



PSA 2023-568

SAPPHIRE CIRCUIT

Chairman: Arindam Das

Exhibition Website: <https://www.afksapphire.com>

E-Mail (Exhibition & Chair): afksapphire@gmail.com

SECTIONS (all digital):

A) Open Color- PSA PID Color – *color photos only*

B) Open Monochrome- PSA PID Monochrome – *Monochrome photos only*

C) Portrait - PSA PID Color [[Definition](#)] – *color photos only*

ENTRY FEE

US \$ 28 for any one section, US \$ 38 for all sections

Early Bird Fee: US \$ 30 for participation in all sections till 28th September 2023. Upload/change of photos possible till closing date.

Festive Discounted Fee: US \$ 34 for participation in all sections from 01st October to 10th October 2023. Upload/change of photos possible till closing date.

Group Discount: (*for participation in all sections*)

- 05-09 entrants = 15%
- 10-15 entrants = 20%
- 16- more entrants = 30%

Payment via PayPal to afksapphire@gmail.com for overseas authors AND by NEFT/IMPS by Indian entrants (equivalent of USD).

Submitted works of the authors who did not pay entry fee will be disqualified. Fee once paid cannot be refunded.

CALENDAR

CLOSING DATE: 17/12/2023
START JUDGING: 31/12/2023
END JUDGING DATE: 07/01/2024
NOTIFICATION: 21/01/2024
SUBMIT EDAS: 05/02/2024
DELIVERY CATALOG: 07/03/2024
DELIVERY AWARDS: 07/03/2024
ONLINE GALLERY: 07/03/2024

JURY MEMBERS

Salon1:

Livinus Bleyen, EFIAP/d3, MPSA (*Belgium*)
Paolo Stuppazzoni, QPSA, EFIAP (*Italy*)
Pertti Ylinen, MPSA, EFIAP/g, GPU CR3 & VIP2 (*Finland*)

Salon 2:

Jacky Panhuyzen, GMPSA, EFIAP/g (*Belgium*)
Lajos Nagy, GMPSA, EFIAP/d3, GPU VIP3 (*Romania*)
Claudio Sericano, PPSA (*Italy*)

Salon 3:

Irene Ehrenreich, MPSA, EFIAP, GPU Cr 3 (*Austria*)
Tapani Huotari, PPSA, EFIAP, GPU Cr2 (*Finland*)
Wendy Allard, PPSA, EFIAP/g, FRPS, CPAGB (*England*)

Salon 4:

Irine Wiguno, MPSA, EFIAP (*Indonesia*)
Kwong Ying Au-Yeung, GMPSA, EFIAP/g (*Hong Kong*)
Phong Tran, GMPSA, EFIAP/d2 (*Vietnam*)

Salon 5:

Charles Burke, HonPSA, EPSA (*USA*)
Gene Schwope, HonPSA, PPSA, AFIAP (*USA*)
Herb H Gustafson, HonPSA, EPSA, ESFIAP, AFIAP (*USA*)

AWARDS

PSA Gold medal in each section

6 Jury Choice in each section

1 Best Group Trophy for the circuit (*Minimum 8 paid entrants are a must to be eligible for Best Group Trophy*)

*Only PSA Medals shall be dispatched by India post. Jury Choice are digital awards and can be downloaded by the authors within 15 days from the date of result notification from the exhibition website using username and password.

REPORT CARD & CATALOG NOTIFICATIONS

All participants will receive report card notification via e-mail. Score card shall reflect total score of the first round judging only. Awards and Acceptances lists of the exhibition and circuit catalog will also be published on the website <https://www.afksapphire.com> for downloading.

PHOTO SUBMISSION:

FILE NAMING

No requirements for file names, file name should be as you would want it to appear in the catalog (same as title name). Our software will later add the necessary data. Only English letters (a-z) are allowed.

Words such as "Untitled" and "No title" are not acceptable as part or all of an image's title, nor are camera capture file names or titles consisting of only numbers. Title of each image cannot exceed 35 characters.

