



GOMMA PHOTOGRAPHY GRANT 2022

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GOMMA GRANT 2022 WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

We present the winners of the 9th Gomma Photography Grant

FIRST PRIZE

Simon Murphy with Govanhill



This captivating body of work impressed the whole jury, as it very intimately, yet artistically captures the essence of a multicultural area of Glasgow and its residents: Govanhill.

The ongoing project shows the trust and bond a photographer and his “models” must form to create moving and expressive pictures. Black and white portraits are a sensitive subject to capture without it looking staged or over the top and Simon managed to execute it brilliantly; the lives and struggles of Govanhill's people have stories to tell and these photographs introduce them in a beautiful and timeless way.





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'Govanhill has gained a bad reputation over the years but much of this can be attributed to fear and lack of understanding of different cultures.'

Images by © Simon Murphy





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SECOND PRIZE

Uta Genilke with Rauhnacht



This work skillfully unites the struggles of a frost biting winter and the inner turmoil of a depressed mind. Bold jet abstract pictures paint a feeling of the overwhelming harshness of living, the struggle and the fight while simultaneously give the mind space to breathe in vast landscapes of snow. To unite the two in mixed black and white and color pictures and to transport this choking feeling of being thrown into life deserves to be awarded.



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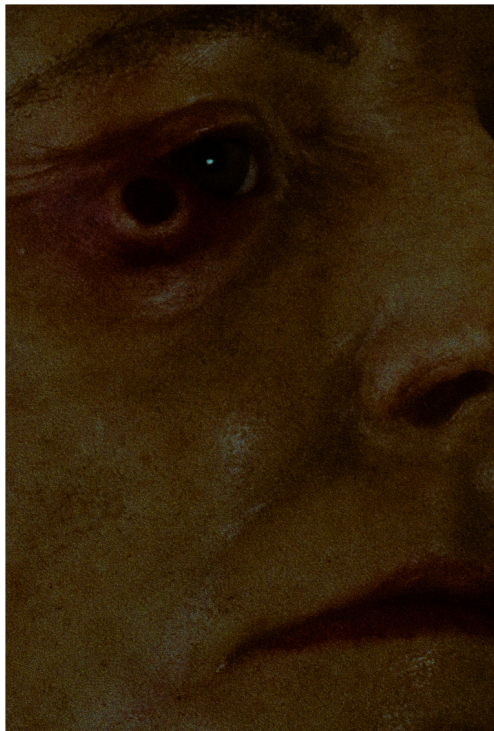
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SECOND PRIZE

Uta Genilke with *Rauhnacht*



Images by © Uta Genilke

*'It was after the
death of my lover. I
lay in bed for half a
year, could hardly
get up...'*





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THIRD PRIZE Andrea Graziosi with Animas



A strange and ancient power gets unleashed behind our masks, whether we put on a costume or take off the one we wear everyday is unclear. This work explores the hidden urges that humanity suppresses until freed in occult choreographs, the rawness and animal-like core of us, that lays dormant while we wear suits and ties.



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HONORABLE MENTIONS

Valeria Arendar and Oskar Alvarado



Image by © Valeria Arendar



Images by © Oskar Alvarado





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DOCUMENTARY AWARD **Louie Palu with Distant Early Warning**



Truly perfectly captured images of one of earth last frontiers being dismantled. The bright and vivid colors in contrast with their content instantly make a strong and lasting impression. This subject, often under-represented due to more pressing global issues is as fascinating as it is important and the artistry and skill applied to this work elevate it above a simple documentation; a one of a kind treasure.





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BLACK & WHITE AWARD

Ingebord Everaerd with Life of steen



The soul, yearning to be free, against all odds and struggles – only to be confined by the limitations of an ageing body... This story unrolls in bold and strikingly humble pictures the story of a nomad who's wings are cut by circumstance, yet his will remains defiant. An intimate and sincere portrait with insight to the fragile core of an independent soul in beautiful honesty with the woman who portraits his final bloom.





