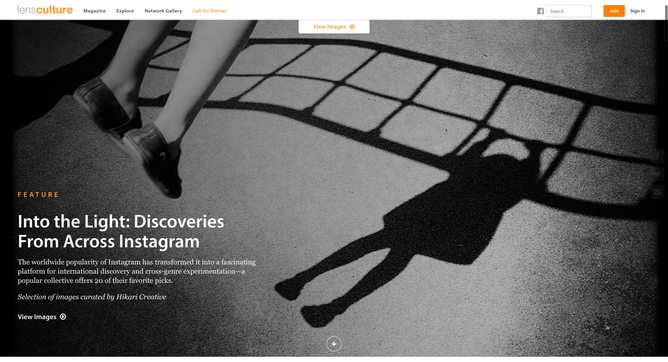


View Images

FEATURE

Into the Light: Discoveries From Across Instagram

The worldwide popularity of Instagram has transformed it into a fascinating platform for international discovery and cross-genre experimentation—a popular collective offers 20 of their favorite picks.

Selection of images curated by Hikari Creative

View Images

Hikari Creative is a photography collective founded in 2014 by an unlikely (but somehow perfectly suited) group of photographers from Iran, Japan, Brazil, Italy and America. Hikari is a great example of a contemporary, social media-first collective that has built a huge and loyal following—principally through their high-quality Instagram feed—in a very short amount of time. This collection of 20 photographs was curated by the group's five members for publication on their feed. The caption of each photograph offers a short explanation from the curator as to what made it special.

From the beginning, we at Hikari Creative have been committed to showcasing the work of other photographers. We wanted our feed to focus on outstanding and memorable photography, no matter who produced it. Our hope is that our followers will find on Hikari Creative meaningful imagery in the cross-section between photo-documentary and fine art.

We firmly believe that Instagram plays an important role in encouraging young and emerging photographers to cultivate their talent. We have always envisioned Hikari as a platform that allows photographers—from the unknown to the famous—to have their work seen. A sort of virtual space where creative photography can flourish and be recognized.

We don't have any hard and fast rules for posting, but the general criteria is that it has to be an interesting photo—the more original and creative, the better. We trust each of our members' views, which allows for a full representation of the wide range of photographic styles contained in Hikari.

As member Eric Mencher describes, "When I search for photos to post on the feed, I have no preconceived ideas about styles of photography. But I am looking for interesting images, pictures that are striking, powerful, often beautiful and always compelling. I like looking for pictures from young or even beginning photographers, hoping to inspire and encourage them. And I definitely am drawn to the work of photographers from a wide variety of countries—Instagram has a worldwide audience and I'm proud that Hikari Creative's feed is a true reflection of that universality."

To put it more simply: we post when we find something strong!

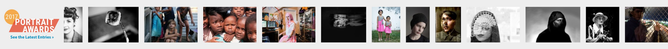
In the future, we'd like to post a combination of single images along with more photo essays. Instagram is a fantastic venue for both and we want to take advantage of any opportunities to present long-term projects.

—Hikari Creative

Editors' Note: You can find the work of Hikari Creative on their website or their vibrant Instagram feed. They were also interviewed by LensCulture if you would like to know more about their personal work.

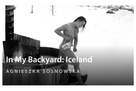
San Francisco Zoo. © Green Coyne. Selected by Marina Serrale, member of Hikari Creative. Marina wrote, "A brilliant, clever and completely magical photo that takes you straight into a child's world, where nothing needs to make sense. Somewhere in between a dream and reality, the juxtaposition of a child's body and the shadows on the ground turns this photo into an abstra... more

2017 PORTRAIT AWARDS See the Latest Entries »



Trending this Week

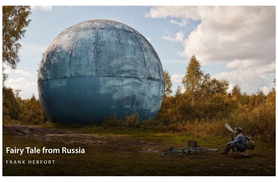
Fire of Hatred
ASGHAR KHAMSEH


In My Backyard: Iceland
AGNIESZKA SOSNOWSKA

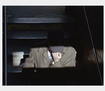
Face
BRUCE GILDEN

Mediterranean Migration
MATHIEU WILLCOCKS

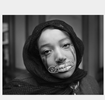
2017 World Press Photo Award Winners
WORLD PRESS PHOTO

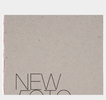

Fairy Tale from Russia
FRANK HERFORT

Related


New York Businessmen
KUI-JIP HWANG
On the streets of New York City, photographing businessmen in suits, this series of informal portraits attempts to discover qualities of individualism beyond the codes of business dress.

A Series of Unfortunate Events
MICHAEL WOLF
Photojournalism was yet again re-defined earlier this year when Michael Wolf was awarded an honorable mention in the World Press Photo competition for photographs he took of quirky scenes he discovered while trolling around the world via Google...


America Now: Looking Back at Occupy Wall Street
ANDRÉ MALERBA
Although the daily activities of Occupy Wall Street have faded from the headlines, the spirit of the movement lives on in today's anti-austerity parties and in tomorrow's fight against inequality—these photos reveal some iconic...


New Foto Scapes
JONATHAN SHAW
A smart and engaging look into the ever-changing landscape of photography—this collection of curated essays offers insights into everything from book publishing to the future of the networked image.

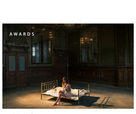
The Price of Gold
THOM PIERCE
In South Africa, the prevalence of silicosis among gold mineworkers is said to be one of the highest in the world. These compelling portraits show how high the price of gold can be.

This Is Not Real Life
DOMINIKA GEUCKA
A place where no one is born and no one dies; where there are no cats, no trees, no traffic lights. People come here for just two weeks and have stayed for years. This is Longyearbyen, the world's northernmost city; this is not real...

Recent

FEATURE
Appalachia Portraits
ANNIE REARICK
A dark, deep dive into the private world of a family living in rural Kentucky: "As I turned onto the dirt road that led to the house, I was greeted by barking dogs, chickens in the trees, and a boy with sideways eyes carrying a rifle..."

FEATURE
Arkhai: The Intimate Secrets of Adolescence
BIANKA SCHUMANN
Nostalgic, atmospheric images of two young friends remind us what it's like to occupy the "no-man's land" between childhood and adult maturity.


AWARDS
Berlin Bhf
ANNA THANYI
A fairytale-like series explores the feeling of being an outcast—rootless, alienated, and separate—that is inherent to the city of Berlin.

FEATURE
Education is Forbidden
RAHIMA GAMBO
We have heard about Nigeria's terrorized schoolgirls for years—but reports and statistics alone cannot convey the vulnerability of these brave individuals. These photographs take a more conceptual approach to illustrate this contemporary trauma.

INTERVIEW
Collected Stories from WWII Veterans Around the World
SASHA MASLOV
Extraordinary recollections from individuals who lived through one of the 20th century's defining events: World War II. Particularly relevant today, as we find ourselves "again living in turbulent...

FEATURE
Great Old Days
BRENDAN HOFFMAN
A special-edition magazine, distributed for free at Donald Trump's inauguration, highlights the struggles of people in a small Midwestern town, who have lost their jobs and put their hope in the new president.

VIEW MORE