

Extended – KAUNAS PHOTO 2019 Open Call & KAUNAS PHOTO STAR Award

KAUNAS PHOTO is the longest-running annual photographic festival in the Baltic States, based in Kaunas, Lithuania, since 2004. Maintaining its strong international character, KAUNAS PHOTO is a platform of premieres of emerging talents.

KAUNAS PHOTO festival announces an Open Call for its 16th edition, inviting photographers to propose their works and offering exhibiting opportunities as well as participation at New KAUNAS PHOTO STAR Award, consisting of a solo exhibition at the largest photography gallery in the Baltic States, Kaunas Photography Gallery and a 2500 EUR monetary prize.

KAUNAS PHOTO festival opening events will start on September 5 and 6, 2019.

Who can submit? What works are expected?

For inclusion into the festival, works on the theme “Digital – Virtual – Real”, exploring the lifestyles impacted by digital technologies, are welcome. All styles, genres of photography focusing on processes, consequences of digitized lifestyle, data flow, communication, cyber-crime and -security, machine learning, surveillance, automation, etc. Works created benefitting of digital technologies, such as VR, AR are equally welcome.

KAUNAS PHOTO STAR 2019 Award is topic free. Any solidly built photographic story or a robust conceptual, aesthetic work presentable in a series of 12-15 images is accepted. If video, VR, AR materials submitted, or they are inseparable part of a project, the set of 12-15 static images must be accompanied by links to youtube or vimeo addresses, included in the

description of work. Images can be screenshots or views of exhibition installations. No single images, please.

All Photographers/Artists, regardless of their age, nationality and place of residence are invited to submit work. KAUNAS PHOTO festival is known for its focus on documentary, but all styles, genres and approaches to photography are accepted and exhibited. Both completed works and those in progress can be welcomed.

Photographers/Artists with KAUNAS PHOTO STAR Award in focus, should ask themselves – “is my work ready for a space of 200 square metres?”.

If Photographers / Artists wish that their works remain unpublished until the festival a „DO NOT SHARE ON SOCIAL NETWORKS“ note should be included.

(Extended) Deadline – July 19, 2019, 23:59 entrant’s local time.

Photographers/Artists are encouraged to enter works as early as possible, since the festival curatorial team will be reviewing and studying submissions as soon as they will be arriving.

Entry consists of:

- title of the work;
- 12-15 images (2400 px on the longer side, JPG 90% quality);
- short description of the work (up to 250 words);
- short written BIO (up to 250 words), followed by photographer’s contacts: email, phone number/s, mailing address.
- Non-refundable entry fee of 25 EUR, per series entered, payable at the time of submission. No more than two series per artist.

For the best of understanding, texts must be in English.

Entries via [LensCulture.com](https://www.lensculture.com) only. Direct link >>
<https://www.lensculture.com/competitions/kaunas-2019/events>

Thematic program and a topic-free competition

Photographers/Artists submitting works to Open Call can be enrolled in **Kaunas Photo 2019** in the following ways:

- [entries on the theme “Digital – Virtual – Real”] can be included into **KAUNAS PHOTO festival** program: Outdoor exhibitions, presented in squares in Kaunas, Exhibitions in galleries and Projection events; the central thematic exhibition at the M.Žilinskas Art Gallery of the National M.K.Čiurlionis Art Museum and other museum/gallery spaces;
- [theme not obligatory] **KAUNAS PHOTO STAR Award** – Finalist’s and Winner’s exhibitions.

Third is the team of decision-making curators on the Jury panel, who will review all entries and eventually give them exposure through their platforms, institutions and networks.

The New KAUNAS PHOTO STAR Award with 2500 EUR prize

The KAUNAS PHOTO STAR tradition started in 2010, awarding the best participant of portfolio reviews with a solo exhibition at **Kaunas Photography Gallery** and paying respect to a probable future star of photography. Since 2018, the KAUNAS PHOTO STAR Winner also receives a 2500 EUR prize. Possible income tax obligations, eventually imposed by the country of citizenship of the Winner, will be his/her responsibility. In Lithuania, this prize is tax-exempt.

