

The Photographer's Visual Grammar: Visual Rightness and Aesthetics of Artistic Photographs

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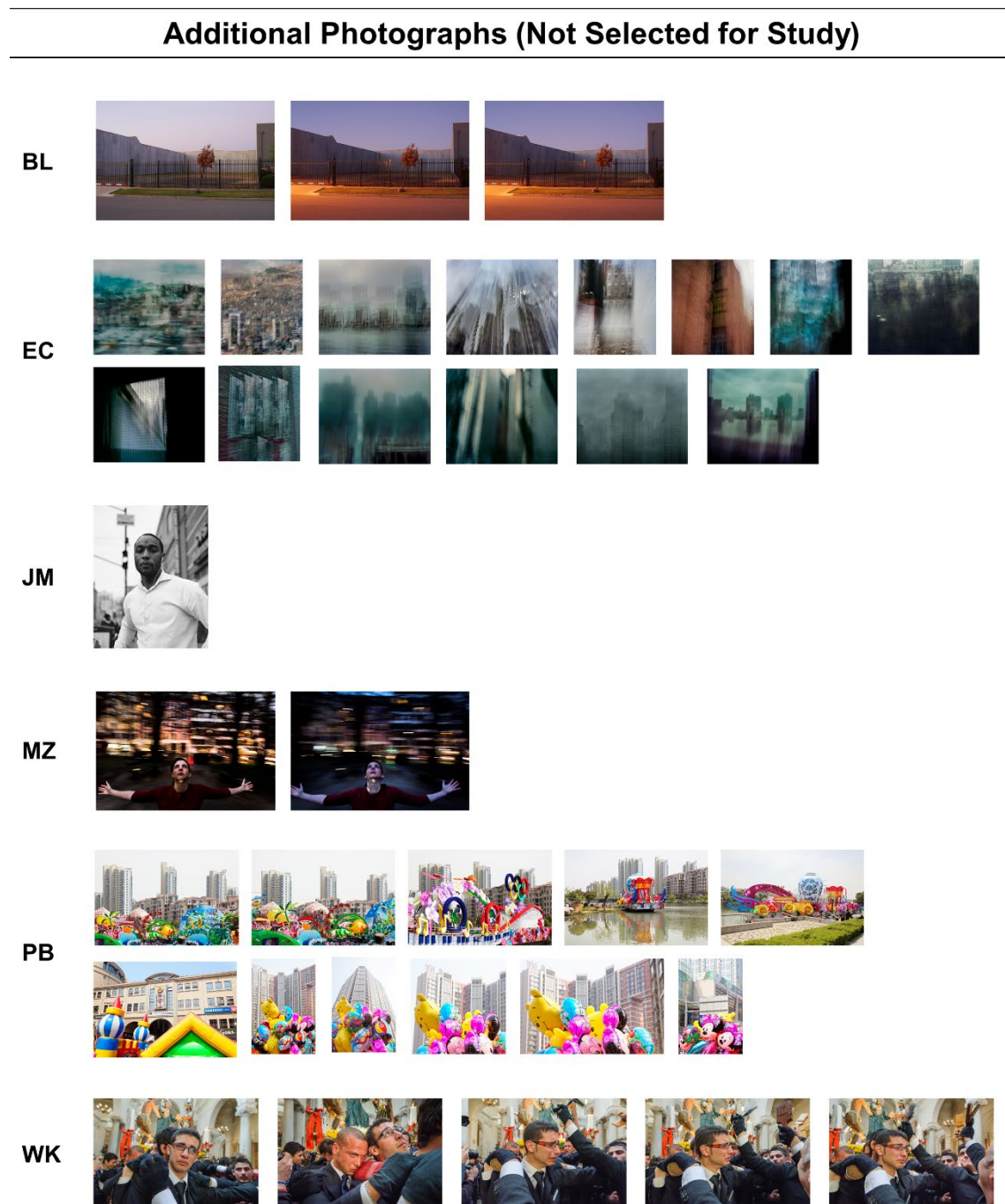
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Supplementary Material

Figure S1.

