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EXT

EXT | Photo magazine #7

Photographers' Profiles - Travels - Photo Sessions

Marina Shizova
PHOTOGRAPHER

EXT - Photo Magazine

Cover image: Marina Shipova

EXT - Photographic Magazine - #7 / 2020

www.pluhma.com/photos_ext

www.extphotomagazine.com.br

Editor, cover, design,
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Editor's Letter

The photographers participating in this issue are invited top photographers from around the world. They are winners in photographic challenges and contests due to their unique talents.

Special thanks to guest columnists Andy Fowlie and Flávio Souza Cruz.

We are also very proud to have photographer Marina Shipova as a guest in this edition.

We present the winning photos of International Photo Nature contest 2020, a Brazilian international contest, coordinated by Paulo Guerra.

Finally, we show the winning photos from the weekly challenges of the Visual Story Tellers Group, coordinated by the presented Farhan Hayder.

Enjoy the issue.

Marco Antonio Perna



A Rendezvous in Amsterdam

ANDY FOWLIE

www.andyfowlie.com/destinations-unknown/a-rendezvous-in-amsterdam

This trip was to a little bit of a different destination, a family city break in Amsterdam, meeting with my mother “half-way” between Finland and Scotland. The trip’s primary purpose was not photography... but of course I had my camera with me and I was interested to see what would catch my eye in this historic city. We stayed in the museum district of the city, near to the Rijksmuseum.

Photo 1 - The Rijksmuseum, while the city sleeps

Large cities give many opportunities for different kinds of photography. For some photographers the people inhabiting the city and their daily interactions with each other can provide an endless source of interest. For others the buildings and monuments of the city, built over many generations, in a myriad of styles, in various states of repair, provide a fascinating landscape. The massive concentration of activity and enterprise in a small area means that there is always something going on, and there are often interesting little details to be found in innocent looking corners. In many other forms of photography the onset of darkness provides some limitations, but in city photography the fluorescent world that emerges after dark brings a new set of opportunities.

Photo 2 - Anyone for hop-scotch? A random street detail on a rainy afternoon.

Having spent most of the last few months searching for the peaceful beauty of nature, in the mountains or on remote islands, it was something of a culture shock to be in this frantic city, swarming with people. Navigating the city as a pedestrian is a challenge in itself. The sheer amount of pedestrians is one difficulty but the bigger challenges are caused by the amazing amount of bicycle traffic flying towards you from all directions at all times. There are probably some very sensible rules for who goes and when... but they are not immediately obvious to a visitor. In order to survive even a short walk on the city streets you need to have great spacial awareness and rapidly adjust to situations as they emerge, perhaps it is not surprising that this city was the birthplace of “total football”.

Photo 3 - bicycle

Photo 4 - no bicycle

In attempt to avoid the crowds and to have a more peaceful atmosphere for photography I chose mainly to shoot late at night and early in the morning... the latter being by far the more peaceful option.

Photos: *Andy Fowlie*



1 - The Rijksmuseum, while the city sleeps

Photo: *Andy Fowlie*

About

<https://gurushots.com/andyfowlie/achievements>
www.facebook.com/andyfowliephotography/
www.andyfowlie.com

Photo 5 - a classic night view of illuminated canal bridges

During the 4 day trip I walked along many kilometres of canals and while the scenery was always interesting to observe, I did not find many places that gave opportunities for a clean composition. In the past I have really enjoyed city photography, especially at night, but on this occasion and in this destination I had difficulties to find inspiration.

Many of the buildings, especially around the canal network, were built many generations ago, but around the edges of the historic old town a lot of new architecture can also be found. The Oeverpark area, across the water from the Centraal station, is home to the EYE film museum and the A'DAM Lookout, both of which caught my eye immediately as we first arrived to the city by train from Schipol airport. The Lookout houses a restaurant and an observation platform 20 stories above the city and is lit up in bright yellow at night while the EYE museum has an interesting design.

