



Under Strict embargo until 20:00 Thursday 21 September 2017

## TOP NAMES IN CONTEMPORARY ART, SCIENCE, FILM AND PUBLISHING HONOURED BY ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY AWARDS

**The RPS Awards, Last night (Thursday 21 September 2017, The Royal Society, London)**

Top names in art, science, film and publishing were honoured in the annual Royal Photographic Society Awards last night in London. Established in 1878, The RPS Awards are the most prestigious photography awards in the world, recognising exceptional photographers, scientists, curators, and those who have given outstanding service to The Royal Photographic Society.

Engineer and inventor Dr Michael Tompsett has been awarded The Progress Medal for his contribution to the scientific and technological development of photographic imaging. Tompsett is best known for recognising the potential of a Charge-coupled device (CCD) for image making, which enabled him to create the first ever digital image in 1973, paving the way for the digital cameras that we know today. The Centenary Medal was awarded to photographic artist, sculptor, architect, producer and author Hiroshi Sugimoto for his significant contribution to the art of photography. The Award for Outstanding Service to Photography has been presented to British art dealer, collector and curator Anthony d'Offay.

Other recipients include fashion photographer Jane McLeish-Kelsey, award-winning cinematographer Hoyte van Hoytema, photographic art book publisher Michael Mack and pioneer of colour photography, Joel Sternfeld.

The RPS introduced a new award for 2017, the Award for Cinematic Production, which recognises outstanding achievement or sustained contribution in the production, direction or development of film for the cinema, television, online or new media. The inaugural recipient of this award is British film producer David Heyman, known for producing the film adaptations of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter books.

Dr. Michael Pritchard FRPS, Chief Executive of The RPS said *"The RPS Awards are unique in recognising individuals across the full breadth of the still and moving image. The Society's Awards continue to reflect changes within the medium and this year's Award for Cinematic Production brings in a new category which highlights exceptional work in film, television, online or new media."*

Commenting on the partnership, Ken Grier, Creative Director of The Macallan, said, *"The Royal Photographic Society awards is a fantastic opportunity to recognise and showcase talented photographers in their respective field. These individuals capture moments in time and mesmerise audiences across the globe through their unwavering commitment to creativity and innovation. The Macallan continues to celebrate the world of photography as a platform to engage and create impact through our global campaigns. We are delighted to be part of this celebration which awards such amazing talent across the world of photography."*

For further information and to request images or interviews please contact  
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Notes to editors.

FULL LIST OF 2017 WINNERS:

**1. The Progress Medal (& Honorary Fellowship)**

Instituted in 1878, the Progress Medal is awarded in recognition of any invention, research, publication or other contribution which has resulted in an important advance in the scientific or technological development of photography or imaging in the widest sense.

**2017 Recipient: Dr Michael Tompsett**

British born Engineer and Inventor who has revolutionised the way we capture images. He is distinguished for the invention and development of multiple technologies, including the CCD image sensor that first demonstrated electronic photography and video in use today. Tompsett created the first ever digital image in 1973.

**2. The Centenary Medal (& Honorary Fellowship)**

Instituted in 1993, the Centenary Medal is awarded in recognition of a sustained, significant contribution to the art of photography.

**2017 Recipient: Hiroshi Sugimoto**

Born in Tokyo in 1948, Hiroshi Sugimoto has lived in New York City since 1974. He has acquired an international reputation as a photographic artist, sculptor, architect, producer and author. His work explores issues surrounding time, empiricism and metaphysics that bridge eastern and western ideologies while examining the nature of perception and the origins of consciousness. His art works have been exhibited around the world and are included in numerous important public art collections.

**3. The Award for Outstanding Service to Photography (& Honorary Fellowship)**

This award recognises outstanding and influential contributions to photography and/or imaging in their widest meanings. This award is to be made to a notable person who has contributed over a significant period of time to the global world of the application of photography.

**2017 Recipient: Anthony d'Offay**

British art dealer, collector and curator d'Offay set up one of the largest contemporary art galleries in Europe hosting exhibitions of many of the greatest living artists from 1980 to 2001, when he closed the galleries and began to work on ARTIST ROOMS – a collection of 50 rooms of contemporary art. In 2008 he gave these to Tate and the National Galleries of Scotland. Today the collection contains more than 1600 works of art, touring around the country. The shows of photography are among the most requested every year by regional museums and galleries.

**4. Honorary Fellowships**

Awarded to distinguished people who have an intimate connection with the science or fine art of photography.

