



## **MARILYN STAFFORD FOTOREPORTAGE AWARD**

### ***FOR WOMEN PHOTOGRAPHERS***

### **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS 2019**

#### **THE FOTOAWARD**

The Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award, facilitated by FotoDocument and supported by Nikon, is granted annually to a professional woman photographer towards the completion of a compelling and cohesive documentary photo essay which addresses an important social, environmental, economic or cultural issue, whether local or global.

The work should, in part, showcase positive solutions to any issues it raises in order to contribute to constructive photojournalism, in line with the wishes of Marilyn Stafford and the aims of FotoDocument. The Award is reserved solely for documentary photographers working on projects which are intended to make the world a better place and which may be unreported/under-reported.

Women from any stage of their careers are welcome to apply, whether emerging, mid-career or established. They must already have started the photo essay for which they are seeking funding and be able to show work in progress. In addition, they must have already completed at least one other documentary photo essay to demonstrate track record prior to applying for funding. Entrants must be over 18, they may be any nationality and based anywhere in the world. It is free to submit.

Submissions will be reviewed by panel including: Rebecca Conway - 2017 FotoAward winner; Nina Emmett - Director of FotoDocument; Melanie Friend – Photographer & Educator; Rebecca Newton – PR & Social Media Manager Nikon and Marilyn Stafford herself among others.

One overall winner will receive The Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award of £2,000 towards the completion of their project.

The final work will feature on the FotoDocument and Nikon websites and will be publicised via social media.

We will collectively endeavour to gain coverage for the final work in the international media, without any guarantee of this outcome.

Short-listed applicants will have at least one of their images profiled on the FotoDocument and Nikon websites and publicised via social media.

There will be a screening of the 2019 FotoAward winner's work at the launch of the Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award 2020 to celebrate International Women's Day on 10 March 2020 at the Nikon School in central London.

The 2019 FotoAward launches on 30 September 2019. Submissions close on 13 December 2019.

## MARILYN STAFFORD



Born in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, Marilyn Stafford's early dreams were for a theatrical career. Her photographic career was accidentally launched in New York in 1948 when she was asked to photograph Albert Einstein by friends making a film about him. In the car on the way to Einstein's home in Princetown, New Jersey, she was given a camera and a quick lesson in how to use it. From there on, her photographic career took her across the world, starting in Paris in the 1950s. There her friendship and guidance by Magnum founders Robert Capa and Henri Cartier-Bresson were instrumental in shaping her work.

While completing commissions for a number of Paris fashion houses she also photographed children living in one of the city's worst slums - Cite Lesage-Boullourde – which was later bulldozed to make way for the Paris Opera Bastille, 1984. These photographs are featured in her Monograph: *Stories in Pictures - A Photographic Memoir*, 1950.

“Some of her Paris work shows the grimy street urchins she liked to befriend... trying to steal the limelight in fashion pictures. One of them, a grumpy little girl in a stripy dress, has been perched unceremoniously on the railings of one of those endless staircases in Montmartre. That one's not trying to steal anything: she's just holding on, seemingly for ever, while the model emotes over a comically huge reticule [...]. You won't forget that little girl, with her hem hitched above one knee, her squidgy boots, and her curious look of a much older person than she was.” Francis Hodgson, Professor in the Culture of Photography, University of Brighton.



In the early 1960s Stafford travelled widely in Lebanon where she produced the photo book: *Silent Stories - A Photographic Journey through Lebanon in the Sixties* (Saqi Books, London) and in India where she spent many weeks documenting the country's only woman Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi. She settled in England in the mid-sixties, where she was one of only a handful of women photographers working on Fleet Street.

Stafford's work spans from 1948 - 1980 covering a wide range of subjects including refugees, Indian tribal peoples, international fashion and prominent historical figures. Her portraits include Edith Piaf, Lee Marvin, Sir Richard Attenborough, Joanna Lumley, Sir Alan Bates, Italo Calvino among many others. Her work has been exhibited all over the world and is syndicated through Sipa press, Paris and Camera Press, London.



Working as a photographer in a largely male industry, Stafford personally experienced how difficult it was for women to balance career and family, especially when each opportunity was hard won. She recognises that this difficulty still exists for women in the industry today, both in terms of pay and opportunity, particularly in the field of documentary photography and photojournalism, and she hopes to help redress the balance with this FotoAward.

[www.marilynstaffordphotography.com](http://www.marilynstaffordphotography.com)  
[@marilynstaffordphotography](https://www.instagram.com/marilynstaffordphotography)

## FOTODOCUMENT

FotoDocument is an award-winning arts social enterprise, which brings visibility to positive social and environmental initiatives around the world through the medium of documentary photography and other mixed media. The work is intended to create a sense of active global citizenship by engaging participants and audiences in powerful social or environmental storylines which affect us all.

FotoDocument's work has been exhibited in a wide range of venues and festivals including Victoria & Albert Museum, House of Commons, Oxo Tower London, London Design Festival, Brighton Railway Station, Big Green Week, Hove Promenade, Amex Community Football Stadium among others. Their commissioned photographers include emerging artists as well as prominent names in photography and they have worked in partnership with several national organisations/institutions including Tate Modern Exchange, Photoworks, London College of Communication, Bioregional.



© Cynthia Matonhodze (top left)  
© Ana Caroline de Lima (top right)  
© Khalad Hasan (bottom right)



In addition to its project work, FotoDocument creates educational resources and runs bespoke photography workshops through its FotoSchool service, targeted at disadvantaged children and young people in the UK, to breakdown down barriers in arts engagement and to create opportunities.

