

Munich, May 2009

LINHOF YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER AWARD 09

The judging has taken place.

On April 24, 2009 the jury met in in the headquarters of Linhof Präzisions-Systemtechnik / Munich for selecting the winners. 468 participants from 39 countries had sent more than 3.500 images.

The ratio of female to male photographers was almost exactly 1 : 2.

The Linhof company and the jury were surprized by the big number of international participants of the competition despite of tough restrictions relating to the age and the theme.

The theme was "**HUMAN CITYSCAPES**" and the photographic realization should comprise the urban environment "City" showing contrasts or unity of citizens and architecture. Every participant was asked to submit a minimum of 5 to a maximum of 8 entries all dealing with the theme.

The jury had a hard job. Quite often excellent images were submitted but missing the conceptual work. Some photographers submitted individual images but did not follow the concept for their whole series whereas the judging always referred to the total entry.

The entries from 39 countries also revealed rational preferences for contents and aesthetics. Most of the entries originated from Germany. These 169 participants often referred to the theme fairly strictly combined with conceptual architectural photography - at high quality standard.

Entries from China (81) can be described as more formal experimental. Many-sided but also individually were the works of the English (31) and American (21) participants.

The jury has evaluated the image series for a position reflecting the changing impression of human beings in relation to his environment.

Members of the jury were:

Thomas Weski (Associate Director, Haus der Kunst Munich, Curator of photography)

Professor Peter Bialobrzeski (High School for Arts/Bremen, Photographer)

Brigitte Nusser (Collector of photographs)

Anna Wondrak (Historian for Arts)

Barbara Wolff (Photographer). All three living in Munich.

The first prize, a Linhof Camera equipment to the value of **10.000 Euro** goes to the 28 years old Russian photographer **Alexander Gronskey** living in Talin/Estonia. His series "The Edges" is about exploring the boundaries of Moscow city. In almost surrealistic scenes he shows people and animals disintegrated from the city and put in the abstract plane of the snow.

The second prize, a Linhof Camera equipment to the value of 3000 Euro goes to the team **Philipp Diettrich and Matthias Keller** (High School for Design/Karlsruhe and High School for Arts/Bremen) for their work "Kolonias Megawatt" dealing with the Polish border city Bogatynia. The series shows the transformation of the town and the people. Destruction, re-building and the strongly dominant power plant create a peculiar cosmos visible in the series of images.

The third prize, Linhof Camera accessories to the value of 1000 Euro goes to **Harlan Erskine**, New York (School of Visual Arts/New York). His series "Imaginary Wars" show games of his childhood in New York with imaginary foes lurking around the corners. Children play games in which they imagine themselves in adult roles that they may not fully grasp. In the images the photographer stretches his memories into an apocalyptic world.

The Linhof Präzisions Systemtechnik being the organizer of this competition says many thanks again to all participants. The company plans to issue such a contest bi-annually with new topics thus establishing this competition as an important international photographer award.

www.linhof.de

Linhof Award:

468 participants from 39 countries

Germany	169	Romania	3
China	81	India	2
United Kingdom	30	Japan	2
USA	21	Mexico	2
France	18	Singapur	2
Österreich	18	Ukraine	2
Italy	17	White Russia	2
Netherlands	13	Brazil	1
Taiwan	13	Estonia	1
Israel	9	Finland	1
Russia	9	Georgia	1
Switzerland	8	Greece	1
Belgium	7	Indonesia	1
Latvia	5	Ireland	1
Spain	5	Lithuania	1
Hungary	5	Sweden	1
Denmark	4	Slovenia	1
Canada	3	Czech Republic	1
Poland	3	Venezuela	1
Portugal	3		

TEL +49 89 72492-0
 FAX +49 89 72492-250
 e-mail info@linhof.de
 INTERNET www.linhof.de

HAUSANSCHRIFT / FACTORY ADDRESS
 LINHOF PRÄZISIONS-SYSTEMTECHNIK GMBH
 RUPERT-MAYER-STRASSE 45
 81379 MÜNCHEN / GERMANY
 POSTANSCHRIFT / MAILING ADDRESS
 POSTFACH / P.O.BOX 70 12 29
 81312 MÜNCHEN / GERMANY