Open Call from KAUNAS PHOTO festival is followed by the Jury work that will select the shortlist of Finalists. All the shortlisted Photographers/Artists will have their exhibitions at the festival in 2019. The number of Finalists will be

recommended by the festival and decided by the Jury. The Winner, selected from the Finalists by a joint board of curators of KAUNAS PHOTO festival and Kaunas Photography Gallery, will celebrate his/her exhibition at Kaunas Photography Gallery and receive the monetary prize. The decision regarding the Winner cannot be appealed.

The exhibitions of both, Finalists' and the Winner's works will open on Friday, September 6, 2019. The KAUNAS PHOTO STAR 2019 Winner is only revealed upon opening of the doors of Kaunas Photography Gallery.

Every KAUNAS PHOTO STAR 2018 Finalist agrees:

- to provide the festival with a set of 20 – 35 digital files of print quality and additional materials, if needed: texts, materials for installations, etc. The materials will serve for detailed assessment of projects in the progress of selection of the Winner, as well as for the production of the exhibition, if such decision is taken between KAUNAS PHOTO festival and the Photographer/Artist;
- to provide information about existing physical exhibitions of works submitted to the Open Call and technical data for logistics, insurance. Based on designated exhibition spaces and other criteria, the festival will either cover the transportation and insurance fees of existing exhibition or produce the exhibition in Lithuania from digital files, provided by the Photographer/Artist;
- to propose possible ways of exhibiting his or her work, but accept the final decisions of the exhibition architects of KAUNAS PHOTO festival;
- that no site-specific or content information about Finalists' exhibitions will be disclosed until the date and hours of the exhibition openings.

Every KAUNAS PHOTO STAR 2019 Finalist is entitled to:

- a travel allowance of up to 150 EUR, in return to proof of travel expenses, such as tickets, invoices, receipts of payment, bearing amounts paid, dates of travel, name of the traveller. The allowance is payable during / after the visit to Kaunas. Citizens of European Union countries will receive travel allowance payments via bank transfers;
- a minimum of two nights of hotel accommodation in Kaunas at a hotel booked by the festival.

The KAUNAS PHOTO STAR 2019 Winner receives:

- a **solo exhibition at Kaunas Photography Gallery** (200 sq. metres), produced or, if exhibition exists and responds to necessary criteria, transported and ensured at expense of KAUNAS PHOTO festival;
- a **monetary prize of 2500 EUR**, payable to the Winner's bank account, after the opening of the exhibition at Kaunas Photography Gallery, but not later than October 31, 2019.

Jury Members:

- **Fred Boucher** – Photaumnales festival and Usimage Biennale (Clermont/Beauvais, France), Director
- **Claude Goulet** – Photo Gaspésie (Quebec, Canada), Director
- **Ieva Meilutė-Svinkūnienė** – Independent Curator (Vilnius, Lithuania)
- **Anna Dannemann** – The Photographers' Gallery (London, UK), Senior Curator
- **Grzegorz Jarmocewicz** – InterPhoto festival (Białystok, Poland), Art Director
- **Kristin Kern** – Fotografisk Center (Copenhagen, Denmark), Director

- **Donatas Stankevičius** – Kaunas Photography Gallery (Lithuania), Curator
- **Gintaras Česonis** – Kaunas Photography Gallery (Lithuania), Director
- **Mindaugas Kavaliauskas** – KAUNAS PHOTO festival (Lithuania), Founder & Director

Previous Winners of KAUNAS PHOTO STAR Award who have held their exhibitions at Kaunas Photography Gallery:

- **Simon Menner** (Germany, 2018)
- **Mayumi Suzuki** (Japan, 2017)
- **Julien Lombardi** (France, 2016)
- **Jeniffer Thoreson** (USA, 2015)
- **Andrejs Strokins** (Latvia, 2013)
- **Andrei Liankevich** (Belarus, 2012)
- **Luca Zanier** (Switzerland, 2011)
- **Eric Lusito** (France, 2010)



Simon Menner's opening speech in his exhibition at KAUNAS

PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY. September 1, 2018 © Gintarė Žaltauskaitė

Inclusion into KAUNAS PHOTO festival program

If selected to exhibit at KAUNAS PHOTO festival, Photographers/Artists will be contacted personally. Their names will not appear on KAUNAS PHOTO web site until the announcement of the program of the festival.

