VIGEX 23rd International Photographic Print Salon, 2026

2026/ ??

2026/ ???

Conditions of Entry

This exhibition is being conducted under the patronage and recognition of

- The International Federation of Photographic Art (FIAP)
- The Australian Photographic Society (APS)

By entering this exhibition, the entrant agrees to comply with the conditions of entry of all organisations as detailed below. Where the rules of any of these patrons' conflict, the strictest rule applies.

CONTACT:

Chair**:** **Brien Cohn**

Country: **Australia.** Salon will be judged and exhibited in Australia

Email: **salon@vigex.org.au**

ENTRY PROCESS:

Entry into this salon is open to photographers from all countries, amateur or professional. All entries and fees are to be submitted using this link: https://vigex.org.au/ and clicking ENTER.

Note: that all entrants will need to register or sign in with Pixoroo to enter the salon. Create a password during the entry which will allow you to revisit the entry page to change details, change images and pay fees until the entry closing date.

Salon details can also be found a**t** https://vigex.org.au/

Software is provided by Pixoroo https://pixoroo.com/public/home

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SECTIONS:

VIGEX 2026 consists of **one salon, for PRINTS only**.
The salon has **six** sections:

1. Open Monochrome
2. Open Colour
3. Nature (Colour or Monochrome)
4. Street (Colour or Monochrome)
5. People (Colour or Monochrome)
6. Scapes (Colour or Monochrome)

ENTRY FEES:

1 Section: $20 USD - $20 USD for 1 section, then $3 USD per additional section
2 Sections: $23 USD
3 Sections: $26 USD
4 Sections: $29 USD
5 Sections: $32 USD
6 Sections: $35 USD

Entry fees **must be paid before the closing date** of the competition.

The payment method for this competition is PayPal. A PayPal account is not required to use this service. Please contact our salon chair for other payment options if necessary.

CALENDAR:

Closing date:	13 Sept 26
Judging	3 Oct 26
All judging completed by:	11 Oct 26
Results sent by:	18 Oct 26
Online gallery posted by:	1 Nov 26
Online catalogue posted by:	1 Nov 26
Exhibition dates:	3 - 26 Nov 26
Awards mailed by	17 Dec 26
Send report to FIAP	26 Oct 26
Send report to APS	28 Dec 26

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JUDGES:

Judges	Country	Open Monochrome	Open Colour	Nature	Street	People	Scapes
Vicki Moritz GMPSA/g APSEM/g GPSA EFIAP/d3	Australia	X		X	X		
Peter Roupas EFIAP, MAPS	Australia	X		X	X		
Mario Mirabile EFIAP GMAPS	Australia	X		X	X		
Barry Feldman Professional Photographer	Australia		X			X	X
Lou Marafioti EFIAP/g. GMAPS	Australia		X			X	X
Alfred Zommers EFIAP/b, GMAPS	Australia		X			X	X

AWARDS:

A **FIAP Blue Pin** is awarded to the entrant with the most acceptances.

In the event of a draw between two or more entrants, on the number of acceptances, those entrant's awards will be considered for determining the recipient of the Blue Pin. Other criteria may be considered at the discretion of the salon organisers in the event of awards still not breaking the tie. The decision made by the salon organisers is final.

Most successful Australian Club Plaque and Feature page in catalogue.

M**ost successful Overseas Club Plaque** and Feature page in catalogue.

Awarded to the Australian and Overseas clubs with the highest total number of acceptances across all sections of the salon (minimum 3 entrants).

As per FIAP regulations, no entrant may receive more than one award per section.

The exhibition will grant the following awards. Plaques, medals and ribbons will be mailed. Acceptance certificates and Salon Merit certificates will be emailed to recipients.

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AWARDS TABLE

MONOCHROME OPEN	COLOUR OPEN	NATURE	STREET	PEOPLE	SCAPES
FIAP Gold	FIAP Gold	FIAP Gold	FIAP Gold	FIAP Gold	FIAP Gold
APS Gold	APS Gold	APS Gold	VAPS Gold	VAPS Gold	VAPS Gold
Salon Medal	Salon Medal	Salon Medal	Salon Medal	Salon Medal	Salon Medal
Salon Medal	Salon Medal	Salon Medal	Salon Medal	Salon Medal	Salon Medal
FIAP HM Ribbon	FIAP HM	FIAP HM	FIAP HM	FIAP HM	FIAP HM
FIAP HM Ribbon	FIAP HM	FIAP HM	FIAP HM	FIAP HM	FIAP HM

MERIT CERTIFICATES.