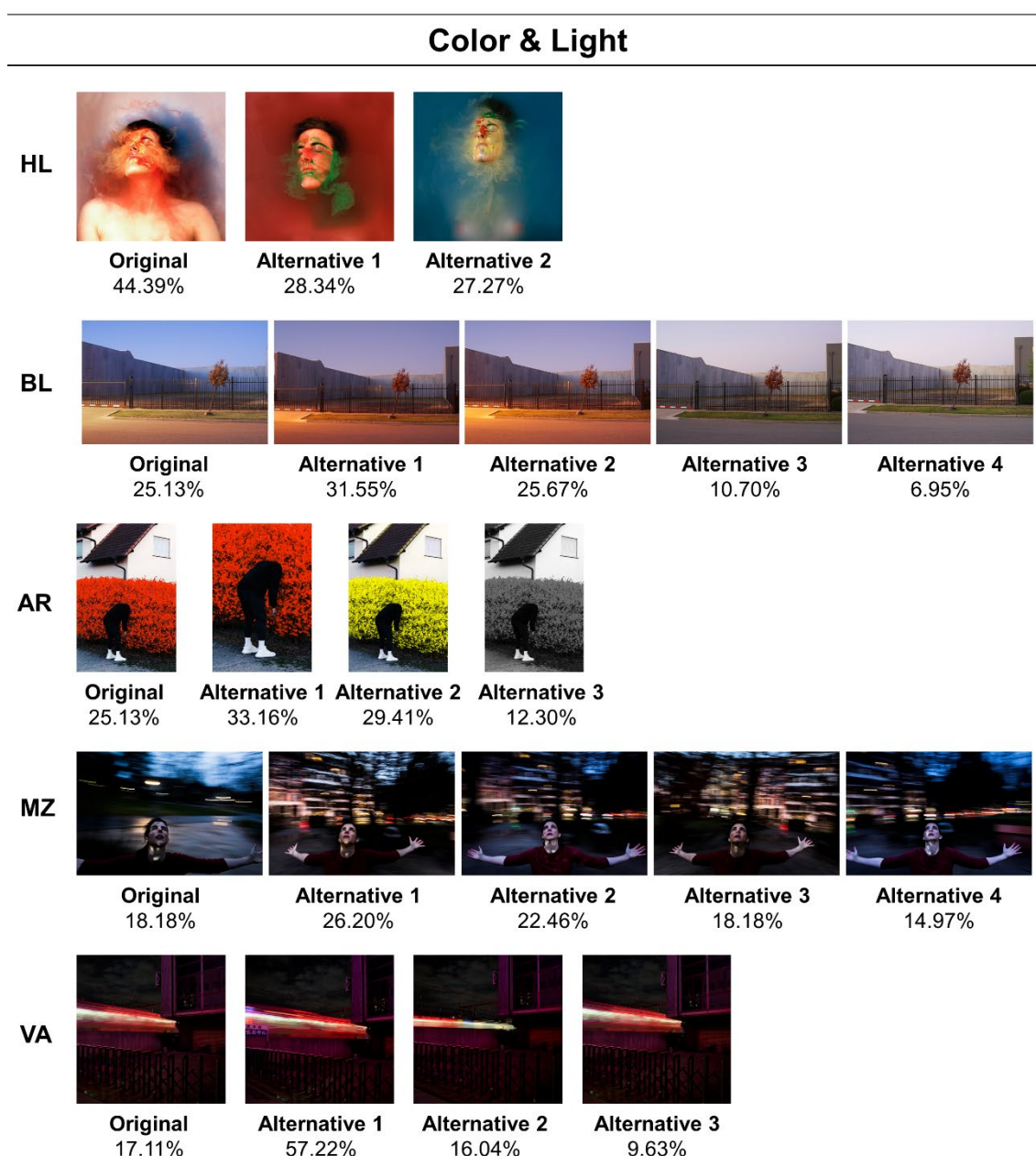
Additional alternative photographs provided by photographers (not selected for study).



