair put their heads together and created The Pet Photographers Club, which as of March 2021, has around 300 members from over 20 different

countries.

The Pet Photographers Club has a podcast ran by the two founders - and have a new episode all about utilising national pet holidays in marketing campaigns alongside a pet holiday calendar guide.

Signing up to the community also allows members to access the online Mastermind group, exclusive extended interviews with their podcast guests, premium profile listing on the Pet

Photographers Directory, discounts on various courses and events within the club, quarterly goal tracking zoom calls, and extended deadlines for their International Pet Photographer of the Year awards.

Kirstie and Caitlin are currently working on the 2021 awards.

The awards are officially open for 2021 as of May 1 at thepetphotographersclub.com

"They get bigger and

bigger every year - last year we had over 1300 photographs entered from over 40 countries!

"It's quite a unique competition too - the first ever competition for professional pet photographers, open to all countries, and we keep it completely free to enter." Good luck!

Let's take a look at some of the amazing winners of the 2019 and 2020 International Pet Photographer of the Year awards!



MAREIKE KONRAD
2019 OPEN PHOTOGRAPH OF THE YEAR



BENEATH[®]

THE FUR



Follow Daren and Man's
journey on Instagram
[@beneaththefur](https://www.instagram.com/beneaththefur)

Husband and wife duo, Daren and Man, spend their time creating memories for pet owners through the medium of photography with their business Beneath The Fur. The dream team started up their business with a love of dogs and a goal to meet all the different breeds.

Daren began his photographic journey ten years ago with his dad's film camera, eventually

exploring food, product, corporate portraits, and event photography, before falling in love with pet photography.

"Pet photography came very naturally for us as we wanted to start something that we both love and are passionate about," Daren says.

Now, Daren uses a Canon camera with a Canon EOS R 24-70 2.8 when shooting in a small warehouse studio with a

coloured backdrop, the Beneath The Fur photo team use a small table for the pets, and a single strobe light with an octagonal soft box and several reflectors when shooting.

Daren acknowledges that it can be difficult to keep a pet's attention, the most difficult part of the job is when owners don't know their four-legged friends well enough.

"Sometimes it does require





a little creativity to capture their attention.” Daren says they experiment with treats, squeaky toys, making weird noises, knocking on the door, and even playing YouTube videos of animal sounds to get a furry friend’s attention. Although it can be difficult to hold the attention of a stranger’s fluffy companion, Daren

loves capturing stunning photos for owners to hang on their wall. “The best thing has been creating memories for owners. We are very heartened when owners print and frame up photos of their pets. “And, of course, hanging out with different breeds of dogs.” Daren recommends that budding pet

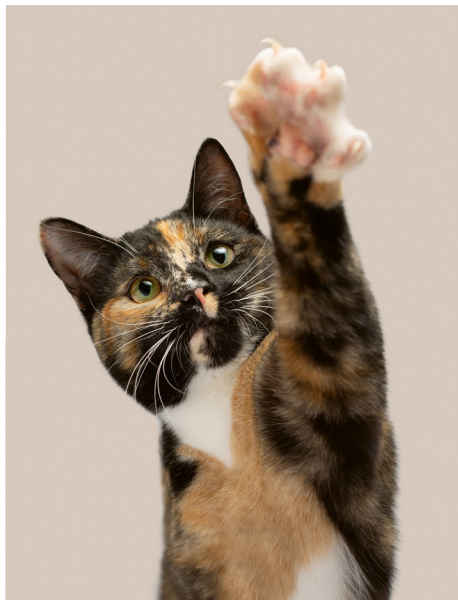
photographers keep calm and maintain a positive energy during shoots as pets can sense your emotions. He also advises that photographers should allow pet models to have breaks during the shoot. “They do lose focus and get tired as well. “Be patient and you will get the winning shot.” Daren hopes that the

future of Beneath The Fur will expand beyond dog and cat photography. “If we have the chance, we would love to travel overseas to meet and take photos of owners and their pets. “From this passion project, we dream that this would evolve into something meaningful where we can bring pet communities together.”



Do You Look Like Your Dog?
Meet Gez Gethings and his
amazing photo memory games





London-based photographer Gerrard Gethings entered the world of photography after getting a studio that turned out to be next to the iconic Terry O'Neil's studio.

