

Issue 1 2022

The wild lens

magazine for photographers

2nd Annual
Wildlife
Photography
Contest

Awards Issue

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**The Wild Lens
Issue 1 - 2022**

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Publisher's Note



When you see an image that you admire and aspire to garner, one that inspires photography, you have to consider the work that goes into its creation. Often, it requires hours in the field, patience, enduring challenging weather conditions and possibly elevation, getting your settings correctly in place and a little bit of luck.

I was recently on a trip to photograph bobcats in Point Reyes, Northern California. It was cold, the cats are elusive and you often have to climb steep ridges to get close enough to photograph. It doesn't hurt to have a wildlife behavioral expert in your company. In this case, Sebastian Kenneknecht taught us to approach safely, ethically, and in a manner to not disturb the cat. A skilled group of women, including 82-year-old Alice, had some successful shutter clicks of a gorgeous male bobcat. It took me 52 years to see and photograph one!

When you see the winning images of our photo contest, consider the efforts to procure them—the travel, the patience, the investment in the gear, the passion, and of course, the practiced eye. Thomas Vijayan, repeat grand prize winner with a snowy Pallas's cat in Mongolia, continues to capture some of the most outstanding images of any photographer today. Sascha Fonesca embarked on a five-year project to photograph snow leopards in the Himalayas, facing crazy elevations and bone-chilling cold. His hard work paid off; the winning image of mammals in our contest dazzles.

As we enter 2022, we look forward to sharing your photographic journey and hope to inspire you with some of the beautiful photos you will see on our pages this year.

Michelle Liles

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“Great photography is about depth of feeling, not depth of field.”

**The 2021 Wild Lens Magazine
Wildlife Photographer of the Year
Photo Competition**

JUDGES

Kurt Jay Bertels, South Africa/Cypus

Julio Hirsch-Hardy, Spain

John Isaac, India/USA

Michelle Liles, USA

Shivang Mehta, India

Ranjan Ramchandani, India/Singapore

Roy Toft, USA

WINNERS

Congratulations to all 2021 winners who collectively represent the countries of Canada, France, Germany, Israel, Hungary, United Kingdom and the United States.

EXHIBIT

Winning images will be displayed at
Old Wrigley Building, Santa Cruz, California, USA.
Metal prints provided by Bay Photo Lab.



2021 WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR | Thomas Vijayan, Canada, "*Pallas's Cat, Peek-A-Boo*", Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia





FIRST PLACE-MACRO | Anna Glenn, USA, "Sleeping Red-Eyed Tree Frog", Puerto Jimenez, Costa Rica





SECOND PLACE-MACRO | Thomas Vijayan, Canada, *"The Worlds Biggest Man-Eating Lizard"*, Komodo, Indonesia



THIRD PLACE-MACRO
Anna Glen, USA,
"Hanging On"
Puerto Jimenez,
Costa Rica

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FIRST PLACE-UNDERWATER | Gillies Auroux, France, "Whale Shark", Thailand



SECOND PLACE-UNDERWATER | Jodi Frediani, USA, "*Northern Right Whale Dolphin*", California, USA



THIRD PLACE-UNDERWATER | Gillies Auroux, France, "*Blue Shark*", Pico Island, Azores



FIRST PLACE-MAMMALS | Sascha Fonesca, Germany, "Snow Leopard, *The World Is Mine*", Ladakh, Indian Himalayas





SECOND PLACE-MAMMALS | Ben Cranke, United Kingdom, "Up High Cheetah with Lilac-Breasted Roller", Masai Mara, Kenya



THIRD PLACE-MAMMALS | Zita Quentin, Hungary, "Cross Fox on Rocks", Alaska, USA



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FIRST PLACE-BIRDS | Thomas Vijayan, Canada, "Emperor Penguin With Kids", Krill View, South Georgia Island





SECOND PLACE-BIRDS | Graeme Guy, Malaysia, "*Martial Eagle and Dik Dik*", Masai Mara, Kenya



THIRD PLACE-BIRDS Brent Barnes, USA, "*Ruby-Throated Hummingbird*", Oklahoma, USA



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When considering the statistics on the rates of biodiversity loss and the multitude of growing threats from climate change to ever expanding human populations, it paints a fairly dire picture for wild places.

