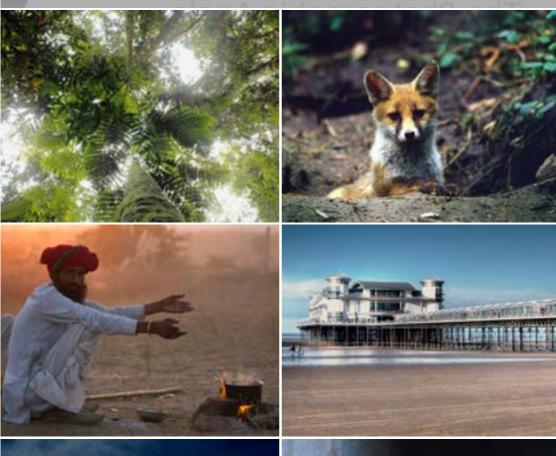


THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ANGLE PROMOTES EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE ART AND SCIENCE OF PHOTOGRAPHY BY STAGING EXHIBITIONS AND BY WORKING WITH PROFESSIONAL, STUDENT AND AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS







# A BEAUTIFUL WORLD

"Those who find beauty in all of nature will find themselves at one with the secrets of life itself." L. Wolfe Gilbert.

Beauty can be found in all things, if we just take the time to look for it. Examining the wonders of the natural world has always been, and will continue to be, a great source of inspiration, excitement and intrigue. Capturing and documenting the remarkable, inimitable visual beauty of the world has been a preoccupation for artists, scientists, and photographers the world over as we seek to understand the marvel that is creation, both natural and man-made. The physical world that surrounds us presents us with an everchanging, awe-inspiring backdrop to life, from the magnificence of a morning sunrise, the heavenly hues of the changing seasons, the wonder of weather-beaten terrains to the careful construction of the built environment.

But the wonderment and admiration that we harbour for our beautiful world is far deeper than this material connection would suggest. There is also an immeasurable beauty within us which is portrayed in the human interactions that we engage in and the relationships that we form. Our journey through life, from the innocence of childhood right through to the wisdom that is bestowed upon us with age, is etched on our faces for all to see.

Beauty is also present in our close encounters with the creatures we share the planet with and can also be seen in their relationship with the natural world on which they depend.

This exhibition features the work of 19 photographers who have been moved by our beautiful world enough to document it in all its glory. Some have chosen to focus on the physical landscape, some on the animal world, others have taken nature as their inspiration, whilst some have chosen the beauty of people. What they all have in common is a unique and touching interpretation of the beauty they perceive in the world.

#### **Participating Photographers:**

Sandra Angers-Blondin, Saransh Bansal, Dwaipayan Basu, Jagendra Bhardwaj, Robert Davies, Nicola Davison-Reed, Robert De Paulis, Aman Dhanani, Shamma Esoof, Dave Foker, Frank Foster, Michael Gay, Anikendra Ghosh, Grace Hui, Puneeta Sharma, Vishali Shyam, John Walker, Matt Walkley, Nicolas William Hughes

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#### **Sandra Angers-Blondin**

Sandra is a graduate student in Biology and an amateur photographer based in Québec, Canada. The following photographs were taken during a field trip to Madagascar oriented towards biodiversity and conservation.

Isolated from the African mainland some 160 million years ago, the island of Madagascar (the world's fourth tallest) is home to a most extraordinary assemblage of living species, 80% of which are found nowhere else on Earth. Livelihoods and beliefs are also very diverse, there being some 18 ethnic groups native to Madagascar.

Unfortunately, the country is now facing critical poverty and unprecedented environmental threats. Making the young generation realize how extraordinary their homeland is should be the first step towards a brighter future. Sandra's approach is optimistic, and the aim of this work is to raise awareness about the country's social and environmental issues by showing the wonders that are at stake.



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#### Saransh Bansal

Saransh is the kind of person who finds peace in chaos and beauty in strange places. Life is quite colourless since Saransh grew up, which has led him to enjoy black and white snaps of the colourful world.

Isolation is a mantra that is quite clearly reflected in the photographs taken by Saransh, who believes that a photograph is a universal language that has the power to express the inexpressible. His life inspires his photographs and the way he see things around him.