FotoDocument trades through FotoStory, its visual storytelling service for NGOs, corporates and the public sector as well as through its ethical photography service, FotoAgency.



In 2015, FotoDocument's Director, Nina Emett, received a PEA (People, Environment, Achievement) Award for producing and curating a comprehensive environmental arts project, *One Planet City*, focusing on sustainable living.

[fotodocument.org](http://fotodocument.org)  
[@fotodocument](https://www.instagram.com/fotodocument)



## PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE FOTOAWARD

### 2018 FOTOAWARD

The winner of the 2018 FotoAward is Turkish photographer, Özge Sebzeci, for her photo essay: 'I Am Beautiful – But My Destiny...' about the marriage (and sometimes divorce) of underage Syrian refugee children settled within an industrial area of Anatolia.

*"Winning this award is very important for me in many aspects: it gives me - a freelance photographer from Turkey - the opportunity to dig deeper and cover different aspects of the issue of child marriages among Syrian refugees here and for this under-reported story to be heard by a broader public. Being mentored by the FotoDocument team and Marilyn Stafford has added new perspectives to the story and my development as a storyteller. I am hoping to use this crucial support in the best way I can and bring together a complete work that makes the audience challenge and reflect on."*

**Özge Sebzeci**



© Özge Sebzeci

### 2017 FOTOAWARD

The winner of the inaugural 2017 FotoAward is British photographer, Rebecca Conway, for her project: "Valley of the Shadow" based on the treatment of civilian trauma (PTSD) in Indian-controlled Kashmir following three decades of separatist insurgency, conflict and violence.

*"I'm extremely honoured to be the first recipient of the Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award. I've been able to return to Kashmir to keep documenting the stories of those living in the Kashmir Valley, spending time with families affected by the conflict as I build a deeper picture of what living amid continued violence means for Kashmir's civilians. Financially, it means I've been able to afford a translator and driver, making travel in Kashmir safer. It's also encouraging this story has been recognised because the effects of Kashmir's conflict on mental health is rarely reported. I'm also able to show how communities there come together and try to move through what they are experiencing. It's incredible to be recognised by an award in Marilyn's name given her story."*

**Rebecca Conway**



© Rebecca Conway

### ELIGIBILITY FOR THE AWARD:

- This Award is for women documentary photographers / those who identify as female.
- Submissions are welcomed from emerging, mid-career and established photographers.
- Postgraduate photography students will be considered.
- Photographers must be at least 18 years old, there is no upper age limit.
- Photographers may live anywhere in the world.
- Applicants who have submitted to us before may submit again.
- Applicants must have a valid bank account in the country where they live.

## **SUBMISSION PROCESS:**

Alongside a completed application form, photographers will be required to submit the work in progress for which they are seeking funding as well as one other completed photo essay on any subject, which demonstrates they can convey a coherent and cohesive visual narrative and produce outstanding images.

### **Checklist:**

- Completed application form.
- A minimum of ten Jpeg (no TIFF or RAW) photographs (approx 2mb each and 150 dpi), which showcase the current photo essay for which they are seeking funding + project description + captions.
- A minimum of fifteen Jpeg (no TIFF or RAW) photographs (approx 2mb each and 150 dpi) documenting a single theme + project description + captions.

The two photo essays can be submitted:

- Via We Transfer or Dropbox – please provide a link where indicated on the application form

Or

- Via a web link which leads directly to a designated slideshow - please do not provide a general website, you need to give a URL address for a specific body of work.

Jpeg files transferred to us must be saved with your name (firstname\_surname\_01.jpeg etc.) and with complete embedded IPTC information: copyright, caption, date and place.

Captions must be clearly displayed on any slideshow if directing to a specific URL or clearly cross-referenced on an accompanying word document which is attached with the application form.

Only work submitted in one of the ways described above can be considered for selection.

All submissions should be sent to [info@fotodocument.org](mailto:info@fotodocument.org) by 5pm, on Friday 13 December 2019.

Applicants will receive confirmation that their application has been received by 5pm, on Wednesday 18 December 2019. If no confirmation has been received by this date, applicants should get in touch with us as we intend to acknowledge all applications received.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

Photographers will be judged on their track record for completing at least one other documentary photo essay; the type of project they would like the Award for (i.e. what social, environmental, economic, cultural issue does it address) and their work in progress; which aspect of their project addresses solutions to the issues it raises; their motivation for applying for this FotoAward.

Short-listed applicants may be interviewed via skype following the selection committee panel meeting.

## **TERMS OF THE AWARD:**

Copyright of the photographs will remain with the selected photographer/s. The photographs must be free from copyright and usage restrictions from third parties. The selected photographer/s will license to FotoDocument and Nikon reproduction rights for an agreed selection of images which make up the final work in any media worldwide, in perpetuity, for the purposes of providing exposure for the photographer, for the body of work created and for the Award itself only. Neither FotoDocument nor Nikon will pass on these reproduction rights to any third parties, without the prior agreement of the photographer. Any usage of the photographs by FotoDocument or Nikon or licensed third parties will be credited to the selected photographer/s with the appropriate copyright symbol.

## **AWARD TIMELINE:**

30 September 2019	Award launches and Call for Submissions opens
13 December 2019	Deadline for photographer submissions
18 December 2019	Receipt of applications acknowledged by FotoDocument
10 January 2020	Shortlist announced
20 January 2020	FotoAward Winner & Honourable Mentions announced
10 March 2020	FotoAward winner's work screened at launch of Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award 2020, Nikon School London, to celebrate International Women's Day 2020

**We look forward to receiving your submission at [info@fotodocument.org](mailto:info@fotodocument.org) by 5pm on Friday 13 December 2019.**