In most cases, the works are produced to match site-specific settings at the expense of the festival. If the artists' works are available to be transported, are in reasonable distance within the EU and match the general idea of exhibition and space in Kaunas, the festival covers transportation and insurance of works.

Non-Finalist artists, included in the KAUNAS PHOTO festival program, are entitled to a hotel accommodation for at least 2 days in Kaunas (at festival's chosen hotel), only in cases when they are available to be present at exhibition openings or purposely arranged guided tours. A modest contribution to travel costs is offered to all participants of exhibitions, payable after the completion of the trip to Kaunas and based on invoices, receipts.

KAUNAS PHOTO 2019 Timetable

June 14 – July 19, 23:59 – Entrant's local time – Open Call for entries;

July 23 – Announcement of the Shortlist of Finalists on KaunasPhoto.com and festival's social profiles

August 2 – last day for Finalists to transfer 30-40 hi-res images to the festival for exhibition preparations;

From end of June – outdoor exhibitions across Kaunas;

September 5– Openings of exhibitions on the topic "Digital – Virtual – Real"

September 6 – Openings of KAUNAS PHOTO STAR 2019 exhibition, including the Winner;

Until October 6, 2019 – Artist talks, screenings, educational

events.

Author's rights and other legal aspects

While submitting works to the KAUNAS PHOTO 2019 open call via LensCulture, a photographer declares that he/she is the only owner of the economic author's rights to the pictures submitted. Photographer agrees that the pictures submitted can be reproduced in materials and forms of artistic or media presentation of KAUNAS PHOTO festival outcomes, such as flyers, invitation cards, post cards, posters, catalogs, projections, slideshows, web sites, including but not limited to that of KAUNAS PHOTO festival for unlimited time in unlimited territory without any royalty payments. Entrants accept their responsibility for the right to the image of persons, models, places, objects or trade marks appearing in the pictures submitted to KAUNAS PHOTO festival.

KAUNAS PHOTO festival does not limit the photographers' /artists' moral or economic rights to promote, broadcast, exhibit, publish and sell their works submitted to KAUNAS PHOTO festival's Open Call.

Prints produced by KAUNAS PHOTO festival, can be either left at the festival's collection or destroyed after the exhibition, based on the decision of the Photographer/Artist.

In 2017, "The Nemunas Journey" exhibition by Vitus Saloshanka (Belarus/Germany), partly created during two Residencies provided by KAUNAS PHOTO (2015 and 2017), after the first show during the festival in 2017, was presented at Prienai Cultural Centre and Prospektas Gallery of Photography in Vilnius, with artist being present to all opening events, trips & accommodation covered by the inviting parties. In 2019, this exhibition goes to "InterPhoto" festival in Bialystok, Poland. The artist is reinvited. This is just one example of works living on after KAUNAS PHOTO.

About KAUNAS PHOTO festival

KAUNAS PHOTO aims to be the stage for the future stars of photography. Being a part of Photo Festival Union and Festivals Of Light Organization, KAUNAS PHOTO festival is the longest-running photographic festival in the Baltic states is a platform for dialogue around contemporary photographic creation between North and South, East and West.

KAUNAS PHOTO is co-funded by [Lithuanian Council for Culture](#) and [Kaunas Municipality](#).

KAUNAS PHOTO STAR partners: [Kaunas Photography Gallery](#), [LensCulture](#).

**[Enter works until July 19, 2019
\(23:59 your local time\) via
LensCulture](#)**

[LensCulture](#) is a global community of photographers and industry professionals. As one of the world's largest online destinations for discovering contemporary photography, LensCulture also provides some of the best opportunities for global exposure, international recognition, ongoing learning and creative development. LensCulture is committed to inspiring and empowering its thriving community of over 2.5 million, across 145 countries and in 15 languages around the world.

www.KaunasPhoto.com