

FOCAL POINT



Photography by DOMENIC AQUILINA

ISSUE 84

The Official
MIPP Newsletter

www.mipp-malta.com



2019
SEP | OCT



President's Viewpoint

Dear Members,

We are approaching the final quarter of the year – a year that has been busy and transitional for MIPP. The introduction of 3 new committee members and a new PRO has slowly but surely been successfully completed and the Group is now well integrated and working well. During the last few months we have opened the MIPP premises on every Tuesday, be it for formal or informal nights; the Film Forums and Photoclinic nights are starting to catch on. It gives us great pleasure to see some of our members regularly turning up but we do want more and more participants to avail themselves of the opportunity to view and discuss Photography related videos and to bring us their images, queries and learn from assessment.

As is the norm at this time, we would like to remind you that our Qualifications Night is fast approaching (on November 19th). Those who want to tackle a Qualification need to prepare in good time. We remind you it is a challenging process but we can mentor and guide you at every step. Preparing your work can be arduous but the whole exercise will lift your level exponentially. The progress achieved by those who have taken this seriously and successfully is always amazing. Having high parameters to achieve is the way to improve. As the heat has increased and we are all having to reduce our workload in these summer months, the MIPP has closed for August but the work of the back-room staff has kept going. See you all in September!

Qualifications: See full details on:

<https://mipp-malta.com/qualifications/mipp-qualification-structure/>

<https://mipp-malta.com/qualifications/qualification-forms/>

Kevin Casha
President

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If you want your photos 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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CREATIVE POSTERS 101 by TOM LEE

(in collaboration with the MIPP)

PROGRAMME DETAILS:

- Turn the ordinary into the spectacular
- Learn Compositing the easy and inexpensive way
- Gain inspiration from Movie Posters
- Learn simple Post Processing skills to help with your workflow
- Participate in a live model studio session
- Free plug-ins, actions and add-ons

DATE: SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER, 2019 (9AM TILL 4PM)

PLACE: MIPP 76 TRIQ BRITANNJA, PAOLA

- 9:00 Introduction by Tom Lee
- 10:30 Coffee/tea break
- 11:00 Demo with model, participants to have hands-on practice
- 13:00 Light lunch
- 14:00 Post Production, Questions and conclusion

REQUIREMENTS:

- SLR Camera/lens;
- USB stick;
- Laptop not necessary but it can be brought;
- No tripods needed.

BOOKING:

- BOOKING deadline 20th September; on courses@mipp-malta.com
- On first come first served basis; limited number; MIPP fully paid up members only.
- Price €40 inc. coffee breaks and light lunch.



CREATIVE POSTERS 101

FULL LECTURE AND WORKSHOP BY TOM LEE IN ASSOCIATION WITH MIPP
 STUDIO SHOOT WITH MODEL AND POST PRODUCTION SKILLS
 FOR ONE DAY ONLY - SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2019

TURN THE ORDINARY INTO THE SPECTACULAR
 LEARN COMPOSITING THE EASY WAY WITHOUT EXPENSE
 LEARN FROM MOVIE POSTERS TO GAIN INSPIRATION
 HELPS THE CREATIVE JUICES FLOW WHEN THE BRAIN CELLS GET STUCK
 LEARN PHOTOSHOP SKILLS THAT HELP WITH YOUR REGULAR POST PRODUCTION WORK
 KNOWLEDGE OF BASIC PHOTOSHOP SKILLS IS AN ADVANTAGE

BRING YOUR CAMERA FOR A LIVE STUDIO PHOTO SESSION
 LAPTOPS NOT ESSENTIAL BUT YOU MAY WANT TO BRING A MEMORY STICK
 LIMITED NUMBER OF CD-DUD'S AVAILABLE
 FREE SOFTWARE, PLUG-INS, ACTIONS, WORKED EXAMPLES, POSTERS AND MORE...