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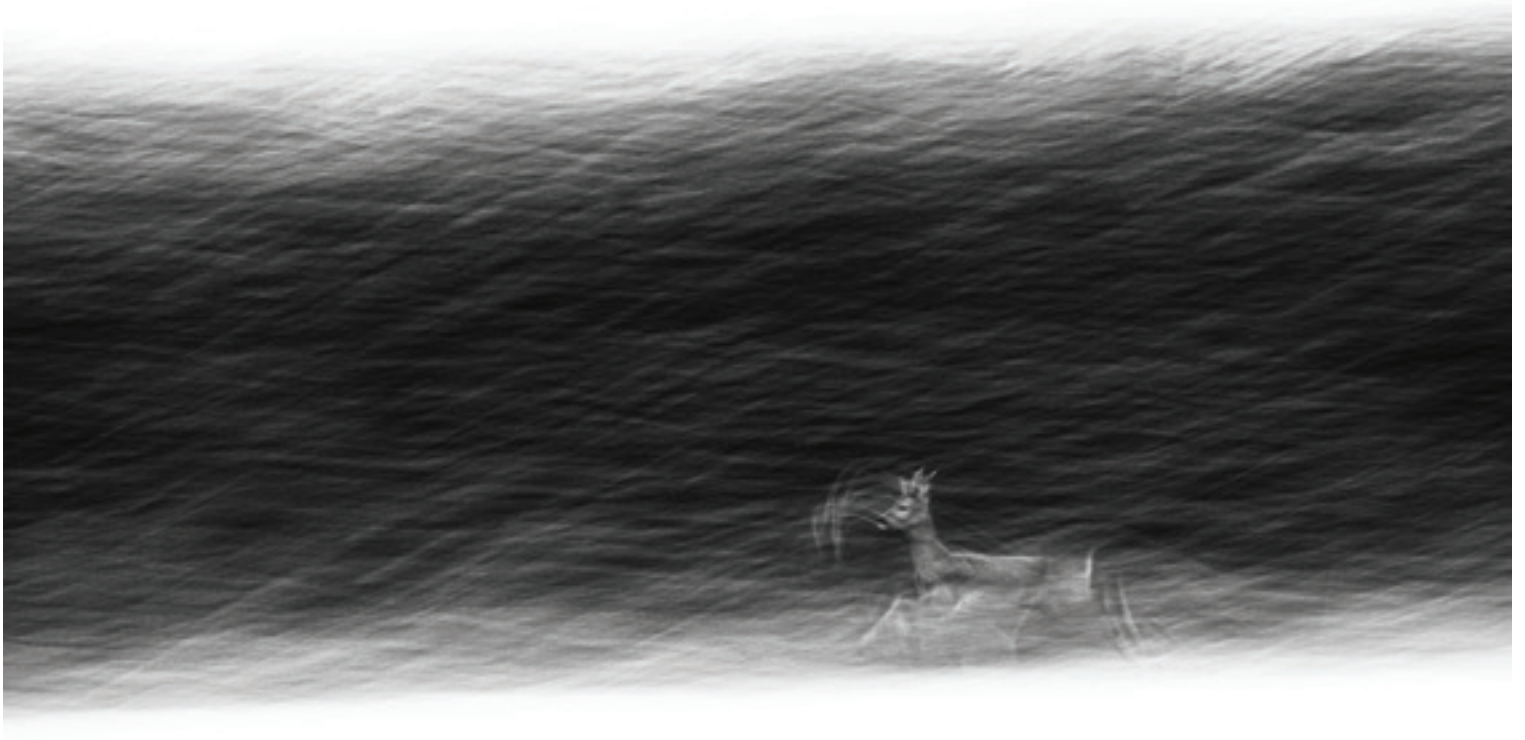
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FIRST PLACE-BLACK & WHITE | Smita Behera, India, "We Are the World", Amboseli, Africa





SECOND PLACE-BLACK & WHITE | Ben Pulletz, United Kingdom, *"Roe Deer Running"*, Somerset, England



THIRD PLACE-BLACK & WHITE | Andrew Liu, USA, *"Inseparable"*, Masai Mara, Kenya



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FIRST PLACE-YOUTH | Nichole Vijayan, Canada, "Bluebird Father and Chick", Ontario, Canada





SECOND PLACE-YOUTH | Ilai Porat, Israel, "Costa's Hummingbird", Nevada, USA



THIRD PLACE-YOUTH | Nichole Vijayan, Canada, "Great Horned Owl", Ontario, Canada

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