'The person who can catch a soul is a photographer in true sense'



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#### **Dwaipayan Basu**

"O Himalaya...ancient eras a moment in your lifetime....you are a poem whose first verse is the sky"

This invocation to the Himalayas by the famous Urdu bard Iqbal aptly encapsulates Dwaipayan's feelings about the Himalayas. Being a wayfarer, it has always been a passion for him to set out for thrilling voyages and in this, he favours the sublime heights of the Himalayas. Every time we reach its summits, it's not only the peak we conquer but we conquer ourselves.

For Dwaipayan, the Himalayas are the epitome of indomitable human will and unfathomable human spirit. They are the manifestation of God's grandeur with variegated beauty and effulgence. From time immemorial, the Himalaya is the abode of peace in the serene corner of nature's solitude. In its long history, it has witnessed the vicissitudes of time, yet it remains unchanged and will forever be a sentinel of Man's history in time.



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#### **Robert Davies**

The work of Robert Davies is focused on the landscape around us, its architecture and structures, both permanent and temporary. He is interested in how landscapes, especially in towns and cities, reflect a sense of constantly changing spaces.

These images focus on how the landscape can be affected by structures in the environment or how man-made influences can become ruins in the landscape that take on a derelict beauty.



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#### **Nicola Davison-Reed**

Nicola is a photographer because she has a drive to capture moments in time, it's a compulsion, a need, a passion. She feels as fulfilled taking a snap shot as she does photographing a structured set with a model, although it is the spontaneity of the street that is so exciting.

Her goals and aspirations are to keep doing what she does but to do it better. When she works with photography she is reminded that she exists, conversely she also disappears into a monochrome world with occasional visits to colour. Her work finds her, through so many avenues and alleyways. Inspiration is her biggest driving force but so are dreams, emotions, patterns, ideologies, expectations, roles in society, affluence and the absence of it, textures, family, towns, cities, the countryside, photographers of the past, but above all love. This work in A Beautiful World is her own take on the theme however she would like people to make up their own minds.



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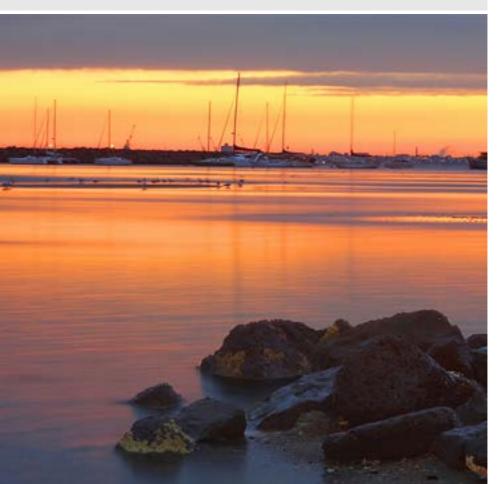
#### **Robert De Paulis**

In his photography, Robert is trying to create his own style, in that he wants to be different from the norm.

He enjoys using the painting with light technique to bring life into a night time image, but he also wants to have a sense of motion in it, as can be seen in his Torrent overflow and Pound bend Rapids images .

His night time shots are roughly pre-visualised during a day trip and then he would come back at night in pitch darkness and bring his trusty torch and Canon on tripod.

Robert hopes that his work will get better as he is self-taught and youtube is his books.



W П A I WORLD

#### **Aman Dhanani**

Aman Dhanani is a 3rd year undergraduate student who is currently studying for a technology engineering degree in India.

He has a huge love of photography, in particular wildlife, natural beauty, food and sports, which he spends most of his spare time trying to capture whilst out and about. In the past he has gained inspiration from photographers such as Jim Brandenburg and Fergus Gill. His other main source of inspiration is the spirit and liveliness of his best friend who always inspires him to work harder and to excel.

