

**Czech Press Photo announces nominations in the main categories of the contest’s 23rd year**

**(Prague – 18 October 2017) The best photographs and videos in the twenty-third annual Czech Press Photo contest are now decided. An international panel judged the work of 482 photographers permanently resident in the Czech Republic or Slovakia and a total of 7277 photographs. 26 authors took part in the video section, with a total of 56 videos.**

This year, the contest had nine photography categories and three video categories. The panel judged series and individual shots separately. The traditionally most important award is the main “Photograph of the Year” prize. Czech Press Photo will not be announcing this award until the awards ceremony in Old Town Hall on 21 November 2017.

“We saw a significant increase in the number of entries last year when candidates were first able to enter using our on-line form. This year’s participation, however, was a pleasant surprise for us as it was even higher. It was the second year our panel worked using the same system and at the same place, so there was less anxiety about the new. This year, the Nature and Wildlife category had a lot of entries, something I account for through synergy with the newly established Czech Nature Photo contest,” says Veronika Souralová, Director of Czech Press Photo.

“This year’s Czech Press Photo has again affirmed that no matter how professional and experienced out panel is, one’s perspective on photography is a purely subjective matter and even between photography professionals opinions can be diametrically opposed. Nevertheless, or perhaps because of this, the panel’s work was fascinating, valuable and friendly as every year. Naturally, not everyone will be happy about every nomination and we may be subject to criticism again, but that’s life and that’s Czech Press Photo,” concludes Panel Head, Petr Josek.

This year, individual photographs and videos could once again only be entered for the contest electronically. The contest was open to all entrants from the beginning to the end of September. Anyone permanently resident in the Czech Republic or Slovakia was able to take part, publishers, agencies, vocational schools and freelance photographers.

**The international photography judging panel met on 12 – 15 October 2017 within the multi-genre Czech Photo Centre, made up of:** PETR JOSEK, photographer, CZECH REPUBLIC – Panel Head, CLÉMENT SACCOMANI, NOOR Photo Agency Managing Director, FRANCE, STEFANO CARINI, photographer, photographic editor and curator, ITALY, JURAJ MRAVEC, publicist, investigative reporter, SLOVAKIA, JAN ŠIBÍK, photographer, CZECH REPUBLIC, ADRIAN EVANS, Panos Pictures Director, GREAT BRITAIN, FILIP LÁB, teacher, CZECH REPUBLIC, ALŽBĚTA JUNGROVÁ, photographer, CZECH REPUBLIC.

The international panel announced nominations in nine categories. The Prague Mayor’s Prague Grant, Canon Junior Awards prize for young photographers up to 23 years old, the ĆTK Award, the UNHCR Award, the Committee of Good Will – Olga Havel Foundation “My Life with a Handicap” award, the Children’s Award, and the PictoArt award were announced. The Visitors Award will be awarded on the basis of a poll amongst visitors to the exhibition.

**CZECH PRESS PHOTO 2017 ­ VIDEO SECTION**

**The video section panel judged the work on 10 October 2017.**

**Video Panel composition:** Josef HARVAN, director, scriptwriter and producer – Panel Head, MARTINA HYNDRÁKOVÁ, online marketing specialist, OLGA SOMMEROVÁ, documentary film director and teacher, MIRO ŠVOLÍK, photographer, JAN VANIŠ, camera operator and photographer

The panel chose the winners of the three contest categories.

**The Czech Press Photo 2017 contest and exhibition is organised by:**

Czech Photo, o.p.s. and the City of Prague

with support from the Ministry of Culture and the Mayor of Prague.

**General Partner:** Trigema

**Partners:** Renomia,Canon, eCONTEST, UNHCR, EIZO, Samsung, Pictoart, Olympus, Rückl Crystal, the Committee of Good Will ­ Olga Havel Foundation, Siko, Ptáček-koupelny bathrooms, University of Economics Graphics and Multimedia Laboratory, foto Škoda

**Main media partners:** Český rozhlas 1 - Radiožurnál

**Media partners**: Právo, Novinky.cz, Prima ZOOM, ČTK, Forbes, Lidé a Země, Prague Morning, Fotoaparát.cz

**Main prize ­ Crystal Eye** created with a completely new design by Rückl Crystal

The Czech Press Photo 2017 exhibition will be open to the public from 22 November 2017 until 30 January 2018 in the Cloisters and Knights’ Hall of the Old Town Hall in Prague.

