

Press Release

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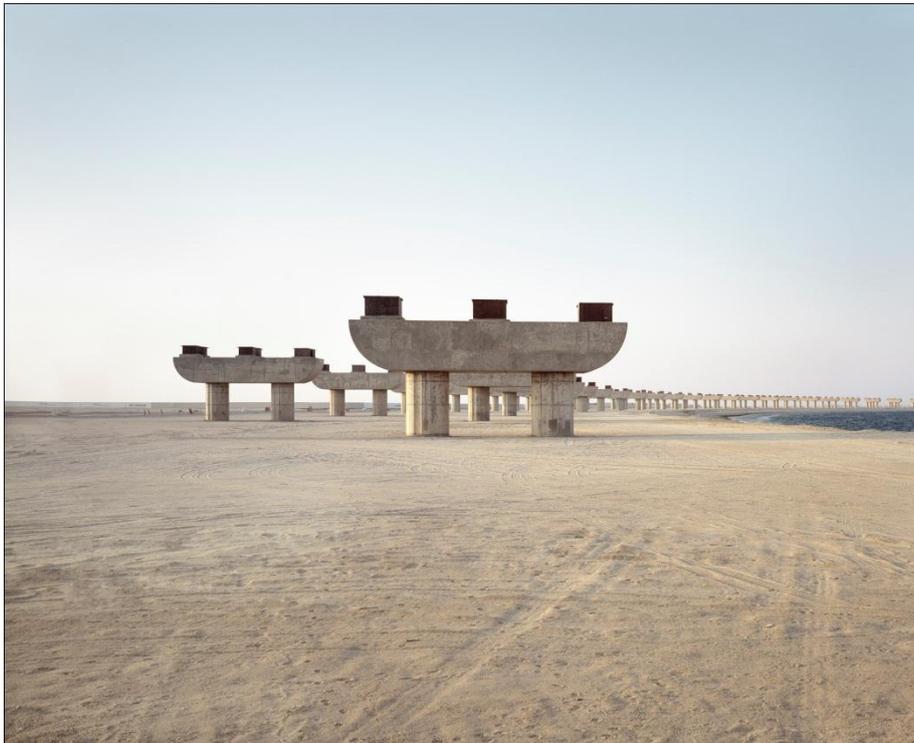
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Syngenta Photography Award Shortlist Announced



Richard Allenby-Pratt, Abandoned Island Development, Dubai, UAE, 2012

London, UK – A shortlist of six finalists for the Syngenta Photography Award was announced today. The winners will be selected among the finalists of the Professional Commission and Open Competition respectively, in March 2015.

Photographers shortlisted for the first prize Professional Commission, which combines a US\$15,000 cash prize and a US\$25,000 commission, are:

Mustafa Abdulaziz (USA)
Richard Allenby-Pratt (UK)
Rasel Chowdhury (Bangladesh)

Photographers shortlisted for the US\$5,000 first prize Open Competition are:

Stefano De Luigi (Italy)
Camille Michel (France)
Benedikt Partenheimer (Germany)

The Syngenta Photography Award is an international competition which aims to stimulate dialogue and raise awareness around significant global challenges through powerful photography. Earlier this year, it invited professional and amateur photographers from all over the world to submit applications responding to the theme of 'Scarcity-Waste'.

Submissions explored ways to spark a debate about one of the greatest challenges the world faces, ensuring there is enough land, food and water for future generations. The resources we use and the waste we create today means that we already need the equivalent of one and a half planets. In a world of limited resources, scarcity and waste have become fundamental social, political and environmental issues of our time. The finalist pictures showing ghostly remnants of an abandoned property development in Dubai's outskirts, a group of Turkana women sourcing water from a homemade 20 meter deep borehole during Kenya's infamous drought in 2009, and the continuous pollution of one of Dhaka City's vital rivers, all illustrate in striking ways the ramifications of scarcity and waste.

A distinguished international jury chaired by photography curator and writer William A. Ewing selected the shortlist from more than 2,000 applicants worldwide. "The candidates this year were of particularly high quality, and there was no shortage of strong contenders for the shortlist. All of the projects showed deep concern for the environment. It was quite moving to see how many photographers are fighting courageously to show us facets of an increasingly battered world that most of us would rather ignore. The jury was also impressed with the ambition of many of the photographers, willing to embark on complex projects fraught with obstacles."

The winners will be announced at an award ceremony at Somerset House, London, on March 10, 2015. The winning photographs will be exhibited alongside a selection of shortlisted images that most powerfully illustrate specific issues on the theme of 'Scarcity-Waste'. The exhibition will run March 11 – April 10, 2015 at Somerset House, one of London's most celebrated arts and culture venues.

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Syngenta Photography Award

Launched in 2012, the Syngenta Photography Award was created to stimulate dialogue around key global challenges and to establish an important platform to explore issues of global significance through photography. The inaugural exhibition explored the theme of 'Rural-Urban' and the winners of the Professional Commission were: **Jan Brykczyński** (Poland), First Prize Winner; **Mimi Mollica** (Italy), Second Prize Winner; **Pablo Lopez Luz** (Mexico), Third Prize Winner. The Open Competition winners were: **Holly Lynton** (USA), First Prize Winner; **Vitaliy Popkov** (Ukraine), Second Prize Winner; **André François** (Brazil), Third Prize Winner. The 'Rural-Urban' exhibition, which was on show at London's Somerset House, May 17 – 21, 2013, can be viewed online: ruralurban.syngentaphoto.com

For the **Professional Commission**, professional photographers were invited to submit a series of 5–10 compelling images relating to the theme of 'Scarcity-Waste', accompanied by a creative project proposal of a maximum of 500 words exploring the theme in a more in-depth way, for a commission worth \$25,000. Three prizes are awarded in the Professional Commission category: First prize: US\$15,000, plus up to US\$25,000 for the commission project; Second prize: US\$10,000; Third prize: US\$5,000.

The **Open Competition** was open to all photographers who are 18 years or older whether amateur, professional or student. Photographers were invited to submit between one to three thought-provoking and captivating images exploring the theme of 'Scarcity-Waste'. The jury members award three prizes in the Open Competition category: First prize: US\$5,000; Second prize: US\$3,000; Third prize: US\$2,000.

Entry to 'Scarcity-Waste' Syngenta Photography Award exhibition at East Wing, Somerset House is free.

For more information on the Syngenta Photography Award, please visit: www.syngentaphoto.com

Jury Members

William A. Ewing (Chair), Curator, Photography Author, Director of Curatorial Projects at Thames & Hudson Publishing (Canada); Iatã Cannabrava, Photographer (Brazil); Stephen Dunbar-Johnson, President, International, The New York Times (United Kingdom); Ekaterina Inozemtseva, Chief Curator at Multimedia Art Museum (Russia); Karen Irvine, Curator and Associate Director, Museum of Contemporary Photography at

Columbia College Chicago (United States); Marcus Lyon, Photographer (United Kingdom); Michael Mack, Chief Executive Officer, Syngenta (Basel, Switzerland); Liu Heung Shing, Photographer and Photo Editor (China)

Open Competition advisors

Simon Roberts, Photographer (United Kingdom); Malu Halasa, Writer and editor (Jordan / Philippines)

Syngenta

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