Note. Copyright remains with the photographers: (BL) © Bill Lane ('Dead bush & Gate, 2015'; <https://billane.com/>); (EC) © Edoardo Cozzani (<http://www.edoardocozzani.com/>); (JM) © Julian Muller (<https://www.julianmuller.com/> and <https://www.instagram.com/julianopia/>); (MZ) © Matthieu Zellweger/Haytham-REA (<https://www.matthieuzellweger.com/>); (PB) © Peter Braunholz (<http://www.peterbraunholz.de/>); (WK) © Willem Kuijpers (<https://www.altevista.nl/>).

Figure S2.

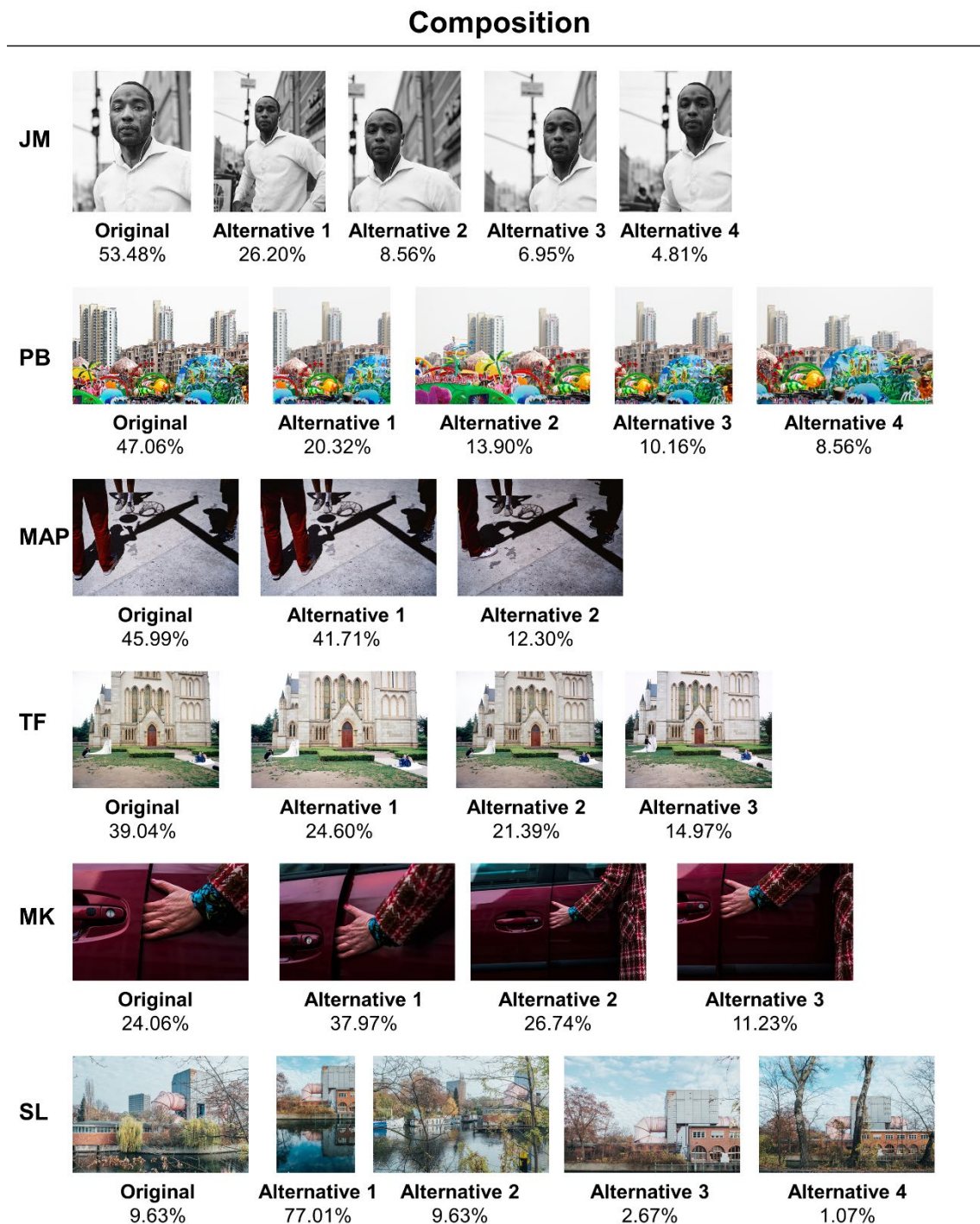
Sets of originals with alternatives, with color & light as main changes.



