



lick



Editor's Notes



Summer is considered by many as the time to relax and take life easy but the recent experiences of the Executive Committee of the Malta Photographic Society and the various sub-committees involved in numerous projects proved otherwise. We now look

forward to see the fruit of all the hours of work voluntarily put in thus bringing the year when we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Malta Photographic Society to a close with a bang!

The incoming calendar of events that commences on 1 September 2011 witnesses a total revamp of the MPS Photographer of the Year Competition. The re-vamp makes this established internal photographic competition even more challenging for those members who choose to participate. To compliment the re-vamp of the Photographer of the Year Competition, the previously designated 'Monthly Competitions' have become 'Mentoring Competitions' with the main focus being on the mentoring aspect within a friendly competitive spirit. Some of these changes may provoke healthy discussion as the Executive Committee updates itself and reaches out to the widest member audience possible. We are looking forward to see members actively participate in these competitions as well as the calendar of events scheduled. A number of established photographers such as Michael Ellul, Tonio Lombardi, Allen Venables and Darrin Zammit Lupi already agreed to give talks at the Society during the upcoming season. Stay tuned!

David 'dp' Attard
Editor & MPS Vice President

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'All in a Day's Work' by Joseph Pirotta

Readers are invited to visit the MPS website on
www.maltaphotographicsociety.org



To Start Again

We are on the doorstep of yet another photographic season. Our aim is to make it exciting, challenging and motivating for all members.

Since select projects involve specialist work and preparation, a number of sub-committees were set up to work behind the scenes to support the Executive Committee. Projects that could not be handled concurrently by the Executive Committee alone. One of the sub-committees is working on the National Open Annual Photographic Exhibition at St. James Cavalier, Valletta, in addition to organising the MPS 6th International Competition. Both events are key events in the calendar of the Society. Another sub-committee organised the World Photography Day at 'The Point' shopping mall in Tigne. This was the first time that we celebrated World Photography Day in such a manner and it turned out to be a very satisfying event.

The book that the Malta Photography Society is publishing to mark our Society's 50th anniversary is in print and provides yet another photographic milestone. We are proud that it also marks a contribution to our national photographic heritage. The Executive Committee is looking forward to distribute a copy of this book as a gift to every paid up member of the Society during the activity organised to launch the book on 22nd September 2011. MPS shall also present select organisations and individuals with this historic book.

The programme for the MPS Annual Photographic Seminar 2012, which is planned for the last weekend of January, is also well ahead under the direction of yet another sub-committee. We are looking forward to a jam packed photographic weekend! Do pencil these dates in your diary as we look forward to sharing this experience with you. Last, but surely not

least, I must also pay tribute to the team that month after month produces **Click**. You may have noticed new design changes introduced as from this edition. Members of this sub-committee spend hours of painstaking work behind the scenes to achieve the high standards you see with every issue produced.

I believe that, as President of the Malta Photographic Society, and on your behalf, it is important to recognise the contribution given by members of both the Executive Committee and the various sub-committees and to thank them for it. They forfeit a lot of their personal time to serve the Society so well for no personal gain. In the process, they also pay a price, as they have less time at their disposal to dedicate to practising the art of photography.

Let the example set by these members serve to encourage other members to come forward and volunteer some of their time to support the Society. I always wonder what would happen to the Society if such dedicated members, photographers and friends are not so supportive, obliging and caring.

To conclude, the Society is this season not only updating the Photographer of the Year Competition but also introducing formal Mentoring Competitions. I augur that members take this opportunity to participate. Constructive critiques and discussion will take place during the mentoring sessions. The ultimate aim of the incoming Executive Committee is not to create a competitive environment within the Society for its own sake but to create the conditions where members can progress, diversify and specialise their photography.

Louis Aguis,
MPS President



World Photography Day Celebrations

by david 'dp' attard

Searches over the internet show that World Photography Day was initially celebrated around 20 years ago. A good number of people I spoke to, and who have photography at heart were not aware that World Photography Day is commemorated on the 19th of August 2011. Why is that? Some of the more cynical amongst us might argue that this

is because World Photography Day was not created by one of the big camera brands as a marketing tool and therefore it does not receive the required worldwide marketing exposure it deserves.

