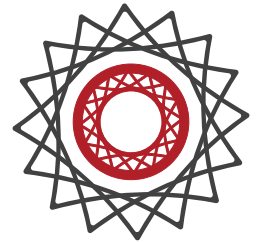


FOCAL POINT



Photography by ANDREW CUTIGNO



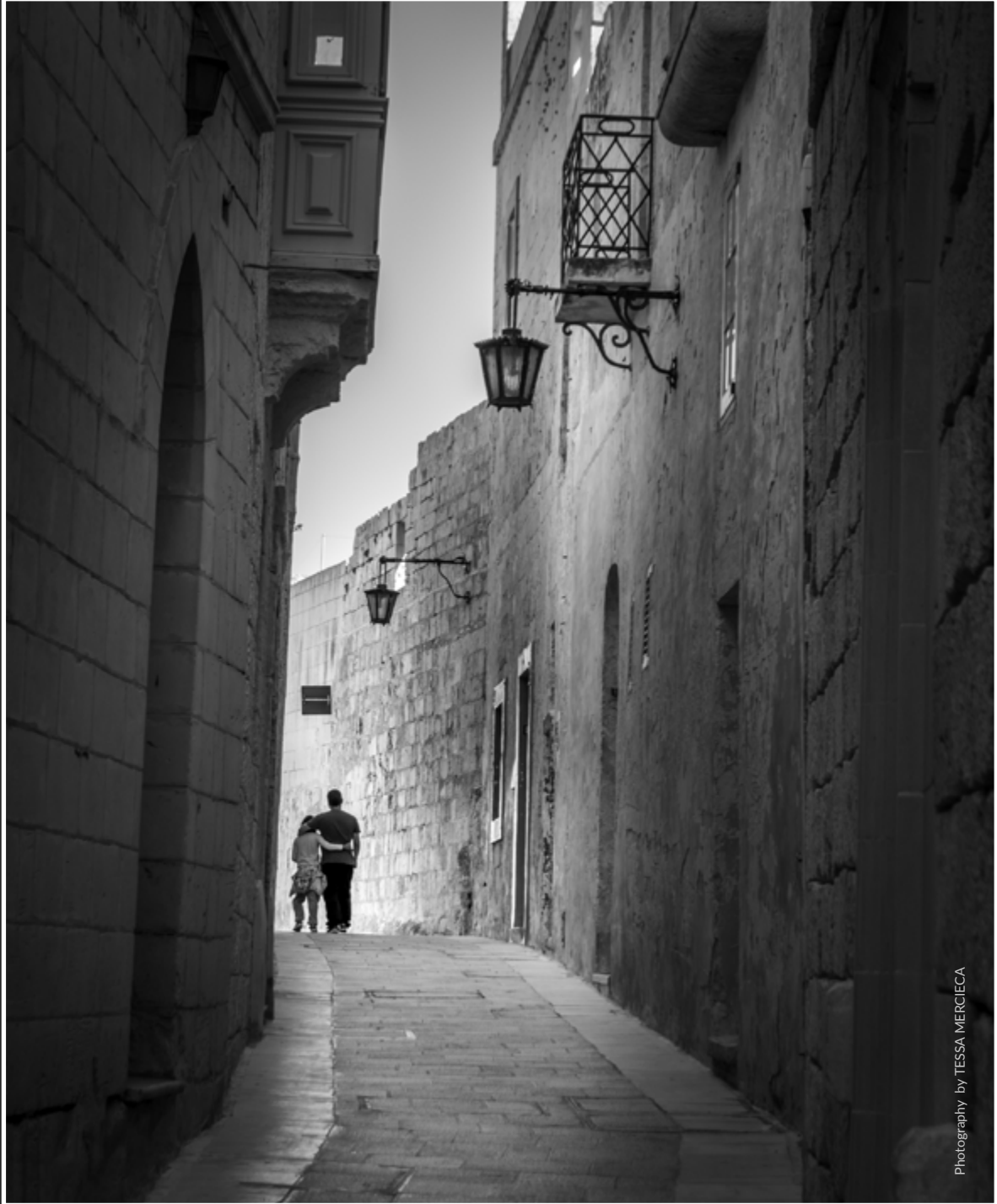
THE MALTA INSTITUTE
OF PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

