

FOCAL POINT



Photography by Charles Calleja

ISSUE 80

The Official
MIPP Newsletter

www.mipp-malta.com



2019
JAN | FEB



The President together with Alex Attard during the latter's recent exhibition and a view of one of the exhibition halls with Alex's impressive work.

President's Viewpoint

Dear Members,

Another year has gone by and here we are starting off 2019. Firstly, I hope that all of you and your loved ones concluded 2018 and started the New Year in the best possible spirits and health.

As usual we will start this year with the AGM in March! Why start the year? which is your chance to see what our vision for the coming year is. Like any other association or group that wants to keep abreast of new developments be aware of the activities and vision of MIPP and explore ways to give a better service to our members, some changes are being implemented; together with others that are in the pipeline. The first change you will have already noticed is that three of our committee members have, for some reason or other, unfortunately decided may not to re-apply for election. Priorities and situations change and one has to make decisions.

I would here like to take the opportunity of thanking Oriella Formosa Carabez, Tonio Polidano and Martin Agius who have all given valuable service to the MIPP and its running. All three have been valid colleagues, with Martin having been in the thick of things for a good number of years. We will miss them all but hope to keep seeing their attendance, as well as their photography, at our events and meetings. I would also like to warmly welcome those members who have agreed to be nominated for the forthcoming Executive Committee. We all know how time is difficult to find, so I cannot but thank these members for coming forward and helping us to hopefully maintain the momentum of our Institute.

This year we will also start with a bang with the photographic exhibition and project called THE TEN BEYOND. This exhibition will feature 10 of the MIPP's (and Malta's) top photographers; ten photographers who excel in a particular genre. We felt it was high time to say thank you to these passionate artists for not only the work they regale us with, but for clearly showing that we have local artists who are more than a match for top international photographers. The exhibition will be held at Aldabra Gallery at Smart City and promises to be a showcase of the best that local photography can offer.





The fifty prints (five from each author) will be expertly printed by MIPP main sponsors ILAB Photo and PhotoInk who, for this project, have joined forces in order to again give a professional service to the MIPP. The exhibition will be held in February/March of and we hope to see you all there at some time or other.

Another important change this year will be the MIPP start time. Taking heed of feedback from our members, we will be beginning our events/sessions/lectures at 7pm. This should give some more networking time at the end of the sessions.

There are many other things in the pipeline which we will announce shortly but, for now, I would like to wish you all the best possible 2019.

Kevin Casha
President MIPP

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Kevin Casha

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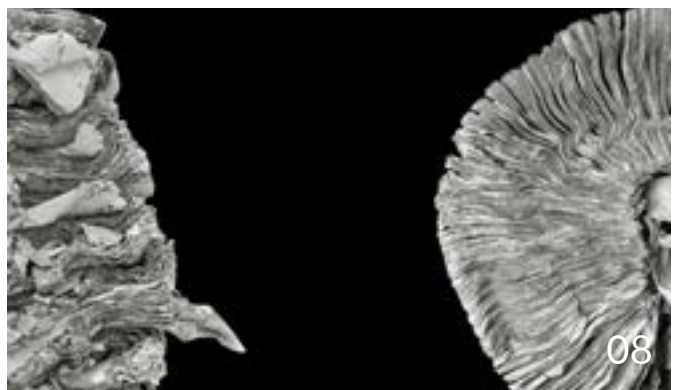
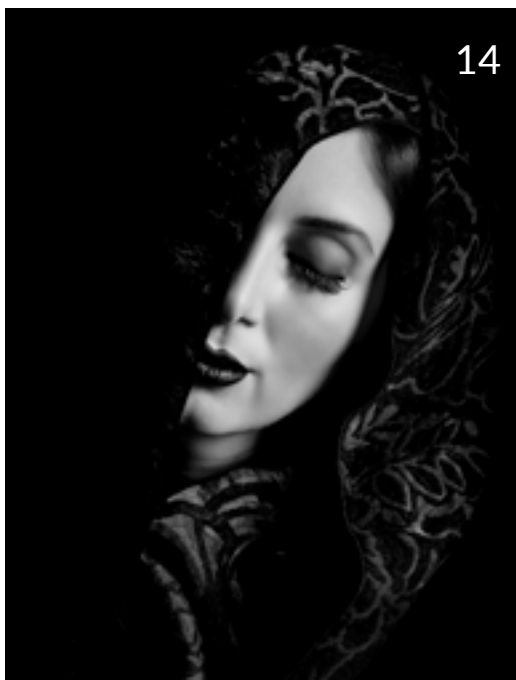
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If you want your photos featured on the newsletter's front page just send the images to: courses@mipp-malta.com
Your contributions are always welcome



