



# Earth Photo 2020

## Exhibition and shortlist announced



Ruan Kezhuang, *Fingerprints of the Earth*

***A picture is worth a thousand words.*** 50 outstanding photographs and 4 films, which will stimulate conversations about our world, share stories from its inhabitants, and leave viewers in awe, have been shortlisted for Earth Photo 2020. Viewers are invited to discover them in an [online exhibition](#).

**Earth Photo, an international competition and exhibition created by Forestry England and the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers),** rewards photographs and videos that document the natural world, its breath-taking beauty, and its ever-growing fragility.

**Now in its third year, Earth Photo received a record-breaking number of entries in 2020.** The volume and quality of images sent in by photographers from across the globe made the selection more challenging than ever for the judging panel, which was made up of experts from the fields of photography, film, geography and ecology, and chaired by Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Marissa Roth. Out of over 2,600 entries, 54 photographs and videos by 35 artists were selected – making Earth Photo 2020 an exhibition of the very best which environmental photography has to offer.



Sandipani Chattopadhyay, *Clean the City*  
Lar Boland, *Sea Weed Cultivation*

**Earth Photo's main objective is to reveal the story behind the pictures:** encouraging discussion about the environment, climate change, and human resilience. Earth Photo 2020 shares stories from plastic-polluted seas in Kuwait, endangered seals in Antarctica and homeless children in Bangladesh, to Chinese tea pickers, seaweed cultivators in Zanzibar and fishermen from Vietnam.

***"Seeing beauty in the world around us is as important as advocating for awareness and change"***, according to Marissa Roth, Chair of the Earth Photo Jury, *"Many of the photographs reflect this duality in compositions which support the subject showcased by the photographer while being strong graphically and technically. A number of the images are thought-provoking and heart-rending, as they clearly show the impact of climate change and the consequences of human behaviour."*

**The 35 photographers selected for Earth Photo 2020 hail from all around the world** – the UK, but also China, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Vietnam, and the United States of America – each of them bringing diverse points of view to the show.

**The exhibition of all 54 photos and videos shortlisted** for Earth Photo 2020 is now available [online](#).

**The selected pictures will be shown on a national tour to Forestry England forests:**

- Dalby Forest, from 17 October 2020 to 21 February 2021
- Moors Valley, from 24 October 2020 to 21 February 2021
- Grizedale Forest, from 19 December 2020 to 25 April 2021

as well as at the **Royal Geographical Society** (with IBG), London, from 7 December 2020 to 26 February 2021.

**Each of the competition's five categories (People, Place, Nature, Changing Forests, and A Climate of Change) will have its own winner**, who will receive a prize of £250 and there will be an award for the best short film. A First Prize will be awarded to one outstanding photographer at an awards ceremony hosted by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) later in the year.





*Jonk, Coffee Shop, Abkhazia*

To view the online exhibition: <https://www.rgs.org/earthphoto>

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To keep up to date with the latest news and announcements, please follow us on social media and use the hashtag #EarthPhoto:

Twitter: [@parkerharrisco](https://twitter.com/parkerharrisco)

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## **Notes to Editors**

### **Earth Photo**

Earth Photo is an innovative international photography competition and exhibition developed jointly by Forestry England and the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers). The project reflects the organisations' common interest in enabling a better understanding of the world around us through their complementary disciplines of the Environment and Geography.

[www.earthphoto.world](http://www.earthphoto.world)

## **Earth Photo judges**

The shortlisted artworks and the winners are selected by an expert panel of photographers, curators, geographers, environmentalists and writers, chaired by award-winning photographer Marissa Roth and including, Matthew Arnold, Photographer; Katie Burton, Editor of Geographical Magazine; Tim Flach, Photographer; Vron Harris, Lecturer and artist; Magdalena Herrera, Director of Photography, Geo Magazine France; Simon Norfolk, Photographer; Michael Pritchard, Director, Education and Public affairs, Royal Photographic Society.

## **Forestry England**

Forestry England manages and cares for the nation's 1,500 woods and forests. As England's largest land manager, we shape landscapes and are enhancing forests for people to enjoy, wildlife to flourish and businesses to grow. Forestry England is an agency of the Forestry Commission.

[www.forestryengland.uk](http://www.forestryengland.uk)

## **Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)**

The Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) is the learned society and professional body for geography. Formed in 1830, their Royal Charter of 1859 is for 'the advancement of geographical science'. Today, they deliver this objective through developing, supporting and promoting geographical research, expeditions and fieldwork, education, public engagement, and geography input to policy. They aim to foster an understanding and informed enjoyment of our world and hold the world's largest private geographical collection and provide public access to it. They have a thriving Fellowship and membership and offer the professional accreditation 'Chartered Geographer'.

[www.rgs.org](http://www.rgs.org)

## **Parker Harris**

Emma Parker and Penny Harris created Parker Harris in 1990. Their partnership is now one of the leading visual arts consultancies in the UK. A small dynamic team, they pride themselves in expert creation and project management of visual arts projects spanning all disciplines and all scales. Their clients range from trusts and foundations, SMEs and multinationals to charities, arts organisations and individual artists.

[www.parkerharris.co.uk](http://www.parkerharris.co.uk)