At least 24, possibly up to 36 Salon Merit awards will be distributed across all sections, with the number for each section apportioned based on the number of entries and the judges' discretion.

CATALOGUE:

In the general interest of the event, the reproduction of the entered works is allowed in the printed or digital catalogue, an audiovisual of acceptances and any material related to promoting or publicising the exhibition. In this matter the rules about copyright have to be strictly followed. Under no circumstances is the organiser allowed to use the entered works for other purposes.

A PDF format catalogue for the salon will be downloadable from the web site on the date mentioned in the calendar.

EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS:

Image and entrant requirements: This exhibition is open to anyone; however, an entry may be rejected when the Sponsor or the Exhibition Organizers, in their reasonable discretion, believes the entry does not conform to exhibition rules and these conditions of entry. Membership in any photographic organization is not required.
Entries will not be accepted from any entrant who is on the FIAP red list or barred by APS. Entry fees will not be refunded under this condition.

Entry:

An Entry consists of, up to and including, four (4) images per section, entered by a single entrant. An entrant may only enter a specific section once. Entrants may not enter identical or similar images into the same section or different sections of the same exhibition. Similar is defined as almost identical in subject, composition, props, lighting, or

technique so that a reasonable person viewing the entries together would decide the entrant has duplicated the previous image except for minor changes.

Re-use of accepted images:
Any image that has been previously accepted into any VIGEX **Digital OR Print** salon, may not be entered again into this salon. It may be entered in any other international exhibitions but must always have the same title. Re-titling in another language is not allowed.

Titles:
Each image must have a unique title. That unique title must be used for entry of that image or of an identical Image into any recognized exhibitions. Titles must be 35 characters or fewer. No titles may be visible to the judges, and nothing in the image may identify the entrant.
Titles may not include file extensions such as .jpg or .jpeg (or any other camera capture filenames such as IMG 471). Titles may not consist of personal identifiers possibly augmented by a number; or include words such as “untitled” or “no title.”
Titles may not consist solely of numbers unless those numbers are prominently contained within the image, such as a contestant number in a race.

Entry Method:
All entries and fees are to be submitted by logging in and registering using this link : https://vigex.org.au/

Colour and Monochrome:
Colour and Monochrome images from the same capture will be considered to be the same image, so they must be given the same title whenever submitted to Vigex and other similar salons. Only one version may be entered into this salon.

IMAGE REQUIREMENTS: This exhibition accepts **prints only.**

Print Format:
Print Size for all sections:

Maximum: A3+ 329mm x 483mm (13”x 19”) or equivalent in area.
The long dimension must not exceed 508mm (20”).
Minimum: A4 210mm x 297mm (8.3” x 11.7”) or equivalent in area.

Unmounted prints are preferred. Any mount used (thin cardboard backing) cannot exceed the actual print size. Maximum thickness including any mounting is 5mm (0.2”). Prints on excessively thick mounts and some 3-dimensional images will not be displayed due to framing problems. Framed prints, or prints mounted on timber, will not be accepted.

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The back of each print must bear the name and country of the entrant and the image title, corresponding to the entry form. This must be printed in capital letters or typed, and include section name, and image number within the section to match the entry form.

The salon will make and attach print labels for administrative purposes.

It is strictly forbidden for the author to put identifying text, a signature or any other distinctive mark on the front or facing side of any photo.

Mail prints to: Vigex Inc, PO Box 952, GEELONG Vic 3220, Australia, and write on the package the following statement: "Photographs for Exhibition only. No commercial value".

If sending your prints via courier, please email salon@vigex.org.au for delivery address. **PLEASE POST EARLY.** Overseas entrants sending prints by surface mail should allow adequate shipping time for the arrival of entries. Packages arriving after the closing date will not be judged.

Note: Prints will not be returned - they will be destroyed after the exhibition. Any prints which have been delivered in person to the salon office may be collected later by arrangement.

