



PERFORMANCE

Ever since the invention of photography, the medium has been used to capture and document performances in all their guises. From the thespians who take to the stage in theatrical performances, the dancers who entertain us in their spectacular shows, to the singers and musicians who woo us with their beautiful renditions and the sportsmen and women who impress us with their physical prowess. Performance shots capture the essence of an event, documenting it, recording it and memorializing it for future reference. And when done well, the photographs themselves can become a work of art in their own right.

Performance is an exciting and often adrenaline-filled genre of photography as dynamic action shots can be some of the most challenging to take. This exhibition highlights the transitory nature of action-orientated photography. Fractions of a second separate the everyday from the exceptional. Modern cameras allow us to take multiple shots rapidly, but the ability to anticipate the decisive moment remains key.

Henri Cartier-Bresson summed it up by writing "photographers deal in things which are continually vanishing and when they have vanished there is no contrivance on earth which can make them come back again."

Our Performance exhibition was conceived early in 2012 as British excitement grew in anticipation of hosting the Olympics. Local sporting events were photographed as communities played their part in preparing for the Games. Our sports photographers have captured some of the tension, excitement and sheer spectacle of a remarkable sporting year. The images taken at the Paralympics are particularly powerful.

Other photographers concentrated on artistic events, from dance and theatre to street performance and music. The intensity of stage lighting and the restricted access available on site tested their creativity and ingenuity. Some photographers preferred to take control of the scene with studio style portraits and the use of models. Strong images were nonetheless produced with costume, make up and photo editing software.

Participating Photographers: Yehia El Alaily, Kerri Bartup, Sucheta Das, Nicola Davison- Reed, Protim Bannerjee, Zdravko Dimitrov, Albert Horton, Lisa Helena Kelly, Hayley Langan, Martin Parratt, Hannah Presdee, Vanessa Teran, Lucy Millson-Watkins, Clee A Villasor, Tri Pamuji Wikanto, Kris Wood, Miguel Angel Lozanzo

Albert Horton

"I have been involved with photography since I was introduced to it by an enthusiastic school teacher. The school had a darkroom and it has been a lasting memory that very first time watching an image emerge in the developer. I joined the Lowestoft Photographic Society as a junior member and can recall vividly going with the Society members early on a Sunday morning to photograph the herring fleet leaving port My enthusiasm was reawakened when I moved to March in Cambridgeshire and joined the March Camera Club. I am inspired by people pursuing their interests and I record their activities, perhaps for posterity".



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Clee A Villasor

"I am a photographer from the Philippines. I view the world as if I was born with a camera; our world is a creative platform for me to record decisive moments. I try to capture the two-way engagement between photographer and subject. I feel my street photography contrasts with usual perspectives; many locations offer both creative and philosophical stimuli. I am displaying images from my Philippine travels".



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Lisa Helena Kelly

"Photography to me is a means to document my life and my memories, to share my experiences and express my interpretation of the world around me. I travel globally with my work and this gives me a desire to understand other people's lives, what they have seen, where they have been and what the future holds for them. I photograph people in their natural environment, capturing their memories, moods and emotions. I am inspired by the memories that we would otherwise forget, the happy moments that we wish to remember for an eternity. My exhibited collection is memoirs of 'performance' which brings me happiness and comes from my desire to preserve these wonderful moments".



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Nicola Davison-Reed

"Taking photographs is my drug of choice. I get high capturing moments in time, for you and for myself. It's a privilege to develop one's passion and I never take it for granted. If someone gets a hit from my images then that's all I can ask.

I am a photographer because I have a drive to capture moments in time. I feel as fulfilled taking a snap shot as I do photographing a structured set with a model, although for me it's the spontaneity of the street which is most exciting. My goals and aspirations are to keep doing what I am doing, but do it better".



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Lucy Millson-Watkins

I am a British documentary photographer based in the historic and beautiful borough of Greenwich in London. Having previously studied at Central Saint Martin's, I recently graduated London College of Communication with a master's degree in Documentary Photography and Photojournalism.

I have a passion for heritage and undertake both personal work and commissions internationally that explore cultural themes of both people and places.

This body of work for the theme Performance was shot across the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.



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Kerri Bartup

"I initially started taking photographs as a hobby. When I went out with friends I would always take a digital camera in my pocket. My dad then introduced me to a Canon SLR about 6 years ago now and I haven't looked back since. I take a camera most places I go so I am rarely without it. I take wedding photography and family portraits part time, which gives me a break from my day job as a Police Officer. These photos were taken at the Hilton Metropole, Brighton during a Help For Heroes Charity Boxing Match".



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Kris Wood

"I've been very fortunate to have met a lot of great performers through photography, from local musicians and actors, to politicians and some of the world's best athletes. Performers always bring something extra to a picture, they have a spark in their eye, a connection with the camera that makes getting across who they are and what they do that much easier. For this exhibition I've mixed pictures of performances with portraits of performers, to try and show how, no matter the scenario, a good performer will always be able to grab your attention; be it in a stadium that seats 70,000 people, or a small photographic home studio that barely has room for 2".



