FONDAZIONE ROMANO CAGNONI

in collaboration with

PHOTO LNX FESTIVAL INTERNAZIONALE DI FOTOGRAFIA

ROMANO CAGNONI AWARD

ROMANO CAGNONI INTERNATIONAL PHOTOJOURNALISM AWARD 2024

call for entries

partner

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PHOTO LNX MAGAZINE

with the patronage of

Comune di Pietrasanta
Città d'Arte - Città Nobile dal 1841

PREMISE

Romano Cagnoni (1935-2018) was an internationally recognized and award-winning photographer, one of the most important of the twentieth century. His photographs were published on the covers and front pages of nearly all the most significant newspapers and magazines in Europe and the United States. He is most famous for his documentation of global wars and conflicts. Throughout his career he produced intellectually stimulating images that demonstrated the condition of our existence and also our hopes to change it.

His career as a photojournalist began when he moved to London in 1958. Not long after, he met Simon Guttmann (the one who initiated Robert Capa into photojournalism) and began to work on cultural topics for quality newspapers. After successfully photographing Harold Wilson's election campaign, which led him to become prime minister for the Labor Party, Cagnoni along with the journalist James Cameron, was the first non-communist photographer admitted to North Vietnam during the tumultuous years of the war. His portrait of President Ho Chi Minh was published on the cover of Life Magazine. He photographed Biafra during the civil war in Nigeria and his images were published in large numbers in several issues of Life Magazine, winning him the "Overseas Press Award" in America.

He also documented Allende's Chile (where he worked side by side with Graham Greene), Peron's return to Argentina, the Yom Kippur war in Israel, the war in Cambodia, the scenarios of the war in Yugoslavia (using the large format camera) and in 1995 he was in Grozny in Chechnya, where he set up a real set, in the combat zone to photograph the rebel guerrillas.

Cagnoni had more than 45 solo exhibitions in his career, received many awards and published 16 books. Together with Henry Cartier-Bresson, Bill Brandt, Don McCullin and Eugene Smith, he was recognized as one of the most famous photographers in the world in the book "Pictures on a Page" by former Sunday Times editor Harold Evans. He passed away in 2018. He was a total photographer who, throughout his career, documented - with depth, irony and participation - topics related to the human condition, social and environmental change, humanitarian problems and armed conflicts.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Art.1 - Aims and purposes

The "**Romano Cagnoni Award – RCA"**, international prize dedicated to photojournalism, was born in memory of the multifaceted ability of the late photographer to narrate the world. The purpose of the Award is to promote and enhance the work of photojournalists, who work every day in the world, with sacrifice and self-denial, to report and disseminate facts and events of which, without their work, we would not be aware.

The Award, promoted by the **Fondazione Romano Cagnoni** in collaboration with the **Photolux - International Festival of Photography** that takes place in Lucca, aims to be a milestone of excellence for quality photojournalism. The Award takes place every two years through a jury selection.

Regarding the **RCA 2024 - Romano Cagnoni Award 2024** edition, the winner will be awarded during the Photolux Festival in Lucca, which will take place in the period **23 November – 15 December 2024.**

Art.2 - Requirements for participation and incompatibility

1. 1. The Award is open to **all photojournalists of age +18.**
2. 2. The Prize is **organized** and **managed** by the **Fondazione Romano Cagnoni**, in collaboration with the **Photolux Festival of Lucca**, with the partnership of **LensCulture** and the media partnership of **Photolux Magazine.**
3. 3. Members of the Jury, the Selection Committee, Photolux Festival, partner magazines and their employees and family members are excluded from the competition.

Art.3 - Theme of the competition

A theme will be communicated for each edition. The theme is chosen in accordance with the work and spirit of the production linked to Romano Cagnoni.

The THEME PROPOSED FOR THE 2024 EDITION is: **ROOTS.**

CONCEPT

In ancient philosophy the root represents the beginning or the cause of all things. The four fundamental elements of nature are roots: earth, water, air, fire.

In the modern sense the term is borrowed from botany, where it is used in reference to plants that bind to a soil by putting down roots. From the latter, every living being becomes the bearer of a different experience and culture.

