

RPS Documentary Group Bi-monthly competition

November, 2019

Boat Show by Edouard Juon LRPS

I attach my entry for the Bi-monthly competition. The title is "Aqua Stunts". It was taken at the Southampton Boat show on 13th September 2019. I was sitting on the restaurant terrace and this Hydroflight Water Sport jet pack suddenly surfaced with the driver demonstrating his aerial stunts. Foolishly I had left my camera back home but I managed to get some shots on my Samsung mobile phone.



Brexit Demo No 23,013 by Tim Woolf ARPS



I was attending yet another Brexit Demo in Bath and spotted these 3 taking a well-earned break after all the rally speeches. They suggested a good range of character types, and I noticed that they were all consuming something. The sign gave the picture context, and the other signs (\$100 fine, upwards arrow etc) provided useful, storytelling elements. The umbrella provided a

literal as well as symbolic message of being 'prepared for all outcomes'. This picture was one of a set of photos of the rally I took for a 'story of the day', most of them were typical shots of demonstrators etc, but this one I thought provided a slightly different angle.



Buskers with Dog by Stephen L Marsh



Taken in Trafalgar Square at the end of a days street photography.



Camel race, Dubai by Daniel Simon

As the weather finally begins to cool, every Friday morning, starting at sunup, there are camel races across the Emirate of Dubai. One of the few aspects of Emirati life that has not been changed by the rise of tourism, the camels, which can cost up to a million pounds each, are ridden by remote control robot jockeys, piloted by a herd of SUVs that sweep round the oval track alongside the running animals. This shot is part of an ongoing series highlighting the myriad aspects of life in the UAE that most people do not get to see. I had actually been trying to take photos further down the track, past a barrier where I thought I might not be allowed. A member of the Dubai police force drove up and called me over. The Dubai police can be quite forbidding. "What are you doing?" he asked. "Taking photos". "No," he said. "Not here". I swallowed. "You will get much better pictures by the start line. Follow me". And he was right.



Copenhagen dockers securing hawsers from a cruise liner by Terry Cherrill LRPS



Dockers were handling hawsers securing a cruise liner which had just docked.



Earning a living by Gerald Phillipson LRPS



I'm working on a series of photographs under this title, 'Earning a Living.' I hope to submit 15 photos from the series for my ARPS. The point of the series is to document a glimpse of the vast range of occupations people take up either vocationally, professionally or out of necessity. The series will include photographs of beggars and the unemployed. The subject and location was chosen deliberately.



Emirates Air Line by Patsy Southwell ARPS



here is my entry for October. It is called Emirates Air Line. Taken in London riding on this Air Line over the Thames. A wonderful experience!



Flea Market by Bill Brooks LRPS



This image was taken on 15th September of this year at a flea market in Tongeren, Belgium. My shoot at the flea market was pre-planned - but not any of the particular images. This photograph, like my others on that day, was opportunistic. I like the arresting appearance of the mannequin's head - and equally its juxtaposition with an array of unrelated, seemingly random, items. I chose not to buy it.



Great River Race by Mike Longhurst FRPS



This was taken as part of my contribution to the RPS support of the Totally Thames programme of events in September. It was a planned shot as competitors fanned out to pass under different arches of London Bridge. Idea was to maintain clear identification of the Thames and London, by using Tower Bridge as a backdrop.



Imagine Peace by Neil Johansson ARPS



I took this shot in Liverpool, not something I planned for, I happened across a phone box with broken glass. I do shoot a lot through windows and this could become part of a larger project.



Into The Douro by Brian Etherington ARPS



I was in Porto taking photographs on the theme of Play. I happened to be in the vicinity of the Bridge where a crowd was gathering to watch a young man preparing to jump from the Dom Luis I bridge into the River Douro. This spectacle was for the benefit of the many tourists in the area and associates of the jumper passed around a hat to collect euros.



Leaving St Katherine's Dock by Gordana Johnson



MISSING Description



Lunchbreak, Sandsend by Valerie Mather LRPS

I was walking around the annual art fair in the seaside village of Staithes, when I noticed two women sat together on a bench, eating their lunch. I was struck by the strong colours of their lunch boxes, plus the red of the shopping bag matching the red lunch box, and the yellow hat complemented by the double yellow lines on the road. I took a shot discretely and then grabbed this shot just as the third woman, alone on her end of the bench, all dressed in brown, with matching brown bag, looked over enviously- it seemed to me she envied their colourfulness! Kind regards



Michael wheeling sheetmetal by James Owers



A recent project has been documenting the people who work at a company on the Isle of Wight who renovate and build airframes for such famous World War II aircraft as the Spitfire. Michael is one of the highly skilled people who still retain the traditional sheet metalworking skills required to do this exacting work for customers all over the world. I like this shot because it shows work in progress against a backdrop of the busy workshop making components to exacting CAA standards.



Pet Blessing Copenhagen by Beverly Lloyd-Roberts LRPS



This image was taken outside St Alban's Church, Copenhagen on October 6th 2019. The church is one of the Church of England churches in Europe. I pressed the shutter at this moment because I liked the chaos before they arranged themselves for a formal shot.



Reading the newspaper by Simon Maddison LRPS



In a village in southern France that I regularly visit. I know these 2 guys (Serge and Albert) who are brothers in law. Many extended families and neighbours group together to have just one subscription to the local daily newspaper mostly so that they can read the Death Notices. They share the one paper between them to save money. I drove past these two, noticed them, remembered that I had my iPhone, parked further on and crept back to take their photo before they looked up and would (as I knew from the past) smile and pose. Serge's T-shirt drying was a wonderful bonus so this is a crop that includes it.