Digital Files to be sent during Salon Entry

The entry process includes uploading a digital file of each print, which will be used for administrative purposes, salon promotion and as described under 'Catalogue' above. These will not be judged.

All digital files are to be:

- in sRGB colour space, jpg format
- maximum 2MB file size
- maximum 1920 pixels horizontally, 1080 pixels vertically.
- A border or frame of no more than 5 pixels per side is allowable.

Note that portrait orientation images must still meet the 1080-pixel height limit.
Files that exceed any of these maximums will be blocked during the online entry process.

The upload software will automatically use the file name of your digital image as your image title. E.g. The Red Boat.jpg becomes The Red Boat in the competition.
Titles and file names must use the English alphabet and may include numbers. No other characters are permitted.
The entries are processed periodically, and the online entry status report is updated at that time.

JUDGING METHOD:

Judging will be conducted at one location with 3 judges per section.

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An entrant's images will not be presented to the judges consecutively. An entrant's four images will be distributed throughout four rounds of judging in that section. Distribution of images will be in the same round order as submitted by the entrant. At no stage will a judge be able to view all the entrant's images together. Titles will not be announced to judges.

Each judge will score each image using a range of 1–5 where the higher score signifies a higher quality image. The total of these scores will be used to determine an acceptance percentage. Acceptance rate will not exceed 30%, as per FIAP requirements.

DATA PROTECTION:

By entering this exhibition, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including physical addresses, email addresses, being held, processed, and used by the exhibition organisers for purposes associated with this exhibition. You also explicitly consent to such information being sent to organisations that have accorded official recognition, patronage, or accreditation to this exhibition. You acknowledge, agree, and accept that by entering this exhibition, your participation status which includes your first and last name, name of the country used during registration at the exhibition, number of sections entered and number of photos entered in those sections will be made public in a published status list and that the results of your entry shall be made public in the exhibition gallery, exhibition catalogue and audiovisual. Image scores will not be made public.
You must also agree and accept the policies regarding Breaches of Rules of FIAP & APS

SUBJECT MATTER AND SECTION DEFINITIONS:

FIAP STATEMENTS ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

"Important information regarding pictures generated by artificial intelligence (AI):
Please note that: **PICTURES CREATED BY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THIS SALON!** All parts of the image have to be photographed by the author who is holding the copyright of all works submitted. "Offenders will be sanctioned for life!"

FIAP and PSA, have agreed on the following common statement, FIAP DOCUMENT 050/2025 E.

Permitted AI-enhanced editing (Note 1 below) and prohibited (Note 2 below).

1. **Permitted AI-enhanced editing**: includes editing tools that perform transformations, enhancements, or corrections based exclusively on the existing pixel data captured in the author's original photograph without introducing externally sourced content.

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2. **Prohibited AI editing**: includes any AI-assisted processes for synthetic image generation that incorporate external image data, visual elements, textures, objects, or scenes not originally present in the author's photograph are prohibited.

MONOCHROME DEFINITION

FIAP Definition of Monochrome
A black and white work fitting from the very dark grey (black) to the very clear grey (white) is a monochrome work with the various shades of grey. A black and white work toned entirely in a single colour will remain a monochrome work able to stand in the black and white category; such a work can be reproduced in black and white in the catalogue of a salon under FIAP Patronage.
On the other hand, a black and white work modified by a partial toning or by the addition of one colour becomes a colour work (polychrome) to stand in the colour category; such a work requires colour reproduction in the catalogue of a salon under FIAP Patronage

COLOUR OPEN SECTION

This section accepts all images which do not meet the definitions of monochrome above.

NATURE SECTION *(Colour or Monochrome)*

FIAP Nature definition

Content Guidelines

Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both over water and underwater.
Nature images must convey the truth of the scene. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity threatening a living organism's life or welfare are not allowed. The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected, and the image must look natural.

- Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story.
- Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domesticated animals, human-created hybrid animals, and mounted or preserved zoological specimens are not allowed.
- Photographs made where the scene is natural and the animal is unharmed in a carefully managed environment, such as Zoo, rescue centres, and ethically managed natural environment farms are permitted.
- Attracting or controlling subjects through the use of food or sound for the purpose of photographing them is not allowed. Maintained situations such as provided supplemental

food due to hardship caused by weather conditions or other conditions beyond the animals' control, where photography is incidental to the feeding of the animal does not fall under this provision.

