



Photographic Society of South Africa

Proudly presents:

9TH PSSA NATIONAL SALON PDI 2025 PDI

PSSA Patronage # B 2025/19
Presentation Medium: Projected Digital Images (PDI)

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA 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 TREASURER

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SALON CALENDAR:

Closing Date: 08 March 2025 at 23h59

Judging completed by: 25 March 2025

Results mailed by: 06 April 2025

Posting of Digital Catalogue by: 09 May 2025

Final Posting of Awards: 24 April 2025

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.
- PSSA Bronze Medal for the runner-up in each category.
- Certificates of Merit will be awarded according to PSSA guidelines.

CATEGORIES:

- Category 1: OPEN COLOUR - Manipulation is allowed
- Category 2: OPEN MONOCHROME - Manipulation is allowed
- Category 3: NATURE - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour
- Category 4: HUMAN PORTRAITS - Manipulation is allowed - Monochrome
- Category 5: OUR COUNTRY - Manipulation is allowed - Colour
- Category 6: VISUAL ART - Manipulation is allowed - Colour

ADJUDICATION PANEL:

1. **OPEN COLOUR - Manipulation is allowed**
Judge 1: Kim Stevens - FPSSA, DPSSA (Vers), EFIAP CTPS
Judge 2: Jacoba van Zyl - APSSA, DPSSA CTPS
Judge 3: Lesley Parolis - LPSSA, DPSSA CTPS
Judging to take place on 14 – 24 March 2025 at SASNEV Hall, Pinelands, Cape Town
2. **OPEN MONOCHROME - Manipulation is allowed**
Judge 1: Geo Jooste - FPSSA, EPSSA Bloemfontein Kameraklub
Judge 2: Charles Whitehead - APSSA Bloemfontein Kameraklub
Judge 3: Anthony Esterhuizen Bloemfontein Kameraklub
Judging to take place on 14 – 24 March 2025 at Naval Hill, Plantarium, Bloemfontein
3. **NATURE - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour**
Judge 1: Kathy Kay - FPSSA, EPSS (Mille) HCPS
Judge 2: Henry Oppel - APSSA, DPSSA HCPS
Judge 3: Narissa Naidoo - APSSA, DPSSA (Vers) HCPS
Judging to take place on 14 – 24 March 2025 at St Michael Sands Hotel,, St Michaels on Sea
4. **HUMAN PORTRAITS - Manipulation is allowed - Monochrome**
Judge 1: Francois Venter - APSSA (Vers), EPSSA (Mille), DPSSA National Photographic Club (Vers), EFIAP
Judge 2: Corine Ross - APSSA (Vers), EPSSA Krugersdorp Camera Club
Judge 3: Kittie Groenwald Camera Club of Johannesburg
Judging to take place on 14 – 24 March 2025 at Elarduspark, Pretoria, Pretoria
5. **OUR COUNTRY - Manipulation is allowed - Colour**
Judge 1: Cathy Birkett Knysna Camera Club
Judge 2: Carol Phillips - APSSA, DPSSA Knysna Camera Club
Judge 3: Peter Oosthuizen - LPSSA Knysna Camera Club
Judging to take place on 14 – 24 March 2025 at Oakhill School, Uitsig Street, Knysna
6. **VISUAL ART - Manipulation is allowed - Colour**
Judge 1: Jill Sneesby - Hon MPSSA, MPSSA, FPSSA (Dux), AV- PECC
FPSSA, MFIAP, ESFIAP, FPSSA
Judge 2: Adri van Oudheusden - AV-FPSSA, APSSA Vvers), PECC
EPSSA, AV-AFIAP
Judge 3: Robert Heffer - FPSSA PECC
Judging to take place on 14 – 24 March 2025 at 1Dormy Place, Port Elizabeth

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.
- Disqualifications must be referred to the PSSA Salon Committee who will verify and approve the disqualifications 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

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible, except that conversion to grayscale monochrome is allowed.

