

AOP THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' AWARDS ARE COMING

The AOP Photographers' Awards 2009 will be launched later this month on the 12th September and are open exclusively to Full and Provisional Members of the AOP. The 2009 AOP Photographers' Awards feature 19 categories across commissioned and personal work and give you the opportunity to be judged by some of the most respected people in the industry. Everyone who enters is in with the chance of being voted the AOP Photographer of the Year, so what better reason do you need to select your best shots and get in the book and exhibition? The deadline is the 31st October 2008, but if you are quick, there is an early bird discount provided we receive your entries by 10th October. Everything you need to know about the AOP Photographers' Awards 2009 and information on how to enter can be found at www.the-awards.com

You must be either a Full or Provisional member of the Association of Photographers to enter, for more information on joining, please visit www.the-aop.org

AOP

Photographers Awards 2009 – Important Dates

Date	Event
Friday 12th September	Launch of the Photographers Awards Call for Entries C4E packs will be sent out to all Full & Provisional Members of the AOP and all information will be available to download from www.the-awards.com
Friday 10th October, 6pm	Deadline for Early-Bird (discounted rate) entries
Friday 31st October, 6pm	Deadline for Photographers Awards Call for Entries
Friday 5th December	Notification of selection to the second round of judging
Wednesday 7th January	Deadline for second round prints
January 2009	Tickets for Photographers Awards Night go on Sale
Friday 23rd January	Notification of final selection to the Photographers Awards 2009
Friday 20th February	Deadline for Match Prints to arrive at AOP Gallery
Tuesday 7th April	2009 Photographers Awards night at Sadlers Wells

AOP Awards Categories 2009

PERSONAL

Single entries and Series entries of between 3 and 4 images are invited in the following categories:

Portrait

Life (Human & Animal)

Fashion

Classic Landscape

Contemporary Landscape & Cityscape

Interiors & Architecture

Still life

Travel

Documentary & Social

Project – A set of 8 related images which represent a project, art project or photo story. Each year, there will be a rolling theme in this category. For 2009 the theme is Fashion. An explanation of no more than 150 words may accompany entries in this category and will be considered during the judging process.

Portfolio – A set of 8 unrelated images, representing the style and diversity of your work as a photographer. This category gives you the freedom to choose what you think demonstrates your skills and style the best and should be like the portfolio you may show to an agent or artbuyer.

COMMISSIONED

Single entries and Series entries of between 2 and 4 images are invited in the following categories:

Portrait

Life (Human & Animal)

Fashion

Classic Landscape

Contemporary Landscape & Cityscape

Interiors & Architecture

Still life

Documentary & Social

AOP PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

All successful entrants in 2009 are eligible to win the 2009 AOP Photographer of the Year Award. The winner will be selected from successful entrants in all categories and chosen by the full panel of Personal and Commissioned judges, chaired by the Chairman of the Judges.

AOP Photographers Awards 2009 – Terms & Conditions

Eligibility

1. Entrants must be fully paid up Full or Provisional members of the Association of Photographers.
2. All elements of the work submitted must have been originated by the entrant since 15 August 2006 and a significant majority of the final image must have been photographically generated.
3. Work submitted must not have previously been entered into these Awards, the Assistant's or Student Awards.
4. Only AOP members may enter these Awards. However, those who enter, may not be included on the judging panel, attend the judging process, or be involved in any part of the judging procedure should they do so.

Entry Procedure and Format

5. One registration form should be completed per entrant and submitted with the entries and appropriate fees.
6. Entries for the first round of judging, will be accepted as digital files OR unmounted prints. Please note that however you choose to enter in the first round, is how your images will be judged – i.e. digital files and prints will compete on the same level.
7. If you are entering by print in the first round, all prints must be accompanied by a CD containing the same image as the print in digital format – both high and low res (this is to speed up the process of getting them on the website and reproduced in the Awards Book should they be successful).

DIGITAL FILES:

Entries should be submitted on CD as BOTH high res and low res jpeg files.

High res files should be physical size 30x40cm max, at 300dpi with Adobe RGB 1998 profile embedded.

Low res files should be physical size 2000 pixels max in its largest dimension, at 72dpi with Adobe RGB 1998 profile embedded.

All jpeg file names must follow the convention as listed below.

For single entries:

Surname_firstname01.jpeg

Surname_firstname02.jpeg etc.

For series entries:

Surname_firstname01A/B/C.jpeg etc.

If you are entering a series, please indicate on the entry form the number of photographs in the series and the viewing order if appropriate (using file names A/B/C as indicated above).

UNMOUNTED PRINTS

Entries should be submitted measuring no more than 50 x 60 cm including any borders.

Acetate sleeves, tissue paper or similar coverings must not be used.