Image Specification:

Photos must be in JPEG file format, Max. Horizontal length is 1920 pix. Max. Vertical length is 1080 pix. in 300 dpi. Compression 7-12, max 2Mb. Oversized images shall be rejected by the system.

Submission Process:

Images must be submitted following the instructions on: <https://www.afksapphire.com>

Maximum number of photographs per section is 4. The exhibition is not allowed to resize the pictures sent by the entrants.

Exhibition Requirements

IMAGE AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS This exhibition is open to anyone; however, an entry may be rejected when the Sponsor or the Exhibition Organizers, in their reasonable discretion, believes the entry does not conform to exhibition rules and these Conditions of Entry. Membership in any photographic organization is not required.

Penalties: Entries will not be accepted from any entrant who has put on the **PSA Penalties List for Ethics Violation**. Entry fees are not refundable in these circumstances

PSA Star Ratings

To receive proper Star ratings credit from PSA, entrants must provide their names and country exactly the same way in each exhibition. Aliases are not permitted. Please contact PSA in the event of name changes or relocating to another country. Using one's name differently in different exhibition exposes the entrant to the risk that many of their acceptances may not be recognized by PSA Star Ratings.

Image Creation

Entries must originate as photographs (image-captures of objects via light sensitivity) made by the entrant on photographic emulsion or acquired digitally.

Certification:

By virtue of submitting an image, the entrant certifies the work as his or her own. Images may not incorporate elements produced by anyone else (for example: clip art, images or art by others downloaded from the Internet). Aliases are not allowed.

Reproduction

The entrant permits the sponsors to reproduce all or part of the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the exhibition. This may include low resolution posting on a website. The Photographic Society of America (PSA) may request specific permission from entrants to reproduce entered images in its educational materials. The terms of that permission will be mutually agreed between the entrant and PSA **except in the circumstances where the entered image is found to breach the PSA Ethics Policy. In those circumstances the image may be reproduced by PSA, without the entrant's further permission, for educational purposes to illustrate serious exhibition rule violations. For those reproductions, the entrant's name will be withheld.**

Entries will not be accepted from entrants who indicate that their images may not be reproduced in materials related to the exhibition." The exhibition assumes no liability of any misuse of copyright

Alteration and Computer Generation Subject to Divisional restrictions (particularly Nature, Photo Travel, and Photojournalism) images may be altered, either electronically or otherwise, by the entrant; adjustments to enhance images or creatively modify images are allowed providing the underlying photograph is retained in a way that is obvious to the viewer. Images may not be constructed entirely with a computer, and must be the sole work of the entrant

Re-use of accepted images: Any image that has been accepted in this exhibition, past or present, may not be entered again in the same Division Star Ratings Class in any future instances of this exhibition. It may, of course, be entered in any other PSA recognised exhibitions but **must always have the same title. Re-titling in another language is not allowed.**

Entry: An Entry consists of, up to and including, four (4) images entered by a single entrant into the same Section. An entrant may only enter a specific Section once. Entrants may not enter identical or similar images into the same section or different sections of the same exhibition.

Titles:

Each image must have a unique title **that is a description of the image**. That unique title must be used for entry of that image or of an identical Image into any and all PSA-Recognized exhibitions. Titles must be 35 characters or fewer. No titles may be visible to the judges, and nothing in the image may identify the entrant. Titles may not include file extensions such as .jpg or .jpeg (or any other camera capture filenames such as IMG 471). Titles may not consist of personal identifiers possibly augmented by a number; or include words such as "untitled" or "no title". Titles may not consist solely of numbers unless those numbers are prominently contained within the image, such as a contestant number in a race.

Color and Monochrome:

Color and Monochrome images from the same capture that share substantial pictorial content in common will be considered the same image and must be given the same title.

The Exhibition will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the PSA

An entrant's images will not be presented to the judges consecutively. An entrant's four images will be distributed throughout four rounds of judging in that section. Distribution of images will be in the

same round order as submitted by the entrant. At no stage will a judge be able to view all the entrant's images together.