FOR FULL DETAILS AND BOOKING: [COURSES@MIPP-MALTA.COM](mailto:courses@mipp-malta.com)



MIPP FOUNDATION IN DIGITAL EDITING COURSE

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2019 BY BRIAN CASSAR

Bookings & full info: courses@mipp-malta.com
 Open to Members and Non-Members
 Sessions will be held on Saturday mornings 9.30 to 12.30





MIPP

Foundation in Digital Editing

Course Oct-Nov 2019

LESSON 1 SATURDAY 19 OCT

- Launch Photoshop
- Photoshop & camera settings - Preferences
- The Workspace
- Open Files in PS
- New document
- Setting Canvas Size
- Tools Palette (Move, Crop, Ruler Tool)
- Tools Palette (Text)
- Saving images

LESSON 2 SATURDAY 26 OCT

- Tools Palette (Hand Tool, Zoom tool, Colour Tools)
- Tools Palette – Retouching Tools (Spot healing, Healing Brush, Patch Tool, Content Aware Move tool, Clone stamp tool)
- Tools Palette – Selection Tools (Marquee Tools, Lasso Tools, Quick Selection, Magic Wand)
- Tools Palette – Bucket, Eye dropper, Colour replacement
- Image Resolution
- Image Resizing

LESSON 3 SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER

- Histograms
- Layers & Masks.



LESSON 4 SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER

- Adjustment Layers: Levels
- Adjustment Layers: Curves
- Adjustment Layers: Hue & Saturation
- Adjustment Layers: Brightness & Contrast
- Adjustment Layers: Colour Balance
- Adjustment Layers: Photo Filter

LESSON 5 SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER

- Adjustment Layer: Black & White
- Content Aware
- Transform Functions
- Filters: Liquify, Blur, Sharpen, Noise
- Conclusion

NOTES

- Bookings on courses@mipp-malta.com
- 5 x 3hrs sessions on Saturday mornings
- Class: not more than 12.
- Participants' fee: members 60 eur; non-members 80.
- Booking deadline: mid September 2019

BOOKING INFO:

Payment options: Go onto our website link
<http://www.mipp-malta.com/index.php/joinus>

OPTION 1:

If you are a member, you can pay for the courses directly through the Bank of Valletta website: www.bov.com and log in to BOV internet banking with your Securekey. You can thus avail yourself of the special subsidized rates for MIPP members.

OPTION 2:

If you want to join the MIPP and attend the course, you can download the MIPP Membership Application Form, <http://www.mipp-malta.com/index.php/join-us> fill it in and send it together with your cheque for 60 euros and the relevant course fee for MIPP members. Please make the cheque payable to 76, MIPP, TRIQ BRITTANJA, PAOLA, PLA 1426 - Malta, together with the relative membership fee. (Cheques are to be made payable to 'The Treasurer, MIPP')



MIPP FLASHBACKS

The MIPP is slowly but surely approaching its 25th Anniversary. So much has happened since we embarked on the idea of establishing the Institute. We feel it is time to share some salient moments in our history in order to give our more recent members an insight on what we have achieved. Great memories!



One of the first important events which helped to set the ball rolling was the 1997 Agfa seminar at the Corinthia Hotel in St Julian's.

GET QUALIFIED BY MIPP

APPLY FOR YOUR DIGITAL LICENTIATESHIP:



<http://mipp-malta.com/qualifications/>





Vince Bellizzi demonstrating his skills at manually retouching photographs – an art which has now almost vanished. (2003)



The MIPP collective photography exhibition at St James Cavalier, Valletta, held in 2005.





Action during the 2004 International Convention, with ex-Ms England, Alexandra Bell, posing during a fashion workshop at Razzett I-Antik.



The MIPMIPP members in action during a car drifting event in 2010. We still have the vests for anyone who might need one!





Kevin Casha giving tips on posing during an International Seminar at Gnejna Bay in 2010.

DANIEL CILIA *during his MIPP lecture*





PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK ANTHONY BUGEJA

Mark Anthony Bugeja

Interview by Edward Sant Fournier

Mark Anthony Bugeja, is 33 years old and lives in Mosta, Malta. He studied History, more specifically Mediterranean history and he is currently a Programme Manager within the Ministry for European Affairs and Equality. Besides photography he has several complimentary hobbies in the arts and music. He also likes reading, travelling and exploring local traditions. This is reflected in his photography.