Originally planning to use his new studio for painting, Gerrard ended up working with his new neighbour in 1997. "I kind of fell into it, really," Gerrard recalls, "I started working for Terry O'Neil. He was a cool guy and did amazing work. I got into photography that way." It wouldn't be until 2008 when Gerrard would discover animals to be his photographic muse after bringing home Border Terrier puppy, Baxter. Now one of the world's

finest pet portraitists alive, Gerrard has two amazing photo memory games dedicated to dogs and cats, a brand new one coming soon with drag queens, and a fourth in the making.

"It was one of those ideas that I'd had for a while but just as a fun personal project but nothing really pushed me to do it," Gerrard says about the first memory game. With only a few small editorial bits done, Gerrard was given the push he needed by Laurence King Publishing when they asked him to do it for them. "I wanted to do a photobook because I figured that's what you do when you're a

photographer. You make a big book you can show off and put on your coffee table."

However, Laurence King Publishing had the "brilliant idea" to turn the photos into a memory game.

"The game has been a lot more successful than a book would have been," Gerrard admits, acknowledging that the market for games is much larger than the photobook market and anyone who likes dogs would love the game. The 'Do You Look Like Your Dog?' game has now been out for over two years, with its release being September 2018. Gerrard says that his favourite photo duo from

the dog memory game is the one of Jessica and Buddy the Bichon Frise. "I'm a bit of a sucker for that one. Because this stuff has been everywhere now, this is one of the images that's always used."

The cat game, which came out in October 2020 alongside the photobook version of 'Do You Look Like Your Dog', had a very successful start.

"Out of the starting block, I think the cat one has sold more quicker. The cat game got off to a flying start."

With three games now under his belt, and a fourth in the making,

Gerrard has an interesting approach to finding his models.

Gerrard turns to members of the public as well as social media to find his cast, meeting people in the park or at the corner shop that might look similar to the dogs and cats he's already photographed.

"It's better to use real people, it's more fun," Gerrard explains.

"They find it exciting, no one's jaded. It's very new to them to walk into a studio. I love working with Joe Bloggs."

Gerrard says that around 60% of the people he found were through social media, and the rest were

off the street.

"My wife's in it, my boy's in it. I'm in one. One of my son's teachers is in one. "One time I wanted a guy who looked like Hagrid so I posted a picture and asked if anyone knew anyone who that looked like him. A guy came up and he said 'I look like this' and he looked exactly like that."

Gerrard is also having his work featured in three exhibitions, at The Museum of Walloon Life in May, Fotografiska, Stockholm in October, and a third open-air exhibition called the Andorra Biennale, which is being transferred to Barcelona.

"It's ace," Gerrard says





about being approached for the exhibitions.

"When I was a painter, you'd be banging your head against the wall trying to get an exhibition, trying to get a painting up somewhere to get your stuff seen. Now, I get invited to do them and I love it. It's the best. It kind of justifies all the hard work."

You can buy Gerrard's pet memory games on Amazon as well as the Drag March game

- which includes drag star Courtney Act, and the season two winner of RuPaul's Drag Race UK - released May 6. Gerrard currently uses the 5D Mark IV, a 35mm lens for big animals, and

50mm, 85mm, and 100mm. Gerrard prefers to use the 100mm macro for portraits. He also uses pro-photo gear, a beauty dish, soft boxes, and occasionally umbrellas.