ISSUE 93

The Official
MIPP Newsletter

www.mipp-malta.com

2021
MAR | APR



Photography by TESSA MERCIÉCA

Dear Members,

I was recently seeing a documentary on Gender equality and it made me think of something which we, as photographers, should be proud of. Unlike many other professions or situations, women in photography have more than been accepted on equal footing as male photographers. I think that during the last hundred years we have not seen any real imbalance between how society and photographers themselves treat gender issues in our profession. Granted, in the yearly days of photography, as in anything else, women did not have it easy to work as photographers but as the years passed, particularly after the Second World War, this prejudice began to quickly and thankfully disappear.



The work of daring pioneer female photographers had done its part in showing that photography was a profession that could be similarly taken up by all sexes. The brilliant photojournalistic photographs by photographers such as Margaret Bourke White and Lee Miller during the war further demonstrated this, which led to a host of iconic female photographers appearing in the editorial, fashion and several other fields.

When digital technology took over and equipment became less technical, widely accessible and

lighter to carry, this impacted the number of females who began to engage with photography. For example, before digital, my courses used to comprise of only about 10 per cent females but after digital took over, that percentage has increased in a couple of decades to at least 45! Even the Still Image Award course is now maintaining similar percentages. So a phenomenal shift has occurred. At MIPP we pride ourselves at having some brilliant and successful photographers as our members and we have for sure not seen any prejudice towards them. I can mention Sita Azzopardi, Amanda Hsu, Sandra Hotrum, Tomoko Goto, Therese Debono, Renata Apanaviciene, Lucienne Spiteri and others who have proved that females can compete with the best male photographers at all levels.

We have also done our best to bring over and collaborate with female protagonists such as Heidi Levine, Chiara Fersini and other protagonists and there has never been any issue of un-level platforms for our female or male members. Furthermore, it is satisfying to see that the number of females that are successful in MIPP Qualifications has also risen. Where I would like to see more participation by females is in our Executive Committee, as we do need more female perspective in the group, in order to give a wider vista on how we can better run the Institute. It is beneficial to have diversity in all spheres, particularly in the Committee.

To close this little reflection, I want to address our male members and point out one thing in which females are now 'beating' us – and I feel that it is in conceptual art. Throughout the last couple of decades I have noticed an imbalance where this part of photography is concerned. When it comes to photographic projects or theme interpretation, males seem to gravitate more towards techniques and equipment, whilst females seem more able to come out with ideas and concepts. Thus I feel that males should elevate their game and think more in depth what the power of photography is all about and how to better harness the message that photography can create.

Keep safe and positive

Kevin Casha
President

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Kevin Casha

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Various contributors

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Charles Paul Azzopardi

If you want your photographs featured on the newsletter's front page just send the images to: courses@mipp-malta.com
Your contributions are always welcome

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LET'S TRY AND HELP OUR SPONSORS!





Dear Members and friends,

In these difficult times, our thoughts should go to those who are facing problems with their income due to the complete or partial closure of their businesses. We are all in some way or other affected, but some are feeling the brunt more than others and I feel we should all try and come together and help in whatever manner possible. As you well know, the MIPP is attempting to tide over the time in the best way possible, with our resources.





My second appeal and thought goes out to the MIPP's main sponsors, most of whom have employees and large bills to meet. In this dire time, why don't we all go through our images and work and try and print that travel album, that family picture etc? That way, in our own little way, we can try to help our sponsors by giving them some work, however small, in a period where they have none? This quiet period will also help us get over our backlog and things which we have been procrastinating. What better way than to look at our past memories and immortalise them in a photobook? Again, this appeal goes to those who can, as for those who are hard up charity, naturally, begins at home.