8. One completed print identification label must be attached to the BACK of each print (if appropriate) and one completed CD identification label must be attached to the inside of each CD case.
9. A maximum of 40 images in total may be entered by each entrant into the Awards, PLUS the Project or Portfolio if this is being entered.
10. No more than 15 images may be entered into any one of the Single categories.
11. A Personal Series should consist of 3 to 4 related images and a Commissioned Series should consist of 2 to 4 related images and no more than 3 series may be entered into any one of the Series categories.
12. A Project must consist of 8 images that form a photo story or a project based on a single theme. This year (2009) the project theme will be Fashion. A brief explanation of no more than 150 words may accompany entries in this category. This should be typed in English on A4 paper and loosely attached to the back of the first image or for digital files – included on the CD as a word document (.doc). Please do not write your name on this anywhere. Only one Project may be entered per entrant.
13. A Portfolio must consist of 8 images which represent the diversity of the work you produce as a photographer. Only one Portfolio may be entered per entrant.
14. There must be no duplication - i.e. images can only be entered into one category.
15. The images are judged purely as photographs and not as an adjunct to design and art direction, therefore no copy should appear on your photograph.
16. The entrant's name must not appear anywhere on the entry, except on the official entry form or Print Identification Label.
17. The images must be clearly marked Commissioned or Personal on the entry forms – there will be a separate judging panel considering each type of work.

Entry Fees

Early Bird fees (to arrive at the AOP before 6pm on Friday 10th October 2008)

Single entry	£25 (inc VAT)
Series entry	£50 (inc VAT)
Project/Portfolio entry	£70 (inc VAT)

Entries arriving between 11th October and 31st October 2008)

Single entry	£28.75 (inc VAT)
Series entry	£57.50 (inc VAT)
Project/Portfolio entry	£86.25 (inc VAT)

Dates

18. To secure the Early Bird discount, all documentation and images must arrive at the AOP no later than 6pm on Friday 10th October 2008. All entries arriving after this date will be charged the full price of entry.
19. All entries must arrive no later than 6pm on Friday 31st October 2008 at The Association of Photographers, 81 Leonard Street, London, EC2A 4QS. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of receipt.
20. The first round of judging will take place in late November 2008. You will be notified by email by Friday 5th December if your entry has been selected for the second round and therefore, you must provide a current email address on your entry form. Any successful digital submissions must be re-submitted as unmounted prints to arrive at the AOP no later than 6pm on Wednesday 7th January 2009. The second round of judging will take

place in the middle of January 2009 and notification of the final selection will be sent to all entrants by late January 2009.

21. Unsuccessful entries will be available for collection between Monday 2nd February 2009 and Friday 1st May 2009 only. Entrants must call the AOP Gallery first to arrange collection. The AOP is unable to retain any packaging received with the entries. The cost of returning entries by post must be met by the entrant. The AOP reserves the right to dispose of any entries not collected by the specified date as it sees fit and without prior notice.

Successful Entries

22. For each successful image, a match print must be supplied to support the digital file and print already supplied by the entrant, for reproduction purposes.
23. All successful images will be published in the AOP Photographers Awards Book 2009 and the original prints will be displayed in the AOP Photographers Awards Exhibition 2009.
24. The AOP Photographer of the Year, along with Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards will be announced at the Photographers Awards Gala Evening which will be held on Tuesday 7th April 2009 at Sadlers Wells in London.
25. All successful entrants will receive one complimentary ticket to the Awards Gala Evening and should be available or be able to send a representative for the event.

Risk and Insurance

26. The AOP and any venue showing the exhibition will not be responsible for any loss or damage to entries, exhibition prints or CD's, whether or not caused by negligence. The AOP strongly advises entrants to ensure that their own insurance covers any eventuality.
27. While the AOP make every effort to ensure that the Photographers Awards Book is of the highest standard, we are unable to guarantee the quality of the reproduction.

Copyright

28. Successful entries will be reproduced in the Photographers Awards Book 2009 and used in various publications in connection with the Photographers Awards, which may include the internet or other electronic media.
29. No copyright is transferred to the AOP in respect of any works entered or accepted. Each entrant shall be deemed to warrant that they own the entire copyright in the work or that they have permission for the licence and/or copyright owner/s for the uses and that all necessary model releases and clearances have been obtained. The entrant undertakes to indemnify the AOP in respect of any breach of the same.

General

30. The AOP reserves the right to use its own discretion throughout the awards process which may include, but is not limited to: disqualifying any entrant not complying with the rules; combining categories if they are under-subscribed; changing or removing the category headings when the selected images are published in the Photographers Awards Book 2009.
31. There will be no appeals against the decision of the judges and correspondence cannot be entered into regarding the judging.
32. The category briefings are available from the 12th September as a PDF download from www.the-awards.com. You are strongly urged to study these carefully as the judging panel will be following these briefs.

33. Images WILL NOT be moved from one category to another by the judges so be sure you understand the requirements for the category you are entering.
34. Between 250 and 320 images will be selected for the Photographers Awards Book and Exhibition 2009. This will be monitored during the judging process by the Awards Team and the independent Chairman of the Judges. There are no limits applied to any individual category.
35. Any successful entrant to the Photographers Awards 2009 may be called upon during the following year to act as a figurehead for the AOP, for marketing and PR purposes.
36. The AOP reserves the right to examine original RAW files/negatives/positives. In the event that a contravention of the rules is believed to have taken place, photographers unable or unwilling to comply will be excluded from the competition as per point 30.
37. In the event that an entrant is excluded (see point 30) or wishes to withdraw from the Photographers Awards, no refunds will be given.