Photo 6 - The lookout, from the terrace restaurant of the EYE, as the sun prepares to rise.

I returned to these buildings, making use of the free ferry which runs from outside the Centraal station 24 hours a day, on a few occasions during my stay and found interest in both wider shots of the buildings and some more abstract geometrical arrangements.

Photo 7 - Amsterdam geometry

It was interesting to note how many different bird species were sharing this hugely busy city with the human population. The waterways were home to large amounts of mallards



2 - Anyone for hop-scotch? A random street detail on a rainy afternoon.



3 - bicycle



4 - no bicycle



Photo: **Andy Fowlie**

5 - a classic night view of illuminated canal bridges



6 - The lookout, from the terrace restaurant of the EYE, as the sun prepares to rise.

Photo: **Andy Fowlie**



Photo: **Andy Fowlie**

7 - Amsterdam geometry

and coots with a smaller but still noticeable population of moorhens also easily visible. Mute swans, crows, jackdaws, sparrows, magpies, grey herons, pigeons (wood pigeons and feral pigeons) and various gulls were also easy to notice. By far the most obvious bird, based on noise level rather than sheer numbers, was the ring-necked parakeet, a population of which has made a foothold in the city. Their loud screeching can be heard almost constantly in many parts of the city and it was a common occurrence to see something bright green flashing past in the corner of your eye. Another species that could be considered "non-native" in the city but which can also be found there in significant numbers is the Egyptian goose. Both of these populations have developed from birds that have escaped from captivity rather than arriving in Amsterdam by their own initiative. I suppose I am not meant to approve of the presence of these non-native species... but they both looked quite exotic to me and I was happy to see them before I found out that maybe I shouldn't have been.

Photo 8 - A ring necked parakeet.

Photo 9 - A family outing on the canal for these Egyptian Geese

A couple of years ago, at the beginning of my photography activities, I found a lot of interest in photographing flowers. This can of course be done in many places, including your own home, but it can also be very interesting to take a trip to some botanical gardens where you might find some more exotic or interesting species. The Hortus botanical gardens in Amsterdam are a great place to spend an hour or so with interesting plants both outside and in as well as a butterfly house where you can see hundreds of those beautiful and delicate fluttering insects.



8 - A ring necked parakeet.

Photo: **Andy Fowlie**

Overall, this was a good trip, and a great chance for us to spend some time with my mother in one of her favourite places.

Until next time,
Andy

Photos: **Andy Fowlie**



9 - A family outing on the canal for these Egyptian Geese



Serra Gaúcha

MARCO ANTONIO PERNA - February, 2020
www.marcoantonioperna.com.br

In February 2020 I took a photo tour to the Serra Gaúcha, accompanied by photographer Cristina Tessari, my partner and collaborator of EXT magazine. Serra Gaúcha is located in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, in Brazil. It is a mountain region known for its European climate with well-defined seasons. The vineyards and wine production are part of the attractions of the region, which also has a ballooning festival and a train ride in the “Maria-Fumaça” style, which are the old steam locomotives.

The wooden and stone houses seen along the side roads are an attraction in themselves.



Photos: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**



Photo: **Marco Antonio Perna**

Witches by Flávio Souza Cruz - Brazil



About: <https://gurushots.com/flaviosc6/achievements>

www.flaviosouzacruz.com 500px.com/flviosouzacruz

Achievements: <http://epifaniabr.blogspot.com/2018/08/gurushots-top-photographer.html>



Photos: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**



Photo: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**



Photo: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**



Photo: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**



Photo: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**



Photo: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**



Photo: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**



Photo: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**



Photo: **FLÁVIO SOUZA CRUZ**

Marina Shipova by Flavio Souza Cruz

EXT - Your images are very similar to paintings, Marina. Have you had an artistic background prior to your work with photography?

Yes. I am a classically trained artist, Classic art has always been the anchor and core of my artistic journey. My work originates from the tradition of Classic Portrait painting. Such style has been a signature of my art for some years.