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IMAGES FROM SUCCESSFUL MIPP 2020 QUALIFICATIONS



Photography by YASMIN DINGLI



Photography by CHARLES PAUL AZZOPARDI



Photography by YASMIN DINGLI



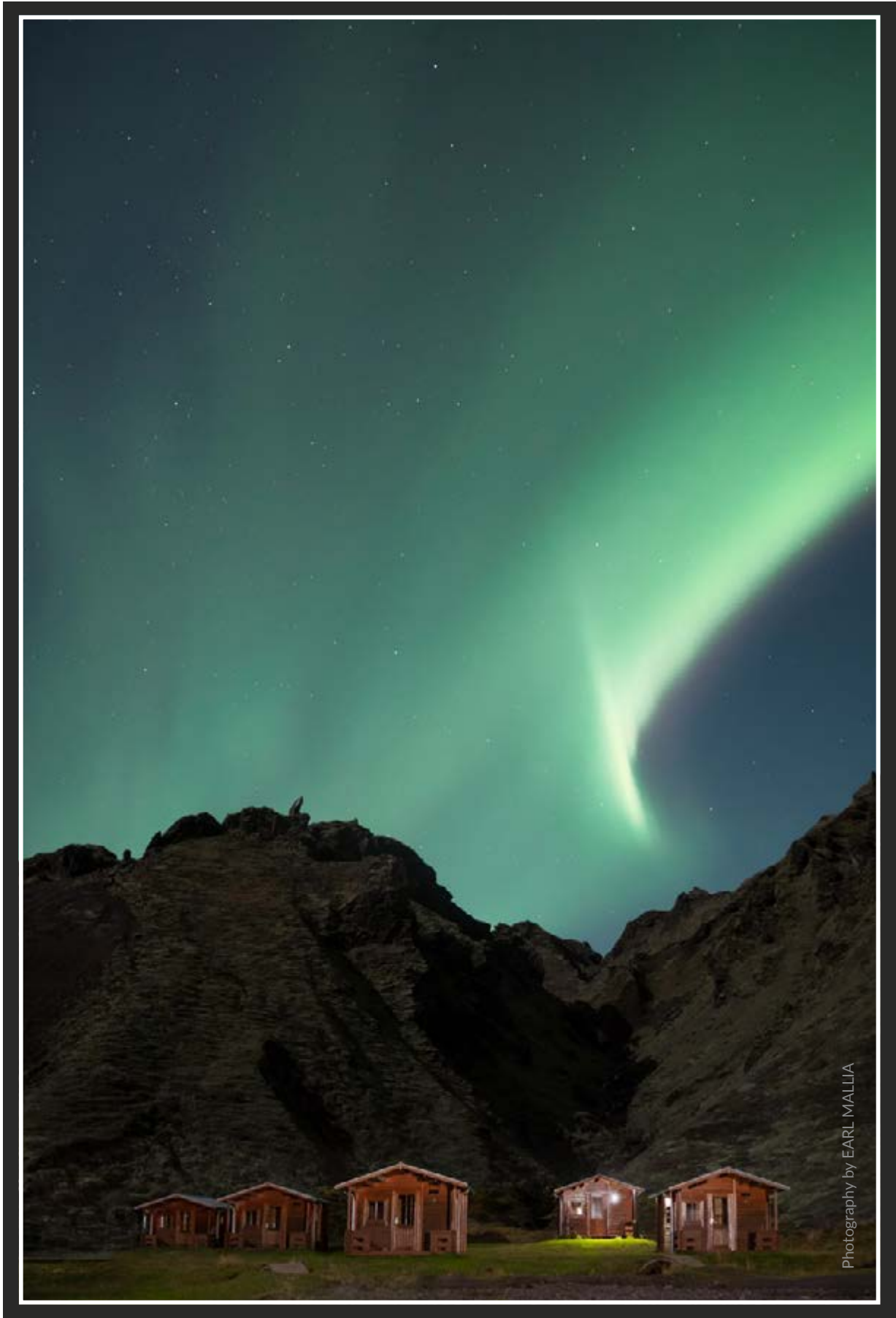
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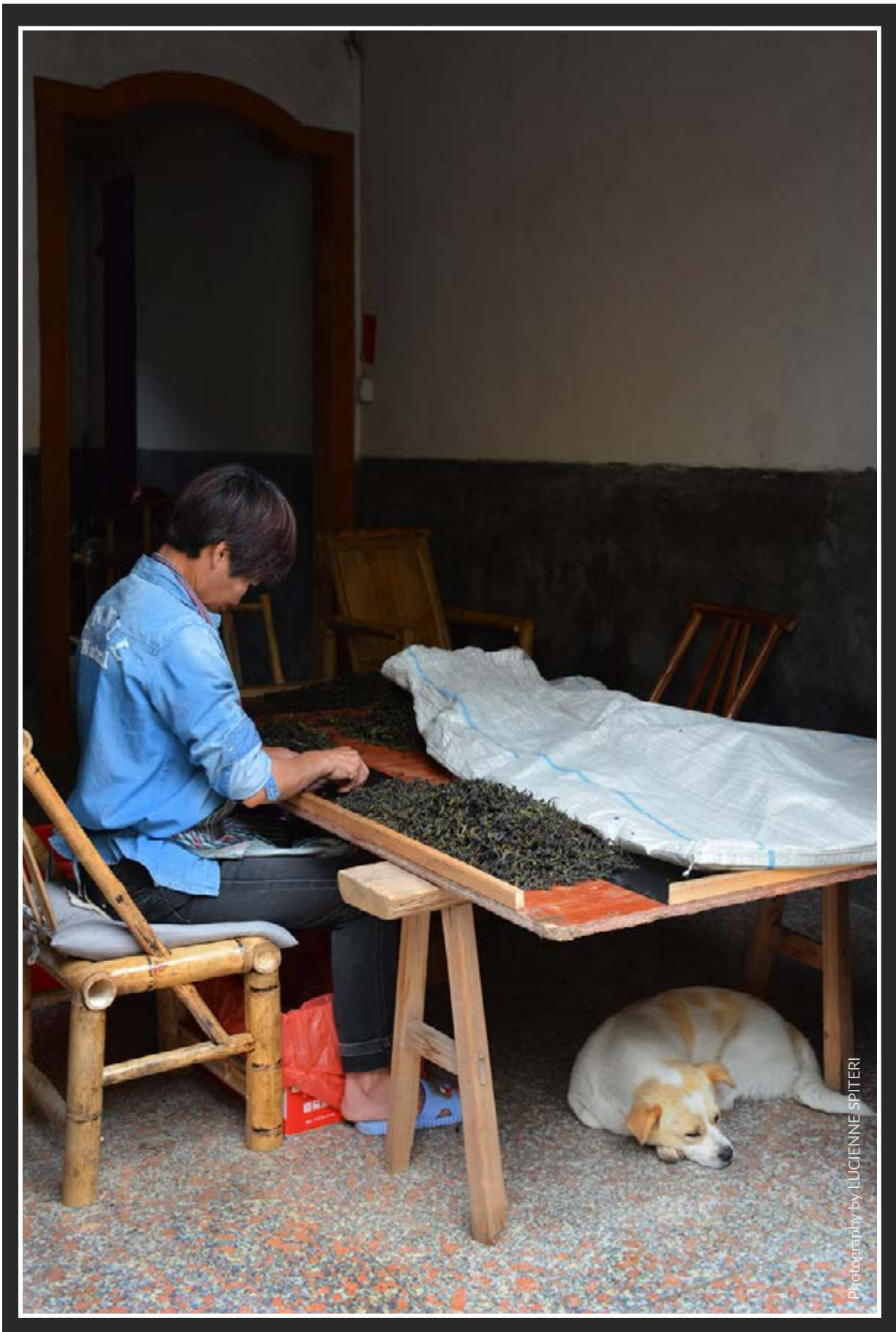
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Photography by LUCIENNE SPITERI