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Vanessa Teran

"I am from Quito, Ecuador. My main interest is documentary photography. This love has taken me out of my comfort zone and exposed me to different realities,, leaving me with a never ending curiosity to explore and experience this world. My two submitted series, Afrika Burns and the Migrant Raise, were very different but equally valuable experiences.

Afrika Burns was a festival held in South Africa in April 2012. My intention was to capture the celebration of colours, freedom, detachment and radical self-expression. "Migrant Raise" was a competition held in the City of Quito in November 2012, to honour all the immigrants and to protest against racism and xenophobia. I wanted to highlight how the event looked beyond race, status, and nationality to acknowledge that, for good or bad, migration is a phenomenon to which we can all relate".



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Martin Parratt

Based in Hertfordshire UK, Dr Martin Parratt has varied photographic interests including social photography, landscape and fine art. His work has proved popular with the public and he has gained a number of awards and prizes. He has been an active member of Welwyn Garden City Photographic Club for the last nine years. On display are images derived from various sports and other events. These generally convey a sense of dynamism; his plans included capturing dynamic images of wheelchair racers in the London Marathon. The difficulties caused by large crowds, differing weather and fleeting subjects necessitated several visits to this event in order to capture a coherent set of images.



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Zdravko Dimitrov

"I still haven't found the exact path in photography that I would like to pursue, but I enjoyed taking the images of the International Folklore Festival in my hometown. There were performers from Ireland, Turkey and Serbia. I have also submitted images from a project of staged photographs called Circus Freaks. It was created in collaboration with makeup artists, costume makers, actors and film producers. Our goal was to make it very colourful, very bizarre and odd and I believe we achieved it".



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Yehia El Alaily

Yehia is Egyptian/ British commercial photographer based in Cairo, Egypt. Since specializing in commercial photography in 2005, Alaily has worked with several local and international clients, and is currently agent represented. His commercial portfolio covers a wide range of genres; conceptual, lifestyle, people, nature and architecture, but his keynote project remains the Birds of Egypt which he started in 2005.

"I have always had a passion for documentary, and the Zar music is almost dying out. There is now only one tribe still playing Zar in Cairo. I attended 3 concerts in 2 years to collect the content, they play in a small smoky room in downtown Cairo. I worked hard to capture the atmosphere in the room.



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Tri Pamuji Wikanto

My photography is influenced by the social environment surrounding me, such as punk, skateboarding and music The Indonesian band Bangbrozz play metal music to hypnotize the audience. Yes, I am fan of Bangbrozz. I was delighted to have my work accepted by the Photographic Angle. It is a great platform for global photographers to gain experience and achieve recognition for their work.



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Miguel Ángel Lozano Bonora

"Photosynthesis" is a photographic series that merges the visual elements that we recognize in the face and body of a human being, with elements of the botanic world. With this concept in mind I embarked on a plan to experiment with the fusion of human and vegetable forms. Performance is the same as being both in and out of reality. It allows us to recreate an alternative world that we can touch and feel without leaving our normal sense of reality".

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Protim Bannerjee

"The internet has helped me as a photographer because I can access the great works of photo artists throughout the world. This inspires and motivates me. My prime objective is to find the unusual in ordinary daily activity. My photos are taken at different cultural events in and around Kolkata, West Bengal, India".



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Hayley Langan

I started my photographic career shooting events, portraits, and most recently, fashion. I've always had a passion for music and performance of various types. I love the different emotions stage lighting can generate. My images are of a hardcore band based in New Jersey, USA. The Distant Fourth perform at small venues including The Stone Pony (an iconic seaside location associated with many famous artists including Bruce Springsteen and Jon Bon Jovi). The band is composed of five of the most talented young musicians the genre has seen in a long time.



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Sucheta Das

Sucheta's photographic study of the bidi (cigarette) rolling cottage industry in India highlights the widespread poverty and the extensive use of child labour. The poor adults in these families earn far less than the national minimum wage, so 8-10 years old children work alongside them, compromising their childhood and health. To date national legislation outlawing this practice has been largely ignored by the industrialists.



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Hannah Alice Presdee

I started photography in school as a way to pass the time but I didn't realize how exciting I would find it and how much a photo could speak to you. Photography has a great ability to transfer emotions and messages to a viewer in a way that other art forms cannot, because photos have that extra dimension of realism. I really enjoy portrait photography because I feel the use of people in my photos makes them more absorbing and creates a more transferable emotion because human faces are so expressive. Photographing nature and other moving and living things are the most inspirational to me because they change so quickly and constantly and trapping that essential moment in a photograph is captures something unique.

All my portraits were taken in a studio after a lot of planning to try and create this idea that was trapped in my head and I enjoy photographing people's hands because they have so many different meanings and can transfer language and ideas with simple gestures and movements. Hands also show a lot about a person from their job to their background just as someone expression can transfer emotions and desires to the viewer. The way people communicate is so unique and diverse and I find endless inspiration from the people around me and who they are and I find photography gives a unique insight into this.



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