Relationship by Rolf Kraehenbuehl

A rather unspectacular, everyday shot. But for me it highlights an important concept: Framing a picture dissolves existing relations between subjects inside and outside the frame, and creates new (perceived) relations between the subjects within the frame, even if these don't exist in reality. There were hundreds of adults and kids around the public pool on the square in Bradford city centre. Is the lady in the foreground the mother of the girl running away in the background? Is she paying attention to what her assumed daughter is doing? Or are they both strangers to each other?



Rule breaker by Lorraine Poole LRPS

I shot this on 18th October 2019 in Whitehaven in Cumbria. I was there for a couple of days to attend a charity fundraising weekend for a local children's charity. Walking round the town centre with my Canon EOS 6D I noticed this striking well dressed lady of a certain age wearing a leather biker jacket and dark sunglasses. She looked like she was waiting for somebody, outside a wonderfully shabby doorway. However what made me smile was the sign on the door she was waiting in front of. She really is a rule breaker! And very cool!



Seeing red by Rupert Hitchcox LRPS



I was down at the extinction rebellion rally and the Rebellion Red Brigade arrived and looking across the line of them in front of the police, was a sight worth capturing. Camera Taken with an iPhone XR in portrait mode



Spectator Buffet by Dawn Clifford LRPS



Taken in China Town, London in September 2019. I was amused by the number of people who stopped to view diners in this buffet restaurant in China Town.



Standing proud by James Nowell

It was taken during an anti-Brexit demonstration on 7th September in Parliament Square. It is part of a small project I am attempting to document events around Brexit. I had photographed this person and his sign earlier in the day, and when he saw me taking this shot towards him, he kindly obliged with the pose he has taken, pointing his sign towards me.



Strike A Pose by Sue Surita LRPS

This picture was taken at the AmeriCARna event in Horsham, West Sussex. I was wondering around on a rather wet and dull day looking for something/someone to catch my eye, when I saw this Mum trying her best to get her two boys to pose for her in front of one of the exhibiting cars. I watched for a while and took a few shots whilst she spruced them up, but the younger of the two was clearly having none of it. Eventually she managed to get them both in position and she got the shot she wanted on her mobile, and I got the shot I was waiting for!



Stucco ceiling by Andreas Scholz



During 1990-91, Failaka Island fell victim to the Iraqi invasion. Now a depopulated island, like the modern-day Pompeii rained upon by volcanic ash in its glory days, Failaka lies bullet-ridden and abandoned. Ransacked, dust-laden and in ruins, its twentieth century affluence is documented in the relics of ornately tiled bath-rooms and gardens, strips of plush wallpaper peeling like dead skin from crumbling walls. In the words Victor Burgin, such places are in themselves like photographic plates, 'having received the imprint of an event that has irreversibly transformed it'. As Didi-Hubermann puts it, 'Every photograph is the trace of a previous

state of the world, a vestige of how things were', and the summation of every photograph ever taken, he adds, 'is the ruin of the world'. In Pompeii II I seek to capture not only my own sense of paralysis in response to a traumatic human event, but to contribute to the palimpsest of photographic images that make up our more recent history.



The start of a buffalo race in Chonburi, Thailand by Nicholas Reuss ARPS



Every year for the last 140 years a water buffalo racing day has been held in the middle of Chonburi City to mark the end of the ploughing season which entailed much hard work and effort. The race starts are accompanied by much urging and encouragement from the animal's team. There is a total sense of good fun and that's not diminished by health and safety matters. It's bareback riding without helmets or boots and only one rein.



Them and us by Godfrey Pitt



I was in London to visit some galleries and deliberately walked through Trafalgar Square as I knew there would be lots going on. There were many clichéd images but I wanted to try to tell a story in one image. This was what I found.

The image was taken Tuesday 8th October 2019 at the Extinction Rebellion protest in Trafalgar square in London.

It depicts a banner created by the protesters in the foreground. Above the banner can be seen King Charles I on horseback and Horatio Nelson on his iconic column.

The red traffic light refers to the stopping of the actions influenc-

ing climate change. The banner's slogan is concise and pithy, "OIL = BOIL" refers to our use of fossil fuels and its impact on global warming and gives the image context.

The photograph is taken at a very low angle for two reasons. Firstly, the banner forms a barrier between the lord and the king on one side and the 'ordinary' people on the other. It is an icon for the rising sea level and the inference that it will only be the rich and powerful who can afford to choose where they live.

Secondly, the low angle and the wide-angle lens cause deliberate converging uprights, representing the falling of the building blocks



of society in a post climatic apocalypse.
It forms part of a series of images I am collating over time, documenting mass public protests and it may form part of my Masters degree studies this year.



XR at Trafalgar Square by Maxine Simmonds LRPS

Background: Returning to Charing Cross after viewing the Tim Walker exhibition at the V+A, I had every intention of getting of the tube early, at Westminster and just meandering up Whitehall to grab some chance Brexit shots at Westminster and some XR protest shots at Trafalgar Square. As you can imagine, I came home with a card full of interest but I really enjoyed this one which gives a good representation of characters we often associate with protest and that is reinforced as the two characters in the foreground are dressed the same. However, they are specifically linked to this event with the logos on their headbands. I like that they are sharing a drink although not sure what it is and it is ironic that they are using a plastic glass at a protest about environmental issues.



these chips are good by John Smith



I have been documenting Hull Fair for the last 4 years, and went this year to try to pick up some 'different' shots. There are dozens of Police on duty at the Fair every year - it runs over 8 days in October - and most of them work a 12 hour shift; I was lucky to catch a couple on 'Tea break' (....I was offered a chip when I showed them the image!)