EXT - How did you come into contact with the universe of photography and how did you become a photographer?

I'm an instructor at the local community college. I teach art and graphic design. Today's modern designer is a social-media conduit. The designer may be a publisher, a writer, a marketer, a filmmaker, a photographer and/or combination of all these different fields. I strongly believed that I needed to highlight a photographic path for my students as well. However photography is a relatively new and exciting territory for me where I still stumble through winding trails, always excited about each new discovery.

EXT - But how was this your first contact? What led you to buy your first professional camera?

I wanted to become a best photographer I could be. I believe in excellence and I did not wanted to be limited by my equipment.

EXT - How is your production process? Do you shoot more in the studio or outdoors?

I prefer to work with natural light if possible. I believe that great light is crucial in photography. It adds to the atmosphere and emotionality and brings life and realism to the photo. But I work in my studio as well.

EXT - you have some very creative works. Do you make a prior planning of how to make the composition of the images or is this a later editing process?

As for production process: before beginning a photoshoot, I often make notes and draw some quick pencil sketches to formulate and concretize ideas. Notes and sketches become an organizational guide for me and a visual aid to my models, helping them understand

MARINA SHIPOVA - USA

what is needed/expected from them. Notes and sketches also serve as navigation through compositional steps allowing me to optimize time and effort.

I plan the location or I stage the shot or photograph on a white/grey backdrop which allows you to add the background in Photoshop at a later time.

I will often spend several weeks in the planning stage, wandering through thrift stores, building props, creating costumes, taking notes and making sketches before finalizing the details. But process is well worth the effort because the images you create will be relevant and meaningful to you.

I love editing composites. So, sometimes I just shoot away and then worry about the where my imagination takes me.

EXT - What are your inspirations for the productions of your works? What do you want to show people with your photos?

I find my inspiration and challenges in the works of classic art. I have always admired the range of blues with the contrast of golden colors in Maxfield Parrish's creations. When it comes to "emotionality of light," I have always found my inspiration with the master Dutch painter Rembrandt van Rijn. Classic painters understood the use of light a long time before photography entered the word of art. I stage my compositions, creating the scene while merging elements of light and dark, sfumato and chiaroscuro, culminating in my classically inspired photographic style.

Digital photography is a revenue of self-expression for me. I form images to identify with hidden qualities within myself, to communicate with reality, and to translate the interpretation of the world around me into visual linguistics. My goal is to use my camera as a painting tool, to paint new uncharted worlds, as a place of self-discovery, and most importantly, the grounds for telling new (untold) stories.