Human history is characterized by situations in which the roots can be compromised: the origins of a people that risk being denied, as well as the natural resources of a territory that are threatened; but also the roots can be the confirmation of belonging to something or someone and be synonymous with identity.

Current international events require a reflection also on the root, understood as the

motivation triggering short circuits such as social inequalities and environmental crises, all elements generating conflicts.

At a time when the very roots of photojournalism are being challenged by new technologies, it is essential to enhance the photographic story as an authentic narrative on specific situations and events, it can illuminate circumstances and create awareness in public opinion on issues of fundamental importance.

Art.4 - Type of projects

The projects must be coherent and have studied in an original way one or more aspects of the theme identified for the 2024 edition.

The projects presented by the authors may have already been completed or in progress. In the case of completed projects, these must refer to works started after 2020.

In the case of projects still in progress, there must be at least 1/3 of the photographs taken in the period 2022-2023.

Art.5 - Terms and methods of participation

1. Participation in the Prize is free.
2. To participate in the Prize, the materials as indicated below must be sent, no later than **5 May 2024**, by registering on the **dedicated platform LensCulture:**

- **minimum 15 maximum 20 Images accompanied by captions, in jpg format, 1500 pixel long side, maximum resolution 300 dpi, in color and/or black and white;**
- **a synopsis about the project submitted (max 2.000 characters);**
- **a biography of the photographer (max 1.500 characters)**
- **all texts must be written in English.**

This competition's submission process is powered by **LensCulture**. Photographers will be invited to log in or create a new LensCulture account before submitting their work.

3. The Organization will not be responsible for delays in receiving images due to technical or third party problems.
The photographs must be the work of ingenuity, presented in a single monothematic project and must have been taken directly by the author (or by the authors) who must therefore hold the complete and original paternity and intellectual property, both patrimionial and moral.
Images or partial parts of images taken from websites or other sources (internet, but not only), cannot be used, even in case of no copyright restrictions.

4. The photographs must be taken by the participant as a single author or as a collective, where collective means: an authorial group formed by two or more photographers, who have worked in sharing to articulate a single photographic project.
The author (or the authors) participating in the RCA 2024, agree to confidentially provide the Organization with info regarding the place, date and persons (the latter also in a generic way) of the photo taken, if so requested. The Organization may request further documentation, in order to ascertain the legitimate consistency of the submitted projects. Failure to produce the required documentation will prompt exclusion from the competition.

5. The photographs of the submitted project shall be taken with a camera and only single-frame photographs shall be accepted. Not accepted: images generated wholly or partially by AI, HDR, multiple exposures, polyptychs (diptychs, triptychs, etc.), panoramas united by image editing software.
The content of the photographs must not be altered by adding, rearranging, reversing, distorting or removing people and/or objects from the frame.
There are two exceptions:

a) Cutting that removes extraneous details is permitted;
b) Removal of sensor dust or scratches on image files is permitted.

Color adjustments and greyscale conversion are allowed as long as they do not alter content, with two exceptions:

c) Color adjustment must not alter the original colors
d) Changes to density, contrast, color and/or saturation levels that significantly alter content by obscuring or deleting information in the photograph are not allowed.

The Organization could carry out a sample survey on the images - with IT tools - in order to verify compliance with the above rules and request RAW files.
The awarded works (prize and two special mentions) will be subjected to such control and, in case of non compliance, the award will be immediately revoked, with obligation to return what received, in any form.

6. The Organisation shall not be in any way responsible for the content of the photographs or their use, for which each participant is directly responsible. By participating in the Award, each author declares and guarantees that he/she is the holder of all rights of use on the images. The Organization will not be liable for any actions and/or claims for compensation made by third parties who have rights of any nature whatsoever on the image and its content, even by individuals who consider themselves harmed in honor, decorum, reputation. The author indemnifies and guarantees the organization from any prejudice and/or consequence.

7. Non-compliance with Articles 3, 4, 5 shall result in the immediate exclusion of the participant from the contest and, in the event of the assignment of the Prize or of one of the Special Mentions, the immediate withdrawal of the recognitions.