Mark has been nourishing his passion for photography since he was young. His Dad proudly owned a Nikon Nikkormat SLR which was handed down to him from his father. At a young age, his Dad learnt to process and develop film and even the skill of printing in a darkroom. This influenced Mark to immerse himself in photography.

He started snapping his first shots when Dad bought a Fuji S602Z with a measly 3megapixel sensor. Yet this

camera opened a whole new world. Notwithstanding, that the camera was a bridge camera or 'SLR Like camera' it had a full range of manual controls which allowed for a full range of experimentation. At the time he was still in post-secondary education and he carried his Fuji everywhere. Bridge cameras are quite convenient for the amateur photographer as they have a substantial zoom that covers from wide-angle to telephoto without changing lenses.

In 2009 Mark decided to step up and bought his first SLR, a Nikon D60 with two kit lenses, 18-55mm and 55-200mm which had a 10.2megapixel sensor. Later on, he bought a 70-200mm F2.8 zoom lens along with a wide angle Tokina 11-16mm along with a 35mm and 50mm prime lenses. This camera kit accompanied him on his travels and everywhere.

Lately Mark, is slowly making the transition to

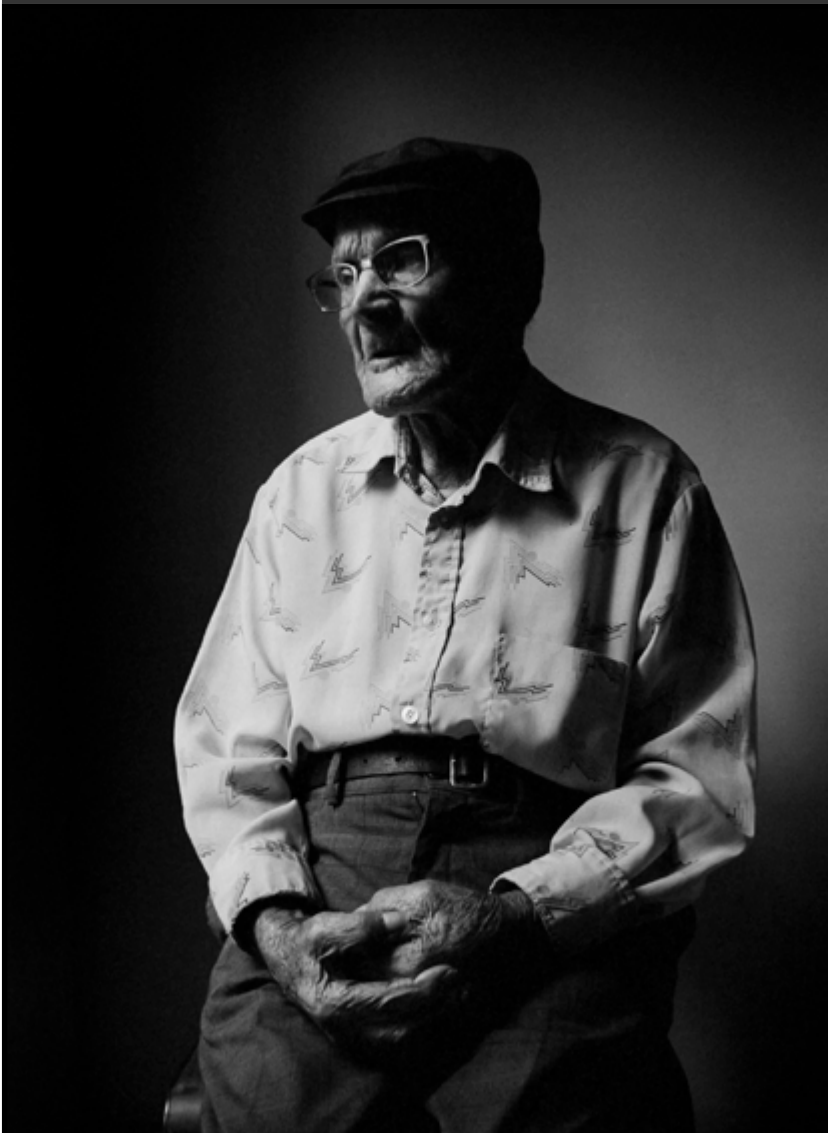


the mirrorless type cameras specifically the Sony A7 series, without yet letting go of his SLRs. He hails mirrorless as the future in photography, their versatility is unparalleled, they are lightweight which makes them perfect for travelling light; whilst also offering a beautiful color rendition. More importantly the electronic viewfinder helps him to expose his shots much better than in an SLR.

