



Media Release



World Press Photo Contest winners on show at NSW State Library

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See the world's best photojournalism from 2018 when the annual World Press Photo Exhibition opens at the State Library of NSW on Saturday 25 May 2019.

The highly anticipated exhibition will feature over 150 powerful and evocative images and photo stories, selected from 78,801 entries by 4,738 photographers from 129 different countries.

Australian photographers Chris McGrath (based in Istanbul), David Gray (based in Sydney) and Andrew Quilty (based in Afghanistan) are among this year's winners.

The coveted Photo of the Year was awarded to John Moore's picture of Honduran toddler Yanela Sanchez crying as she and her mother, Sandra Sanchez, are taken into custody by US border officials in McAllen, Texas, USA.

Before this photo was captured on 12 June 2018, Sandra Sanchez and her daughter had been traveling for a month through Central America and Mexico before reaching the US to seek asylum. The Trump Administration's controversial 'zero tolerance' policy — where immigrants caught entering the US could be criminally prosecuted — was reversed on 20 June, following widespread public outcry.

John Moore, a senior staff photographer and special correspondent for Getty Images, said: "I think this image touched many people's hearts, as it did mine, because it humanizes a larger story. When you see Yanela's face, and she is more than two years old now, you really see the humanity and the fear of making such a long journey and crossing a border in the dead of night."

The newly introduced World Press Photo Story of the Year award went to *The Migrant Caravan* by Pieter Ten Hoopen (Netherlands/Sweden) which documents the largest migrant caravan in recent memory, with as many as 7,000 Central American people (including 2,300 children) travelling towards the US border, according to UN agencies.

State Librarian John Vallance describes World Press Photo as "easily the most confronting and controversial show in the Sydney calendar. Not to be missed".

The World Press Photo Exhibition 2019 is on show in the Library's new galleries from 25 May to 23 June 2019. Gallery opening hours have been extended to 8pm from Monday to Friday so that as many people as possible can visit this must-see exhibition.



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IMAGE: FINBARR O'REILLY, PORTRAITS – FIRST PRIZE, SINGLES, DAKAR FASHION



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WORLD PRESS PHOTO

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The State Library is also presenting Friday Night Lates in June where visitors can enjoy free art and music, with DJ Niki de Sant (7 & 21 June) and DJ Seher (14 June). Bar opens at 6pm.

The annual World Press Photo Exhibition travels to 45 countries and is viewed by than four million people in over 100 cities each year. It is brought to Sydney by Canon Australia.

More information: www.sl.nsw.gov.au/galleries

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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