



AFO FOTOGRAFIEKLUB

Proudly presents:

12th NATIONAL AFO SALON 2024
PDI



PSSA Patronage # B 2024/18
Presentation Medium: Projected Digital Images (PDI)

AFO FOTOGRAFIEKLUB invites all members of the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA) world wide and all photographers resident in South Africa to participate in their National Digital Salon of Photography.

The Salon will be conducted within the requirements and practices as prescribed by PSSA.

SALON DIRECTOR

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SALON CALENDAR:

Closing Date: 10 Feb 2024 at 23h59

Judging completed by: 25 Feb 2024

Results mailed by: 14 Mar 2024

Posting of Digital Catalogue by: 16 May 2024

Final Posting of Awards: 19 May 2024

A digital catalogue containing the salon acceptances and awards will be distributed via Dropbox or Google Drive to all entrants at no additional cost.

AWARDS:

The following awards will be presented in each of the Projected Images sections:

- PSSA Silver Medal for the overall winner in each category.
- Club Silver Medal for the runner-up in each category.
- Club Bronze Medal for the best Afo Fotografieklub entry in each category.
- Certificates of Merit will be awarded according to PSSA guidelines.

CATEGORIES:

- Category 1: NATURE NO BIRDS - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour
- Category 2: NATURE BIRDS ONLY - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour
- Category 3: MACRO - Manipulation is allowed - Colour
- Category 4: SCAPES - Manipulation is allowed - Colour
- Category 5: OPEN COLOUR - Manipulation is allowed
- Category 6: OPEN MONOCHROME - Manipulation is allowed

ADJUDICATION PANEL:

1. **NATURE NO BIRDS - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour**
Judge 1: Johan Mader - FPSSA AFO
Judge 2: Koos Marais - LPSSA AFO
Judge 3: Arthur Ahrens AFO
Judging to take place on 17 Feb 08h30 at NG Kerk Elarduspark, Pretoria

2. **NATURE BIRDS ONLY - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour**
Judge 1: Francois Venter - APSSA(Vers), EPSSA(Mille), NPC
DPSSA(Vers), EFIAP
Judge 2: Gb Jordaan - FPSSA AFO
Judge 3: Ona Ackermann - LPSSA AFO
Judging to take place on 17 Feb 2024 14h00 at NG Kerk Elarduspark, Pretoria

3. **MACRO - Manipulation is allowed - Colour**
Judge 1: Dirk Heyns - FPSSA, APSSA(Vers), EPSSA AFO
DPSSA(Vers), AFIAP
Judge 2: Anoet du Plessis - LPSSA AFO
Judge 3: Neels Jackson - FPSSA APSSA(Vers) DPSSA AFO
Judging to take place on 17 Feb 2024 14h00 at NG Kerk Elarduspark, Pretoria

4. **SCAPES - Manipulation is allowed - Colour**
Judge 1: Hannes van den Berg - LPSSA DPSSA AFO
Judge 2: Henning de Beer - FPSSA AFO
Judge 3: Dolf Steyn AFO
Judging to take place on 17 Feb 2024 08h30 at NG Kerk Elarduspark, Pretoria

5. **OPEN COLOUR - Manipulation is allowed**
Judge 1: Johan Stephens - LPSSA AFO
Judge 2: Elzabe Bogenhofer - LPSSA AFO
Judge 3: Antoinette Oelofsen AFO
Judging to take place on 16 Feb 2024 18h30 at NG Kerk Elarduspark, Pretoria

6. **OPEN MONOCHROME - Manipulation is allowed**
Judge 1: Dirk Heyns - FPSSA, APSSA(Vers), EPSSA, AFO
DPSSA(Vers), AFIAP
Judge 2: Christiaan Kotze - FPSSA AFO
Judge 3: Ryno Eksteen AFO
Judging to take place on 16 Feb 2024 18h30 at NG Kerk Elarduspark, Pretoria

JUDGING:

- Presented images will be adjudicated "Live" via "Live Judging".
- Various categories have been allocated to groups of judges who will judge the allocated category "live" at venues as indicated above under categories.
- Each photo will be judged by 3 judges. The sum of the 3 scores will represent the final score.
- Where 2 or more adjudicators are of the opinion that an image does not conform to the definition of the entered category, the image will be rejected. In the case where 1 adjudicator is of the opinion that an image does not conform to the definition of a specific category, the average point of the remaining 2 adjudicators will represent his final score.
- Where there is indecision with regards to disqualification it must be referred to the Salon Committee who will take a decision after investigation.
- Any image that the Salon Director considers pornographic or offensive to the public may, on consultation with the judges, be disqualified.