Since Mark is an avid photography enthusiast and does not earn his living through photography, budgeting for equipment is really important. He considers the output as the more important than the equipment you are actually using. In fact he mainly shoots third party prime lenses which offer quality on par with the major lens manufacturers. His current

favourite lens is the nifty Samyang 35mm AF. Finally it's how you present your vision to your audience is what matters. He also feels "indebted" to the subjects whose photos he takes and ensures that he brings out their best for "allowing" him to be photographed.

In 2009 he undertook an introductory course in photography with Kevin Casha and he propelled him to join the M.I.P.P. In 2016 he successfully undertook the M.I.P.P Still Image Award in Photography (Level 3 course). Marks tries to attend most of the monthly lectures that are provided free of charge to the MIPP members. He looks forward to the further his studies in photography, by subscribing to the various intermediate and advanced courses available within MIPP.



Prior to the course Mark could not decide what is favourite genre in photography was. Following the course he narrowed it down to 3, street photography, environmental portraiture and architecture. As part of the course he had to prepare a project which consisted of presenting a set of 20 single images on a particular theme in digital form. Yet together they had to be a unified body of work. This proved to be quite daunting yet he narrowed down his theme to be environmental portraiture. Being of a quiet nature Mark found it to be quite challenging as he engaged with people that are not used to being in front of a camera. Mark first sought to build a rapport with the people rather than jumping in and shooting randomly. The majority of people photographed for this project hailed from Mosta and were mainly pensioners. He got to know them very well and learnt their passions, their life