@gezgethings

www.gerrardgethings.com
laurenceking.com





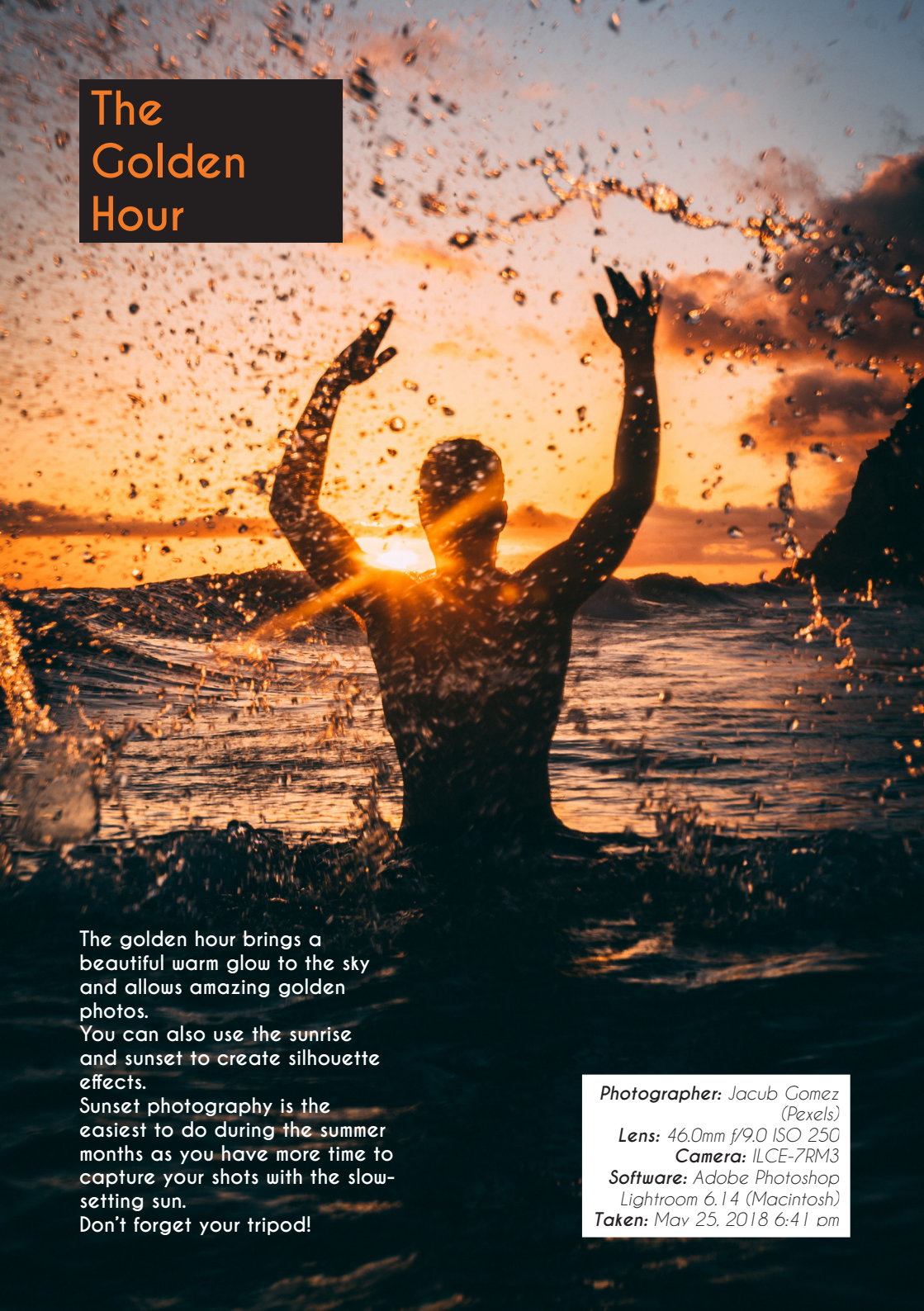
Fun in the Sun!

Summer is fast approaching so it's time to clean your lenses and find your passport ready for Summer vacation.

If you're looking to try something new in the next few months, here are some cool photography ideas that are perfect for some fun in the sun!