The official announcement of Photograph of the Year, individual category winners, Prague Grant and special prizes / Canon Junior Awards prize for young photographers up to 23 years old, the ĆTK Award, the UNHCR Award, the Committee of Good Will – Olga Havel Foundation “My Life with a Handicap” award, the Children’s Award, the PictoArt award and the awards ceremony and exhibition vernissage will take place on 21 November 2017 in the Old Town Hall. There will be an extra programme taking place during the exhibition within the Czech Photo Centre gallery, which will principally involve showcasing the winning photographers, who will also hold chats with the public. An overview of discussions will be published at www.czechpressphoto.cz.

**Nominations for the 23rd annual Czech Press Photo**

**AWARDS IN CONTEST CATEGORIES**

**SPOT NEWS**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Robert Barca, freelance photographer - Yes to Erdogan, No to Democracy**

The ballot papers are counted, the constitutional amendments have been approved in the referendum. Crowds of President Erdogan supporters go out into the streets of night-time Ankara.

**Roman Vondrouš, ČTK – Election Night**

Diplomats and invited guests follow the results of the Presidential Election between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump on 9 November 2016 in the American Center. Trump becomes the 45th President of the USA. And also the first man in the office without prior political experience.

**Petr Vrabec, freelance photographer – The Battle for Coal on the Potato Field**

Over three thousand climate justice activists try to block the operation of coal mines and power plants in the Rhineland. The massive, well co-ordinated manoeuvres of hundreds of police officers with batons, tear gas canisters and a number of helicopters wage war on the field. Stumbling police offers attempt to surround stumbling demonstrators.

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Jan Husar, freelance photographer – Presidential Election in Nairobi**

Unrest erupts in poor neighbourhoods in Nairobi in August 2017. This was the direct consequence of the presidential election in Kenya.

**Peter Korcek, Ringier Axel Springer Slovakia, a.s. – Not My President**

Immediately following the official announcement of the results of the 2016 presidential election in the USA, a wave of criticism and discontent amongst most Americans grew into unrest and protests in the streets of many cities. This protest took place in New York the day after the election.

**Petr Topič, Mafra, a. s. – Unrest during the G20 Meeting in Hamburg**

Hundreds of demonstrators get involved in clashes with the police during the G20 meeting in Hamburg.

**CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Martin Bandžák, freelance photographer - Hezbollah, Celebrating Victory over Israel**

Every year, Hezbollah celebrates victors over Israel in its bastion on the Lebanese-Syrian border.

**Martin Bandžák, freelance photographer – Child mothers in Nicaragua**

Pregnant girls reproduce the cycle of poverty because they become mothers before they are biologically mature. They suffer chronic malnutrition and give birth to babies with low birth weight. 47 percent are teenagers who have not completed primary education.

**Lenka Klicperová, Lidé a Země – Learning to Walk**

People with amputated legs have to learn to walk again with the help of therapists.

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Martin Bandžák, freelance photographer – Syrian Refugees in Lebanon**

Syrian refugees in Lebanon live in appalling conditions, often in unfinished buildings. They change location every 6 months. There is no regular access to doctors, or education for children.

**Milan Jaroš, Respekt – Cold, Bored and Hungry in Belgrade**

Refugees stuck at the station in the centre of the Serbian capital, Belgrade.

**Petr Topič, Mafra, a.s. – STAS Children’s Military Camp**

The STAS children’s military camp was set up by a number of professional soldiers. They were not satisfied with the level of standard military camps and so decided to set up their own.

**DAILY LIFE**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Marek Jančúch, freelance photographer – Heart of Europe**

We don’t need Initiative Z to improve our neighbourhood anymore. This photography series does not moralise; it merely captures the Slovak landscape which today poses the question of whether it is ready to become a fully-fledged core member of the European Union.