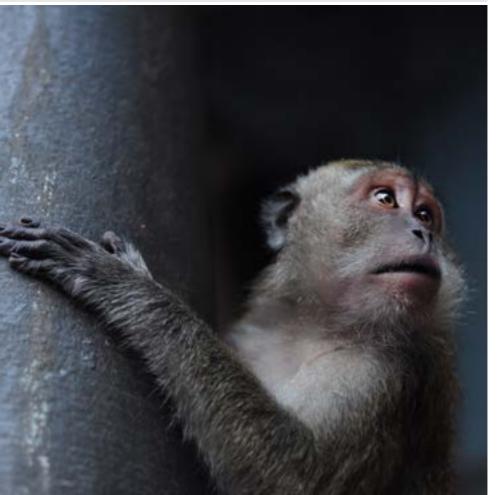


U П I FUL WORLD

#### Shamma Esoof

Shamma is a photographer specializing in portraits of people, pets and primates. She has always been particularly fascinated by primates. Their eyes are deep and compelling and their intellect, culture and social structure far more complex than we previously thought. These sentient and noble creatures deserve to be treated with respect which is why Shamma always tries to portray them in a positive and elegant light. They are part of what makes "A Beautiful World".

Simplicity and elegance are at the core of Shamma's photographic aesthetic, whether she is photographing animals or humans. She also does hair and makeup and directs photo shoots in collaboration with other portrait artists.



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#### **Dave Foker**

The photographs depict British wildlife with most of the photographs taken within 50 miles of Dave's home in Surrey. He has always been interested in watching wildlife and therefore taking wildlife photographs was a natural progression.

There will always be an element of luck attached to taking wildlife photographs, as shown in the strolling badger shot. Dave was walking along a beautiful wooded lane in Scotland one evening when the badger strolled towards him, enabling him to photograph it in the bright evening light, which made up for many fruitless nights sat up a tree by a badger sett.

Serendipity aside, most of Dave's wildlife photographs are the result of many hours spent in the field watching and waiting.

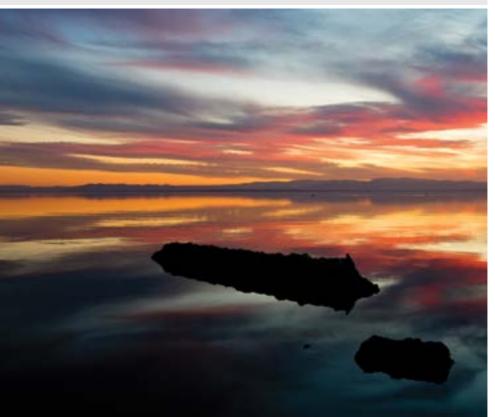


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#### **Frank Foster**

The images provided are from the "Beyond the sea" series. These images are of the Salton Sea. A sea created quite by chance through the ignorance of humankind and the power of nature in 1905. The water level rises whenever it rains and it takes back what was previously lost by evaporation. It remains as a place of beauty and death. It briefly thrived in the 50s and the 60s as a place for the wealthy and hip of southern California to vacation. The intense heat, dry weather and varying water levels have defeated this dream leaving only nature and the occasional visitor for it to tolerate. Frank Foster is one of those visitors.

His intention as an image maker is to provide his audience with a sense of place. Photography has the ability to capture briefly and then hold a momentary truth because of the fact that what is photographed is always changing. The forces of extremes control the Salton Sea, balancing death and life in this conflict. It is Frank's quest for the beauty of such a place of paradox, to go where the light leads him.



W П A I WORLD

#### **Michael Gay**

The project Michael is currently working on concerns coastal erosion of land around Britain. The exploration is that of the changing weather and seasons caused by global warming around the world. His intention is to photograph the impact this is having on our country and to raise public awareness.

The images selected are of three sites. One in South West Wales in a seaside village called Amroth, and the other two sites are Happisburgh and Hunstanton on the north east coast of Norfolk. These three coasts are suffering from the effects of global warming, but due to the type of material the land is made of, the effects of erosion differ in severity.

The effect of erosion to the land doesn't show the damage to property or the grief and suffering of the people that lost their homes in some of these places. But the images from Happisburgh in East Anglia are those of one of the fastest eroding areas in Britain where homes have just fallen onto the beach below caused by the constant pounding of waves to the cliffs.

To continue with this project he will visit other parts of the country and revisit each area showing the environmental impact and changes caused since the previous visit.