About: <https://marinashipova.myportfolio.com/about-me>

Photo: **Marina Shipova**



Photo: **Marina Shipova**





Photo: **Marina Shipova**



Photo: **Marina Shipova**



Photo: **Marina Shipova**



Photo: **Marina Shipova**



Photo: **Marina Shipova**



Photo: **Marina Shipova**



Photo: **Marina Shipova**

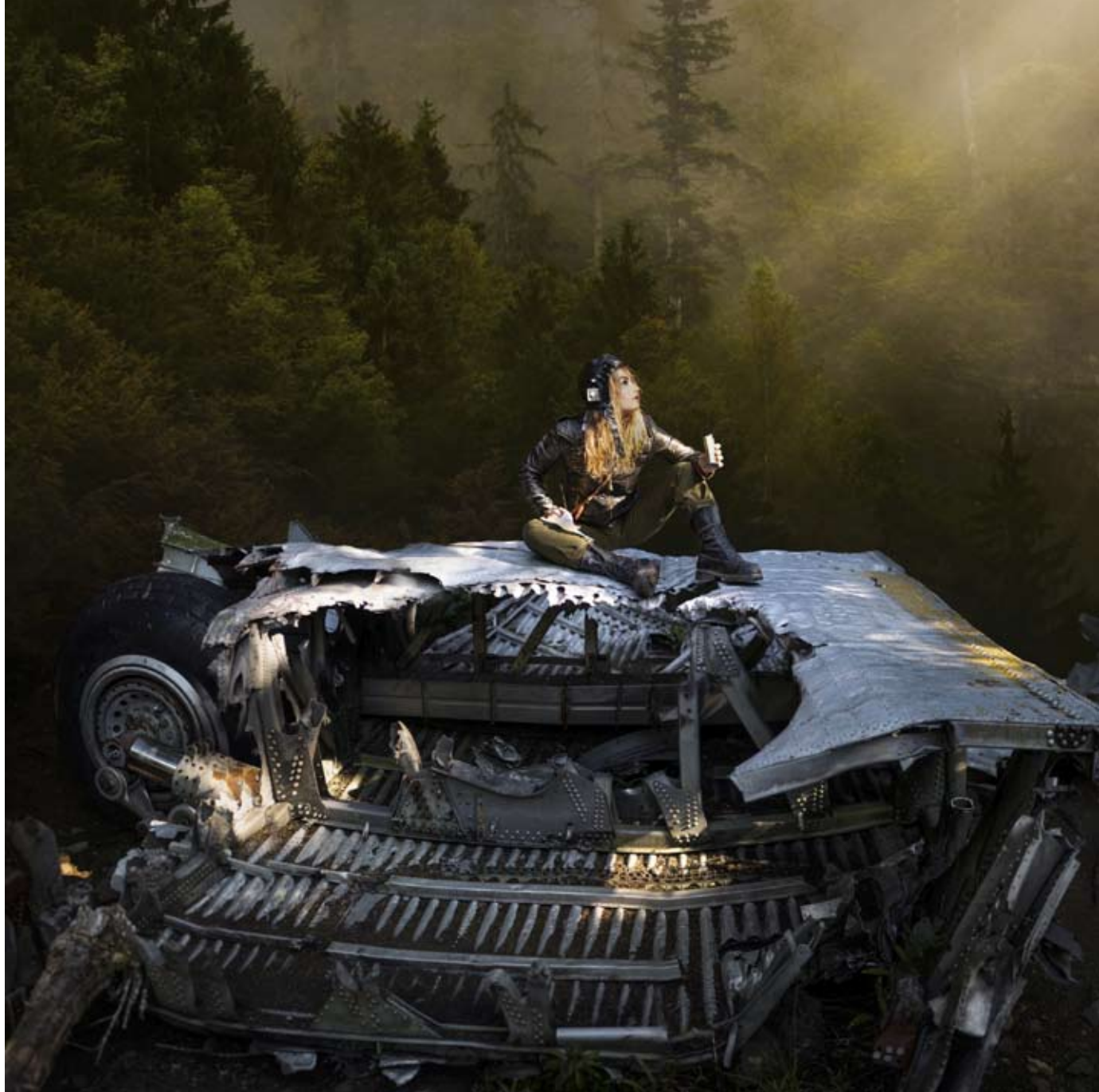


Photo: **Marina Shipova**

5th INTERNATIONAL PHOTO NATURE 2020 CONTEST

The 5th International Photo Nature 2020 Contest was implemented by the Associação Jauense de Ambiente e Cultura (AJAC) in the categories Nature, Open Color and Life.

The organization of this contest established the sponsorship of the Federation Internationale de L'Art Photographique (FIAP) and the recognition of the Photography Society of America (PSA) with the support of the International Association of Arts Photographers (IAAP). It is also recognized and supported by Confederação Brasileira de Fotografia (CONFOTO).

Candidates participated with up to twelve photos, which were evaluated by a panel of judges with international experience. One hundred and twenty prizes were offered, in addition to special prizes for Brazilians with the 10 best placements and for the best Brazilian photo club.

The 2020 edition was open to all amateur and professional photographers all over the world..

To access the contest website:
<http://photonature.ajac.org.br/>
<http://ajac.org.br/>

The following pictures show 2020 winners in each category.