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Keith Ellul gives a helping hand at the Oncology Centre.

I believe that as photographers, like everyone else, we have the responsibility to try and make a difference in the lives of others in whatever way we can. When Keith Ellul was contacted by Ms. Pamela Baldacchino, who is the mind behind The Deep Shelter project and was asked if he was interested in donating his work to be printed for the Sir Anthony Mamo Oncology Center Ward 1 he immediately agreed. He felt that it would be great if his images could help, even in a small way, to cheer up the ward's patients.

The project went through and the images were eventually printed by Photo Ink who did a fantastic job on fine art vinyl giclee on ACP complete with heavy grade lustre laminate. The material was carefully selected so it can be wiped clean. The images selected form part of two series, themes one named 'Beyond the Horizon' and the other 'Soul Searching'.

About this initiative, Keith stated that "By contributing to this project, I hope to help bring some comfort and joy to patients, staff and visitors. This also serves as a means of giving something back to society by using my skill and passion in the name of good."



EUROPEAN WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

MIPP member is one of the winners in European Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018.

The rather unconventional wildlife image of a secretary bird in the Kalahari desert is one of the winners in this year's edition of European Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018. Swedish national, Johan Siggesson, residing in Malta since 2002 won one of the categories in this competition, regarded by many as the unofficial European championship of nature photography, with his image: The "Egg". Johan said: "To win this specific category in this highly regarded competition calls for a visually unusual image. It is not the traditional wildlife image often seen in guidebook and regular nature books or magazines. The category requires something different. The type of image I submitted often divides viewers into two opposing camps. Either you love these more graphic or artistic images or you don't understand their appeal at all. Personally I love this type of imagery. Although often mistakenly thought of as a computer creation. These type of images can be taken as is in the camera using different techniques."

He continues: "It was my first time in the Kalahari Desert and we travelled along the Botswana/South African border for about a month searching for wildlife. The secretary bird spends most of its day hunting for prey on the ground and make for good photography subjects. At one point I noticed a light coloured stone next to one of the birds and thought it almost looked like its egg. I thought that is I use a light coloured technique where you slightly move the camera whilst taking the image I can make the stone look even more like an egg and create a different type of image. The winning image was the result. "I am so pleased, honoured and humbled to receive this award and to join past recipients who I have long admired and respected. It is a great honour to be chosen by such experienced and well renowned judges amongst incredibly stiff competition."

This competition is open to all professional and non-professional photographers resident in Europe. The competition aims to illustrate the high quality and specific style of European wildlife photography through excellent pictures from Europe and all over the world. It also seeks to promote awareness for nature conservation through the means of photography.

