

2023  
6<sup>th</sup> edition

# ISEM PRIZES FOR DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY



image **Singulières** *etpa* MEDIAPART

# ISEM PRIZES

## IMAGESINGULIÈRES / ETPA / MEDIAPART

### FOR DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY

How many talented photographers, in France or elsewhere, lack the means to finish a project? How many, after spending several months documenting a subject, stop. Because their subject is more complex than they had thought, because it requires more time than they imagined. Photographers then go on to other things hoping to find a more lucrative story, requiring less of their own funding.

It is in order to support these difficult projects that the ImageSingulières festival, the news service Mediapart and ETPA, the photography and game design school in Toulouse, have committed themselves since 2018 to two awards :

The **ISEM Grand Prize** is open to photographers around the world. With an endowment of 8000 euros, it is intended to help complete a documentary project already in progress. The prize is to be used to finalise the winning work. Once the winners are announced, their application portfolio will be screened during the Grand Prix ceremony on Saturday 20th May 2023 at ImageSingulières in Sète, and published on the Mediapart website in the weeks following presentation.

The second prize, **ISEM Young Photographer Prize** is for those under 26 years of age residing in France. With an endowment of 2000 euros, it is also to support a work in progress and will be published on Mediapart. The winner may also attend a 3rd year Masterclass at the ETPA.

## THE PARTNERS

**ImageSingulières** is the documentary photography event, created in 2009 by CéTàVOIR and directed by Valerie Laquittant and Gilles Favier. An **international programme of exhibitions, films and conferences around documentary images** is offered free of charge at a dozen sites in Sète. Emerging photographers, new writing or well-known works revisited, nothing is left out as long as there is food for thought about the world, with rigour, curiosity but also conviviality.

Founded in 1974, the **ETPA** is a higher education institute of photography and game design, based in Toulouse and Rennes and led by Charlotte Cabanel. Part of the Icônes network, **ETPA trains high level professionals putting them at the heart of the contemporary artistic scene of professional photography** and game design. Long time partner of ImageSingulières, ETPA encourages and supports its artistic approach.

**Mediapart** is an online general information news outlet launched in March 2008. The paper's goal is to be a point of reference for news denied by four words: quality, independence, relevance, exclusivity. Its executive director is Marie-Helene Smiejan and the president and director of publication is Edwy Plenel. Editorial responsibility is shared between Carine Fouteau and Stéphane Allières. Since its launch, Mediapart is engaged in the **defence of photojournalism and documentary photography** and initiated and co-led with ImageSingulières the France Vu d'Ici photography project (2014-2017).

## THE PANEL

- > **Pierre Barbot**, president of CéTàVOIR,
- > **Charlotte Cabanel**, Head of ETPA,
- > **Sébastien Calvet**, Editor in chief, Mediapart,
- > **Valérie Laquittant**, Director, ImageSingulières,
- > **Fabienne Pavia**, Publisher, Le Bec en l'Air.

## ISEM GRAND PRIZE 2022

The ISEM 2022 Grand Prize was awarded to **Felipe Fittipaldi** for his series *Eustasy*. This Brazilian photographer and videographer explores social, cultural and environmental issues.

Since 2014, he has traveled annually to Atafona, a small town in the delta of the Paraíba do Sul River in Brazil, where he documents the accelerating effects of climate change caused by human exploitation.

The panel also selected four other photographers' work as Grand Prize finalists:

- *Borderlands* an American journey by **Francesco Anselmi**;
- *The Final Days of Georgian Nomads* by **Natela Grigalashvili**;
- *Civilians under Arms - Hundred Portraits* by **Emeric Lhuisset**;
- *Platzkart* by **Maria Plotnikova**.

## YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER PRIZE 2022

The ISEM Young Photographer Prize was awarded to **Clément Marion** for his series *Phoenix*. This award comes to reward a series of portraits of burned people who accepted to reveal themselves, that the photographer realized with wet collodion.



© Felipe Fittipaldi - winner of the ISEM Grand Prize 2022

## PREVIOUS WINNERS

The 2021 ISEM Grand Prize was awarded to **Myriam Boulos** for her project *After 4 August*. Born in 1992 in Lebanon, she lives and works in Beirut. Since the age of 16, she has photographed the city both with a documentary approach and as a personal quest. And the ISEM Young Photographer Prize was awarded to **Cloé Harent** for her series *A break*. Since 2019, she has taken a break from the city, to document organic farms

In 2020, **Christian Lutz** won the Grand Prize for his project, *Citizens*, which documents populist movements in Europe. And the Young Photographer Prize went to **Julia Gat**, whose series *Upbringing* looks at youth receiving an alternative education.

In 2019, the Grand Prize was awarded to **Romain Laurendeau** (World Press Photo 2020 winner) for his project *Generation Mister Nice Guy: Palestinian youth under the influence* which deals with the ravages of synthetic cannabis on youth living on the West Bank. The Young Photographer Prize went to **Maxime Matthys** for *2091 - The Ministry of Privacy*.

In 2018 **John Trotter** won the ISEM Grand Prize for his photos of the drying up of the Colorado and the Young Photographer Prize went to **Valentin Russo** for his work on *Stöðvarfjörður*, an Icelandic village plunged into darkness half the year.

With these prizes, which expose different styles through the years, ImageSingulières, ETPA and Mediapart confirm their commitment to support and accompany quality documentary photography, open to the world.



© Clément Marion - winner of the ISEM Young Photographer Prize 2022

# 2023 PROGRAMME

## **Candidatures accepted**

from 2 January to 15 March (11:59pm)

## **Finalists announced and Prizes awarded**

Saturday 20 May during ImageSingulières in Sète

## **Screening of the winners' and finalists' works**

Saturday 20 May during ImageSingulières in Sète

Publication of the two winning portfolios on the  
Mediapart website

[www.imagesingulieres.com](http://www.imagesingulieres.com)

[www.etpa.com](http://www.etpa.com)

[www.mediapart.fr](http://www.mediapart.fr)

[www.prixisem.imagesingulieres.com](http://www.prixisem.imagesingulieres.com)

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