Judging Process:

Judging is to take place **remotely (online)** by each jury member. Distribution of images shall be in the same round order as submitted by the entrant but they shall not appear to the judges' consecutively. Remote judging will take place and all judges shall use their own color-calibrated equipment capable of displaying submitted images at 100% of their resolution.

There will be 3 judges in each section. The process will start with Round 1 where each of the 3 judges will mark each photograph based on their merit following the standards set by PSA on a scale of 1 to 9. Then each award is declared based on the decision of the jury during awards selection meeting. Score card sent to entrants shall reflect number of first round judging only.

Target Acceptance Percentage: 28% to 34%

DATA PROTECTION

By entering this exhibition, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including physical addresses, email addresses, being held, processed and used by the exhibition organizers for purposes associated with this exhibition. You also explicitly consent to such information being sent to organizations that have accorded official recognition, patronage or accreditation to this exhibition. You acknowledge, agree and accept that by entering this exhibition, your participation status which includes your first and last name, name of the country used during registration at the exhibition, number of sections entered and number of photos entered in those sections will be made public in a published status list and that the results of your entry shall be made public in exhibition gallery, exhibition catalog. You also agree and accept the policy regarding Breaches of Rules of the PSA.

SUBJECT MATTER AND SECTION DEFINITIONS

Statement on Subject Matter - applicable to all sections

The fundamental rule that must be observed at all times and **applies to all sections** offered in exhibitions with PSA recognition is that **the welfare of living creatures is more important than any photograph**. This means that practices such as baiting of subjects with a living creature and removal of birds from nests, for the purpose of obtaining a photograph, are highly unethical, and such photographs are not allowed in any exhibition with PSA recognition. Under no circumstances may a living creature be placed in a situation where it will be killed, injured or stressed for the purpose of obtaining a photograph. Images that show live creatures being fed to captive animals, birds or reptiles are not permitted under any circumstances.

There are also concerns about the use of aerial photography, drones, helicopters, low flying aircraft. These should not cause any interference with other individuals or animals which causes a disturbance in their normal activity or disrupt the way any individuals or animals interact with their environment.

Entrants in PSA recognized exhibitions should comply with all relevant laws and regulations, associated with aerial photography, in the country in which the image was taken.

Entry into PSA recognized exhibitions is conditional on accepting these policies. The content of images must comply with the General Conditions and with the Division and Section definitions listed in these conditions. Images that - in the sole opinion of the judges or the Exhibition Organizers - do not comply, will be disqualified so the entrant may be aware of the problem when considering entry into other exhibitions with PSA recognition

DEFINITIONS

PSA Monochrome Definition

An image is considered to be Monochrome only if it gives the impression of having no color (i.e. contains only shades of grey which can include pure black and pure white) OR it gives the impression of being a greyscale image that has been toned in one color across the entire image. (For example by Sepia, red, gold, etc.) A greyscale or multi-colored image modified or giving the impression of having been modified by partial toning, multi-toning or by the inclusion of spot coloring does not meet the definition of monochrome and shall be classified as a Color Work.

Monochrome images may not be entered in PID Color Sections.

Portrait - PSA PID Color (Color images only, Monochrome images NOT ALLOWED)

Portrait: Portrait of human being of all colors, race, gender, religions, indoor or outdoor are allowed. Animal portraits are also allowed. Nude art forms are also allowed. There are no restrictions in editing of photos.

*Attention is drawn to the **PSA Statement on Subject Matter** which applies to **all** sections*

Breaches of Rules

Entrants are strongly advised to look at the PSA Ethics Policy which can be found at <https://psa-photo.org/page/ethical-practices>.

