



## International Photobook Contest

### *“Crossing Borders and Shifting Boundaries: Territory”*

#### Framework

In **scopio International Photobook Contest** the best photobook selected will be published in the **Author’s Book collection** and all winners – 1<sup>o</sup> prize and 2nd honourable mentions) are to be partially published in **VIEWFINDER scopio® magazine**'s third issue “Crossing Borders and Shifting Boundaries: Territory”, which will be a separate and autonomous volume having a revitalised Editorial board that will share the coordination of Viewfinder with research group CCRE-CEAU-FAUP and will also be available in digital format online. This means that next Viewfinder will integrate in this contest universities and departments related to photography linked to Art and Architecture of international scope. It is proposed that the responsibility of its Editorial and Advisory Board will belong to both CCRE / CEAU / FAUP and UniMAD / P.PORTO R&Ds and that the publication will have 5 Editors: Inaki Bergera - School of Architecture in Zaragoza -, Marco Iuliano - School of Architecture in Liverpool -, which are already both research members of CEAU . FAUP, Mark Durden – USW -, Olivia da Silva - ESMAD / UniMAD / P.PORTO – and Pedro Leão Neto – CCRE/CEAU/FAUP.

Thus, each issue of **VIEWFINDER scopio® magazine** will have a sub theme related to an annual central theme, and shall constitute a book of its own.

This annual international contest on photobooks, 3rd Edition of **SCOPIO International Photobook Contest**, has as central theme - **Crossing Borders and Shifting Boundaries: Territory** and is focused on building visual narratives on physical and conceptual configurations of residential spaces, public spaces, urban scattered communities and city life in general, always bearing in mind the mentioned categories: Architecture, City and Territory. Moreover, there will be an interest in work that explores how cities and other natural systems as rivers, seas, forests and other alike have been in interaction and characterize the territory in terms of spatial morphology and geographical features. All this will contribute to understand how social, economic and political systems and values affect the way territories evolve and are categorized. It will try to show works that characterize the rich multifaceted world of contemporary cities and / or non traditional urban communities. It is intended to initiate a body of work made up of visual narratives in a photobook format communicating the diversity of the settlements and urban settings, both nationally and internationally, and to create, in the near future, a "living catalogue" able to communicate both the transient and the enduring of the public spaces, architecture and social settings nature.

The general objectives of this contest, as the name implies, is directed towards the creation of an Artist Photobook, which also involves the visual definition of a concept. The focus is on creating a narrative, of no less than 20 images with a descriptive memory of no more than 1000 words, assuming that by presenting a story the reader will be pulled and "entertained". In this case, an image is linked with the next one at a fundamental, conceptual and emotional level, increasing the reader's attention to the work in order to figure out what those connections are. Our aim is to reveal the potential of the photobook as a mature medium capable of communicating different perspectives and of combining diverse art expressions to convey in a unique way the rich multi-layered contemporary issues related to architecture, city

spaces and the territory where people live and work. In this sense, we are accepting entries of small limited editions of Artist Photobooks or Dummies, as long as they follow the regulations and the publishing disclosure rights of the contest. We are also searching for new talents and awareness towards photography and architecture through the Artist Photobook, both in Portugal and abroad, and moreover to raise a wider appreciation of our architectural, cultural and intellectual inheritance and promote the photography platform scopio Network. This site shall also be used to publish the projects within the contest. We are interested in photobooks that may reveal the multiple layers of history embedded in the architecture of cities from different parts of the world, showing how these cities are in constant evolution and how they define new forms of occupation of the available territory. We are also interested in understanding how social, economic and political systems and values affect the territory and its cities, as well as the way people live and work on those places.

## Chapter I – Objectives

1.1 To promote photography as a research tool that allows to (re)discover new perspectives about how people live, work and appropriate their spatial settings. The aim is to bring participants to explore, question and discuss the potential of photography as a way to question and represent urban reality.

1.2 To search for new talents and foster the awareness of visual narratives about the territory, both in Portugal and abroad, appealing for the enhancement of human, cultural and intellectual values and heritage.

1.3 To strengthen **CCRE's** research line **City Spaces and Culture** (<http://web.ccre.arq.up.pt>; <http://www.ceau.arq.up.pt/grupo.asp?id=2>) and the *Documentary and Artistic photography* platform **scopio Network** (<http://www.scopionetwork.com>), using this site for the divulgation of the photography narratives.

## Chapter II – Themes, Categories and Participants

2.1 The visual narratives should address the theme "**Crossing Borders and Shifting Boundaries: Territory**".

2.2 The contest categories include (1) Documentary and (2) Conceptual Narratives, both of which comprehend or support any form of photography. The category (1) Documentary Narratives covers contemporary photography narratives that aim to communicate the reality of today's world in respect to diverse events, people, issues and cultures. It includes works that, somehow, may be close to photo-journalism. The category (2) Conceptual Narratives includes contemporary photography narratives with a strong artistic component - documentary fiction. Conceptual Narratives are based upon ideas and emotions where the imaginary has a significant weight. These works should inspire our imagination and are freer from the need to portray reality with complete "documentary objectivity".