Photo Nature 2020 - FIAP Gold Medal - APRATIM PAL (India) - FEEDING TIME



Photo Nature 2020 - FIAP Gold Medal - Chengbo Sun (China) - Be situated at the foot of a hill and beside a stream



Photo Nature 2020 - FIAP Gold Medal - Sergey Agapov (Russia) - A Large Migration of Wildebeest



Photo Nature 2020 - IAAP Gold Medal - Calvin Downes (United Kingdom) - Windswept Gelada



Photo Nature 2020 - IAAP Gold Medal - Dominique JOLY (France) - l'offrande



Photo Nature 2020 - IAAP Gold Medal - Fabio Sartori (Italy) - La Cattedrale

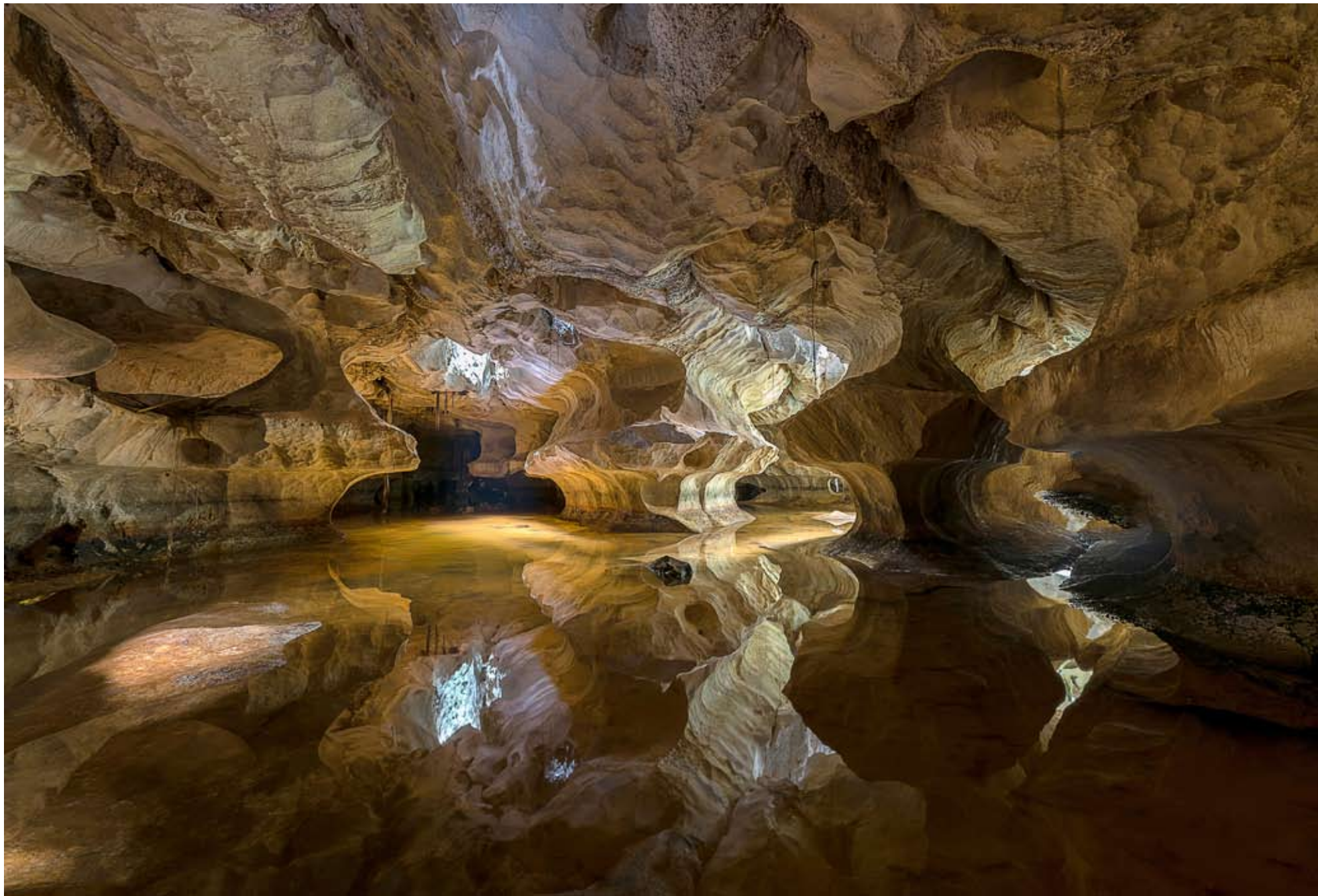


Photo Nature 2020 - PSA Gold Medal - SON HUY NGUYEN (VietNam) - SON TRA'S REFLECTION



Photo Nature 2020 - PSA Gold Medal - Istvan Kerekes (Hungary) - Fate



Photo Nature 2020 - PSA Gold Medal - Istvan Kerekes (Hungary) - Maramuresan tale

Elena Callegaro - Italy

About:

https://www.instagram.com/elena_callegaro/

Photos: **Elena Callegaro**







Photo: ***Elena Callegaro***



Photo: ***Elena Callegaro***



Photo: ***Elena Callegaro***



Photo: ***Elena Callegaro***



Photo: ***Elena Callegaro***



Photo: ***Elena Callegaro***



Photo: ***Elena Callegaro***



Viktor Kegye - Hungary

About:

www.facebook.com/kegyev; www.instagram.com/kegyev; www.gurushots.com/kegyev



Photo: **Viktor Kegye**

Farhan Hayder - Italy

About:

<https://gurushots.com/farhan.hayder/photos>



Photo: **Farhan Hayder**

Visual Story Tellers Group

“Story...” a real strange but simple word, a word holds the time, emotion, attraction, fantasy, often joy or sadness too; a word can extends over the seas, a word can perish in single drop, a word keeps the ages in it, a word shorter than a blink of an eye... as I said a real strange word.

Visual Story Tellers Group is a platform for those who just not took the pictures but creates them. Yes, these are two different things, taking and creating! The one who take the photo thinks only for the subject and its presence in the photo, for him background, foreground, lights or compositing rule are not essential, but the one who creates the photo observe and use his environment carefully, his background and foreground are as important as the main subject, he knows how to use the lights or shade to isolate them as well, he applies the basic rules of composting to attract the viewer's eye, and often bends these rules to intensify the story, he play with the lines and directions around the subject to boost its presence in the photo. One of the basic rule of photography is “Your subject must be in focus”, but he can intentionally put his main subject out of focus to provoke thoughts in the viewers mind... in short his only concept is to keep the attention of the viewer on his visual story... that's why we call him Visual Story Teller!

I invite you all to join Visual Story Tellers group, this group is for you, this is a common platform where you can see all level of photographers and their work, you can get ideas, suggestions or critiques, you can share your work here, you can participate weekly theme challenge called “#VSTheme”... honored to share with you all, last three months VSTheme covers and winners! Enjoy

