The Press Photographer's Year 2009

Press Release

Embargoed until midday 3rd July 2009

The results of The Press Photographer's Year for 2009 were announced today, 3rd July, showcasing the very best press photography from 2008.



PHOTOGRAPH OF THE YEAR

Rosie Hallam

Thirteen orphaned elephants are looked after around the clock by a team of dedicated carers at the David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, Nairobi, Kenya. Elephants who lose their family are very hard to care for. They often die of a broken heart. At the orphanage they have devised a system of care which involves sleeping, eating and being with the young elephants all the time. This gives them a much greater chance of survival. The carers find it hard not to get attached to them as they are constantly craving affection. 11th January 2009.

The Press Photographer's Year is unique. It is the only competition that showcases the outstanding press photography taken for and used by the UK media. Designed for press photographers by press photographers and supported by Canon cameras, the acknowledged industry leaders, it is a not for profit venture that aims to restore photography to the heart of photographic competitions.

Now in its fourth year, the competition's aim is to demonstrate once again that even in an age of rolling television news, internet and satellite communication, the traditional still image burns the keenest, fastest impression on the public conscience and is the most effective way to show the world the world as it really is.

About the awards

Presented in association with the British Press Photographers' Association, entries were invited from all professional photographers working in and for the UK media.

323 photographers based in over 20 countries throughout Europe, as well as China, Thailand, India, Australia and the USA submitted 7,877 photographs online a custom-designed and -built uploading, and entry solution developed by Talking Pixels. Uniquely, the site allowed photographers to edit their selection online right up until the final minute before the deadline. When it launched in 2006, The Press Photographer's Year was the first open competition in the world to use a completely electronic entry system.



FIRST PRIZES: Sports Action - Sports Folio - Olympic Folio - Olympic Singles

Tom Jenkins - The Guardian

Usian Bolt of Jamaica realises he has won the Olympic men's 200m final with a new world record time of 19.30 seconds. National Stadium, Beijing, China. 20th August 2008.

The Exhibition

An edit of 146 pictures has been made by the jury from the 7,877 submitted and 16 prizes have been awarded. All these have been selected to represent the extraordinary variety and standard of the entries received. The complete edit will be featured in an exhibition which runs in the Lyttelton foyer of the National Theatre on London's South Bank from 4th July to 31st August. Open Monday to Saturday from 9.30am till 11pm. Admission is free.

An invitation only private view and prize giving takes place on 13th July.

The Results for 2009

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE YEAR Rosie Hallam FIRST PRIZE: NEW FOLIO OF THE YEAR Peter Macdiarmid - Getty Images FIRST PRIZE: LIVE NEWS Daniel Berehulak - Getty Images FIRST PRIZE: NEWS David Bebber FIRST PRIZE: FEATURES Jeff Overs - BBC FIRST PRIZE: PHOTO ESSAY Bruce Adams - Daily Mail FIRST PRIZE: PORTRAITS Leon Neal - Agence France Presse FIRST PRIZE: THE ARTS Mark Waugh - Manchester Evening News FIRST PRIZE: ROYALTY AND ENTERTAINMENT Mark Stewart FIRST PRIZE: SPORTS FOLIO OF THE YEAR Tom Jenkins - The Guardian FIRST PRIZE: SPORTS SPECIALIST FOLIO OF THE YEAR Clive Mason - Getty Images FIRST PRIZE: SPORTS ACTION Tom Jenkins – The Guardian FIRST PRIZE: SPORTS FEATURES Warren Little - Getty Images FIRST PRIZE: OLYMPIC FOLIO Tom Jenkins – The Guardian FIRST PRIZE: OLYMPIC SINGLES Tom Jenkins – The Guardian FIRST PRIZE: MULTIMEDIA Abbie Trayler-Smith - Panos

The results can be found at: http://www.theppy.com/content/results2009

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Lee Bonniface, Country Director of Canon Consumer Imaging, UK and Ireland said of the 2009 awards "The images that press photographers capture, give us a daily insight into the world we live in. Canon are proud to be a part of that picture by providing press photographers with cutting edge technology and superior performance across the range. Now in our fourth year of sponsorship, Canon is delighted to continue its commitment to innovation, by supporting the Press Photographers Year, and the dedicated photographers whose work it showcases".



FIRST PRIZE: News Folio for the Year

Peter Macdiarmid - Getty Images

A broker on ICAP's dealing floor in London calls for prices as the markets react to the day's interest rate cut. 9th October 2008.

All the entered images were put before a panel of distinguished photographers, including Brian Harris; the former Chief Photographer of *The Independent*, Homer Sykes; the noted documentary photographer, Neil Turner; the Vice-Chairman of The BPPA and Bob Martin, a three times winner of Sports Photographer of the Year. Rejecting remote judging by website, the jurors met in two closed one-day session to view and discuss every submitted entry using both slide shows and hard copy prints.

Presented in association with

The British Press Photographers' Association (BPPA) was founded in 1984 by UK news and sports photographers to promote and inspire the highest ethical, technical and creative standards within the profession, and to raise awareness and appreciation of their industry outside it. Counting among its membership many of the country's leading photographers, on assignment in every corner of the globe, the BPPA truly represents the broadest selection of newspaper, magazine and agency photographers in the UK today. All members of the BPPA were able to enter the competition for free. http://www.thebppa.com

Contacts

The Press Photographer's Year is a not for profit venture that aims to restore photography to the heart of photographic competitions. The Press Photographer's Year is extremely grateful to the jury, who gave their time voluntarily.

A selection of images from the edit is available for publication.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Email us at: info@theppy.com or call us on 020 3239 9908.

Dillon Bryden & Tim Bishop co-founders of The Press Photographer's Year

Ends.