FONDAZIONE ROMANO CAGNONI — CALL FOR ENTRIES — RCA AWARD 2024

These decisions will be adopted by the Romano Cagnoni Foundation after a cross-examination with the author.

8. By participating in the Award, the author grants the Fondazione Romano Cagnoni, the Photolux Festival, free of charge, all the non-exclusive rights of use, and authorizes the above mentioned to use the images, on all means of communication, both online and offline, for any purpose connected with the Award.

9. The winning photographs will be published on the site of the Fondazione Romano Cagnoni, as well as on the sites of the other organizing bodies; they will also be published on the Facebook and Instagram profiles of the organizing bodies.

10. The images of the projects selected in the Shortlist will be published in the section of the Fondazione Romano Cagnoni website, through its social channels and may be used by the above mentioned, for events and / or initiatives related to the Award, in compliance with the moral copyright.

Art. 6 - Preselection, jury and awards

1. The projects received will be previously viewed by a Selection Committee, composed of representatives of the Photolux Festival and the Fondazione Romano Cagnoni in order to verify the regularity of registration and compliance with the Regulations, consistency with the proposed theme.

2. The selected projects will be submitted to an international Jury, made up of professionals from the sector who will meet for evaluation. The international jury will designate a winning project and two projects that will obtain special mentions, drawing up a specific report.

Jury Members: Elena Boille, Internazionale Magazine, **Antonio Carloni**, Gallerie d'Italia Torino, **Jim Casper**, LensCulture, **Gloria Crespo MacLennan**, El Pais, **Patricia Franceschetti Cagnoni**, Fondazione Romano Cagnoni (RCA Jury President), **Carol Körting**, LFI – Leica Fotografie International Magazine, **Steven Lee**, Exposure Plus Photo Festival.

The Jury's choices are independent and unquestionable and will operate without a public hearing.

3. The author of the project designated as winner will be awarded a **cash prize of € 5,000.00** (five thousandeuros) and a **sculpture symbolizing the Award** realized by the internationally recognized artist and sculptor **Armen Agop** (Cairo, Egypt, 1969), which will be **given in the presence to the author**.

The winner project will be exhibited during the Photolux Festival in Lucca, as part of the edition 2024 - from 23 November to 15 December 2024 - with an exhibition produced by the Romano Cagnoni Foundation, curated by **Benedetta Donato - Director of the Romano Cagnoni Award**.

During the event, there will be a **talk** about the winning project in the **presence of the author**.

The project will be included in the **official catalog** of the event.

The Organization will provide the author with accomodation and meals for the dates on which the winner is expected to be present; a fixed contribution of € 300 (three hundred euros) to support travel expenses A/R will be granted.

4. The two **special mentions of the "RCA - Romano Cagnoni Award"** will be awarded to the projects deemed of significant importance for the originality of the contents (and which is not the recipient of the Award) and will be published on the Foundation's web and social channels of Romano Cagnoni.

One of the **special mentions will be assigned to an emerging photojournalist Under 30**, among all the participating photographers born after **01/01/1995**.

One of the projects, selected among the shortlist finalists, will be published by **Internazionale** Magazine.

6. The jury may also not assign the Prize and / or special mentions, at its discretion, but with a motivated decision.

Art. 7 - Acceptance of the announcement and processing of personal data

Participation in the Prize implies full acceptance of the regulations. The personal data acquired will be processed according to the principles of correctness, lawfulness and transparency, protecting the privacy and rights of the participants, for the purposes related to the Award or to implement legal obligations and will be used for the institutional activities of the Fondazione Romano Cagnoni and other organizing bodies.

In relation to the data provided, the controller is: Fondazione Romano Cagnoni Via Aurelia Sud n. 47/c 55045 Pietrasanta (LU)

mail: fondazioneromanocagnoni@gmail.com

Timeline

01 March 2024: Presentation of the Award and Call for entries launch

05 May 2024: Submission Deadline

August 2024: Shortlist Publication

September 2024: Winner Announcement and Special Mentions

November/December 2024: Awarding of the Prize and Presentation of the First Prize exhibition, as part of the programming of the Photolux Festival 2024 Edition

Pietrasanta, 1 March 2024