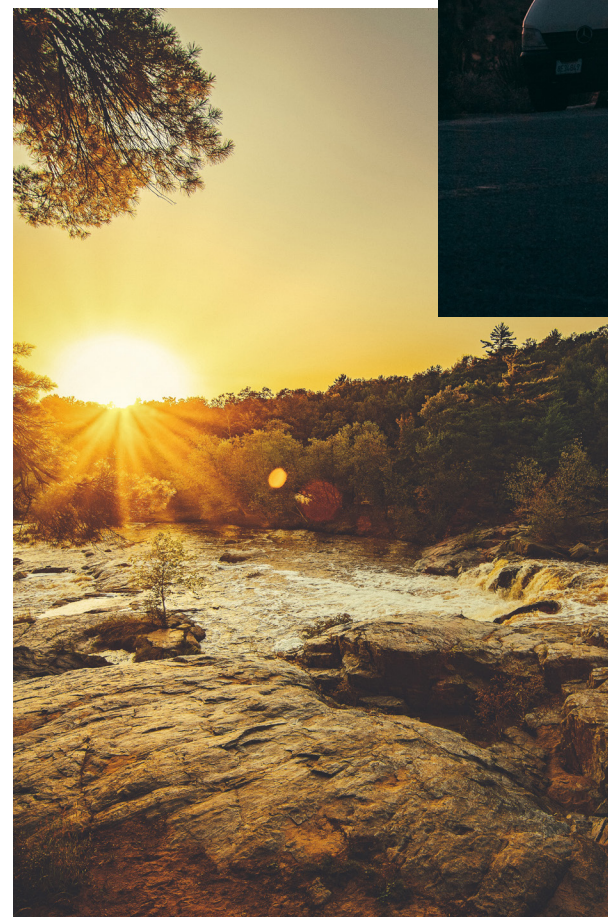
The Golden Hour



The golden hour brings a beautiful warm glow to the sky and allows amazing golden photos. You can also use the sunrise and sunset to create silhouette effects. Sunset photography is the easiest to do during the summer months as you have more time to capture your shots with the slow-setting sun. Don't forget your tripod!


Photographer: Jacob Gomez (Pexels)
Lens: 46.0mm f/9.0 ISO 250
Camera: ILCE-7RM3
Software: Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 6.14 (Macintosh)
Taken: May 25, 2018 6:41 pm

Photographer: Nick Wehrli (Pexels)
Lens: 95.0mm f/4.0 0.0025s ISO 400
Camera: Canon EOS-1D X Mark II
Software: Adobe Photoshop Lightroom Classic 9.3 (Macintosh)
Taken: August 09, 2020 6:53 am



Photographer: Todd Trapani (Pexels)
Lens: 12.0mm f/5.0 ISO 100
Camera: NIKON D5600
Software: Adobe Lightroom CC 1.5 (Macintosh)
Taken: September 13, 2018 6:53 pm






Photographer: Jess Vide (Pexels)
Lens: 10.26mm f/4.5 0.00125s ISO 100
Camera: L1D-20c
Software: Adobe Photoshop
Lightroom Classic 9.2 (Macintosh)
Taken: November 26, 2018 10:04



Photographer: Elaine Bernadine Castro (Pexels)
Lens: 2.65mm f/2.2 ISO 32
Camera: iPhone 6s Plus
Software: VSCO
Taken: July 22, 2017 2:59 pm

Beach Day!

Who doesn't love a nice relaxing day at the beach? Put your camera in your beach bag and find some interesting shots in your sandy location, whether it's people at the beach, the waves crashing down, your kids swimming in the sea, or finding some crabs under the rocks.



Photographer: Nguyen Thanh Ngoc (Pexels)
Lens: 30.0mm f/3.5 0.001s ISO 100
Camera: Canon EOS 70D
Software: Adobe Photoshop
Lightroom Classic 7.5 (Macintosh)
Taken: March 03, 2019 5:14 pm



Photographer: Vincent Gerbouin (Pexels)
Lens: 18.0mm f/7.1 ISO 100
Camera: Canon EOS REBEL T5
Software: Photos 3.0
Taken: May 26, 2017 12:49 pm




Photographer: Pixabay (Pexels)
Lens: 50.0mm f/13.0 1/160s
Camera: NIKON D90
Taken: September 10, 2015
11:50 am

Photographer: Vlad Chetan
(Pexels)
Lens: 67.0mm f/13.0 ISO 500
Camera: ILCE-7
Software: Adobe Lightroom 2.3
(Windows)
Taken: July 18, 2019 6:51 pm

Make a splash this Summer!

You don't always
have to rely on the
weather for a fun
shoot this summer.
Grab a backdrop, a
tank, and maybe some
fruit and give Splash
Photography a try.
We recommend
something bright, a
MIOPS splash kit, and
plenty of towels for
beginners!





This year's theme for Mental Health Awareness Week (May 20-16) is nature. Chief executive of the Mental Health Foundation, Mark Rowland, explains the choice of this year's theme: "During long months of the pandemic, millions of us turned to nature. Our research on the mental health impacts of the pandemic showed going for walks outside was one of our top coping strategies and 45% of us reported being in green spaces had been vital for our mental health." He also adds that "it was as if we were re-discovering at our most fragile point our fundamental human need to connect with nature." For Mental Health Awareness Week 2021, the goals are to inspire people to connect with nature in new ways and to convince 'decision-makers at all levels that our access to nature is a mental health and social issue as well as an environmental one.