DEFINITIONS:

MANIPULATION

Manipulation shall constitute any or all of the following modifications to the original image:

- Adding an element to the image that was not contained in the original capture;
- Removing an element from the image that was contained in the original capture;
- Moving or repositioning an element of the image that was contained in the original scene.

In the categories Nature / Wildlife and Photojournalism, manipulation is not allowed.

In Open there are no restrictions whatsoever in the way authors choose to post process an image.

The following actions are allowed and are not seen as manipulation:

- Cropping;
- Correction of lens distortion, chromatic aberrations, purple fringing, lens vignette and vertical / horizontal perspective adjustments;
- Flipping an image horizontal or rotate;
- Removal of dust spots or scratch marks from sensor or scanned images;
- The blending of different exposures of the same scene to broaden the dynamic range e.g. High Dynamic Range (HDR);
- Photo stacking to overcome the limitations of the digital sensor heat artefacts in long exposures;
- Focus stacking to widen the depth of field especially in Macro photography.

In the case of Nature and Wildlife HDR and focus stacking will not be considered as manipulation and may be used provided that the end result is a faithful representation of the original scene. HDR and Focus Stacking are not allowed in Photojournalism.

MONOCHROME

Monochrome is a black and white image. A black and white work fitting from the very dark grey (black) to the very clear grey (white) is a monochrome work with various shades of grey.

A black and white work toned entirely in a single colour will remain a monochrome work able to stand in the black and white category.

A black and white work modified by a partial toning or by the addition of one colour becomes a colour work (polychrome) to stand in the colour category.

1. Category 1: NATURE NO BIRDS - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour

Nature includes all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology. Nature images include landscapes, geologic formations & weather phenomena and includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions. Photographs of artificially created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, farm animals or mounted specimens are ineligible. No birds may be entered here. Human elements, if present should not detract from or overpower the subject. If birds are present the birds must be the secondary feature.

2. Category 2: NATURE BIRDS ONLY - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour

Nature images of Birds - subjects may be in controlled conditions. Photographs of feral/domestic/farm birds or mounted specimens are ineligible. Human elements, if present should not detract from or overpower the subject. If other animals are present the bird/s must be the main feature.

3. Category 3: MACRO - Manipulation is allowed - Colour

Macro photography is extreme close-up photography, where you get close to a small subject by physical or optical means. The size of the subject in the finished photograph is usually greater than life size and reveals detail which cannot easily be seen with the naked eye.

4. Category 4: SCAPES - Manipulation is allowed - Colour

Scapes photography shows the spaces within the world, sometimes vast and unending, but other times microscopic, with or without people. Scape photographs typically capture the presence of nature but can also focus on man-made features or disturbances of landscapes, including sea/water and under water scapes, desert/mountain/forest and city scapes. Perhaps the most common is to recall a personal observation or experience while in the outdoors.

5. Category 5 - OPEN COLOUR - Manipulation is allowed

In this category the subject is totally open. Monochrome images will be disqualified.

6. Category 6 - OPEN MONOCHROME - Manipulation is allowed

In this category the subject is totally open. Colour images will be disqualified.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:

1. An image may only be used once in a particular salon, panel or competition, irrespective of the category or of the image being colour or monochrome. No similar images may be used. Any image found in more than one category will result in the second image being disqualified.
2. Each image must have a unique name i.e. the name of the image may not be changed at any time as all acceptance records are based on the image name. Words such as "Untitled" and "No Title" are not acceptable as part or all of the image's title, nor are titles consisting of only camera capture filenames or titles consisting of only numbers. Sanctions for re-titling will be imposed where a previously accepted image or print has been given a different title and/or where a Colour version and a monochrome version and/or a Print version and a Projected Digital Image version of the same image have been given different titles.
3. Entrants may submit up to four images in each category.
4. Images that were accepted previously by AFO FOTOGRAFIEKLUB may NOT be entered again.
5. The adjudicators will reject an image which does not conform to the definition of the entered category.
6. All the parts of each submitted image must be photographed by the author who must be in possession of the original unretouched 'capture' version(s) of the image and where applicable of all component parts of the image. The author must also hold the copyright to each submitted image and of all component parts of it. The Salon Director may request an entrant to supply him with proof of the authenticity of all the elements in the presented image(s). If the entrant cannot supply such proof, his/her entry in the salon will be disqualified.
7. Except for the restrictions on images described in the Nature, Photo Travel and Photojournalism definitions, images may be altered, either digitally or otherwise by the entrant.
8. Manipulations are prohibited in the Nature, Photo Travel and Photojournalism or in the categories as specified in the category definitions. This means that no elements of the photograph may be cloned, added or erased.
9. No title, watermark or identification of the maker shall be visible anywhere on the image.
10. Entrants must store and preserve intact, with no alteration, the metadata, the RAW file(s) or the original un-retouched JPEG file(s) for the submitted images (and those taken immediately before and after the submitted image(s) for possible future motivated inspection, with no expiry, prescription or limitation of PSSA actions. It is recommended to leave the EXIF data in the submitted files intact to ease eventual investigations. It is absolutely forbidden for any entrant or his/her agent(s), acting on the behalf of the entrant, to tamper with the EXIF or original date in the files submitted to salons / exhibitors.
11. The entrant accepts without exception and with no objection the following terms:
 - that the submitted images can be investigated by PSSA to establish if these adhere to PSSA regulations and definitions even if the entrant is not a member of PSSA,
 - that any refusal to cooperate with PSSA or any refusal to submit the original files as captured by the camera, or failure to provide sufficient evidence, may result in disqualification.
12. As of 1st January 2022, the Salon Director will always request the original RAW/JPG file(s) with the EXIF data intact from those Entrants who have been initially selected for the Medals and COM's in the "NO MANIPULATION" categories. If the Salon Director confirms that the image has not been manipulated, then the award will stand for those Entrants. If the Salon Director confirms that an image has been manipulated, then the image will be disqualified and a note recorded for the PSSA Salon Administrator of the disqualification reason. The PSSA Salon Administrator will keep a list of transgressors which will be reviewed by the PSSA Salon Committee on a regular basis. Persistent transgressors will be notified of their transgressions as well as possible embargoes imposed on the transgressor. The Salon Director and the judging team for that category will decide on the replacement images for the Medals and COMs in line with the recommended acceptance levels. Entrants will be allowed 4 days to provide the Original RAW/JPG file(s) where after the Entrant will not be eligible for Medals or COM's anymore.
13. For the purposes of our salons, panels or competitions, a photographic image is defined "as being a captured image on a light-sensitive device/surface (e.g. photogram technique, film camera, digital camera, smartphone, tablet, etc...) and recorded on paper, film or in a digital format." An artificial intelligence (AI) generated image is not deemed to be a photographic image because it was created from scratch by the AI system and contains no image captured by the entrant. Therefore, this type of image will not be accepted into our salons, panels or competitions. Use of AI features (limited to: clear, de-noise, masking, sharpening, subject selection, tone adjustments, upsizing image) contained within a post processing application are permitted in our competitions provided they comply with a competition's editing criteria and do not contain any elements which were not captured by the entrant (e.g. element, texture, sky, etc...). AI sky replacement is permitted provided that the new sky was captured by the entrant. For all images, the Salon Director may require an entrant to provide all supporting images used in creating a composite image. All components of the submitted image are their original work and does not contain the elements created or captured by someone else; and as such they hold and will retain the copyright for the image.

For example: it is okay to take inspiration from other photographers or artists. However, if the inspiration contains the same colour, composition, element(s), perspective, angle, subject, and tone of the original then the inspiration is not deemed to be the original work of the photographer. Another example – A photographer will NOT capture a screen image or photograph an image found on the internet and incorporate it in a composite image that is later submitted into a salon, panel or competition. All aspects of the post-processing for their submitted image were undertaken by themselves with the exception of scanning of their negatives and printing of the image.