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THE AWARDED PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHAN SIGGESSON



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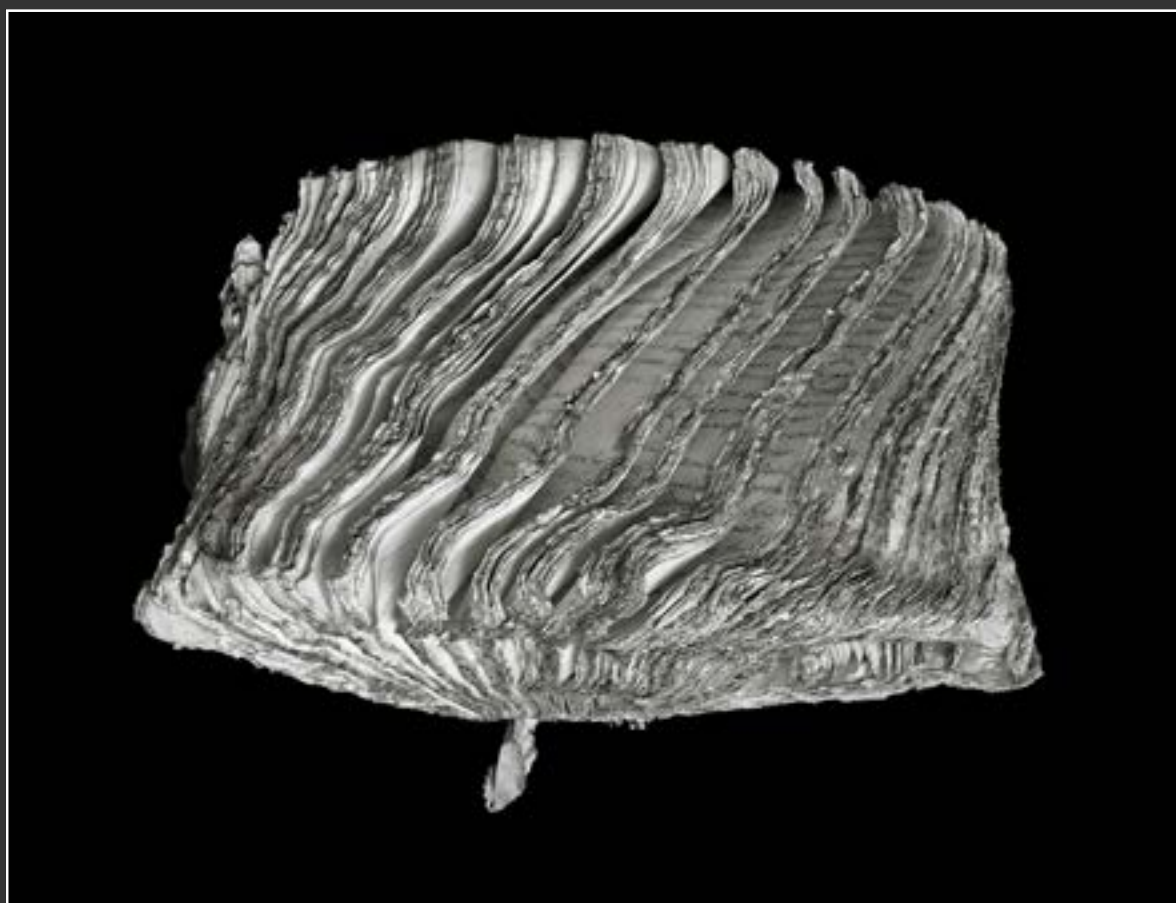


Exhibition by Alex Attard

In Parallel Existences, never seen before, irreparably-damaged documents at the Notarial Archives are brought back to life.

The Notarial Archives in Valletta hold over 20,000 manuscripts which document many aspects of life over six centuries of Maltese history. Over time, many of these precious documents have been damaged beyond recognition. They lie in a room on the top floor of the Archives aptly known as the 'crying room'.

Ignored for decades, these documents are given a new lease of life through this photography project by Alex in collaboration with the Notarial Archives Foundation. By creating a relationship between himself and the documents, Attard gives them a new reason for being – a 'parallel existence'. Attard believes the images will evoke in the viewer a sense of curiosity about their original purpose; while underscoring the importance of the Archives themselves. The project is supported by Arts Council Malta – Malta Arts Fund, Project Support Grant.