"Nature is so central to our psychological and emotional health, that it's almost impossible to realise good mental health for all without a greater connection to the natural world."

The Mental Health Foundation encourages people to participate this week through their stories about how nature has supported their mental health. "Stories are the best tools we have to influence change."

If you love smelling the flowers, photographing the changes in nature, listening to the birds, or have a favourite nature spot, the Mental Health Foundation want to hear about it.

Share all of your nature stories, poems, and photos online using [#ConnectWithNature](#) and [#MentalHealthAwarenessWeek](#). Visit mentalhealth.org.uk for more information.



Photographer Laura Brown feels so strongly about raising awareness for poor mental health that she has an Instagram dedicated to it.

fuschiaphoto.com
@ mental_health_photo_project



**Using photography
to raise awareness of
poor mental health**



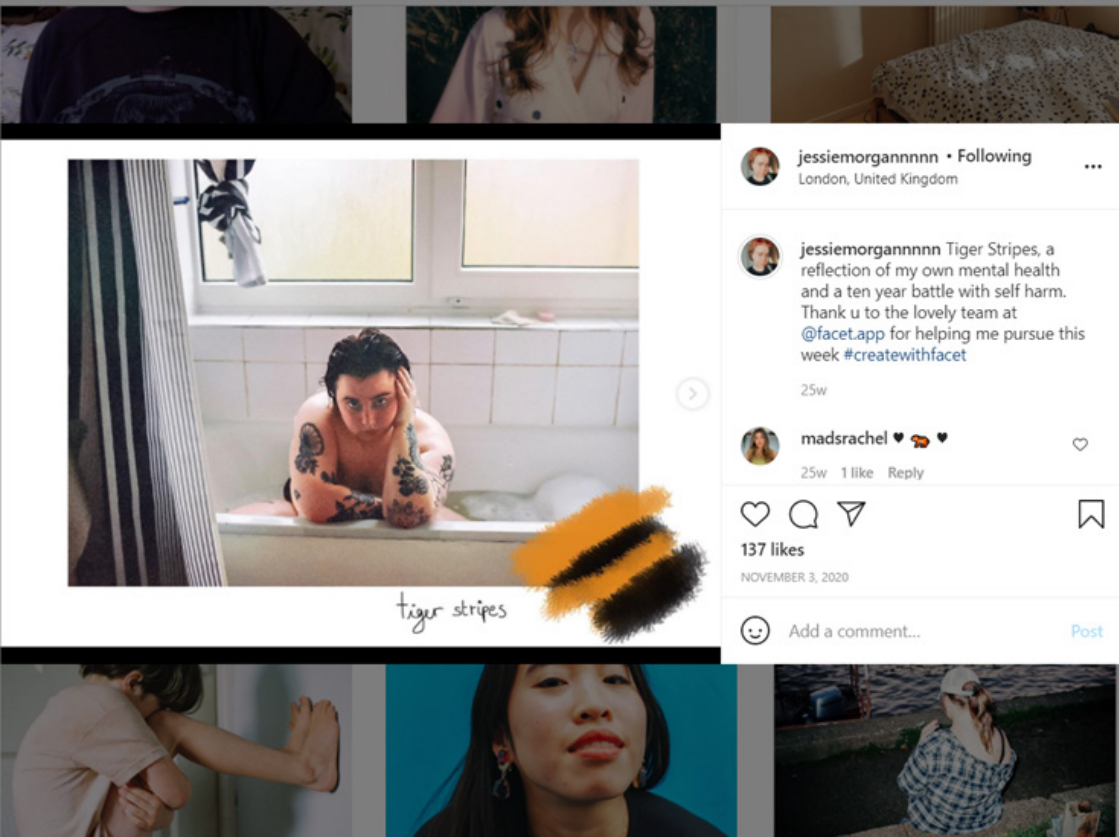
"I wanted to do this photography project as I feel strongly that there is still a great deal of work to be done in raising awareness of mental health conditions," Laura says.

