



# Vantaa Photoclub



## The 3rd Art of Light 2026

### International Photo Salon by Vantaa Photoclub, Finland



VF 2026



FIAP 2026/437



NFFF 2026/18



L260050



AFCC 2026/02

**Hereby we declare open the 3rd Art of Light Photography Salon 2026 by Vantaa Photoclub for all photographers from all countries, amateurs and professionals alike, and respecting the regulations of FIAP can qualify as "International Salon under FIAP Patronage".**

**This exhibition is open to anyone; however, an entry may be rejected when the exhibition chair believes the entry does not conform to exhibition rules. Entry fees are not refundable in these circumstances.**

The sanctioned entrants by FIAP are restricted or banned to participate to this salon depending on the case.

All styles and photographic processes are admitted in accordance of the FIAP rules by genre. The attention in connection with the artistic approach and to consider the different techniques and subjects in an identical way will have a high importance and they affect effectively to the selection of the works in a decisive way.

It is strictly forbidden to the author to put text, a signature or any other distinctive mark on the front or facing side of any work.

In all sections of an exhibition, images must originate as photographs made by the entrant. Entrants may not incorporate images or image elements authored by anyone else (for example textures, replacement skies, clipart or stock images), and there is zero tolerance for plagiarism. Editing or alteration of images is only permitted within the limits specified in the division definitions.

**Statement on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Pictures created by artificial intelligence are not allowed in this salon! All parts of the image have to be photographed by the author who is holding the copyright of all works submitted. Offenders will be sanctioned for life!**



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By the sole act of submitting his/her images or files to a salon under FIAP Patronage, the entrant accepts without exception and with no objection the following terms:

- that the submitted images can be investigated by FIAP to establish if these obey to FIAP regulations and definitions even if the entrant is not a member of FIAP,
- that FIAP will use any means at its disposal for this undertaking,
- that any refusal to cooperate with FIAP or any refusal to submit the original files as captured by the camera, or failure to provide sufficient evidence, will result in them being sanctioned by FIAP,
- that in case of sanctions following the non compliance with FIAP regulations, the name of the entrant will be released in any form useful to inform other parties of the entrant's breaches of the rules.

Participants must leave the EXIF data in the submitted files intact in order to ease eventual investigations.

**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 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 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, using drones, helicopters, or low flying aircraft. These should not cause any interference with other individuals or animals which causes a disturbance in their normal activity or disrupts the way any individual or animal interacts with their environment. Entrants in 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 recognized exhibitions is conditional on accepting the above policies. The images must comply with the division and section definitions listed on the website and other conditions. Images that do not comply will be disqualified by the judges.

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Contact information:</b>      | <a href="http://obsession.vantaanfotokerho.net">http://obsession.vantaanfotokerho.net</a><br><a href="mailto:Ilpo.pohjonen@gmail.com">Ilpo.pohjonen@gmail.com</a>         |
| <b>Download site:</b>            | <a href="https://vantaanfotokerho.fotogenius.es">https://vantaanfotokerho.fotogenius.es</a> .<br>Eero Kukkonen <a href="mailto:kukkoe@hotmail.com">kukkoe@hotmail.com</a> |
| <b>Vantaa Photoclub address:</b> | Eero Kukkonen, Kirstinkuja 6, 01400 Vantaa, Finland                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Management team:</b>          | Eero Kukkonen AFIAP, SKsLSM, NSMiF/G<br>and Ilpo Pohjonen, EFIAP, GPU-CR2                                                                                                 |
| <b>Exhibition Chairman:</b>      | Ilpo Pohjonen, EFIAP, GPU-CR2, Asterintie 16a, 01350<br>Vantaa, Finland, <a href="mailto:ilpo.pohjonen@gmail.com">ilpo.pohjonen@gmail.com</a>                             |

## Sections:

**These are the open artistic sections. We consider the different techniques and subjects in an identical way. In order to enable them to influence the style of the submitted works in a decisive way. However, all parts of the works must be produced with photographing methods by the author and the author having the copyright of these parts.**

**A Open Colour according to FIAP PIC – colour works only**



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## **B Open Monochrome according to FIAP PIM – monochrome works only**

**This is the nature sections under FIAP definitions (see later in the rules). All nature and wild life photos are welcome and are considered in identical way.**

## **C Nature according to FIAP PIC & PIM – all nature photos in colour or monochrome**

In the nature and traditional series, the images that misrepresent the truth, such as those from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are not eligible. Images that misrepresent the truth, such as those from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are not eligible.

