

***Night Walking*, by Irma Zsabo, the winner of the prize of honour at the 28th edition of MONTPHOTO**

- **Among the many prizes, MONTPHOTO also awarded the Prize for the best Nature Portfolio, which this year went to Saving the Monarchs, by Jaime Rojo from Spain. An excellent story that shows how each year, the monarch butterflies undertake one of the most extraordinary and dangerous journeys on the planet.**

7th October 2024 – Lloret de Mar

The Montphoto Festival held this past weekend in Lloret del Mar brought together a wide range of projects and high-level presentations.

The organisation combines local projects with some of the best nature photography projects in the world.

During the festival, as usual, the prestigious MontPhoto awards are held, which year after year breaks records for international entries and is one of the world's major benchmarks in this discipline.

MONTPHOTO 2024 winning photograph

This year's overall winner was the Hungarian photographer Irma Zsabo, with her picture **Night Walking**, which received the MontPhoto 2024 Prize of Honour. For the first time, and after 28 editions, the overall award has to a woman.

Irma is a passionate amateur nature photographer. With a creative style, she has a strong predilection for photographs in motion and backlighting. She shares her hobby with her husband as an enjoyable pastime, but it is also a huge challenge to come with the pictures she imagines beforehand.

However, she likes to let chances prevail in order to photograph what nature offers her.

In the words of the artist herself: 'the animal photographed in Hungary last winter is a roe deer. It is easy to watch them mainly on the edge of forests with scattered fields and meadows.

As food is scarce in winter, many roe deers visit crop fields to feed.

The experts (forestry officers and national park staff) place feeding stations in many spots in the forests for roe deer so that the roe deer can get food more easily”.

Irma is experimenting a lot with long exposures and explains that she made the photo from a hide in an isolated field in the forest, with some lights in front of the hide. Of course it took many nights to get a picture like this.

The result is *Night Walking*, the winning photo in the 28th edition of MONTPHOTO's COMPETITION.



The category winners

The winner of the First Prize in the Mountain category was the Spanish photographer **Francisco Muñoz** for his work *De frente a la virgen*.

In the Birds category, the winner was **Mateusz Piesiak** from Poland with a work titled *Commotion*

In the category 'Other animals' the prize went to the Hungarian artist **Tibor Litauszki** with his image *Between the stars*.

In the *Plant Life* category, **Michele Pennati** from Italy, won the first prize for his photograph *In the clouds*.

Fuego en las entrañas by the Spaniard **Rubén Expósito Díaz** won first prize in the Landscape category.

In the Underwater World category, the prize went to **Anton Sorokin** from the United States for his photograph *Chinook Salmon and Eggs*.

In the Environmental report category, *Crash* by **Bencé Mate** (Hungary) was chosen as the winning photograph.

In the Art in Nature category, the winner was once again **Tibor Litauszki** from Hungary with his photograph *Kissed by a ghost*.

Montphoto also awarded special prizes for the best photograph of Lloret de Mar, which went to **Julia Ferrer Morell** for her photo *Cau la nit*, and to the best photograph of Catalonia, titled *Cinturón de Venus* by **Lluc Semis**.

The competition also awarded many prizes to young people, given its long history of recognising, stimulating and promoting the work of young people.

Participation data 2024

The number of participants has increased again in terms of authors and images:

1,120 photographers took part in the different categories of the contest from 67 countries,

A total of 12,600 photographs of a very high overall quality.

The collection of award-winning images can be seen in the exhibition at the Casa de la Cultura in Lloret de Mar until the 30th October.

It can also be viewed online on the MontPhoto website and, as in every edition, you can also purchase the book *Inspirats per la natura 2024* to collect one of the most interesting annual compilations on nature photography.

About MontPhoto

MontPhoto is an ORGANISATION whose mission is to enhance, promote and spread the art of nature photography, and to contribute to the protection of the environment, its conservation and ecology.

It is an international nature and mountain photography CONTEST of renown that highlights both, the images submitted and the their authors.

It is a FESTIVAL, a meeting point for amateurs and professionals from all over the world. from all over the world, which takes place every October in Lloret de Mar.

It is a touring EXHIBITION, which is present on national and international circuits.

It is a PUBLICATION, *Inspired by Nature*, which shows the most beautiful images submitted to the competition and reflections by great personalities.

It is an open, friendly and authentic CHARACTER, which for the last 24 years has been captivating many photography and nature lovers.

More information about the festival and link to download low resolution images:

[DOWNLOAD LINK](#)

Further press information

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