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#### Anikendra Ghosh

Anikendra Ghosh's favourite subject has always been ordinary people who represent the complexities and ambivalence that characterize the poor in India. Photography provides an opportunity to record the hope and despair, the joy and pain, and the wonder and cynicism that are written on their faces. Nothing escapes the lens. Yet it allows Anikendra to impart a rare beauty and dignity to these women that reveals how remarkable and resilient they are. Anikendra looks to record their relationships, their values and their simple interactions in daily life. In the process, access is gained to an image whose composition possesses such energy, depth, vibrancy and rhythm that this one picture would be a story in itself.



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#### **Grace Hui**

To Grace, what makes our planet spectacular is its ability to be dynamic and yet delicate at the same time. The power of nature in all its glory is often contrasted with its seeming fragility.

This irresistible combination of sheer power and elusiveness is what she has always sought to capture.

In our age of pollution, some of the world's most potent elements have been tamed into submission while others have been harnessed beyond control.

While Grace believes fervently in conservation, she also realizes that the tide of modern development may be impossible to turn and it is that knowledge that spurs her on to document every unique moment of nature that she comes across.

In the images she has submitted, she hopes to convey the full range and essence of the world's awesome beauty while bearing in mind that for some of the wonders humanity has taken for granted for centuries, we are perhaps in the last days of its existence.

For our shared heritage to be forever enshrined in the consciousness of humanity, every picture counts.



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#### **Puneeta Sharma**

Puneeta Sharma was born in 1986 in Hillingdon, London, where she continues to live and work. She received her BA in Fine Art from Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in 2009 and is currently studying a Masters in Conservation. Natural Elements was Puneeta's first solo exhibition in April 2010, shown at Osterley Park's Garden Gallery, London.

Puneeta's interest in photography began by photographing the area in her hometown, in West London – famous for the international airport, Heathrow. Her aim is to capture the natural elements belonging to this region of the UK, which often come into question due to the controversial expansion of the airport. The images captured of these remarkable landscapes and details of tree bark are a celebration of the beauty hidden within these areas. Sharma's work reveals the resiliency of nature in the face of advancing industrialisation.

She continues to photograph the beautiful natural aspects of the city but has, more recently taken to capturing the beauty of other parts of the country. The work displayed here shows images from Osterley Park in London, Brighton, Windermere and Barrow in the Lake District.



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#### Vishali Shyam

Vishali Shyam is a travel writer based in Chennai, India. She has a passion for exploring and being a globe trotter is an easy and heartfelt pleasure for her. She has recently spent a few months in Japan as an exchange student, where she managed to win the hearts of the local community. She always strives to be the best that she can be and believes that the sky is the limit. This enthusiasm and passion is something that she also applies to her photography.



# U П AUTIFUL WORLD

#### John Walker

John Walker is an amateur photographer and takes pictures of any subjects the he feels would be of interest to others as well as himself. He doesn't have expensive equipment, and relies on the subject to make the shot, not necessarily the quality or effects used. He tries to carry his camera with him

when he is out on walks, on holiday or away on business. He would love one day to have a business taking pictures of specific subjects for clients, and maybe this day will come. He has had a few pictures displayed in exhibitions and won some competitions. His aim would be to upgrade his equipment and really focus on photography for the future.



U П A I FUL WORLD

#### **Matt Walkley**

Matt Walkley, is a 29 year old amateur photographer from Weston Super Mare in North Somerset.

The images that he has chosen to display are some of his personal favourites taken whilst on holiday with his family in various parts of the UK and the occasional trip abroad.

He believes he still has an awful lot to learn but finds photography a very satisfying and rewarding hobby.

He feels honoured to have been chosen to have his images displayed in this gallery and hopes that you enjoy them.



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#### **Nicolas William Hughes**

Nicolas has been studying art and photography for the past seven years. In 2008, he graduated from Newport University with a BA(hons) degree in Photographic Art. Since 2008, he has been focusing on his own practice and in 2011 he obtained a Masters Degree in Photography: Contemporary Dialogues from Swansea Metropolitan University.

His practice has often been a personal response to cultural and/ or socio-political happenings that have occurred in an area or environment. He creates photographs, video and mixed media works that show his interaction with a chosen environment.



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