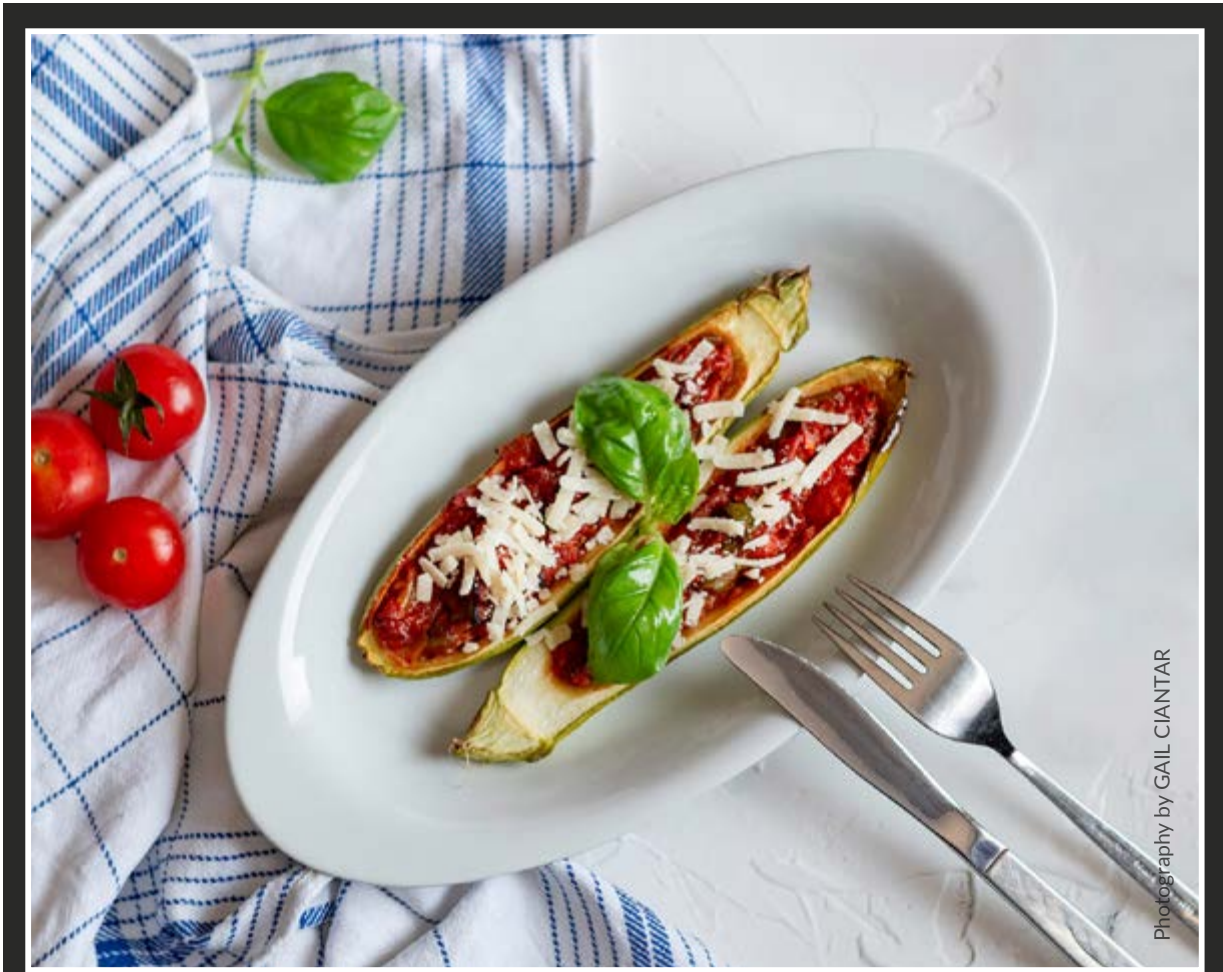
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LUCIENNE SPITERI LMIPP

