

“Swiss Press Photo 14”
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Press release

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Award-winning Swiss press photos at the National Museum Zurich

Switzerland is neither an idyllic island nor a museum. This is clearly shown in the winning pictures of Swiss Press Photo 2015, in particular those by Swiss press photographer Yvain Genevay. He documented the fate of a refugee family from Syria for Le Matin Dimanche. The best Swiss press photos in six different categories are on display at the National Museum Zurich until 7 July 2015.

“Drame de l’asile – une jeune femme syrienne”, which Yvain Genevay did for Le Matin Dimanche, portrays the fate of a refugee family from Syria who are deported back to Italy by Swiss officials. In Domodossola, the mother, Suoha, suffers a stillbirth. Genevay’s portrait of the family shows them seated on a bench, with a space kept for their lost child. Death has followed them from Syria.

Genevay was born on 9 May 1967 in Orbe and has worked as a press photographer for 25 years. He is a full-time photographer for Le Matin and LeMatin Dimanche, specialised in documentary and portrait photography.

“Swiss Press Photo 15” – the winners

As in previous years, the National Museum Zurich is once again devoting an exhibition to the year’s best Swiss press photos. 232 photographers submitted 3,147 photographs, from which the international jury chose the winners. In addition to Yvain Genevay, who received the main prize and thus won in the category “News”, the jury also recognised outstanding photographic achievements in five other categories. In the category “Daily life”, Stephanie Borcard and Nicolas Metraux document a dignified life before death. In discreet images created for Swissinfo and 24 Heures, they depict everyday life in a home for Alzheimer patients, run by a Swiss in Thailand – a little piece of Switzerland far removed from our luxury problems.

Helmut Wachter takes a candid look at the traditional way of life in Schlans in Graubünden for “Schweizer Reportagen”. There, home slaughtering is practiced every winter, as a tradition, not just folklore. The portrait photographed by Flavia Leuenberger for the weekly magazine “ticanosette” shows life as reflected in the

face of 80-year-old Giovanni Vassalli. Sport without the hype and media frenzy is captured by Annick Ramp for the Neue Zürcher Zeitung in the poses of participants in the Special Olympics in Berne – images of athletes with disabilities, inspired with pride and dignity. In contrast are the anxious expressions of the electrosensitive individuals photographed by Jean Revillard for L'Hebdo in France, victims of the omnipresent immissions of a radiant but insensitive environment, which took the award in the "World" category.

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The jury in 2015

Antonio Mariotti, film and photo critic, Corriere del Ticino, Lugano; Ignaz Staub, journalist, president of the jury, Zug; Mark Henley, photojournalist (Swiss Press Photographer 2014); Michiel Munneke, managing director World Press Photo, Amsterdam; Luc Debraine, journalist, L'Hebdo, Lausanne; Brigitte Meyer, art editor, Neue Zürcher Zeitung; Ruben Sprich, chief photographer, Reuters Agency, Bern.

Outstanding quality

With the "Swiss Press Photo" competition, the Reinhardt von Graffenried Foundation has been promoting Swiss press photography since 1991. "Swiss Press Photo" has become synonymous with quality and honours the outstanding work of Swiss press photographers.

Pictures

Press releases and a selection of pictures may be downloaded from our website under "Press": www.swisspress.landesmuseum.ch

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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