## **D World in focus according to FIAP PIC – colour works only**

This section encompasses the full range of photographic genres from architecture, culture, events, food, landscape, portraits, etc. A "WORLD IN FOCUS" image expresses the spirit of an era, the essence of a place or of a culture whether it is shown in an authentic scene or whether it is arranged. Digital manipulation to optimise an image in terms of finetuning of levels and colours is allowed as long as the image looks natural. The same applies for removal of dust or digital noise. Techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. Each author may participate with four works in each section. Identical or similar works are not allowed to be entered to different sections. An author may not enter identical or similar photographs into different categories and sections of the same salon.

A monochrome image and a colour image from the same capture are considered the same image and must have the same title.

Images that have previously been accepted for this Salon may not be re-submitted, they will be rejected. We will review the images by comparing them to previously accepted images before judging.

**All patronages:**            **FIAP Patronage: 2026/437**  
                                 **GPU License: L260050**  
                                 **Nordic Society of Photography: 2026/18**  
                                 **Association of Finnish Camera Clubs AFCC: 2026/02**

**Entry fee:**                **25 € for three sections, 30 € for all four sections. PayPal account only accepted.**

**PayPal email:**           **[exhibition@vantaanfotokerho.net](mailto:exhibition@vantaanfotokerho.net)**

**Group Entries**            5 authors – 10% discount  
                                 Over 10 authors– 20% discount

**Note:**    Group entries refer to photo clubs, associations and other photo organizations. In order to get the special group entry fee offer, the group secretary should send member list to [exhibition@vantaanfotokerho.net](mailto:exhibition@vantaanfotokerho.net) before the registration of each member. Each group member should register individually, and upload images in his personal profile. The organizer would send a general invoice to the group secretary, which once paid, status would be automatically reflected as 'paid' in all member profiles.

**Calendar:**               **Upload time start: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2026**  
                                 **Closing date: 30.9.2026**  
                                 **Judging: 8<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2026**



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**On-line gallery opened: 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2026**

**Notification: 25th November 2026**

**Awards/on-line catalogue link sent 18<sup>th</sup> December 2026**

**Exhibition Opening 18<sup>th</sup> December 2026**

**Judgement:** The images of each category will be judged individually.

|               |                       |                                                                                                            |                    |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Judges</b> | <b>Jeongsoo Ko</b>    | <b>EFIAP/g, PPSA, GPU CR2</b>                                                                              | <b>South Korea</b> |
|               | <b>Matti J. Niemi</b> | <b>HonSKsLE, EFIAP/g, NSMiF/p, GPU CR2</b>                                                                 | <b>Finland</b>     |
|               | <b>Gil Rossel</b>     | <b>FIAP's World Cup director in 11th World Cup for clubs 2016 and 12th FIAP's World Cup for Clubs 2017</b> | <b>Andorra</b>     |

**Awards:** Best author of Exhibition, light blue pin

The special light blue pin (SLBP), will be awarded to the best author for the salon. The participant who has achieved the highest number of acceptances across all the sections of the salon added together, will be proclaimed the "best author". In the event of a tie, the organizer will decide irrevocably taking into consideration eventual attributed awards.

**4 FIAP Gold, 16 FIAP Honourable Mention**  
**4 GPU, 16 GPU Honourable Mentions,**  
**4 NFFF Gold, 4 Silver, 4 Bronze 16 NFFF Honourable Mentions,**  
**4 AFCC Gold, 16 Honourable Mention,**  
**20 Vantaa Photoclub Honourable Mention**  
**1 Chairman's choice per section**  
**A total of 112 prizes**

**Catalogue** All entrants will be sent a link to the pdf-catalogue, which can be downloaded at the salon web page.

**Entry:** Register on our web site and upload your photos  
**<https://vantaanfotokerho.fotogenius.es>**

By participating this salon, the authors expressly agree to FIAP document 040/2023 « Conditions and regulations for FIAP Patronage » and FIAP document 038/2023 « Sanctions for breaching FIAP regulations and the red list ». I am particularly aware of chapter II « Regulations for International photographic events under FIAP patronage » of FIAP document 040/2023, dealing under Section II.2 and II.3 with the FIAP participation rules, the sanctions for breaching FIAP regulations and the red list.

The details of the participants for the possible presence of authors whose participation in FIAP salons is prohibited will be checked with the list sent by the FIAP Patronage Service.