Lucienne Spiteri is 50 years old and mother to two sons, Sean & Ben. She works as a dental practice manager in two dental clinics in two villages in Malta. Besides photography, she also enjoys the medium of painting, mainly using oils, acrylics and pastels, but has also experimented and produced artworks with different modalities such as Chinese tea, ink and resin. Her interests include classical music and dance, and she looks forward to returning to her beloved theatre performances once the current pandemic situation resolves.

Although Lucienne only ventured officially into the world of photography recently, she admits, like many others, that her interest in photography instinctively dates back many years, when she would try and memorialise scenes she came across, which she would then transcribe onto a canvas while painting.

The interest was rekindled when her husband bought her a Nikon D7100 and two lenses as a gift while on holiday, with the only criteria she imposed on him being that it needed to be able to shoot her boys, a runner and a dancer respectively, freezing the action in low light. In 2018 she decided to take photography more seriously, and she started enquiring about professional photography tuition courses to attend. This is how she came across the Fast-Track Workshop with Kevin Casha, which gave her a very good taste of what photography entails, and helped her get to grips with the basics and deal with the challenges shooting in a new environment brings about. This led to Lucienne being one of four artists who were invited to visit China for a month in 2018 to document this rich oriental culture; the prints ensuing from this photographic trip were exhibited for a whole year in



Photography by LUCIENNE SPITERI.

various venues in Malta and Gozo in 2019. She followed this experience with the MIPP Still Image Level 3 Award, which proved a deepening experience and helped consolidate her skills further.

Her favourite genres in photography are sports, dance and portraiture. In her opinion, good use of light and colour are key to capturing the perfect moment, while the correct composition and distance from the subject chosen are key points to keep in mind. Light is the most important tool we have as photographers and often it is quite difficult to master and control, unless we keep striving to improve our technique and vision.

Her topmost inspiration in photography is the American photographer Annie Leibovitz, who has chronicled popular culture for the past decades and been at the forefront of innovative portraiture, with her body of work being instantly recognizable for its bright colours, intense lighting and unique posing style.

Lucienne joined MIPP during the Fast-Track Workshop in 2018, and she feels the Institute not only welcomed me as a member, but also as part of a community of photographers, students, and professionals which foster camaraderie and will help her progress further in this beautiful art of photography. She obtained her Licentiate (LMIPP) in 2020, and will keep exploring more digital editing courses to aim at getting her AMIPP in the near future.

By Charles Paul Azzopardi



Photography by LUCIENNE SPITERI.



Photography by LUCIENNE SPITERI.

TWO IMAGES FROM THE MIPP SET NOW PROUDLY HANGING IN THE CORRIDORS OF MATER DEI HOSPITAL.



