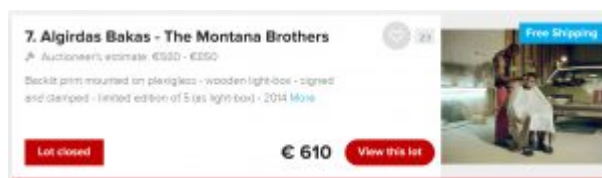


After KAUNAS PHOTO 2016, new doors open for its participants

Some fruits of the networking of Kaunas Photo 2016 start to see the daylight. Works of both international and Lithuanian participants, discovered by curators in and via Kaunas Photo festival last year, now bring joy to audience and collectors across Europe.



Between January 20 and 29, an **on-line auction of Lithuanian Art Photography by CataWiki**, Dutch online auction house, was

organised. 109 photography collectors from Europe, America ir Asia placed 519 bids on 45 proposed lots – photographic prints and other photographic objects. 14 of which were sold for an average price of 204 Euro. **The most expensive work sold for 610 Euros** was a lightbox crafted by artist himself, **Algirdas Bakas**, featuring a picture “Montan a Brothers” from his series created during his bike trip across the USA, from New York to San Francisco.

On February 18 the Swiss town of **La Chaux-de-Fonds** celebrated its sixth photo projection festival, called „**Nuit de la Photo**“. Since 2012, screens in galleries and adapted spaces of this grid-pattern town accommodate works by photographers from all continents of the globe. This year an important part of the program was filled with the artworks that organizers of Nuit de la Photo had found in Kaunas Photo festival. The organisers, **Claude-Andre and Andree Moser**, claim that the importance Kaunas Photo in sourcing materials ranks after Arles and Paris.

In 2017 **six Kaunas-found photographers** made into the program

of the Swiss festival: **Vėtrė Antanavičiūtė** (Lithuania) „Rain Child“, (2014-2016); **Norman Behrendt** (Germany) „New Brave Turkey“ (2015-2016), **Mathieu Nonnenmacher** (Prancūzija) „High Journey“ (2014-2016) and the two winners of KAUNAS PHOTO 2016 portfolio reviews – PORTFO.LT (Prize for a Lithuanian Photographer) **Algirdas Bakas** (Lithuania) „Kalinograd: Berlin – Moscow“ (2016) and **Massimo Branca** (Italy) with his deep documentary research “Inside Outside Under Bucharest”. Massimo harvested the most of votes of the Swiss audience, becoming the winner of the 6th Nuit de la Photo. Well after the celebration of Kaunas Photo festival last September, and encounter at a super market near a train station in Lithuania, offered a Bulgarian photographer Nikola Mihov a ticket to “La nuit de la Photo”.



© Vėtrė Antanavičiūtė (Lithuania) “Rain Child” (2014-2016)



© Massimo Branca (Italy)
“Inside Outside Under
Bucharest”

„KAUNAS PHOTO festival portfolio reviews was a great opportunity to present the works to experts, publishers and museum leaders, send them my message and get feedback. I am particularly happy that my work was selected as the winning one, which encouraged me to continue this long-term project about the street life in Bucharest“, said **Massimo Branca**.

KAUNAS PHOTO festival has been organising **portfolio reviews** every year since 2010, offering photographers opportunities to share their works among photography curators and experts of various kind who have real possibilities to give their work a go.

The project for **promotion of Lithuanian Photography, PORTFO.LT**, counting its third year of existence has produced important outcomes. An exhibition of Vytautas Pletkus was organised at the Latvian Museum of Photography in Riga in 2016, while an important duo-exhibition by Rimaldas Vikšraitis and Visvaldas Morkevičius will be celebrated at the

photographic centre Zephyr in Mannheim, Germany, in 2017.

FotoFest Košice 2017 in Slovakia, to run between March 1 and 15, will exhibit the newest work by Lithuanian **Tadas Kazakevičius** from his newest series „Soon to be Gone“. The work was recommended to organisers by KAUNAS PHOTO leader Mindaugas Kavaliauskas.



© Tadas Kazakevičius (Lithuania) "Soon to be Gone"

This is just a humble reminder that KAUNAS PHOTO festival serves as a shortcut that opens new doors to a wider world of photography.

More to follow!