14. The exhibition assumes no liability for any misuse of copyright by the entrant.
15. No judge may enter categories in which he or she is judging.
16. If a judge entered any section in which he / she acts as a judge, the images must be removed or disqualified.
17. Family members (spouse, partner, parents and children) may enter categories in which a family member is judging but they may not win any of the medal awards (winner or runner-up).
18. If the Host Club's members judge in their own salon, no member of the host club may be considered for any of the top awards (winner and runner-up medals), except for certificates of merit and/or special club awards for the categories judged by the host club.
19. No member of the judging club may be considered for any of the top awards (winner and runner-up medals), except for certificates of merit and/or special club awards for the categories judged by the judging club.
20. A club is considered a judging club if it dominates the composition of the judging panel of the category involved.
21. The Salon Director may not serve as a judge for the salon. Any other person who, prior to or during the judging, is involved with processing the images or has access to the images may NOT serve as a judge for the salon. When it is unavoidable that the Salon Director judges a category, another person must be appointed as the Salon Administrator to download and prepare all the images and scoresheets for judging.
22. Members are also reminded that the medal awards (winner and runner-up) may not be won by the host / judging club's members.
23. An entrant's images will not be presented to the judges consecutively but distributed randomly in each category.
24. No late entries will be accepted.
25. **DATA PROTECTION:**
By entering this exhibition, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including email addresses, being held, processed and used by the exhibition organisers for purposes associated with this exhibition. You also explicitly consent to such information being sent to organisations that have accorded official recognition, patronage or accreditation to this exhibition. You acknowledge and accept that entering this exhibition means that the status and results of your entry may be made public.
26. **BREACH OF CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:**
If the exhibition determines before, during, or after the judging that an entrant has submitted entries where one or more images fail to comply with these Conditions of Entry, including the stated definitions, the exhibition reserves the right and discretion to delete the entry from the exhibition and void any or all acceptances or awards. Fees will be forfeited in these circumstances. To ensure that images comply with the Conditions of Entry and definitions, the exhibition may carry out checks on the images to make sure that:
 - the images are the original work of the entrant, and
 - the images comply with the rules and definitions as set out in these Conditions of Entry.This may involve asking the entrant to provide originally captured image(s), with EXIF data intact, by a set deadline. The questioned image(s) of any entrant failing to comply with such a request for the original image(s) may be considered in breach of these Conditions of Entry, and be declined. Such entries may be referred to PSSA for further investigation of possible ethics violations. PSSA retains the right to investigate in any way all complaints/suspensions of breaches of entry conditions, impose sanctions if deemed necessary, include the entrant's name on the list of sanctions provided to Exhibitions, and share such investigations with FIAP and PSA. Entrants automatically agree to these.
27. You are entitled to appeal against a disqualification within 14 days after receipt of your results. Appeals must be sent to the Salon Administrator at admin@pssa.co.za.
28. **Submission of entries signifies acceptance of these conditions of entry.**

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES:

Entries must be submitted online to www.photovaultonline.com

- A maximum of four images may be entered in each category;
- JPEG file format;
- File size may not exceed 2MB;
- Images must be resized to a maximum of 1920 pixels on the horizontal axis OR a maximum of 1080 pixels on the vertical axis;
- It is recommended that the image is converted to the sRGB colour profile to ensure correct colour rendition during display and adjudication;
- Borders are optional, but within the size restraints as described.
- No title, watermark or identification of the maker of the image shall be visible anywhere on the image;
- An acknowledgement of receipt of such an entry will be sent to the entrant automatically via Photovault Online once the entrant has finalised his/her entry on Photovault Online. If no entry confirmation is received within three working days, the entrant should contact the salon director.

FEES:

The entry fee will be R8.50 per image for PSSA members and R13.50 per image for non-PSSA members for each category entered.

Only electronic payments via EFT will be accepted.

No CASH or CHEQUE deposits will be accepted.

BANKING DETAILS:

Account Name: AFO Fotografiekklub
Bank Name: ABSA
Branch Code: 630345
Account Type: Current
Account Number: 10176727

Please use the word "Salon" and your name and surname as reference. (Example: "Salon Jack Black") when doing the EFT payment.

Proof of Payment (POP) must accompany your entry in PDF format and attached in the Photovault Online entry. Entries received with insufficient fees or without the POP will be rejected.

AFO FOTOGRAFIEKLUB THANKS YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND WE WISH YOU ALL THE SUCCESS WITH YOUR ENTRIES!!