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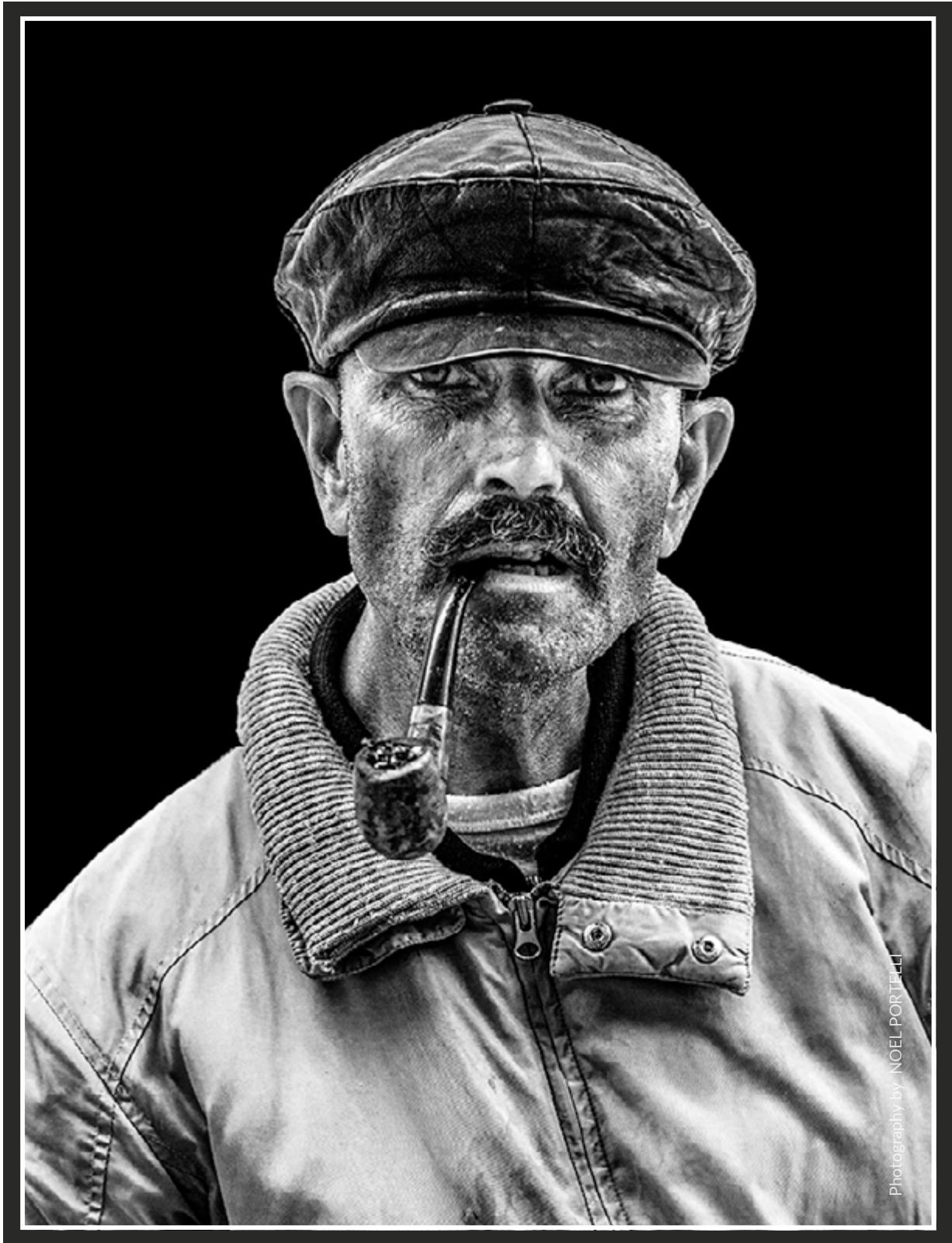
Photography by JOE MAGRI



Photography by LEON CARUANA



Photography by NOEL MALLIA



CALENDAR

MARCH | APRIL



NB: DUE TO COVID PANDEMIC, ALL THOSE ATTENDING MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS ETC. ARE ADVISED TO WEAR A MASK & FOLLOW OUR RECOMMENDATIONS.



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March /2021

MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

SNAPSHOTS FROM AROUND
THE WORLD
BY *Lorella Castillo*

Tuesday 2nd March | 19:00

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March /2021

MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

THE WORKINGS OF A
PHOTOGRAPHER'S MIND
by *Daniel Cilia.*

Tuesday 23rd March | 19:00

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March /2021

MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AND ELECTION TO COMMITTEE.

Tuesday 9th March | 19:00

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March /2021

MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

ALIVE & WELL:
THE PORTRAITURE
by *Amanda Hsu*

Tuesday 30th March | 19:00

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March /2021

MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

DIGITIZING THE PAST INTO THE
21ST CENTURY - TALES FROM
THE ARCHIVES
by *Charles Paul Azzopardi*

Tuesday 16th March | 19:00

skype™

April /2021

MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

A SESSION WITH ILAB
by *Martin Scicluna*

Tuesday 6th April | 19:00

CALENDAR

MARCH | APRIL



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MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

by PAUL MIZZI

Tuesday 13th April | 19:00

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MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

STILL LIFE
by Nino De Carlo

Tuesday 13th April | 19:00

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MIPP MEMBERS' MEETING

ICONIC PHOTOGRAPHERS: MARGARET BOURKE WHITE
by KEVIN CASHA

Tuesday 13th April | 19:00

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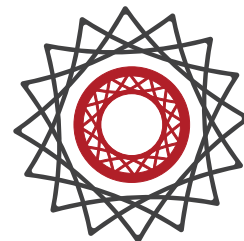
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