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK ANTHONY BUGEJA



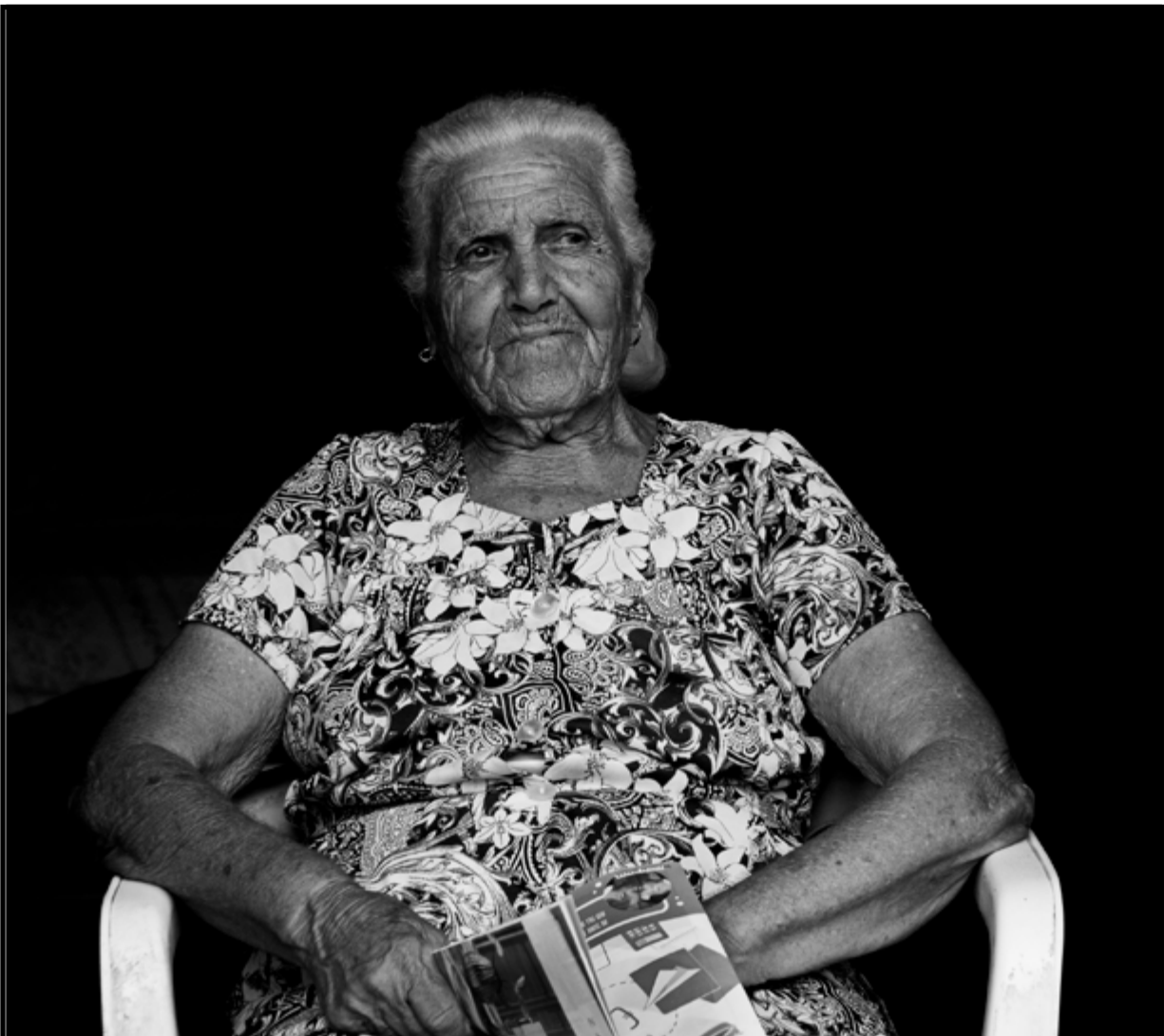
stories and tales of years gone by. Mark plans to expand this project to encompass more people from Mosta and its surrounding areas.

One of Mark's favourite shots is of his wife's grandfather. This photo is of great sentimental value as it was taken just a few months before he passed away at the venerable age of 96. The photo was taken with a film SLR using a 50mm prime and Kodak TRI-X 400 film stock.

This photo took a lot of preparation and patience, as the subject was placed next to a window and waited for the right light intensity to snap the photo. Mark admittedly notes that shooting film slows one down yet it helps you to narrow down your choices.

Mark finds his inspiration from numerous photographers yet he narrows his favourite as Steve McCurry who perfected the art of environmental portraiture most notably in his images shot for National Geographic. His main aim for the future is to set up a solo exhibition to further portray his work to the general public.

Mark's educational background and diverse interests are reflected in the various photo he has shared with MIPP for this interview....he does live up to his maxim to do justice to the subjects be it a person or architecture and bring out the best!



PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK ANTHONY BUGEJA





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PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRIAN CASSAR



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JASON FLORIO





PHOTOGRAPHY BY VERONICA BUSUTTIL





PHOTOGRAPHY BY EARL MALLIA





PHOTOGRAPHY BY EDWARD SANT FOURNIER

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MIPP MEMBERS INFORMAL MEETING
informally network, discuss, socialise on photography

TUESDAYS OPEN FROM 6.30 PM; MEMBER MEETINGS START AT 7.00PM

Do you want to be part of the
MIPP newsletter
by providing us with your write-ups,
photographs or any interesting features?
send email to : courses@mipp-malta.com





Group photograph of the successful students in the 2019 Still Image Award.



Attendees during the presentation of Certificates by President Kevin Casha.