DOCUMENT NO. 6 DATE UNKNOWN © ALEX ATTARD





DOCUMENT NO. 27 DATED 1770 © ALEX ATTARD



DOCUMENT NO. 48 DATED 1769 © ALEX ATTARD





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MIPP AT AVANTECH

The MIPP often collaborates with its main sponsors in order to organize events that benefit both the sponsors as well as members. A recent one was organized at Avantech dealing with printing with Canon professional printers. The MIPP thanks Avantech for its collaboration and always invites our members to give their custom to our main sponsors.





PHOTOGRAPH BY MARIO CASHA



PHOTOGRAPH BY RON KERR

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.



GUIDO BONETT NATURE WORKSHOP

Applied Commercial Photography learners were taken under Guido Bonett's expert care for a workshop session in Buskett regarding nature photography. As in all MIPP courses and awards, the onus is on both technical tuition as well as practical workshops in the field.



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DOWNLOAD THE HANDBOOK



<https://mipp-malta.com/wp-content/uploads/MIPP-Members-Handbook-2018.pdf>



Marisabelle Bonnici

34 year Marisabelle Bonnici hails from Attard. She is a pharmacist by profession but always loved the arts. She played the piano accordion for many years but when she went to live in Paris she did not have enough time to play music so she took up photography with a friend who used to let her use a spare camera.

When she later on moved to the Netherlands, in 2008, she bought her first SLR camera and started slowly learning how to use it by herself but on her return to Malta in 2010 she did a foundation course with Kevin Casha. That course led to a more online tuition, books on photography and gaining the confidence to submit some pictures for online competitions. When she bought her pharmacy, although still remaining an MIPP member, she had to put photography on the side for a while, but she still used to love going to exhibitions and always thought about photo ideas at the back of her mind. In 2017 she decided to get back to find some time for myself and photography again so herself did a photoshop course and high speed photography course. Her enhanced skill gave her confidence to take on the challenge and take part in MIPP Photographer of the Year Award again. It was a good decision leading her to capture the 2018 Award.







Some submitted entries and the final table for the 2018 MIPP Photographer of the Year Award, won by Marisabelle Bonnici.

PTYA 2018 Standings

Rank	Name	Session 1 Score	Session 2 Score	Session 3 Score	Session 4 Score	Session 5 Score	Total Score
1	Marisabelle Bonnici	112	115	82	116	152	577
2	Jason Spiteri	96	102	80	106	178	562
3	Nick D'Ancona	95	100	89	106	157	547
4	Mark Pace	93	96	77	91	152	509
5	Mario Casha	74	102	85	79	148	488
6	Richard Farrugia	77	107	88	0	0	272
7	Ondre Camilleri Gaglione	89	94	86	0	0	269
8	Andrew Muscat	84	72	0	0	0	156
9	Jonathan Bugeja	95	0	0	0	0	95
10	Sandra Hotrum	72	0	0	0	0	72



PHOTOGRAPHY BY NIK D'ANCONA





PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARIO CASHA



PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK PACE



URBEX – SECOND LOCATION

In continuation of the MIPP project URBEX, we are here publishing a selection from images taken by our members at the old Festival Complex in Mellieha.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALEXANDER CARUANA