"I wanted to create a platform to share people's experiences to show that the range of symptoms that can manifest but also to highlight the ways in which people have been able to find respite." Photography became a huge part of Laura's life as she struggled with her own mental health and found that creative projects helped her enormously. Laura uses her photography project to fight the stigma and misconceptions

surrounding poor mental health whilst aiming to empower those who struggle with their mental health. With one in four people statistically known to suffer from poor mental health, it's important to fight the stigma around it and to encourage a conversation to open up. "It's definitely a subject that needs ongoing public discussion and ongoing awareness building," Laura believes. "I think photography and art is a great medium through which to raise awareness as people are very visual creatures and images can create an impact in a much more immediate and powerful way." In her Instagram posts,

Laura shares her knowledge of poor mental health. For example, her photo for anxiety notes some of the symptoms and explains why it's important to help people with anxiety. Laura hopes that her photography project will "connect with and empower people who might be feeling isolated because of their symptoms and experiences, especially during the pandemic mental health is has become especially at risk." Laura is currently looking for volunteers for the project as well as planning on exhibiting her photos from the project locally once the pandemic restrictions allow her to do so.





Jessie Morgan

Jessiemorganphoto.com
@jessiemorgannnnn

Tiger Stripes

Content Warning: This article contains references to self-harm.



University graduate Jessie Morgan has always been labelled artistic despite finding most traditional art forms challenging. Luckily, Jessie found a creative outlet in photography. "Finding the camera was a huge moment in discovering my medium and personal identity," Jessie reflects. "My passion for photography provided me with access to new worlds and a new way of communicating." Jessie has a broad knowledge and experience of a variety of photographic genres



- from documentary photography to portraiture to shooting commercial - with some recent work from November 2020 being based on mental health. The photos entitled "Tiger Stripes" is a small series of photos shot in the bathtub that is meant to reflect Jessie's own personal mental health. "Tiger stripes has been something I had been working to conceptualise for a long time, but lacked

the maturity in my visual language to properly convey it." Named after something a boyfriend said in secondary school regarding self-harm scars, Jessie plans to pursue and develop this photo project over 2021. "Self-harm has been the main consistent aspect of my life for the past 12 years and I wanted to, not romanticise, but illustrate the effect that has had."

Jessie believes it's important to be open about mental health, saying that other people will feel safe to share their own experiences if we talk about our experiences. In Jessie's family, poor mental health was seen as shameful which only led to a feeling of being unable to find help. Unfortunately, this is the case for a lot of other people, too, with the majority of people suffering from mental health problems waiting over a year before telling their closest family and friends.

The lack of conversation revolving around mental health also led to 60% of people with poor mental health reporting that the stigma surrounding the topic affected their relationships and 90% of people experiencing stigma.

"If photography and art can open conversations about subjects that sometimes we aren't able to use words to convey, then we are doing something right."

Jessie posted the Tiger Stripe photos on Instagram in November after having already graduated from Kingston School of Art with a BA in Photography.



Photos used are from Jessie Morgan's Portrait collection.

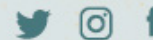


Mental Health
Foundation



#ConnectWithNature

#MentalHealthAwarenessWeek

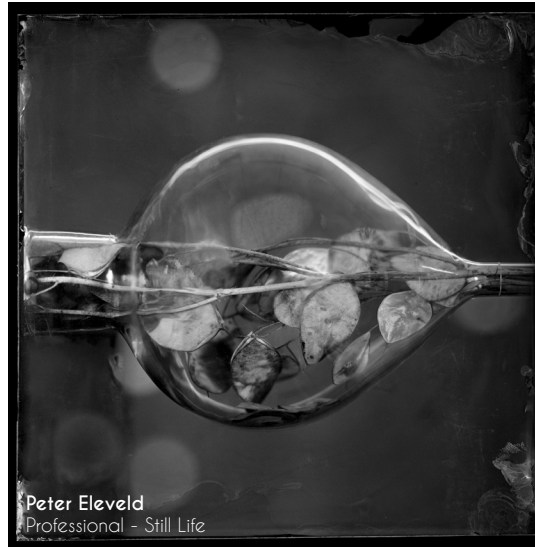


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Winning Photos: Sony World Photography Awards 2021

Early on April 15, the overall winners of the Sony World Photography Awards 2021 were announced via a YouTube livestream. The livestream, that started at 7am BST (British Summer Time), announced the ten Professional category winners alongside second and third runner ups as well as Open, Student, and Youth competition overall winners. Host of the virtual award ceremony, Konnie Huq, said: "This is one of the most important

photography awards, bringing together photographers across the globe." For the professional competition, there were ten categories and ten overall winners that received Sony's digital imaging kit. The photographers for each category were challenged to submit five to ten images that tell a story relating to their chosen category. Congratulations to all of the winners, runner ups, and shortlisted photographers!