**2017 Recipients: Garry Fabian Miller, Mark Power, Taryn Simon, Joel Sternfeld**

**Garry Fabian Miller** – Born in Bristol in 1957, Garry Fabian Miller has a reputation as one of the most progressive artists working with photography today. He is known for his 'camera-less' photography, passing light through translucent objects, including leaves, seedpods and flower





heads, and later through coloured glass, liquid and cut paper forms, onto light sensitive paper to create unique and luminous images.

**Mark Power** – British born photographer, and Magnum member. Power's work has an international following. He has published eight books, has exhibited at numerous museums and galleries across the world, and his prints are in several important collections including the Arts Council of Great Britain, British Council and the V&A. Mark Power is a visiting Professor of Photography at the University of Brighton.

**Taryn Simon** – Born 1975, New York based Taryn Simon is a multidisciplinary artist working in photography, text, sculpture and performance. Guided by an interest in systems of categorisation and classification, her practice involves extensive research into the power and structure of secrecy and the precarious nature of survival.

**Joel Sternfeld** – Born 1944, New York, Joel Sternfeld is known for large-format colour photographs that chronicle roadside America, extending the tradition of Walker Evans. Sternfeld's projects explore the possibility of collective American identity by documenting ordinary people and places throughout the country.

#### 5. NEW FOR 2017: Award for Cinematic Production

For outstanding achievement or sustained contribution in the production, direction or development of film for the cinema, television, online or new media.

#### 2017 Recipient: David Heyman

David Heyman, born 1961, is a British film producer known for producing the film adaptations of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter books. His last production, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, also written by Rowling, was released in 2016, and he is currently shooting the sequel. Heyman has an extensive list of production credits to his name, including *Gravity*, *Yes Man*, *I Am Legend*, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, *The Light Between Oceans*, and *Juice*.

#### 6. Combined Royal Colleges Medal

The Combined Royal Colleges Medal is awarded for an outstanding contribution to the advancement and/or application of medical photography or the wider field of medical imaging. Established by The Society in 1958, in collaboration with the Royal College of Physicians of London, the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

#### 2017 Recipient: Dr Andrew Bastawrous

Andrew Bastawrous is an Ophthalmologist, Assistant Professor in International Eye Health (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine) and Co-Founder & CEO of Peek Vision, a social impact organisation working to radically increase access to eye care worldwide. Bastawrous is a TED Fellow and his TED talk has now been viewed over one million times. He has been voted one of the world's 30 most influential people in public health and a "Young Global Leader" by the World Economic Forum.

#### 7. Award for Curatorship

This Award recognises excellence over a period of time in the field of photographic curatorship through exhibitions, associated events and publications.

#### 2017 Recipient: Hilary Roberts





Hilary Roberts is Research Curator of Photography at Imperial War Museums (IWM). Since joining the IWM Photograph Archive in 1980 she has guided the Archive's curatorial team through a period of rapid change in photographic technology and museum practice while simultaneously establishing the Archive as an unrivalled source of expertise on the photography of modern conflict.

#### **8. Award for Editorial, Advertising and Fashion Photography**

Awarded to an individual for outstanding achievement and excellence in the fields of Editorial, advertising and fashion photography.

##### **2017 Recipient: Jane McLeish-Kelsey**

Australian-born photographer, Jane McLeish-Kelsey's early fashion work appeared in the new 'street-style' magazines of the 90s such as *Dazed and Confused* and *i-D* as well as *The Guardian* newspaper. Her trademark style became one of capturing natural un-posed models in a filmic landscape using daylight. McLeish-Kelsey's work has been seen in numerous publications including *British* and *Australian Vogue*, *Vanity Fair*, *US* and *Australian Elle*, *British* and *German Marie-Claire*, *In-Style*, *Glamour* and *The Sunday Times Style Magazine*. Her work has been included in numerous exhibitions.

#### **9. Education Award**

Inaugurated in 2011 and awarded for outstanding achievement or sustained contribution in photographic education.

##### **2017 Recipient: Prof Olivier Richon**

Olivier Richon, born in Lausanne in 1956, teaches at the Royal College of Art, where he is Professor and Head of the Photography programme. His practice addresses allegory as a cultural form which is relevant for making and reading images as texts. Prior to the RCA, Richon taught at Derby School of Art, where he initiated an MA programme in photography, and at the University of Westminster where he was the course leader of the MA in Photographic Studies.

#### **10. The Hood Medal**

Instituted in 1933 and awarded within the art or science of photography for a body of photographic work produced to promote issues of public service or concern to society.

##### **2017 Recipient: Siân Davey**

Siân Davey is a photographer with a background in Fine Art and Social Policy. For the past 15 years she has worked as a humanist psychotherapist and it is this training that has helped facilitate her acute and nuanced self-awareness of both herself and her immediate worlds. Her family and community are central to her work.