More information at:
facebook.com/groups/TheVisualStoryTellers/



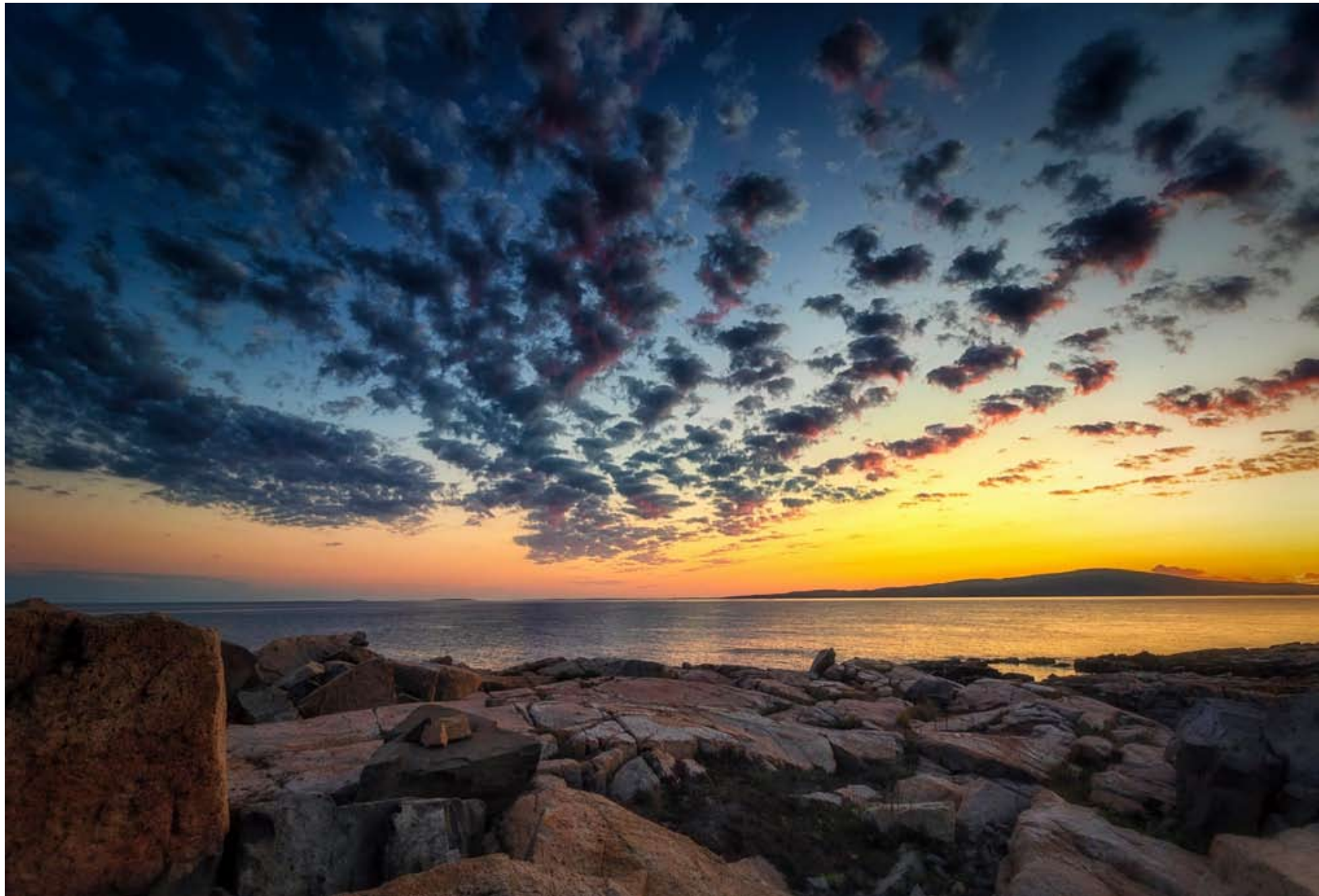


Photo: **Georgian V. Grigore** - USA - Theme: **W88** - **Seascapes**



Photo: **Ernhofer Réka** - Hungary - Theme: **W86** - Just pets



Photo: **Gerrit Hoogmartens - Belgium** - Theme: **W85 - Water in Action**



Photo: **Maya Conigliaro** - Theme: **W80 - Flight**



Photo: **Marketa Zvelebil - France** - Theme: **W81 - Fill the Frame**



Photo: **Frank Werle - Germany** - Theme: **W92 - In the Kitchen**



Photo: **Péter Gulyás - Hungary** - Theme: **W93 - Autumn**



Photo: **Juan Rodriguez** - **Puerto Rico** - Theme: **W79 - Motor Show**



Photo: **Jana Vacková** - **Czechia** - Theme: **W89 - Lighthouses**



Photo: **Jana Vacková - Czechia** - Theme: **W83 - Architecture**



Photo: **Hermann Klecker - Germany** - Theme: **W91 - Leading Lines**



Photo: **Borhidan Julio - Portugal**
Theme: **W87 - Kids Photography**



Photo: **Daniel Sommer** - USA - Theme: **W90 - A STORY : worth telling (extended theme)**



