
RENAISSANCE 2011

Exhibition press release

RENAISSANCE
PHOTOGRAPHY
PRIZE 2011
MOMENTS THAT MATTER



Eve Arnold donates signed photo for Renaissance Photography Prize awards ceremony



20 photographers from 8 countries are waiting with bated breath to discover the winners of the Renaissance Photography Prize 2011, to be announced at a celebrity private view on 23rd March 2011 at London's Mall Galleries.

Now in its fourth year, the Renaissance competition invites amateur and professional photographers to submit their images for judging by some of the most distinguished photographers in the industry. All proceeds from the competition and exhibition are donated in full to the Lavender Trust at Breast Cancer Care, a charity that supports younger women with breast cancer.



Following a review of a record 4,700 images from 61 countries, celebrity photographer Brian Aris, gallery owner Michael Hoppen, Philippe Garner, Head of Photography at Christies, Rhubarb-Rhubarb's Lorna-Mary Webb and Magnum editor Brigitte Lardinois selected 100 images which will be displayed at a week-long exhibition at the Mall Galleries, off London's Pall Mall.

There are prizes for the best photo in five categories: Environment, Expression, Motion, Shape and Time. The overall



Retired Woman, China '79
Copyright Eve Arnold/Magnum

Renaissance Prize 2011 winner will walk away with £3,000, a portfolio review with Rhubarb Rhubarb's reviewers and a coveted place on the Rhubarb Rhubarb 2011 Promenade.

For the first time this year there is a new prize for the best photo taken on film, donated by Calumet (a Fujifilm GF670 Medium Format camera). Of the 100 images selected for the exhibition, a remarkable 37 were taken on film. Judge Brian Aris said "I was personally thrilled to see so many entries shot on film in the conventional way, which for me signals the future of photography where hopefully digital and film can live happily side by side".

The highlight of the exhibition is the champagne private view and awards ceremony. Cherie Blair, actress Lulu, writer Kathy Lette and comedian David Mitchell are among the celebrities who have handed out awards in previous years; this year Lisa Snowdon and Amanda Mealing are already confirmed names, with more to follow.

"The standard of this year's entries was extremely high and very diverse, making the final selection very difficult"

Brian Aris, Renaissance judge

There will also be a silent auction of a signed print of *Retired Woman, China '79*, donated by Magnum photographer Eve Arnold. As with ticket and photo sales, all money raised from the auction will go to the Lavender Trust.

Renaissance is the brainchild of Fiona Gifford, a 38 year-old lawyer and keen amateur photographer who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006.

"I have been overwhelmed by the success of Renaissance and the quality of the photographs that we have seen since the competition started. The competition is a great way for photographers to have their work judged by some of the biggest names in the photography world while raising money for younger women with breast cancer, over £130,000 thus far.

"What better way to celebrate life and the world around us than through photography? Photographs allow us capture and connect with the world, and can be a source of inspiration in times of adversity."

For more information, interviews or high-res images of last year's winning photographs or of the 2011 event, contact Ashley Johnson on +44 787.247.3502 or contact info@renaissancephotography.org

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Selection of 2011 shortlisted photographs: *Shadow Dancer 1* by Anne Marie Arbefeulle (Shape category); *Iola* by Richard Boll (Expression); *Free on the Range* by Peikwen Cheng (Motion); *Coming Soon, Dudley Ga* by William Eckersley (Environment)