- Controlling live subjects by chilling, anaesthetic, or any other method of restricting natural movement for a photograph is not allowed.
- Human-made elements shall be permitted under the following circumstances:
  a) When they are an integral part of the nature story, such as a songbird singing atop a fence post a manmade object used as nest material, or a weather phenomenon destroying a man-made structure.
  b) When they are a small but unavoidable part of the scene, such as an unobtrusive footprint or track in the background.
  c) Scientific tags, collars, and bands are specifically allowed.

When photographing at a zoo, sanctuary, or rehabilitation centre, it would be construed that the photographer ensured that it's properly accredited and conforms to best practices.

Wildlife Photography *Note- this salon has no specific award or separate section for Wildlife Photography*

In addition to the restrictions on nature photography, to be eligible for any Wildlife award and acceptance, images must meet the following conditions:

- Zoological organisms must be living free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat of their own choosing.
- Images of zoological organisms that have been removed from their natural habitat, are in any form of captivity or are being controlled by humans for the purpose of photography are not allowed.
- Botanical organisms may not be removed from their natural environment for the purpose of photography.
- Images that have been staged for the purpose of photography are not allowed.

Editing Guidelines:

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible, except that conversion to grayscale monochrome is allowed.

Allowed editing techniques:

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction
- Removal or correction of elements added by the camera or lens, such as dust spots, noise, chromatic aberration and lens distortion
- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene
- Complete conversion of colour images to grayscale monochrome
- Blending of multiple images of the same subject and combining them in camera or with software (exposure blending or focus stacking)
- Image stitching - combining multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively (panoramas).

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Editing techniques that are not allowed:

- Removing, adding to, moving or changing any part of an image, except for cropping and straightening.
- Adding a vignette during processing
- Blurring parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene
- Darkening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene
- All conversions other than to complete grayscale monochrome
- Conversion of parts of an image to monochrome, or partial toning, desaturation or over-saturation of colour

Note – **For further guidance see the full FIAP/PSA document, which will be sent to the judges of this section:** FIAP & PSA Nature Info.pdf

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY SECTION *(Colour or Monochrome)*

Street Photography is a genre which utilises monochrome or colour and is characterised by the use of strong graphical elements of an urban space against which mundane, everyday human activity is framed in unposed, fleeting situations.

This type of photography is candid in style, where the observing photographer will use timing and framing to capture a moment in a public space. Human subjects are generally unaware of the photographer. The composition can even be devoid of people yet showcase the human aspect of the place.

Situations which appear deliberately set up for the purpose of photography, such as (but not limited to) posing, are not acceptable. Similarly photographic manipulations which alter the truth are not acceptable.

PEOPLE SECTION *(Colour or Monochrome)*

A photograph of a person or persons that may range from a head study to full body length. This section includes candid photographs showing us people in all situations, such as daily life, street photography, traditions, portraits, people at work, social events, human relations. etc. The main subject in the photo must be one or more humans.

SCAPES SECTION *(Colour or Monochrome)*

City scapes, Town scapes, Urban scapes: depicts the built form and shape of a city or town (or one of its parts) through general or broad views of buildings and/or streets through the use of composition and light.
Architectural detail images of one or more buildings are not considered cityscapes

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Landscape: Is a photograph of natural scenery with land and sky-based elements displayed in a pictorial fashion.
It may include evidence of man, people, animals, even part of the sea provided that none of these additional elements dominate the photograph.

Seascape: Is a photograph of natural coastal scenery, a wave study, or a picture of the open sea, provided, always, that the sea is the centre of interest of the photograph.
People, boats, and man-made structures may be present as incidental to the photograph.

For the purpose of this exhibition, images in this section may be manipulated only to the extent that the image appears natural.

AGREEMENT TO TERMS

Breaches of FIAP rules

By the sole act of submitting his/her images or files to a salon under FIAP Patronage, the entrant accepts without exception and with no objection the following terms:

- that the submitted images can be investigated by FIAP to establish if these obey to FIAP regulations and definitions even if the entrant is not a member of FIAP,
- that FIAP will use any means at its disposal for this undertaking
- that any refusal to cooperate with FIAP or any refusal to submit the original files as captured by the camera, or failure to provide sufficient evidence, will result in them being sanctioned by FIAP,
- that in case of sanctions following the non-compliance with FIAP regulations, the name of the entrant will be released in any form useful to inform other parties of the entrant's breaches of the rules.