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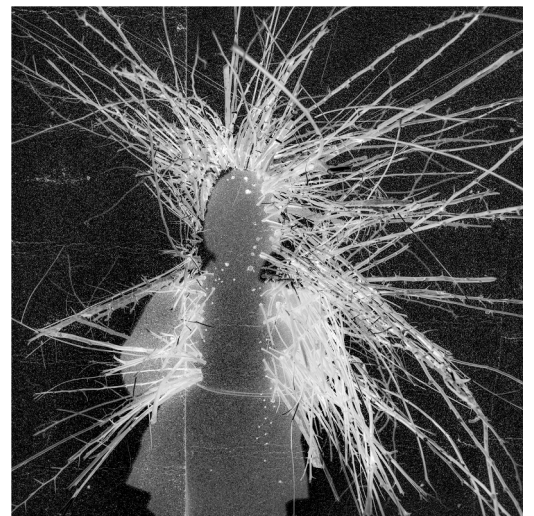
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GOMMA GRANT 2022 GOMMA NEW FLAVOUR AWARD

THE GNF AWARD IS GIVEN TO PHOTOGRAPHERS THAT WE FEEL ENCAPSULATE THE SPIRIT OF GOMMA: BOLD, FREE OF CONVENTIONS AND UNAPOLOGETICALLY DIFFERENT, CONVINING WITH QUALITY, OUT-OF-THE-BOX WORK THAT EXPLORES NEW TAKES ON HUMANITIES ENDEAVOURS.

Main Winner: **Andrés Mario de Varona with Trials**



What power does the human mind wield over its temporary vessels? This work manifests the invisible strings that bind the corsets of our interactions in an immanently comprehensive way. The strange compositions convey a deeply humbling, delicate truth about being human. Beautifully gruff and with harsh contrasts the pictures manage to poignantly distinct the complicated entanglements of human interactions in powerful and bold monochrome.





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Images by © Andrés Mario de Varona





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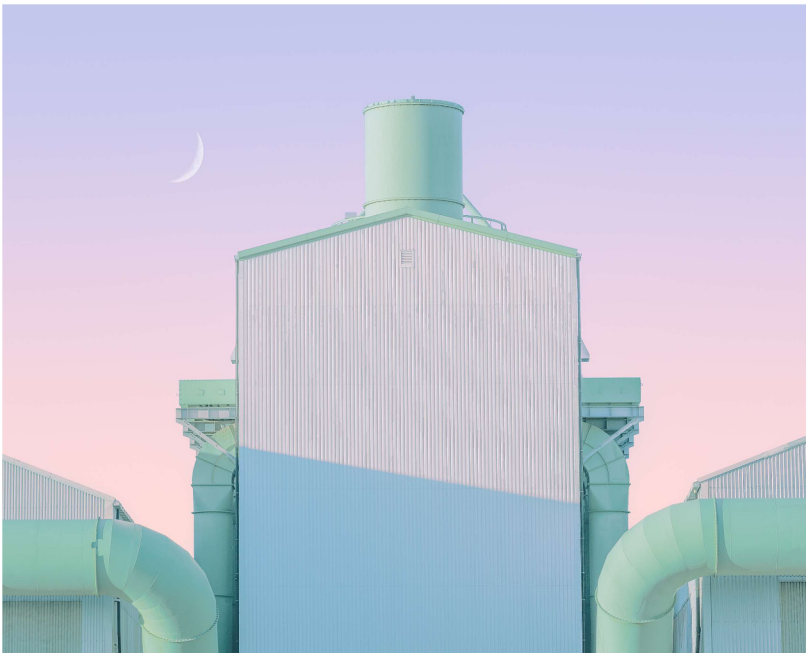
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Runner Up Serena Dzenis with Utopia Broadcasting



This work instantly struck a chord with us as it is as unique as it is expertly executed. The geometry of man-made structures, fragile, almost two dimensional, immersed in pastel lights become artificial looking paintings, trick the mind with perspective, size and blur the line between reality and fantasy. The calming surreality encapsulates the alien nature of human accomplishments on this merely borrowed planet.

