PRESS RELEASE

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Museum of Arts and Crafts, 19 October 2017:
The final exhibition of Rovinj Photodays 2017 finalists

After the May premiere in Rovinj at the tenth Rovinj Photodays, the autumn edition of the final exhibition of the finalists is traditionally moved to the Museum of Arts and Crafts in Zagreb. The work of last year's Grand Prix winner Matic Zorman will also be exhibited seperatly.

Four Croatian authors have found themselves among the finalists of this year's international photography contest Rovinj Photodays. Domagoj Burilović won first place in the Artistic Concept category, while Snježana Bratanović won the third place in the same category. Saša Ćetković was third in the Portraits category, while Vlado Kos won third place in the category of Architecture.

By January 31st we **received** more than **8600 photographs**. Approximately **600 authors from 27 countries** submitted their, and as expected, the number of entries was preceded by photographers from the region. The judging portion of the competition was split into two parts. The National Selectors and the Advisory Board of the festival looked at all the works and narrowed down the selection for the Main Selector Willie Osterman, who chose three finalists in each category.

According to Osterman: „Choosing images for this exhibition is a very difficult task as there are so many strong visual moments shared by the photographers. . Being a juror is always very exciting and tremendously stressful. My method of choosing images is based on visual intrigue of the picture as well as the sophistication implied within the image.“

It is worth pointing out that this year, **four authors from Croatia, four from Serbia, three from Bosnia and Herzegovina, two from Italy, Macedonia and Slovenia, one from Spain and Sweden, and a photography duo from Great Britain**, were among the finalists.

The main selector Willie Osterman also chose **the Grand Prix of the festival**, which was awarded to **Domagoj Burilović, the winner of the category Artistic Concept**!

The Grand Prix for Domagoj means **a new solo exhibition at the Rovinj Photodays 2018 festival with its accompanying publication** and the award of our cosponsor, **Maistra: a weekend stay in Rovinj.**

An exhibition of the finalists as well as a reference catalog are signed by the **curators of the exhibition Iva Prosoli and Dunja Nekić.**

As well as the exhibition of the finalists, the Museum will also present the exhibition of the winner of the **Grand Prix 2016 Matic Zorma**n, entitled **"The Balkan Nights"**. The series of photographs tells a story composed of fragments of life common to millions of people. Official EU statistics state numbers, names of border crossings, nationalities, religions, however they do not show individuals. And that is exactly what Zorman does. Versed in telling narratives from war zones - from the Gaza Strip, the Arab Spring protests, state of the Libyan - Syrian border or following crowds along the Balkan refugee route – he shows us what statistics cannot express

The photo exhibition of the finalists and the winners of the competition, all twenty-two of them, was the central event of the festival held on May 5th and 6th in Rovinj, while Zagreb's premier will be open to public at the **Museum of Arts and Crafts from October 19th.**

The exhibition will remain open until November 19th.

Regards,

**Photodays Team**