Concerning entries that originated as digital photographs, authors must preserve intact with no alteration, the original metadata of images.
Any entrant, whose image shows anything suspicious in regards to compliance with FIAP regulations or definitions, can be asked by the organiser or by FIAP, to submit the original capture file (file containing the data recorded by the sensor; i.e.: the RAW or the original unretouched JPEG files) plus the file of the images immediately before and immediately following the questionable image. If the entrant fails to provide what is required, he/she can be sanctioned.

FIAP NOTICE:
Each entrant to FIAP salons must observe the rules of FIAP and conform to the regulations of document 048/2025 E and document 049/2025 E.

Each entrant to FIAP salons must observe the rules of FIAP whether or not he/she is a member of FIAP.

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By the sole act of submitting his/her images or files to a salon under FIAP Patronage, the entrant:

- Acknowledges and accepts that when breaching FIAP regulations he/she can be sanctioned by FIAP and
- Accepts without exception and with no objection the following general and specific rules concerning the sanctions for breaching FIAP regulations:

During the entry process all entrants will be required to tick a box to agree to the following statement.

"I hereby expressly agree to FIAP document 048/2025 E « Conditions and regulations for FIAP Patronage » and FIAP document 049/2025 E « Sanctions for breaching FIAP regulations and the red list ». I am particularly aware of chapter II « Regulations for International photographic events under FIAP patronage » of FIAP document 048/2025 E , dealing under Section II.2 and II.3 with the FIAP participation rules, the sanctions for breaching FIAP regulations and the red list."

Failure to agree will mean that the entry will not proceed.

SALON STATEMENT:

If, at any time, it is determined in the reasonable discretion of the exhibition organiser or the judges before, during, or after the judging of an exhibition that an entrant has submitted entries where one or more images may fail to comply with these Conditions of Entry, including the stated definitions, the exhibition organisers reserve the right to delete the entry from the exhibition and void any or all acceptances or awards in connection with the exhibition. Fees will be forfeited in these circumstances. The entrant acknowledges that the decision of the exhibition organisers or the judges is final.
Eventual acceptance rates will be determined by the judges.

APS Conditions of Entry

By submitting images to this exhibition in either print or digital form. I agree to accept without exception or objection the following terms:

- To ensure that images comply with the Conditions of Entry, including all relevant definitions, the exhibition organisers may ask me to provide originally captured images, with EXIF data intact, by a specified deadline.
- If I do not supply the requested image(s) in the specified time those images will be deemed to be in breach of the Conditions of Entry.
- Images that are submitted as requested may be investigated by any means determined appropriate by the exhibition organisers to establish if the image(s) comply with the conditions of entry.

- Images that are deemed by the exhibition organisers to breach the Conditions of Entry will be removed from the exhibition. Any acceptances or awards allocated to those images will become void.

The exhibition organizers will provide APS with details of all breaches of the Conditions of Entry. APS retains the right to impose sanctions on entrants deemed to have repeatedly breached the Conditions of Entry of any APS Approved exhibition.

By virtue of submitting an entry, the entrant certifies the work as his/her own (aliases are not permitted).

By submitting an entry, the entrant certifies that in the process of capturing the image the entrant did not violate any of the standards of ethical practice of FIAP or APS.

Titles must use the English alphabet and can contain no more than 35 characters (including spaces). Image titles may be in a foreign language, but the English alphabet must be used.

The titles of entries should be exactly as you want them to appear in the catalogue.

No title or identification of the maker shall be visible anywhere on the image or the title.

Titles will not be announced at judging.

Entrants automatically agree to these terms by the act of entering the Exhibition

COPYRIGHT AND ORIGIN OF IMAGES

All parts of the image have to be photographed by the author who is holding the copyright of all works submitted. In the general interest of the event, the reproduction of the entered works is allowed in the printed or digital catalogue, and any material related to promoting or publicising the exhibition. In this matter the rules about copyright must be strictly followed. Under no circumstances is the organiser allowed to use the entered works for other purposes.

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PATRONAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

[add FIAP and APS approval certificates here]