For the professional competition, there were ten categories and ten overall winners that received Sony's digital imaging kit.

The photographers for each category were challenged to submit five to ten images that tell a story relating to their chosen category.



Craig Easton
Professional - Portraiture



Mark Hamilton Gruchy
Professional - Creative



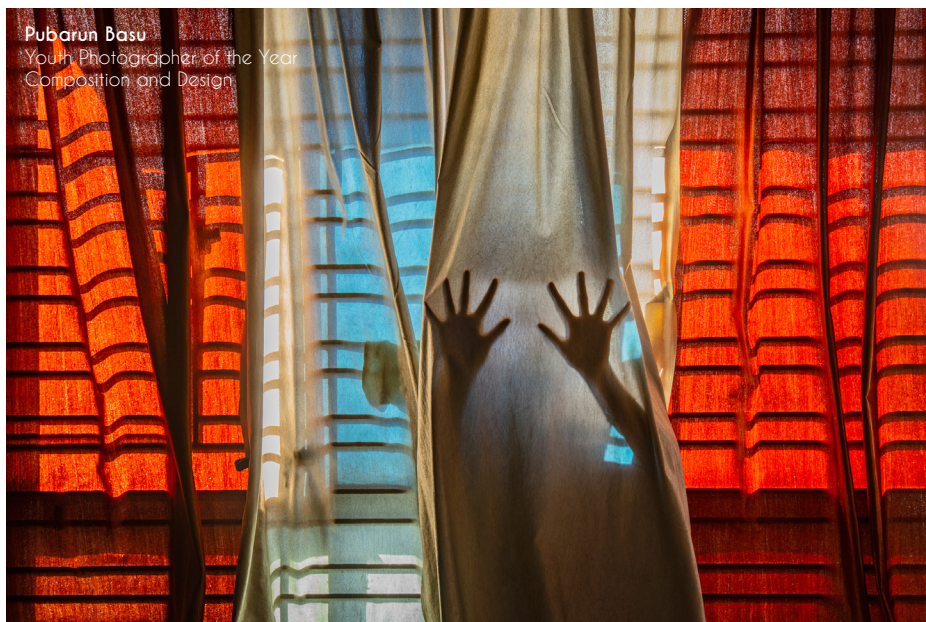
Vito Fusco
Professional - Documentary



Anas Alkharboutli
Professional - Sports



Luis Tafo
Professional - Wildlife and Nature



Pubarun Basu
Youth Photographer of the Year
Composition and Design

The youth competition, open to 12-19 year olds had six category winners, with 19 year old Pubarun Basu winning the overall Youth Photographer of the Year award for

his image entitled "No Escape From Reality". In the virtual ceremony, Pubarun said: "I am incredibly humbled to have been announced as the Youth Photographer

of the Year. Participating in this competition has given me a fresh perspective on my art. I take immense pride in the fact my generation has such brilliant minds."



Coenraad Heinz Torlage
Student Photographer of the Year

South African student, Coenraad Heinz Torlage was awarded the Student Photographer of the Year 2021 award and €30,000 worth of Sony photography equipment for his school (Stellenbosch Academy of Design and Photography). Coenraad's series, titled 'Young Farmers', depicted the next generation of farmers and the challenges they face with severe froights, safety, and land ownership alongside their contributions to a sustainable future. In his acceptance speech, Coenraad said: "I have been through an experience that is almost impossible to describe. I



often dreamt of winning and prayed that I could share my country and the amazing people in it with the world. I believe in the young farmers of South Africa which this country needs in terms of food sustainability and ecological awareness. Winning is a dream

made possible by the amazing people that I photographed and everyone who helped and supported me. I believe in hard work, family and most of all the grace of God. I am truly humbled that my images could even be considered for such a prestigious competition."

From ten category winners, Tamary Kudita from Zimbabwe was awarded the Open Photographer of the Year award for her powerful portrait "African Victorian", which was submitted in the Creative category. Along with the prestigious award, Tamary will also be awarded \$5,000 (USD) as a cash prize, Sony's digital imaging equipment, and global exposure. In her speech, Tamary said: "African Victorian pays tribute to the contemporary being who is also rooted in history. I am deeply honoured to have been chosen as the winner of the Open competition. This award is a testament to the role we play as creators in shaping visual culture. A central notion in my work is the importance of African representation and I am thankful to have received the opportunity to put Zimbabwean art on the map."