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CALENDAR

September | October | November

September /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' BEAT THE JUDGE by RAMON SAMMUT

Tuesday 3rd September | 19:00
76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

September /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY: underlying principles of the genre & key conversion techniques by STEFAN CACHIA COURSES@MIPP-MALTA.COM

Thursday 17th September | 19:00
76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

September/2019

MIPP MEMBERS' PHOTOWALKS WITH CHARLES CALLEJA

AT MANOEL ISLAND
Followed by coffee at Papparazzi

Saturday 7th September | 8.30 am

September /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' PUBLIC JUDGING OF THE MIPP PHOTOIMAGES HUMAN ELEMENT COMPETITION.

Tuesday 24th September | 19:00
76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

September /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' CITY LIFE by MARTIN AGIUS

Wednesday 11th September | 19:00
76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

October /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' INFORMAL MEETING FILM FORUM

Tuesday 1st October | 19:00
76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola



October /2019



One day workshop
CREATIVE POSTERS 101
 WITH TOM LEE

BOOKINGS ON
COURSES@MIPP-MALTA.COM

Saturday 5 October | 09:00-15:00
 76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

October /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'
CAPTURING THE STORY
 by KEVIN ABELA

Tuesday 22nd October | 19:00
 76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

October /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'
INFORMAL MEETING
FILM FORUM

Tuesday 29th October | 19:00
 76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

October /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'
INFORMAL MEETING
PHOTOCLINIC

Tuesday 8th October | 19:00
 76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

October /2019

CLOSING DATE
FOR MIPP QUALIFICATION
APPLICATIONS
TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER

October /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'
BECOMING A FREELANCE
PHOTOGRAPHER; WHAT ARE THE
KEY ISSUES TO CONSIDER?
 by LOUIS NAUDI

Tuesday 15th October | 19:00
 76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

November /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'
IT'S A SMALL WORLD - HOW TO
APPROACH MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY
 by DUNCAN CAUCHI

Tuesday 5th November | 19:00
 76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

Check MIPP Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mippwall/>
 or visit our website
<http://mipp-malta.com/conventions/events/mipp-events/>
 For more updates and schedules.



Malta Institute of Professional Photography



BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER

- *Get Internationally recognised qualifications*
- *One to one mentoring programme*
- *Photographic events*
- *Competitions and exhibition opportunities*
- *Weekly meetings*
- *Regular image assessments*
- *Foundation and advanced courses*
- *Exposure and networking with fellow photographers*
- *Social Events*
- *Conference room rental*
- *Free loan of frames for exhibition purposes*
- *Photowalks*
- *Level 3 & 4 accredited courses*



Membership costs €40 per annum and is open for everyone, whether you are a professional photographer, semi-professional, student or amateur.

**TUESDAYS OPEN FROM 6.30 PM;
MEMBER MEETINGS START
AT 7.00PM**



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76, MIPP, TRIQ BRITTANJA, PAOLA, PLA 1426 - Malta,
together with the relative membership fee.
(Cheques are to be made payable to 'The Treasurer, MIPP')

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Notice:



MEMBERS' EMAIL UPDATES:

Should you not be receiving regular email updates and communications from the MIPP, kindly check and inform us asap if you have changed your email.



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THE MIPP SPONSORS

Non-Profit organizations like the Malta Institute of Professional Photography are constantly in need of funds in order to be able to function in a modern and professional manner. That is why it is important to have various sponsors interested in networking with the MIPP and at the same time involving them in important issues concerning the photographic trade.

The MIPP feels it is vital to stimulate joint events and initiatives together with our sponsors. This policy helps our members to be constantly aware of products and services that our sponsors market thus not only encouraging an increase in business but also benefitting our members through special occasional offers and deals.

This co-operation and belief by our sponsors, most of who have been with us since the MIPP's inception, has helped in no small way in making the Institute what it is today. It is one of the MIPP's main objectives to help to keep this co-operation improving. We urge our members to truly support our sponsors by making use of their services and products whenever possible.


The main sponsors of MIPP are AVANTECH (CANON); ILAB Photo, INTERVISIONS (PHOTO INK), PHOTOCIANCIO and PHOTOIMAGES.


Our sponsors show faith in the MIPP so it is only fair that our members should reciprocate. Give your custom to the companies and entities who help us.





CONTACTS

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2019 SEPT/OCT