If, at any time, it is determined in the reasonable discretion of the exhibition organizer or the judges before, during, or after the judging of an exhibition that an entrant has submitted entries where one or more images may fail to comply with these Conditions of Entry, including the stated definitions, exhibitions, on behalf of the judges, are allowed to request unedited or raw files of the submitted image

In order to ensure that images comply with the Conditions of Entry and definitions, the exhibition organizers may carry out reasonable measures to verify that:

- a) the images are the original work of the entrant and
- b) the images comply with the rules and definitions as set out in these Conditions of Entry

These steps include, but are not limited to, questioning any entrant, requiring the submission of RAW files or other digital files representing the original capture of the submitted image(s), confronting the entrant with evidence that one or more submitted images fails to comply with the Conditions of Entry (also known as Entry Rules), and offering the entrant a reasonable opportunity to provide counter evidence to refute the exhibition organizer's evidence by a set deadline. Such entries that are not cleared or are still questionable after the entrant has presented evidence may be considered in breach of these Conditions of Entry, and declined. Such entries may be referred to PSA for further investigation of possible ethics violations

PSA, on receiving reports from exhibitions of possible breaches, retains the right to investigate in any way all complaints/suspicions of breaches of entry conditions, impose penalties if deemed necessary, void the acceptances of any image found to violate the PSA rules, include the entrant's name on the list of sanctions provided to Exhibitions, and share such investigations with FIAP. Entrants automatically agree to these terms by the act of entering the Exhibition and agree to cooperate with any investigation.

If another party is submitting images on the entrant's behalf, the entrant will still be held responsible for adhering to these Conditions of Entry (Entry Rules) **and will be subject to penalties for any violations** to these Conditions of Entry and PSA's Statement of Ethics that may result.

If another party is processing images for an entrant or submitting images on the entrant's behalf, the entrant will still be held responsible for adhering to all Conditions of Entry including the specific conditions in the relevant definitions.

NOTICE: When entrants fill in the Entry Form to submit an entry they will see the following feature to affirm they have read these Conditions of Entry

"I hereby confirm that I have *read, understood and agree to* the Conditions of Entry of this exhibition. I have read the PSA document to be found at https://psa-photo.org/resource/resmgr/pdf/exhibitions_/exhibition-entrants-agreemen.pdf . I am aware that PSA may apply penalties for breaches of these Conditions of Entry"

Failure to agree will mean that the application will not proceed.

Rules from the organizer:

If Raw/unedited jpeg file of submitted photos are requested by jury, respective author must submit the same within 3 days of requesting. If the author is unable to provide raw/unedited jpeg file, submitted photo may be disqualified.

Exhibition will not be responsible for any damage/delay of Award during Postal Delivery. All awards shall be dispatched after PSA medals are received by us. In case incorrect address is mentioned by entrant, we will not be responsible to re-ship award in case of non-receipt of award. Exhibition will not be responsible for any customs fee/other fee once award is dispatched.

Medal awards shall be sent by India Post, Jury Choice awards shall be available online only to be downloaded within 15 days of result notification. To be eligible for Best Club Trophy, minimum 8 participants from a club must participate and pay their entry fees.

Authors agree that their data shall be stored and used for future exhibitions by this organizer.

Authors are requested to read circuit rules, PSA definitions and restrictions etc. before submitting entry.

The sponsors of this International Exhibition of Photography have been awarded Recognition by PSA, the world's largest patron of international photographic exhibitions. PSA, although it has provided recognition, is neither a sponsor nor directly involved in the operation of this exhibition.



Valid acceptances received by PSA Members in recognized sections of this exhibition are eligible for PSA Star Ratings, listing in the world-wide PSA Who's Who of Photography and credited towards the PSA Distinctions of QPSA, PPSA, EPSA, MPSA, MPSA2, GMPSA, GMPSA/B, GMPSA/S, GMPSA/G, and GMPSA/P.

PSA is a non-profit organization promoting the advancement of photography in all its forms to novice, amateur and professional photographers worldwide.

For information on membership and the many services and activities of PSA, contact:

psa

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA
8241 S. Walker Avenue, Suite 104
Oklahoma City, OK 73139-9401, U.S.A.
E-mail: hq@psa-photo.org
Web Site: <http://www.psa-photo.org>