Note. Copyright remains with the photographers: (HA) © Hannah Laycock (<https://hannahlaycock.com> and <https://www.instagram.com/pushthebutton82/>); (BL) © Bill Lane (<https://billane.com/>); (AR) © Aaron Ricketts (<https://aaronricketts.com/>); (MZ) © Matthieu Zellweger/Haytham-REA (<https://www.matthieuzellweger.com/>); (VA) © Verl Adams (<https://www.verlanceladams.com/>).

Figure S3.

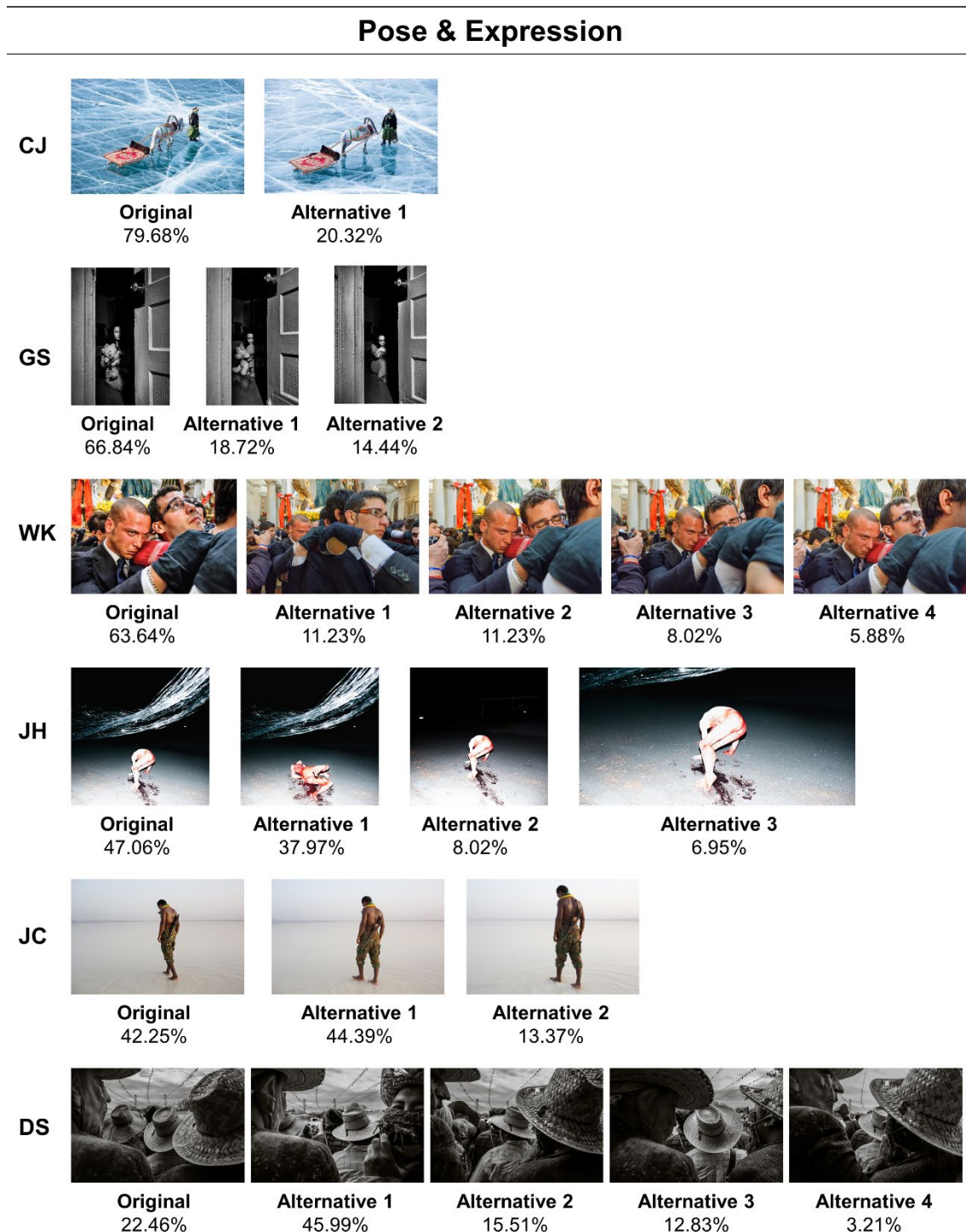
Sets of originals with alternatives, with composition as main change.



