

Observer report

On 9 and 10 September, I had the opportunity to attend the judging phase of the 2023 competition in Oftringen (AG) as an observer. Over the course of two days, I was thus able to view the unfolding of a nationwide competition from a different perspective; an experience that I recommend to everyone who takes part in PhotoSuisse competitions.

Some figures

This year, competition participants submitted 299 colour prints, 234 b/w prints, 519 digital colour photos, 412 digital b/w photos, 85 colour portfolios and 60 b/w portfolios. Compared to last year, the average increase was about 30%.

Jury members

The following photographers were invited as jurors

- Barbara Huwiler (Switzerland)
- Susanna Brändli (Switzerland)
- Thomas Stöckli (Switzerland)
- Michel Planson (France)

Following a scheme prepared by the competition organisers, these 4 photographers took turns in groups of 3 to assess the individual subcategories.

The evaluation procedure

On Saturday morning the jury evaluated all colour and b/w prints. In the late afternoon, the colour portfolios were judged. By Saturday evening, the colour and b/w prints accepted, awarded and best in category, as well as the portfolios accepted, awarded and the best colour portfolio were defined.

On Sunday morning, the b/w portfolios were first assessed and the accepted and awarded portfolios and the best b/w portfolio were finalised.

As a matter of timing, all digital photos were pre-evaluated by the jury members at home before this two-day event. On Sunday, the digital photos accepted and

awarded were therefore already known. Late Sunday morning the jury only had to choose the best digital colour and b/w photos.

Coordination of the judging procedure

Coordination was professionally ensured by competition manager Chris Brunner and his staff; a big thank you for this enormous performance and the great amount of preparation work carried out, without which it would not be possible to judge such a large number of images in two days.

I, as an observer, confirm that, during the two days I attended, everything was carried out according to the instructions and rules laid down in the competition regulations and that during the judging phase no image was either favoured or disadvantaged.

GianPiero Pampuri, member of PhotoSuisse and FotoClub Lugano



The 4 jury members



Evaluation of prints



Evaluation of digital images



Evaluation of portfolios