2.3. The contest is open to everyone interested, over 18 years old, except to members of the jury or the organisation.

2.4. The contest accepts individual or group participation.

2.5. Each participant can only compete with a photography narrative, be it an individual or group project.

## Chapter III – Proposals submission / Technical Access Specifications

3.1 To be considered eligible for the contest, the participants should send us by mail the following:

- Physical book dummy;

- 3 original prints (300mm x 240 mm - vertical or horizontal format);
- The digital version of the 3 prints sent + cover (to divulge through our site);
- A descriptive memory of no more than 1000 words, preferably bilingual or English only)

Please note that to receive back by mail the physical book dummy, if not selected, participants must send to us the dummy in a pre-paid mail pack.

The organisation will select a set of self-published Dummies to be part of the CITYZINES showcase in scopio Network.

3.2 Digital signatures or watermarks on the images submitted to contest are not allowed.

3.3 The set of images in digital version must all be in JPEG or TIFF format.

3.4 Each Photobook should, mandatorily, contain a **minimum of ten** and a **maximum of twenty images**.

3.5 All the photographic images of the photobook submitted to contest in digital version are required to have minimum quality for printing purposes.

3.6 All the photography narratives will be evaluated by an independent jury as specified next.

## Chapter IV – Jury

4.1 The jury shall be constituted by three persons, being one of them from CCRE research group or scopio team, and the other two persons of recognised expertise, prestige, credibility, and experience, along with a sense of history and perspective, who can belong to diverse areas or disciplines as, for example: (1) photography (2) art (3) architecture, (4) sociology / philosophy / anthropology, (5) design (6) curatorship;

4.2. The Advisory Board will be responsible for:

- ensuring that the jury of the scopio International Photobook Contest consists of a set of three persons of recognised competence;
- define the list that contains the set of 3 names proposed by the Jury;
- forward if needed supported views on issues of artistic and scientific nature related to the contest;

4.3 There will be a pre-selection of photographic narratives by the Advisory Board, meaning that all the contest entries will be previewed in order to ensure that the Narratives are in accordance with the Conceptual or Documentary categories and that they have a minimal photographic and artistic quality. This pre-selection will be available in an online gallery accessible to the public.

4.5 The evaluation process of the Jury will take place in two stages. Firstly the judging panel will select a **Shortlist** of 5 to 10 photobooks considered of greater strength and interest that will go on for a second phase of evaluation. Then there will be a more detailed assessment where the winners will be chosen based on **five evaluation criteria**:

- . (1) strength and poetic content of the narrative;
- . (2) technical quality of the photographs;
- . (3) artistic and imagery strength of the photograph
- . (4) originality;

(5) the ability to portray "realities" inherent to the process of migratory movements (crossing borders and boundaries).

4.6 Among the set of 5 best photobooks selected by the Jury, there will be chosen the best Narrative and two honourable mentions per category.

4.7 The jury reserves the right not to award prizes due to an eventual poor quality of the photobooks.

4.8 There will be no appeal of the jury decisions, and the jury will decide on cases not covered by these rules.

## **Chapter V – Awards**

5.1 The 3 winners (first prize and 2 honourable mentions) will be partially published in **scopio Magazine VIEWFINDER**, which will be entirely devoted to this contest.

5.2 The first prize for the photobook will be granted the possibility for making a special edition published in **Author's Book collection**.

5.3 All the Awarded narratives will be published and highlighted in the networks and other web supports of the institutions that integrate the contest organization, as well as by scopio Editions.

5.4 All competitors will receive an award certificate.

5.5 All authors selected for publication will be contacted if need to send photos with print quality and colour proofs after the selection. The authors will be notified by e-mail or telephone.

5.5.1 Non-compliance with paragraph 5.5 invalidates participation in the scopio® Editorial Line.

## **Chapter VI – General Dispositions**

6.1 Only the works that bind under the present regulation will be submitted to the contest.

6.2 The submission of projects to contest represents in itself the participant's knowledge of and binding to this regulation.

6.3 The unfulfillment of any of the regulation points will annul the participation in the contest.

6.4 Any case here omitted will be solved through the contest jury deliberation.

6.5 CCRE / CEAU / FAUP, ESMAD / UniMAD / P.PORTO and VIEWFINDER scopio® magazine reserve the right to publish and disclose the images submitted to contest, according to Portuguese law No 2/99 from January 13.

6.6 Cityscopio - Associação Cultural and scopio® safeguard the copyrights of submitted projects.

## **Chapter VII – Organisation and technical committee**

### **7.1 Organisation**

#### **Publisher**

Cityscopio – Associação Cultural

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[info@cityscopio.com](mailto:info@cityscopio.com)

[www.cityscopio.com](http://www.cityscopio.com)

## **The Advisory Board**

### **CCRE – Centro de Comunicação e Representação Espacial**

CCRE is a research group integrated in R&D unit of Centro de Estudos de Arquitectura e Urbanismo (CEAU) at Faculdade de Arquitectura da Universidade do Porto (FAUP).

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### **UniMAD - Media, Arts and Design Research Centre of School of Media Arts and Design (ESMAD / P.Porto)**

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### **7.2 Coordination**

Pedro Leão Neto (FAUP) and Olívia Marques da Silva (ESMAE/IPP)

### **7.3 Jury**

To be announced soon.