The date chosen to commemorate World Photography Day is associated with the invention of the Daguerreo type, a photographic process developed by Louis Daguerre and Joseph Nicéphore Niépce. It was on the 9th of January, 1839, that The French Academy of Sciences presented the Daguerreo type photographic process. A few months later, on August 19, 1839, the French Government announced the invention as a free gift to the world. It is also worthy to note that in 1839, William Fox Talbot invented another photographic process, the Calotype, which process was





20th August) and aimed to bring together both Maltese and non-Maltese photographers who happened to be in Malta during this period. This activity was successful and proved to be a hit with all participating photographers who happily spent hours taking photographs at the various stands set up. A big well done goes to all

formally announced in 1841.

World Photography Day is a commemoration by photographers for photographers. This was the approach taken by the Malta Photographic Society to commemorate this special day in Malta when photographers across the globe get together to celebrate photography, just because they can and just because they want to.

It appears that the World Photography Day celebration is gaining additional momentum with each passing year. This year, the Malta Photographic Society organized various activities at The Point in Tigne spread over two days (19th and

those involved in the organization of this activity.



Slowly, World Photography Day is also gaining more recognition at the local level not only with various photographers but also with select businesses who are taking this celebration on board.

The Malta Photographic Society also engaged the local media to promote this special commemoration and the response received this year was very good. The event was given extensive coverage in the media.

Till next year!



Programme of Activities & Notices

compiled by David 'dp' Attard

Schedule of Society Meetings

SEPTEMBER 2011

Thursday, 1st September 2011

Presentation by Photo Journalist Michael Ellul

Sunday, 4th September 2011

Photo Walk by Wistin at Marsaxlokk

Monday 5th September 2011

Judging of APS Competition

Thursday, 8th September 2011

No Meeting - Public Holiday

Friday, 9, 10, 11th September 2011

6th International Competition Judging

Thursday, 15th September 2011

Discussion, The Season Ahead: Member Aspirations

Thursday, 22nd September 2011

50th Anniversary Book Launch & Official Opening of the National Open Annual Exhibition 2011

Thursday, 29th September 2011

Presentation by Ramon Sammut

Starting Photography Course

The next Starting Photography Course will commence on Tuesday, 4th October 2011 at 6.00pm. Further details are found on the Society website.

OCTOBER 2011

Thursday, 6th October 2011

Presentation by Fashion Photographer Tonio Lombardi

Handing in of photographs for Mentoring Competition No. 1.

Sunday, 9th October 2011

Photo Walk by Wistin at Msida

Thursday, 13th October 2011

Mentoring Competition No.1
Free Subject

Thursday, 20th October 2011

Mentoring, Feedback and Discussion No. 1

Thursday, 27th October 2011

Presentation



Photography quotes
compiled by
Patrick Genovese

MPS Photographer of the Year Competition & Award

The Malta Photographic Society (MPS), Photographer of the Year Competition is being re-vamped with effect from 1 Sep 2011. The aim of this competition is to select a member of the Society who, through a series of internal photographic print competitions, obtains the highest number of points in one season and is awarded the MPS Photographer of the Year. The Malta Photographic Society, Photographer of the Year Competition is based on four different photographic panels and a portfolio each consisting of five prints. A member of the Society who desires to participate in the MPS Photographer of the Year Award must participate in a minimum of two panels and in the portfolio competition. The declared winner is the member who obtains the highest number of points after all five competitions are held. Any member of the Malta Photographic Society whether in the Advanced or the Entry Category can participate in and win the MPS Photographer of the Year Award. Members who intend participating in the Photographer of the Year Award are to signify their intent in the

appropriate form to the Executive Committee by the end of September 2011. The panels and portfolio presented also serve as standalone MPS internal competitions in their own right and shall be awarded accordingly. The themes for 2011-2012 are Maltese culture & heritage panel in monochrome format planned for December 2011, the photo-journalism panel in colour format planned for January 2012, the portraiture panel in monochrome format planned for February 2012, the nature panel in colour format planned for March 2012 and the portfolio in colour format planned for April 2012. The image areas (i.e. excluding borders) of the monochrome or colour prints submitted must measure between a maximum dimension of 30 cms by 40 cms and a minimum dimension of 20 cms by 30 cms. Prints must be mounted in either flush or border format. Mounts must always be in square or rectangular format, but print borders may be of any colour or form. The maximum print size including borders or mount must not exceed 50 cms by 40 cms.