#### **11. J Dudley Johnston Award**

For sustained excellence or a single outstanding publication in the field of photographic criticism or the history of photography.

##### **2017 Recipient: Prof Francis Hodgson**

Francis Hodgson is Professor in the Culture of Photography at the University of Brighton. He has been a writer on photography for many years, writing occasionally for a wide range of publications and including longer specialist stints, at different times, on *Creative Camera*, *The Spectator*, *Art Review*, and, for ten years or more until 2015, as the regular critic on the *Financial Times*.





## 12. Lumière Award

For major achievement in the field of cinematography, video or animation.

### 2017 recipient: Hoyte van Hoytema ASC NSC FSF

Hoyte van Hoytema is an award-winning cinematographer. In 2008, van Hoytema's cinematography of Tomas Alfredson's critical masterpiece *Let the Right One In* earned him several awards and the attention of world-renowned filmmakers. He went on to shoot *The Fighter*, *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*, Spike Jonze's futuristic love story *Her*, and *Interstellar*. Van Hoytema was Director of Photography on the last Bond film, *Spectre* and on *Dunkirk*, which was released in July.

## 13. Award for Photographic Publishing

This award is given to an individual for outstanding achievement or sustained contribution in the field of Photographic Publishing in its broadest sense.

### 2017 Recipient: Michael Mack

Michael Mack is a publisher of art, photography and critical text books. He has written, designed, edited and produced nearly 500 titles, including some of the defining art books of the past 20 years. As Managing Director of Steidl, he founded the SteidlMACK imprint before establishing his eponymous independent publishing house in 2010. Mack works closely with established and emerging artists, writers and curators, as well as world-leading cultural organisations, who are invested in the book as an art form.

## 14. Award for Scientific Imaging

This award is given to an individual for a body of scientific imaging which promotes public knowledge and understanding.

### 2017 Recipient: Prof Maurizio Seracini

Maurizio Seracini is a pioneer in the use of multispectral imaging and analytical technologies applied to works of art and monumental buildings. Seracini's passionate pursuit contributed to modernise the study of Art by embracing and utilising technology in revolutionary ways and developed a methodology to scientifically authenticate art, which will change the way art buyers, investors and even law enforcement identify fakes and forgeries.

## 15. Selwyn Award 35 Years and Under

Introduced in 1994 and given to those 35 years and under who have conducted science based research connected with imaging.

### 2017 Recipient: Dr Lounis Chermak

Dr Lounis Chermak is Lecturer in imaging, computer vision and autonomous systems at Cranfield University, and passionate about extracting and interpreting all kinds of information that can be found in an image. As he likes to say, he loves to "make the images talk". His current research topics are related to autonomous driving, self-localisation, 2D/3D objects and structures detection, identification and tracking.

## 16. Vic Odden Award

For a notable achievement in the art of photography by a British photographer aged 35 or under. Endowed in memory of Vic Odden, one of the UK's best known and respected photographic retailers.

### 2017 Recipient: Jack Davison





Jack Davison (b. 1990) is a largely self-taught London-based portrait and documentary photographer. Since the age of 14 he has continuously photographed those around him. His work stands out due to his intense, interesting use of light and shadows – especially apparent in his monochrome images. Although best-known as a documentary photographer, Essex-born Davison can move seamlessly between the street, where he finds many of his subjects and the world of high fashion. He works for numerous publications including *New York Times Magazine*, *M Le Monde* and *British Vogue*.

#### **17. Fenton Medal & Honorary Life Membership**

Established in 1980 and named after Roger Fenton, one of the Society's founders and until February 1856 its Honorary Secretary. For a member or non-member who has made an outstanding contribution to the work of The Royal Photographic Society.

#### **2017 Recipients: Colin Harding, Brian Liddy, Dr Donald Stewart FRPS, Rosemary Wilman HonFRPS**

**Colin Harding:** as Curator at National Media Museum in Bradford, until September 2016, he provided exceptional support to the Society and to its Historical Group, beyond his job role. He has written widely on the history of photography and is a regular broadcaster on radio and television.

**Brian Liddy** is a Research Assistant with Bodleian Libraries, Oxford. Formerly an Associate Curator at the National Media Museum in Bradford, Brian worked closely with the museum's National Photograph Collection for almost 20 years. In 2002 he prepared the Society's Collection for its journey to the museum in Bradford. Brian then provided access to the RPS Collection to visiting researchers and was privileged to curate a number of exhibitions within which the RPS Collection featured prominently.

Donald Stewart is responsible for the reinvigoration of the Historical Group, now an active and vibrant part of the Society since he joined as Secretary and then Chair. The group has gone from strength to strength, holding events throughout the country and most parts of Europe, increased membership, and a revamped group journal, *The PhotoHistorian* of which Stewart is currently Editor in Chief.