**Jiří Královec, freelance photographer – Jump**

Photo taken in the Chánov estate where children pass the time reusing a mattress, which has become an improvised trampoline.

**David Těšínský, freelance photographer - Pabo becoming Natasha**

Pabo is becoming Natasha with the help of his friend and boyfriend.

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Pepa Dvořáček, freelance photographer - Temný důl**

For a while I felt like I had found myself in the famous town of Twin Peaks. Temný důl, which is known as the “gateway to the mountains” lies in the Krkonoše (Giant Mountain) foothills.

**Michael Hanke, freelance photographer – Ball Season**

The Hunters’ and Firefighters’ balls still enjoy great popularity in the Czech Republic for their unmistakeable atmosphere.

**Jozef Jakubco, Denník SME – Grave Digging Competition**

A series of photographs from the grave digging championships in Trenčín. The two diggers in each competing team are only able to use spades and pickaxes.

**PEOPLE IN THE NEWS**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Tomáš Halász, freelance photographer – The Dalai Lama**

A portrait of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama during his visit to Slovakia.

**Robert Sedmík, Týden – The Microphone’s Over There**

President Miloš Zeman receives Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka at Prague Castle.

**Petr Zbranek, Deník – The First Seconds of Freedom**

Jiří Kajínek, convicted for murder, heads out of the prison in Rýnovice v Jablonci nad Nisou on 23 May after 23 years imprisonment after being pardoned by the President of the Czech Republic, Miloš Zeman.

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Jiří Benák, Mafra - Jakeš 95**

More than a quarter of a century after the fall of the communist regime, the most powerful man in the pre-revolution Czechoslovak Communist Party, Milouš Jakeš lives like almost any other Czech pensioner. The ninety-five year old cooks, cleans and travels around Prague only ever on public transport.

**Tomáš Benedikovič, Denník N - Marián Varga for the Last Time**

Talented musician and composer, Marián Varga, was last seen in public at the Pohoda festival which he visited to listen to his string quartet and compositions, played for him by his friend, cellist Jozef Lupták.

**Milan Jaroš, Respekt – President Miloš Zeman’s Visits to the Regions**

**ART AND CULTURE**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Lukáš Bíba, Economia - U2 - Where The Streets Have No Name**

A screen with the highest resolution (7.6K) in the world, 61 x 14 metres in size.

**Petr Kleiner, freelance photographer - Judas – Ancient Folk Tradition**

Living history on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

**Dagmar Vyhnálková, freelance photographer - Jan Tříska**

Jan Tříska while filming Po strništi bos (Barefoot).

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Vojtěch Hurych, freelance photographer – Meeting her Murderers**

Most of us know the end of her story. They executed her. Unjustly. She fought for the freedom of her country and lost her own. I met Milada Horáková’s “murderers”. This series was produced while the film Milada, which tells her life story, was being short.

**Kevin V. Ton, freelance photographer – Direction**

A set of photographs documenting the creation of the Direction performance. A performance by people of different life stories and different employment who meet up by chance at contemporary dance lessons at the National Theatre’s New Stage Studio.

**Petr Wagenknecht, freelance photographer – Kocianovo Violin Competition in Ústí nad Orlicí**

Behind the scenes at this international competition for young violinists. From a young age, these young virtuosos are subjected to great pressure, expectation and tension. They give incredible performances on the stage, but they also have a child’s spontaneity and playfulness. A clash between the worlds of the winners and the defeated.

**SPORTS**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Michal Červený, freelance photographer – To the Moon and Back**

Night ride under the light of the so-called supermoon on 14 November 2016 in Dolní Břežany u Prahy.

**Rastislav Kakara, freelance photographer - Diagonal**

Ski mountaineering track on Pitztal glacier in Austria.

**Tomáš Krist, Mafra, a. s. – Water Jumper**

Jan Wermelinger jumping into the water from a 12 metre height during the Desperados Highjump 2017 competition exhibition.

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Vojtěch Hurych, freelance photographer - Jirka, ninety-year-old athlete**

Jiří Soukup celebrated his 90th birthday this year. He is probably the oldest Czech athlete. Each week he takes part in some kind of sports contest.