Note. Copyright remains with the photographers: (JM) ©Julian Muller (<https://www.julianmuller.com/> and <https://www.instagram.com/julianopia/>); (PB) © Peter Braunholz (<http://www.peterbraunholz.de/>); (MAP) © Mark A Philips (<https://www.markaphillips.co.uk/>); (TF) © Tim Fenby (<https://www.timfenby.com/>); (MK) © Michelia Kramer ('Point of No Return'; <https://micheliakramer.com/>); (SL) © Stefano Lista (<https://www.stefanolistait/>)

Figure S4.














Sets of originals with alternatives, with pose & expression as main changes



Note. Copyright remains with the photographers: (CJ) © Céline Jentzsch (<https://celinejentzsch.com/>); (GS) © Gerard Santiago (<https://www.brokenperception.net/>); (WK) © Willem Kuijpers (<https://www.altevista.nl/>); (JH) © Joseph Häxan ('Visitor from the stars'; <https://www.josephhaxan.com/>); JC © Jan Cieslikiewicz (<https://www.jancieslikiewicz.com/>); DS © Dane Strom ("The Masked Sayacas of Ajijic, Mexico"; <https://danestrom.com/>).

Figure S5.

Sets of originals with alternatives, with subject matter as main change.

Subject Matter					
VT					
	Original 75.40%	Alternative 1 18.18%	Alternative 2 6.42%		
MP					
	Original 68.98%	Alternative 1 19.79%	Alternative 2 11.23%		
EC					
	Original 48.13%	Alternative 1 24.06%	Alternative 2 16.58%	Alternative 3 6.42%	Alternative 4 4.81%
CL					
	Original 28.34%	Alternative 1 71.66%			

Note. Copyright remains with the photographers: (VT) © Vassilis Triantis (<https://www.vassilistrianis.com/>); (MP) © Marcus Peel (<https://marcuspeel.com/>); (EC) © Edoardo Cozzani (<http://www.edoardocozzani.com/>); (CL) © Carole Lauener (<https://carolelauener.com/>).

Table S1.

Comments from life framer judges and/or editors about the original photographs for the selected sets in the manuscript.