Tamary Kudita
Open Photographer of the Year

British Photography Awards Virtual Gala

In the evening of March 31, the British Photography Awards held their award ceremony via a YouTube livestream. The awards ceremony was

presented in a free-to-view format for the very first time on YouTube. The livestream showed viewers all the category shortlist photos and

People's Choice winners before showing the overall winner of each category. The British Photography Awards used to

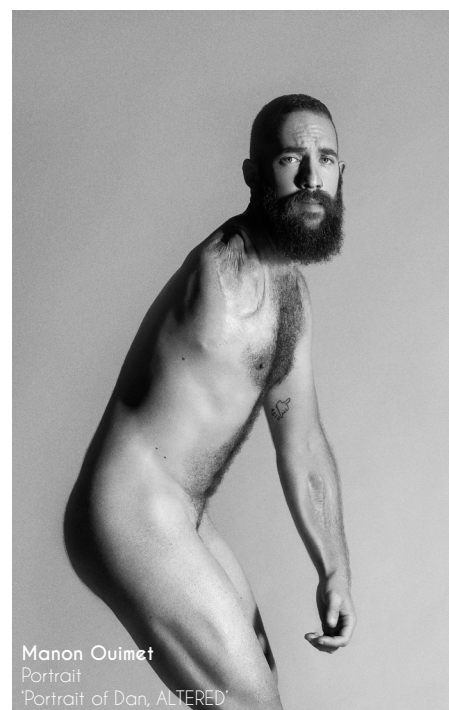
competition to raise funds for 20 UK charities including Born Free, Breast Cancer Haven, and Rainforest Concern. Director of The British Photography Awards, Hugo Donnithorne-Tait, said: "With so many people unsure of their income, job security, and short on opportunities to photograph this year, the industry has had some very tough months. We still can't believe so many people donated to charity during this period. "On behalf of all our amazing charities, we thank you all so much!" The competition raised over £20,000 to be spread across their charities, matching last year's fundraising level.



George McLeod
Fashion
'Cubano'



Tim Hearn
Birdlife
'Gentoo Penguin Porpoising'



Manon Ouimet
Portrait
'Portrait of Dan, ALTERED'



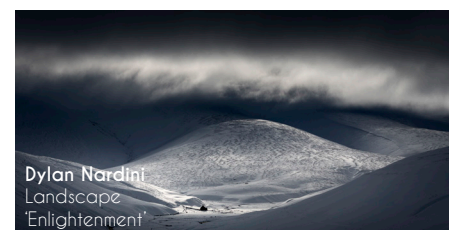
Jack Atkinson
Sports
'Running on Clouds'



Guy Bellingham
Self Portrait
'Self Portrait'



Chris Mozyro
Documentary
'Opponents'



Dylan Nardini
Landscape
'Enlightenment'



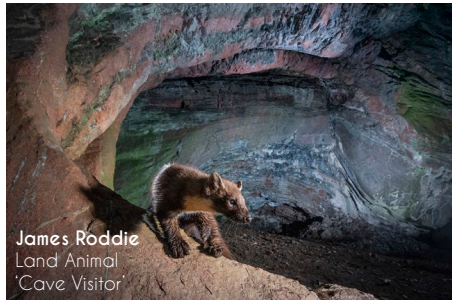
Tim Wallace
Commercial
'McLaren MSO Sports Series 570s'



Debbie Smyth
Architecture
'Fun cubed'



Monika Mazurkiewicz
Event
'Flypost'



James Roddie
Land Animal
'Cave Visitor'



Christopher Dixie
Street
'A Sustainable Future'



Jamie House
Food
'Orange'



Reinold Ayree
Drone
'Go'



Michael Gallagher
Water Life
'Gimme Shelter'



Ray Sawyer
Wedding
'Chiaroscuro'



Fabio De Paola
Pet
'Something for the Weekend'



Arun Mohanraj
Macro
'Amazonian Glass Frog'



Natasha Pszenicki
Fine Art
'White Privilege'

JULY SNEAK PEAK

June is Zoo and Aquarium month, and July Wildlife Awareness Month so we're celebrating all things animal from International Tiger Day to World Oceans Day!



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By Jade Burrell