**Filip Singer, EPA – Fencing World Championship, Leipzig**

The best fencers from around the world compete at the World Championship in Leipzig, Germany.

**Roman Vondrouš, ČTK – Horseracing behind the scenes**

Elegant ladies in hats, gentlemen in morning coats and top hats and racers on wooden horses, focused jockeys and life in the paddock. The joy and anxiety of punters watching the racing. Fashion shows.

**PORTRAIT**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Martin Bandžák, freelance photographer - Child mothers in Nicaragua**

Pregnant girls reproduce the cycle of poverty because they become mothers before they are biologically mature. They suffer chronic malnutrition and give birth to babies with low birth weight. 47 percent are teenagers who have not completed primary education.

**Michael Novotný, freelance photographer – The Hunter**

Far from the bustle of modern face-paced life, far inside the Arctic circle in northern Greenland is one of the most isolated places in the northern hemisphere – a settlement called lttqqortoormiit.

**Martin Veselý, Mafra, a.s . - Soňa Červená**

The main guest at the cosy Povídání v podkroví (Chatting in the attic) event at the international Hradec Králové festival, Theatre of European Regions, was world-renowned opera singer and actor, Soňa Červená.

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Hanna Connor, Filip Jandourek, freelance photographers – Villagers**

Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, with a population of over seventeen million, is the fastest growing city in the world. Every day, over two thousand new citizens move here from various corners of the country.

**David Macháč, freelance photographer – Gardeners**

A set of photographs which the photographer has regularly returned to since 2006. These are of gardens which include a little cottage of precisely determined size in the community allotments which have grown up in most towns in the Czech Republic.

**Michaela Škvrňáková, Michelle Adlerová, freelance photographers – Through Upbringing to Nature**

People sitting on tram seats. Women in “closed” posture, men manspreading. The project was created for the Art Wall gallery as part of Prague Pride 2017.

**NATURE, WILDLIFE AND SCIENCE**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Martin Dokoupil, freelance photographer – The Catch**

A white pelican is about to catch a red fish in the large pouch on the lower part of its massive beak after throwing it into the air during feeding in Prague Zoo.

**Living Zoology - Dolinay Zuzana, Dolinay Matěj, freelance photographers – Caring Mother**

Tree frogs lay spawn on vegetation close to clean forest rivers, and some species even look after their spawn. These frogs have very transparent skin such that their internal organs can be seen.

**Filip Jandourek, freelance photographer – On the banks of the Buriganga**

This photograph is part of a project focused on climate change, migration and the problems of contemporary Bangladesh. One of the principal problems is the capital of Dhaka with a population of 17 million citizens. It is the fastest growing city in the world and also suffers from the highest population density.

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Tomáš Benedikovič, Denník N – Pheasant shoot**

A November pheasant shoot in Bříšťany pheasantry. Unusual noises are coming from the woods in East Bohemia.

**Michal Dobeš, freelance photographer – Fox love**

A wild fox pair during a courtship period shot at the shore of a frozen lake on the Japanese island of Hokkaido.

**Jiří Hřebíček, freelance photographer – Fleeting moments**

Fleeting moments in the life of birds – their movement and freedom. Something which remains hidden to the human eye and which can be revealed using a long exposure time.

**LIFESTYLE**

**Nominations for 1st prize - single**

**Lukáš Bíba, Economia a.s. – Highline wedding**

The highline wedding of one of the best highliners in the world, Anna Kuchařová, and highliner Jakub “Kwjet” Hanuš.

**Pavel Hejný, freelance photographer - Le Mans Classic**

This image was taken as part of a Le Mans Classic personal project.

**Amos Chapple, Radio Free Europe – Meditation**

Twenty-seven year old Boleslav Vavilov meditating at a monastery. Far from work..

**Nominations for 1st prize – series**

**Radek Miča, AFP - Jump!**

Traditional spring races of trained rabbits at Floria exhibition centre in Kroměříž.

**Vladimír Kiva Novotný, Lidové noviny Esprit magazine - Young Janáček**

Brno’s Janáčkovo divadlo theatre is being renovated. Shortly before work began, a fashion editorial took place here in which the audience goes through the theatre with a contemporary “young Janáček”.