Hannah Laycock (HL) – Nominated photograph for <i>Open Call I</i> theme
Hannah’s self-portrait is a bold and colourful reaction to a dark and weighty theme – the diagnosis and coming-to-terms with her Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The shot is beautifully executed, full of mesmeric tones and absorbing textures. For me at least, it speaks of being completely helpless but not without a sense of hope – a beauty that will emerge from the disorder. It’s a brave and creative response to a personal subject that I admire, as well as enjoying the result. (Life Framer)
Verl Adams (VA) – Nominated photograph for <i>After Dark</i> theme
Verl’s image, which he describes as a product of many nights wondering through Tokyo as a foreigner, is expertly framed and weighted, and dripping with a noir ambience. The passing blur of the train accentuates its surroundings with a glow, painting its surfaces in pink and purple. It’s simultaneously still and alive with motion, quiet and loud. It’s a wonderful depiction of that feeling of isolation – in a new place, operating at a different pace to one’s surroundings. An expression of that strange urban phenomenon, of feeling loneliness in the most densely populated places in the world. (Life Framer)
Julian Muller (JM) – First prize winner for <i>Faces of Life</i> theme
There’s something so heartbreaking to me about this photo. Everything about it conveys conflict between the difficulty of life and the resilience to keep trying. At first, it’s just his expression—so steady, so bored, so defiant—that arrests me. Then there are the details that emerge: the tattooed trident on his forehead, tears on his cheek, and even the Playboy bunny on his neck is apparently weeping. Yet they disappear into his nice collared shirt. With his earbuds, he looks like a standard city commuter. I keep coming back to his gaze to solve the riddle of his life, and find there conflicting answers: ‘You know’, as well as, ‘You’ll never know’. (Katherine Matthews)
Stefano Lista (SL) – Nominated photograph for <i>Colors</i> theme
This industrial scene has a quiet magic to it – the soft pastel tones unexpected given the subject matter, what should be mechanical and inert touched with a warmth and life. It has a painterly quality, a modern interpretation of a nineteenth century naturalistic landscape, and in that there is a subtle joy – nature reclaiming industry perhaps. One slowly decaying as the other flourishes. (Life Framer)
Céline Jentsch (CJ) – Nominated photograph for <i>World Travelers</i> theme
This image from an ice festival in Mongolia is very well framed – the man and his horse cutting a diagonal line across the scene, as the cracks cut their own paths across them, and the frozen surface extending in all directions, limitless for all we can tell. By isolating the subjects from their festival environment, the result is something more profound and meditative. For me, these cracks could be seen as an allegory to the erosion of tradition – the upkeep of traditional ways of life in the face of globalism, as precarious as the surface they traverse. (Life Framer)
Dane Strom (DS) – Nominated photograph for <i>World Travelers</i> theme
What’s clever about Dane’s composition of a Zayacos parade – one of many small, traditional festivities that take place across Mexican pueblos as his well-written statement tells us – is his realisation that there’s as much interest in the crowd witnessing these festivities, as the focal points of the events themselves. From our viewpoint we can only guess at the scene the crowd is peering onto, but despite this the composition is rich with

detail and texture to absorb. The perspective pulls us into the scene, framed by this oversized zayaco mask on the left hand side, strange and beguiling, quietly watching on. It's an original, confident shot that creates a powerful intrigue. (Life Framer)

Vassilis Triantis (VT) – Nominated photograph for *Human Body* theme

Vassilis' emotive and meditative image ruminates on frailty and ageing, on memory and loss. The construction is deceptively complex, with the layers and reflection of light and form blending into one another, and the result is powerful – the hands embracing a silhouetted figure, and the arms bleeding into a white nothingness; both symbolic of death and loss. For me, it summons the idea of the body decaying at one rate, and the memories at another. It's a wonderful, absorbing image. (Life Framer)

Carole Lauener (CL) – Nominated photograph for *After Dark* theme

Visually, this is a gorgeous image – the subtle blue and orange tones balance in harmony across the frame, and it's beautifully composed, with the boy and his shadow framing the central doorway. Varanasi, India is known for its rich palette of colors, and this image does not disappoint. There's something brilliantly comical in these two characters – the holy cow stood king-like in the doorway, tall and self-assured, while the young boy attends to him, carrying out the last chores of the day with a telling look of weariness in his eyes. It's an image that combines an evocative beauty with a charm and personality – what more could you want to describe such a magical place? (Life Framer)

Note. Retrieved from Life Framer website – winners page for edition IV (2017-2018)

<https://www.life-framer.com/winners/>