**Rosemary Wilman** has played a pivotal role in both the Governance and operation of the Society for more than 20 years across Distinctions, exhibitions, and The RPS awards.

#### **18. The Members' Award and Honorary Life Membership**

For an ordinary member who, in the opinion of Council, has shown extraordinary support for The Society over a sustained period.

#### **2017 Recipient: Paul Hurst ARPS**

Paul is an Associate of The Royal Photographic Society and has published articles in *The RPS Journal*. Over the last ten years he has helped with the Society's online forum.

#### **19. The Bill Wisden Fellowship of the Year**

Named after Bill Wisden MBE HonFRPS for his 50+ years' service to The Society, The Bill Wisden Fellowship of the Year is awarded for the most outstanding of the Fellowships that The Society confers annually.

#### **2017 Recipient: Eoin Johnston FRPS**





Since being able to devote substantial amounts of time to his photography, Eion Johnston has focused increasingly on images of people. This ranges from classic portrait work to art nude. He has been inspired by figurative artists ranging from the early exponents of Chiaroscuro to Robert Mapplethorpe. His Fellowship panel is an example of photography being used to visualise the damage to the human form and environment by the horrors of war.

## **RPS Bursary Recipients**

### **20. Joan Wakelin Bursary**

Administered in partnership with The Guardian, the annual Joan Wakelin Bursary is named in memory of photojournalist Joan Wakelin HonFRPS, a legacy from whom funds the bursary, and is awarded for the best proposal for a photographic essay on an overseas social documentary issue.

#### **2017 Recipient: Alice Mann**

Alice Mann's proposal seeks to work with a matriculating student from a school in an underprivileged community of colour, outside Cape Town. Through collaboration and engagement with one young woman, she hopes to create a portrait essay that will express the significance of this event in a young adult's life, and attempt to frame it as a moment of positivity, in a country where a high percentage of students in underprivileged communities are unable to reach matriculating, and coverage of these areas is usually negative.

### **21. Environmental Bursary**

In partnership with The Photographic Angle, The RPS offers two £3,000 bursaries to support photographic projects that promote environmental awareness, one to an applicant under 30 and one to an applicant over 30.

#### **2017 Over 30 Recipient: Robin Friend**

*Bastard Countryside* explores how 250 years of industrial activity has irrevocably changed the planet. Although the series has been made in the UK the subjects and themes are global. The TPA/RPS bursary will allow him to complete the series and achieve publication.

#### **2017 Under 30 Recipient: Nicholas White**

His project will see him studying the landscape of the Carpathian Mountains, exploring the landscape and interacting with the communities that call it home, humanising the concept of 'rewilding' and putting a face to those who are living and working on the frontline of European conservation.

### **22. Postgraduate Bursary**

The Society's Postgraduate Bursary supports postgraduate students undertaking photographic research or studying Masters courses in photography.

#### **2017 Recipient: Cebe Loomis**

Her project will focus on the largest historical landmark site in the United States, Virginia City, Nevada and is dedicated to unpacking the identities of the resident population, as well as the town's built and natural environments.

### **23. The RPS Cinematography Award**

RPS Cinematography Award, in partnership with DepicT!, Watershed's micro short filmmaking competition, is awarded for the best cinematography within the selected short films. This award





is judged in the Autumn and the 2017 winning film will be shown at next year's awards ceremony.

**2016 Recipient: Ben Mankin and Will Baldy**

The Society and the Festival share a passion for image making and forward-thinking, and an ambition to uncover and progress distinctive creative talent. Judge Dick Pope BSc on behalf of the Society had this to say about the winning film: *Will Baldy's cinematography for 'Living' perfectly realises director Ben Mankin's vision. Along with the highly stylised atmospheric lighting the film is also very economically described by only a few shots ....all precisely composed and well executed. A spot-on collaboration between DoP and Director.*

Additional Information:

**About the RPS Awards**

The RPS awards selection committee is made up of senior members of The Society and respected external advisors, working in different spheres of photography, who determine the eventual winners. Recent Award recipients have included photographers Terry O'Neill, Steve McCurry, Annie Leibovitz, Sir David Attenborough and Dr Brian May CBE.

The RPS is an educational charity open to everyone interested in photography, amateur or professional, artist or scientist.

[rps.org](http://rps.org)

**The Macallan**

The Macallan is one of the world's leading single malt whiskies. Since its founding in 1824, The Macallan has built a reputation across the world for a single malt whisky of outstanding quality and distinctive character. The Macallan has an active involvement in photography through its Masters of Photography Programme.  
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