Mentoring Competitions

The Malta Photographic Society is as from 1st September 2011, introducing Mentoring Competitions to offer participating members formal mentoring and feedback sessions within a competitive environment. The Society shall organise six Mentoring competitions within every Competition Season of the Society. Mentoring Competitions shall assist members in the Entry Category to take their first steps in competitions, and to obtain feedback from both the panel of judges and as well as their peers without incurring major printing expenses. They also provide members in the Advanced Category with the opportunity to test the waters and obtain feedback by presenting differing photographic styles

or approaches to their photography. Each Mentoring Competition is followed by a mentoring and discussion session in open forum format. The Mentoring Competitions shall be in the digital projected images format and the image file format should be jpeg. The file resolution should not be more than 1024 pixels (horizontal) by 768 pixels (vertical) at 300 dpi. Compression ratio when saving the file should be set at 12. Colour space should be sRGB and the file size should not exceed 3 MB. The titles for the upcoming season of Mentoring Competitions are 'free subject', 'fashion', and 'yellow' in the colour category format and 'free subject', 'emotions' and 'movement' in the monochrome format.

Professor Joseph M. Pirotta was born in Sliema in June, 1941, and now resides in Fgura. Initially, Joe began to take photos during outings with friends and family. Very quickly, he realised the potential of photography. In 1963 he bought his first camera, after which he upgraded to a Braun rangefinder with two interchangeable lenses. In 1966, he bought a Pentax Spotmatic SLR, converted a room at home into a darkroom and became thoroughly hooked on photography.

Joe joined the Malta Photographic Society in 1966 but reluctantly resigned in 1970 because of his studies, research and other pressures of work. He rejoined the Society in 2009, nine months after he retired from the University of Malta, where he served as Head of the Department of International Relations. Joe declares that it was then that he was confronted by the digital age of photography. He readily admits that he finds the ongoing personal

Member Profile

JOSEPH

Claire



Pigeonholed



exercise to adjust to this development as highly enjoyable.

Presently Joe is the owner of an Olympus E30 and an Olympus E410 camera body with a Zuiko 25 mm f2 lens, a Zuiko 50 mm macro f2 lens, a Sigma 50 mm f1.4 lens, together with two Zuiko zoom lenses, an 11-22 mm f2.8-3.5 lens, and a 50-200 mm f2.8-3.5 lens.

Joe is always fascinated by the play of light and the visual impact such play has on an image. He believes that this visual impact is more true with monochrome images which were his first love. He likes photographs that make a statement, where the more subtle the statement the better. His preferred photographic subjects are candid, unusual situations, street photography, portraits and landscapes.

Amongst others he likes the photography of Ansel Adams, Cartier Bresson, Lord Townsend, David Bailey, John Cornish, Andrew Newey, and locally Richard Ellis as



well as a host of other photographers.

Since rejoining the Society, Joe attended the Starting Photography Course and the Photoshop Course for Beginners. He finds the Society lectures very helpful, the monthly competitions

PIROTTA

compiled by Anthony Blackman



Grotty Bar



The Contessa

stimulating and enjoys the sense of comradeship that exists within the same Society, where members can obtain lots of advice. He participates regularly in local photographic competitions as he believes that improvement results by constantly comparing one's work with the best work others produce. Since August 2010, he regularly participated in international competitions and succeeded in having 146 acceptances in 44 Salons in 18 different countries where he was also awarded two Silver medals, an Honourable Mention and a Certificate of Merit for his photographic work.