**Alžběta Schnürerová, freelance photographer – When I Want to be At Home**

Sometimes you lose yourself completely in your environment. You feel like you are part of the objects you are in contact with every day.

**CZECH PRESS PHOTO 2017 ­ Video Section Results**

Czech Press Photo is a platform for presenting modern visual journalism which helps us to understand and recognise today’s world. Since the internet means photographs are getting ever close to other media, since its 19th year, our photography contest has expanded to include a video section to showcase the multimedia genre.

**AWARDS IN VIDEO CONTEST CATEGORIES**

**SPOT NEWS AND REPORTAGE**

**Jana Andertová, freelance documentary-maker**

Battle for Mosul’s Old City. “I was with the soldiers of the Special Iraqi Unit on the front line during the final battle to liberate Mosul from Islamic State. This battle took place in Mosul’s Old City and took almost a month. This video shows the emotional side to the war.

**Tomáš Rafa, freelance documentary-maker**

Blockade of a neo-fascist march through the centre of Warsaw. Citizens of Warsaw block a march of Polish ONR (Oboz narodowo radykalny) neo-fascists in the city centre. Blockade of neo-fascists in Brno (Brno blocks) 2017. Brno citizens block a march of neo-fascists.

**Andrej Štuk, Jarmila Štuková, freelance documentary-makers**

Selfie from the war. “In December 2016, we contacted those most connected to the war with so-called Islamic State. They introduced us to their current way of life in a manner we all understand. Thus a series of 360 degree selfie photos was produced.”

**FEATURE**

**Petr Horký, Václav Šilha, Jiří Vidman, freelance documentary-makers**

The four threats to the Huaorani. The native Huaorani, who live in the deep forests in Yasuni Park, Ecuador, face four threats. They are not yet ready for any of them.

**Silvie Kleková, Czech Television**

Ace Luka. When he was seven, he suffered almost fatal burns. In Ostrava’s University Hospital he was saved through transplantations and artificial skin, and after a huge battle Lukáš Hybl returned to life. He is still afflicted by the consequences of severe burns, and the consequences of the awful tragedy his family experienced after his injuries. Despite it all, he is now studying successfully at secondary school in Prostějov and also helps others. His school mates say he is incredible.

**Lenka Klicperová, Markéta Kutilová, Jarmila Štuková, freelance documentary-makers**

The Battle for Mosul. A number of armies have been fighting for the second largest Iraqi city, Mosul, for over a month. They are trying to snatch it from the grips of the Islamic State. A quarter has already been liberated and it has been completely surrounded. Some of the first journalists to arrive include Czech reporters Lenka Klicperová, Markéta Kutilová and Jarmila Štuková.

**INVESTIGATION**

**Lukáš Landa, Czech Television**

Billion-crown slice. Transport Minister Dan Ťok claimed for a long time that the main culprit in the billion-crowns of damage caused by the massive landslide onto the D8 motorway was nature and a quarry in close proximity to the motorway. The state brought proceedings against the quarry owner cover the damage. While doing so, the Transport Ministry concealed key information: the conclusions of an analysis by the Academy of Sciences. These show that the culprit is actually the state, specifically the Road and Motorway Directorate of the Czech Republic.

**David Macháček, Jana Neumannová, Tereza Strnadová, Czech Television**

Hunt for the Straw Man

Trilogy on financial bullying. Part 1 – Hunt for the Straw Man. Part 2 – More than the Court. Part 3 – Pitr in the field. The tax administration led by Martin Janeček has been aggressively working to uncover tax evasion. That is good, but only if the victims are the real culprits. The Supreme Administrative Court has been ever more frequently drawing attention to the fact that many innocent people have been caught in the nets. Conflict is growing between the Finance Administration and the Court, because tax officials are taking their own interpretation of the law.

**Jana Neumannová, Czech Television**

How to be a billionaire. How to cut off the mother. Ministerial numbers. This report describes how Andrej Babiš acquired shares in Agrofert.

Nominated photographs and videos can be found on the internet at [www.czechpressphoto.cz](http://www.czechpressphoto.cz/)

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