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 scene;
- Removing an element from the image that was contained in the original scene, whether done via cloning, darkening, lightening, blurring or any other photo editing technique except for cropping and straightening;
- Blurring parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene;
- Adding a vignette during processing;
- Darkening or lightening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene;
- 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, straightening and vertical/horizontal perspective correction;
- Correction of lens distortion, chromatic aberrations, purple fringing and lens vignette;
- Flipping an image horizontal or rotate;
- Removal of dust spots or scratch marks from sensor or scanned images;
- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene;
- 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;
- Complete conversion of color images to grayscale monochrome.

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. Study the rules for each event as they will be unique.

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 - OPEN COLOUR - Manipulation is allowed

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

2. Category 2 - OPEN MONOCHROME - Manipulation is allowed

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

3. Category 3: NATURE - Manipulation is not allowed - Colour

Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans. Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed. The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected, and the image must look natural. Adding a vignette or blurring the background during processing is not allowed. Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story. Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domesticated animals, human-created hybrid animals and mounted or preserved zoological specimens are not allowed. Images taken with subjects under controlled conditions, such as zoos, are allowed. Controlling live subjects by chilling, anaesthetic or any other method of restricting natural movement for the purpose of a photograph is not allowed. No modification that changes the truth of a Nature image is allowed. Images may be cropped but no other technique that removes, adds or moves any part of the image is allowed. Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise and lens flare are allowed. Complete conversion of colour images to greyscale monochrome is allowed. Partial conversion, toning and infrared captures or conversions are not allowed. Images of the same subject that are combined in camera, or with software, by focus stacking or exposure blending are allowed. Multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively and combined in camera or with software (image stitching) are allowed.

4. Category 4: HUMAN PORTRAITS - Manipulation is allowed - Monochrome

A likeness, personality and mood of a living human where the subject is dominant in the image. Portraiture is not restricted to head and shoulders and may include just a part of the face, a back view or even a full length study.

5. Category 5: OUR COUNTRY - Manipulation is allowed - Colour

Any image that represents or depicts any aspect of the country, South Africa.

6. Category 6: VISUAL ART - Manipulation is allowed - Colour

Images that go beyond the straightforward pictorial rendering of a scene. The image does not have to employ derivative or manipulative techniques to be Creative or Visual Art.

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. e version of the same image have been given different titles.
3. Entrants may submit up to four images in each PDI category and six in each print category of a national salon.
4. Images that were accepted previously in a National Salon by the PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA may NOT be entered again into their National Salon, but may be entered into an International Salon hosted by PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA. The same will apply
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/her 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, Street, Sport and Photojournalism definitions, images may be altered, either digitally or otherwise by the entrant.
8. Manipulations are prohibited in the Nature, Photo Travel, Street, Sport 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. 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 PSSA Salon Committee confirms that the image has not been manipulated, then the award will stand for those Entrants. If the PSSA Salon Committee 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 MUST their original work and MAY 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 MAY 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 must have been undertaken by the entrant with the exception of scanning of their negatives and printing of the image. The entrant may not copy any part of someone elses image and/or artwork by any means including tracing, sketching etc.

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, siblings 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.
22. An entrant's images will not be presented to the judges consecutively but distributed randomly in each category.
23. No late entries will be accepted.
24. Proof of Payment (POP) MUST accompany your entry in PDF format and be attached on the PhotoVault Online Entry. Entries received with insufficient fees or without Proof of Payment (POP) will be rejected.
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 salon is free to participate for all paid-up PSSA members. Cost for Non PSSA members is R14.00 per image for each category entered.

Only electronic payments via EFT will be accepted.

No CASH or CHEQUE deposits will be accepted.

BANKING DETAILS:

Account Name:	Photographic Society of South Africa
Bank Name:	ABSA
Branch Code:	632005
Account Type:	Current Account
Account Number:	4052639245

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.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA THANKS YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION
AND WE WISH YOU ALL THE SUCCESS WITH YOUR ENTRIES!!**