Joe would like to see the Society develop even further by making itself better known,

especially among aspiring photographers. He would also like the Society to increase its practical courses and to find ways to contribute towards the fostering of photography in schools.

Joe forms part of the Malta Photographic Society's sub-committee responsible for the production of the 50th Anniversary Book, which book is currently going to print.

Besides photography, Joe is also interested in reading, writing, sports (particularly football), and cinematography.

Prof. Joseph Pirotta is married to Maria, née Abela, and has two sons

Photographic Equipment for Sale

Mini-Soft Box



Brand new, never used mini soft box. Length 20cm by 30cm, complete with carrying pouch and white light diffuser and no less than 6 covers (cloth gels) in 6 different colours: green, red, yellow, green dark blue and light blue. Price 35 Euros. If interested contact David 'dp' Attard on mob 99861626.

Light Softener



This light modifier is designed to enhance your creativity both indoors or outdoors by attaching to your flashgun. When using this light modifier in front of your model, the light is softened for more pleasing effects. Price 35 Euros. If interested contact David 'dp' Attard on mob 99861626.

Photographic Film Enlarger

The first member who calls Carmel H. Psaila on 21313307 in the morning (any time) or in the afternoons (after 1700hrs) gets this photographic film enlarger which is a collector's item for free.



In return, a small financial donation to the Society would be appreciated.

MPS members who would like to sell or purchase any photographic equipment and would like to advertise for free in this section, please contact **Click** on e-mail address clickmps@gmail.com.

National Open Annual Photographic Exhibition



St James Cavalier, Centre for Creativity in Valletta is for the second year in succession hosting the Malta Photographic Society's National Open Annual Photographic Exhibition between the 9th of September and the 9th of October, 2011.

The exhibition showcases some of the best photographs produced by Maltese photographers during the past year. No

The Malta Photographic Society had no less than 93 different photographers participating in this annual competition, which ran for a record 46th consecutive year. The participants submitted a grand total of 747 images: 284 images in the colour print format, 211 images in the monochrome print format and 252 images in the projected image format. This high level of participation was another record of significant note for the Society.



The central location in Valletta of St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity and the duration of this foremost national photographic exhibition enables the Malta Photographic Society to reach out to a much wider audience that includes not only photographers but also the general public. The photographic exhibition shall this year also form part of the Notte Bianca activities organised in the capital city of Valletta on the night of 1st of October

2011.

less than 150 printed images in both colour and monochrome format as well as over 100 photographs in digital projected image format are on display. The selection of exhibits followed from the results obtained during the National Open Annual Photographic Competition organized earlier this year by the same Society.

The summer (5th July to 14th September) visiting hours for St James Cavalier are: Monday to Friday, 9 am to 1 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 10 am to 1 pm. After the 15th of September, the Centre shall be open as follows: Monday & Tuesday from 9am to 5pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 9 am to 9 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 9 pm.



Society Activities

Photography by Mark Brincat

above: a photo walk was organised on Thursday, 21st July 2011, in Valletta. (photo by Anthony Rizzo)

below: John Smails from UK, delivered a presentation on Thursday, 30th June 2011 entitled 'The Hobby End of Photography'.



left: Alan Carville delivered a presentation entitled 'Fundamentals of Lighting' on Thursday, 7th July 2011. This presentation was a continuation of a previous presentation he gave at the Society in April 2011.

Click

MPS Award Presentation Dinner 2011



The Malta Photographic Society Annual Award Presentation Dinner was held on Friday, 29th July 2011 at The Hilton Hotel, St. Julians. Members awarded during photographic season 2010/2011 were presented with their trophies.

photo left: Junior Photographer of the Year, Johann Debono and MPS Photographer of the Year, Christopher Azzopardi with their shield in the company of MPS President, Louis Aguis.



left: On Thursday, 14th July 2011, David 'dp' Attard on behalf of the Executive Committee explained the updated format of the Photographer of the Year Competition and the Mentoring Competitions.



left: On Thursday 28th July 2011, the traditional annual get-together was organised at the Society premises in Valletta. This well attended event brought the 2010/2011 season to a close.