Identical or similar Images shall not be allowed in the same section or different sections of the same exhibition as determined by the judges or exhibition chair. When a group of similar images is uploaded by the entrant, all similar images in all sections will be disqualified. Be advised: while similar images may be entered in different exhibitions, these images and acceptances may be disallowed by the separate review process associated with applications for stars, diamonds and galaxies. To avoid disappointment, do not enter images that are practically equivalent.

Any author, whose image shows any suspicions about the compliance with FIAP regulations or definitions, can be requested by the organiser or by FIAP, to submit the original capture file (file containing the data recorded by the sensor; i.e.: the RAW or the original unretouched JPEG files) plus the file of the images immediately before and immediately following the questionable image. If he/she fails to provide what is required, he/she can be sanctioned.



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The names of sanctioned entrants will be put on a list, which will be sent to the organisers of FIAP salons. Their participation in any event of FIAP will be restricted or banned depending on the case. In addition they cannot be appointed as judges of FIAP salons, in a salon under FIAP patronage, organise a salon with FIAP patronage, nor apply for FIAP distinctions and they lose the right to use any FIAP distinctions they have formerly received.

**IMPORTANT:** Concerning digital entries, authors must preserve intact with no alteration, the original metadata (EXIF) of images. In case of dispute relating to compliance with FIAP regulations, the fact of FIAP not being able to access this important data could result in the author being sanctioned.

Any person who is found guilty of using photographic material that was not captured in camera by that person will be excluded for life from FIAP activities.

## Image and file sizes

All images must be maximum 1920 pixels horizontal and 1080 pixels vertical side including any borders. Images must be saved as jpg files of a good quality. The file size of a picture must not exceed 2 MB. Oversized images will be rejected and the entrant will be required to resubmit their entry with properly sized images. The colour profile must be sRGB. The organizer is planning to arrange an exhibition with prints of the awarded works. It is recommended to participate with images with before said pixel dimensions and best quality jpg-compression. The organizer may ask for larger files for printing to exhibition and for the catalogue.

**Colour and Monochrome:** Colour 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.

**Titles:** Each image must have a unique title that relates to the content of the image. That unique title must be used for entry of that image into any and all 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 file names such as IMG\_xxxx). Titles may not consist of personal identifiers possibly augmented by a number; and may not 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. When entering titles, exhibitors may use Latin1 or Latin2 character sets (ISO-8859-1 or ISO-8859-2) which allow diacritical marks (é, ñ, ü, à, ç, á, etc). While text written in nonLatin writing systems (Hanzi, Cyrillic, Arabic, Devanagari, etc) might be accepted by exhibition software, this practice is discouraged because it may yield unpredictable results in galleries, catalog and may be rejected in Star applications.

## Judgement:

The judging will take place remotely as an on-line judging. The images of each category will be judged individually. All judges will be using equipment capable of displaying images at 100%.

The awards will be defined together. The works are shown to the jury either with Samsung 4K display or by Optoma beamer with 1920x1080 resolution by its nature.

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.

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,



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the exhibition organizers reserve the right to delete the entry from the exhibition and void any or all acceptances or awards in connection with the exhibition. Fees may be forfeited or refunded in these circumstances. The entrant acknowledges that the decision of the exhibition organizers or the judges is final.

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.

## Copyright

In the general interest of the event, the reproduction of the entered works is allowed in the printed or digital catalogue, and any material related to promoting or publicising the exhibition. In this matter the rules about copyright have to be strictly followed.

**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 FIAP recognized exhibitions but must always have the same title. Re-titling in another language is not allowed.

## Data protection

By entering this exhibition, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including 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 and accept that entering this exhibition means that the status and results of your entry may be made public.

## Definition of the black and white photography (monochrome)

A black and white work fitting from the very dark grey (black) to the very clear grey (white) is a monochrome work with the various shades of grey. A black and white work toned entirely in a single colour will remain a monochrome work able to stand in the black and white category; such a work can be reproduced in black and white in the catalogue of a salon under FIAP Patronage. On the other hand a black and white work modified by a partial toning or by the addition of one colour becomes a colour work (polychrome) to stand in the colour category; such a work requires colour reproduction in the catalogue of a salon under FIAP Patronage.

**Colour Definition:** The Image category for PID colour must be a colour image. A greyscale or multi-coloured image modified or giving the impression of having been modified by partial toning, multi toning or by the inclusion of spot colour on a monochrome image is considered a Colour Image.

## FIAP Nature definition

### Content Guidelines

Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both over water and underwater.



Nature images must convey the truth of the scene. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity threatening a living organism's life or welfare are not allowed.

The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected, and the image must look natural.

- Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story.
- Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domesticated animals, human created hybrid animals, and mounted or preserved zoological specimens are not allowed.
- Photographs made where the scene is natural and the animal is unharmed in a carefully managed environment, such as Zoo, rescue centers, and ethically managed natural environment farms are permitted.
- Attracting or controlling subjects through the use of food or sound for the purpose of photographing them is not allowed. Maintained situations such as provided supplemental food due to hardship caused by weather
- conditions or other conditions beyond the animals' control, where photography is incidental to the feeding of the animal does not fall under this provision.
- Controlling live subjects by chilling, anaesthetic, or any other method of restricting natural movement for a photograph is not allowed.
- Human-made elements shall be permitted under the following circumstances:
  - a) When they are an integral part of the nature story, such as a songbird singing atop a fence post a manmade object used as nest material, or a weather phenomenon destroying a man-made structure.
  - b) When they are a small but unavoidable part of the scene, such as an unobtrusive footprint or track in the background.
  - c) Scientific tags, collars, and bands are specifically allowed.

When photographing at a zoo, sanctuary, or rehabilitation centre, it would be construed that the photographer ensured that it's properly accredited and conforms to best practices.

## **Allowed editing techniques:**

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction
- Removal or correction of elements added by the camera or lens, such as dust spots, noise, chromatic aberration and lens distortion
- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene
- Complete conversion of colour images to grayscale monochrome
- Blending of multiple images of the same subject and combining them in camera or with software (exposure blending or focus stacking)
- Image stitching - combining multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively (panoramas).

## **Editing techniques that are not allowed:**

- Removing, adding to, moving or changing any part of an image, except for cropping and straightening.
- Adding a vignette during processing
- Blurring parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene



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- Darkening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene
- All conversions other than to complete grayscale monochrome
- Conversion of parts of an image to monochrome, or partial toning, desaturation or over-saturation of colour.

## Definition of “World in focus”

Just as travel and tourism pictures, this section englobes the full range of photographic genres from architecture, culture, events, food, landscape, portraits, etc.

A “WORLD IN FOCUS” image expresses the spirit of an era, the essence of a place or of a culture whether it is shown in an authentic scene or whether it is arranged. Digital manipulation to optimise an image in terms of finetuning of levels and colours is allowed as long as the image is looking natural. The same counts for removal of dust or digital noise. Techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted.



### **GLOBAL PHOTOGRAPHIC UNION - GPU (former UPI)**

**is a worldwide interactive organization for anyone interested in photography, be they casual, serious amateurs or professional photographers.**

**Founded in Goirle, The Netherlands, September 2007, GPU brings together professional and amateur enthusiasts of all ages and levels of achievement. As a nonprofit organization, its mission is to promote and enhance the art and science of photography in all its phases.**

**Individual members are offered a wide variety of activities: photo and digital competitions, photo exhibitions in different countries, study groups via mail, web site access, photo books, magazines, Photo festivals, distinctions, titles, and a raft of other activities.**

**Have look on the site: [www.gpuphoto.com](http://www.gpuphoto.com)**



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**THE ASSOCIATION OF  
FINNISH CAMERA CLUBS**

## NORDIC SOCIETY OF PHOTOGRAPHY

NORDISK FORBUND FOR FOTOGRAFI  
NORDISKA FÖRBUNDET FÖR FOTOGRAFI  
POHJOISMAIDEN VALOKUVAUSLIITTO



**NFFF PATRONATE**

**3RD ART OF LIGHT 2026**

**FINLAND**

**2026/18**

  
ARVID NIELSEN  
VICE PRESIDENT

  
NILS-ERIK JERLEMAR  
PRESIDENT

  
ROALD SYNNEVÅG  
SECRETARY





Ce salon a reçu le Haut Patronage de la FIAP  
This salon has received the High Patronage of FIAP

2026/437



## **Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique** **International Federation of Photographic Art**

Fédérations et associations nationales, associations régionales  
et clubs affiliés sur les cinq continents.

National federations and associations, regional associations  
and clubs affiliated on all five continents.

Distinctions photographiques mondialement reconnues.  
World-famed photographic distinctions.

Les acceptations obtenues à ce salon  
comptent pour l'attribution des distinctions FIAP.

Acceptances obtained in this salon  
are taken into account for FIAP distinctions.

**Secrétariat général - Secretary general**

70, Kolokotroni Street - GR-18531 Le Pirée (Grèce - Greece)

[www.fiap.net](http://www.fiap.net)