PHOTOGRAPHY BY RENATA APANAVICIENE





PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES SCERRI

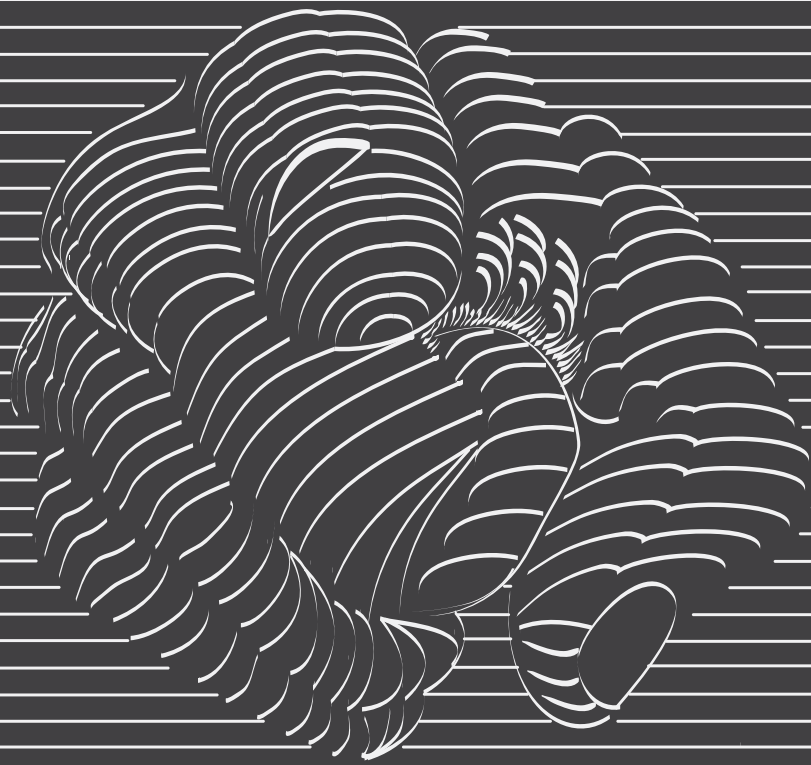


PHOTOGRAPH BY LYNN BUNTING



SUNSET workshop by Sam Scicluna





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MIPP Members' Meeting

MIPP, 76, Triq Birttanja, Paola PLA1426



Travels with my 10kg backpack by Guido Bonett

Tuesday, 29th January 2019 @ 19:00



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CALENDAR

January | February | March



January/2019

MIPP MEMBERS' VINTAGE PHOTOGRAPHY: ITINERANT PHOTOGRAPHY & THE BARRAKKA CAMERA BY KEVIN CASHA & VINCENT DIMECH

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

Not to be missed:

We will not only be talking on Itinerant photography in Malta but we will be showing the actual camera, owned by Vincent Dimech, who was the son of one of the last itinerant photographers and who also actually worked with the camera.

January/2019

MIPP MEMBERS' TRAVELS WITH MY 10KG BACKPACK BY GUIDO BONETT

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

January /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' INFORMAL MEETING DROP IN TO INFORMALLY NETWORK OR ASK QUESTIONS ON YOUR WORK

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

February /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' PHOTOJOURNALISM – A PERSONAL JOURNEY BY GARY HAMPTON

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

January /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' INFORMAL MEETING DROP IN TO INFORMALLY NETWORK OR ASK QUESTIONS ON YOUR WORK

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

February /2019

MIPP MEMBERS' INFORMAL MEETING DROP IN TO INFORMALLY NETWORK OR ASK QUESTIONS ON YOUR WORK

Tuesday 12th February | 19:00
76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola



February /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'

PHOTOWALKS WITH CHARLES CALLEJA



Meeting at 9am near Marsaxlokk Church –
family & friends are welcome
*locations may be changed
according to exigencies

Sunday 17th February | 9:00am

February /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'

INFORMAL MEETING DROP IN TO INFORMALLY NETWORK OR ASK QUESTIONS ON YOUR WORK

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

March /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'

Annual General Meeting & Election to Committee

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

February /2019

MIPP MEMBERS'

THE NOTARIAL ARCHIVES - A PHOTOGRAPHER'S INSPIRATION - THE PARALLEL EXISTENCES PROJECT FROM CONCEPT TO REALISATION"

BY ALEX ATTARD

Tuesday 26th February | 19:00
76, MIPP, Britannia Street, Paola

Check MIPP Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mippwall/>

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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 and INTERVISIONS (PHOTO INK).

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