Photo: **Eric Valera - Spain**
Theme: **W82 - Book Titles (50 shades of Grey - E.L James)**



Photo: **Shaun Whalen - Canada**
Theme: **W84 - 3IN1 : Details in Nature + Ceilings + Landscapes**

Hotel Pousada Muxarabi

Charming mountain hotel located within a forest reserve at 1400 m above sea level, in an area with more than 1 000 000 m² of Atlantic Forest. The hotel has four types of units that spread through a large green area, cut by streams and waterfalls, with a beautiful view of the Jaguari valley, all with their particularity and decorated with much charm and refinement.

The hotel has a Forest Reserve established in original Atlantic Forest lands with an extension of approximately 300 000 m² created for the preservation of a species of ape threatened with extinction that is called sauá.

Tipuana Art Gallery is an area immersed in nature and intended to exhibitions of the most diverse artistic manifestations and surrounded by Tipuanas trees where on the third floor we have Sunset Café, ideal place for a good chat and all fellow photographers are invited.

The Ópera Restaurant is surrounded by greenery and it is in direct contact with the exuberant nature of the Sauá Forest Reserve, located in the highlands of the Serra do Lopo. The menu features new dishes such as *Tilapia in Shrimp Sauce* and the return of classics such as the *Honey Mustard Salmon Trout* and the famous *Caramel Web Coconut* made by Chef Olgierd Ligieza Stamirowski. It offers a pleasant and tasteful atmosphere and its gourmet dishes consist of an explosion of flavors. The meals in our restaurant are considered an opportunity for people to live together and a form of culture and leisure that is part of the whole of one's life.

www.serradolopo.com.br

Estrada da Embratel 3100 - Extrema - Minas Gerais - Brazil



The book *Female Sculptures* can be purchased by contacting:

<http://www.pluhma.com/femalesculptures/>
www.marcoantonioperna.com.br
maperna4@gmail.com

We are specialised in editing and publishing high quality photo books. Please contact us for more details.



Female Sculptures book

In 2015, observing the work of various photographers around the world, Marco Antonio Perna began to study the style of photography on which female bodies take distinct forms through numerous types of lighting. Since he likes the Low Key style, he decided to take it on and set up his own project.

Right from the beginning, Marco noticed and considered the fact that the biotype of Brazilian women, especially in Rio de Janeiro, is very different from the biotype of models from the northern hemisphere. In addition, he was determined to go out of the ordinary and look for new ways of editing. The result of his project titled Female Sculptures can be seen in this book, where about 20 models were invited to participate.

The choice of photographs sought to value the heterogenous physical aspects and nature of Brazilian women. They are all women of standard figure and fitness. They are not particularly ballet dancers, athletes or contortionists. Tall, short, thin, not so thin, from 20 to 60 years old, trans, cis, with or without large bust, with wide hips or not. However, some of these features are somehow imperceptible in the photographic result, highlighting the beauty and harmonic movement of often acrobatic and thought provoking gestures and performances.

About

Marco Antonio Perna is an IT professional and researcher with a master's degree, ballroom dancer and a lifelong photography lover.

He began his career as a photographer by documenting the II International Dance Meeting, in 1997, at the Gloria Hotel (Rio de Janeiro), when, besides photographing, he realized the need to document the events he was photographing, that was how photojournalism came into his life.

His vast experience as a photographer of ballroom dance and artistic modalities such as ethnic dances, jazz and ballet, among others, developed his photographic look and allowed the creation of the Female Sculptures project, originating this book.

www.marcoantonioperna.com.br

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