International News and Competition Acceptances

Compiled by Lawrence Bonnici

The international acceptances and awards listed below cover the months of February, March and April 2011.

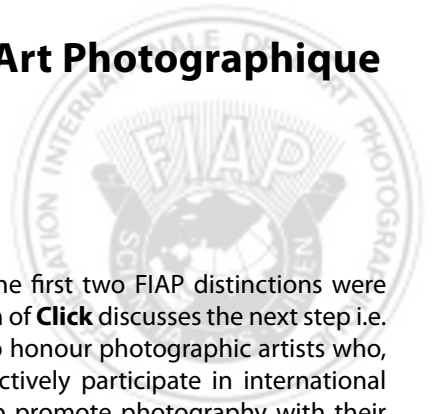
(**PI** = Projected Images, **MP** = Monochrome Prints, **CP** = Colour Prints)

Name	Salon	Acceptances	Awards
Louis Aguis	Photocolour 202, Serbia TaiChung International, Taiwan With Love to Women, Competition	4 PI 1 PI 1 PI	1 Hon. Men.
Stephen Buhagiar	Photocolour 202, Serbia	7 PI	1 Silver Medal
Leonard Cocks	Austrian Supercircuit	7 PI	
Christine Muscat Azzopardi	Photocolour 202, Serbia	3 PI	
Joseph Pirotta	Austrian Supercircuit Photofocus, Macedonia PSNY International, USA Spanish-Andorran Circuit, Spain With Love to Women, Competition	31 PI 3 PI 2 PI 3PI 1PI	
Bertam Vella	Austrian Supercircuit	3 PI	

Federation Internationale de l'Art Photographique

<http://www.fiap.net>

compiled by Carmel H. Psaila



EFIAP Levels

The requirements that need to be met to obtain the first two FIAP distinctions were outlined in the previous editions of **Click**. This edition of **Click** discusses the next step i.e. the EFIAP level. The EFIAP award was established to honour photographic artists who, after receiving the EFIAP distinction continue to actively participate in international salons under FIAP Patronage and by so doing, help promote photography with their artistic input. There are four EFIAP levels, namely Excellence FIAP Bronze (EFIAP/b), Excellence FIAP Silver (EFIAP/s), Excellence FIAP Gold (EFIAP/g) and Excellence FIAP Platinum (EFIAP/p).

Candidates must meet the following criteria to be considered for such EFIAP levels. They must be holders of the EFIAP distinction or a previous EFIAP level for at least one year, with the one year commencing from the date of the award of the diploma. Candidates must obtain the following number of minimum photographic acceptances for the following awards:

- a: EFIAP/b: 75 acceptances with at least 25 different works
- b: EFIAP/s 150 acceptances with at least 50 different works
- c: EFIAP/g 300 acceptances with at least 100 different works
- d: EFIAP/p 600 acceptances with at least 200 different works

All photographic acceptances listed above must be received after the date of the award of the previous EFIAP distinction. A candidate for these distinctions must also submit the following number of photos:

- a: EFIAP Bronze: 3 distinct photographs awarded in different countries,
- b: EFIAP Silver: 4 distinct photographs awarded in different countries,
- c: EFIAP Gold : 5 distinct photographs awarded in different countries,
- d: EFIAP Platinum: 6 distinct photographs awarded in different countries

These photographs must be different from those photographs submitted for the other distinctions.



Editor's Choice

The Editor's Choice for this edition of **Click** are the winning photos of two separate competitions.

MPS member Stephen Buhagiar won the first prize in a competition organised by Canon Malta with his photo entitled "Thoughts and Smoke" (left). Stephen won €1000 worth of Canon photo-video products from Avantech Ltd.

MPS member Christopher Azzopardi won the SWPP Judges Choice Award (equivalent to the best of show) for the third time. This personal feat is to date not replicated by any other SWPP member. There were 1250 entries from all over the world in this competition. Christopher won a cash prize of €100 sponsored by Fujifilm (photo below).



Newsletter of the
Malta Photographic Society

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NEWSPAPER POST