

## **Martin Evening Excellence in Digital Retouching Award - Terms & Conditions of Entry**

### **1. Eligibility**

1.1 Open to Retouchers and Retouching Houses to submit work either as an Individual or a Team.

### **2. Submissions**

2.1 Entrants are required to have worked professionally for at least two years and have made a significant impact on a piece of work either as part of a commission or as a personal piece of work requested by a client. The Award may recognise an individual or team, who consistently goes above and beyond client expectations and demonstrates a genuine curiosity and passion for digital retouching and post- production.

2.2 All submitted images must have been created or published as new from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. All elements of the work submitted must be original and must have been originated by a person or team of people (the Entrant(s)). The Entrants must be responsible for digitally retouching a significant majority of the elements in the work. No work or element which has been created through a text-to-image generator is allowed.

2.3 Work submitted must not have been selected (i.e., runners-up, finalist or winner) as part of any previous AOP Awards programme.

2.4 No Entrant will be allowed to be part of either the decision-making process or the judging process.

2.5 Entries may only be submitted online.

2.6 Any and/or all AOP Martin Evening Excellence in Digital Retouching Award selected entries may be reproduced in various publications and outlets to promote the AOP Awards programme (see 3.3). [NB: The 'before' work element of individual entries will only be used for judging purposes and not for public viewing, unless their clients clearly consent to any public showing of the 'before'.]

2.7 The AOP may use any and/or all submitted images in digital displays presented at the AOP Awards ceremony and presentation in September 2024.

2.8 The winner and finalists of the Martin Evening Excellence in Digital Retouching will be published in the 39<sup>th</sup> AOP Awards Book, together with the winning images from the AOP Photography Awards 2024, AOP Open Award 2024, AOP Student Awards 2024 and AOP Emerging Talent Award 2024.

Original prints may be displayed in the 39<sup>th</sup> AOP Awards Exhibition and AOP Awards on Tour exhibition.

### **3. Copyright**

3.1 No copyright is transferred to the AOP in respect of any works nominated, entered or accepted.

3.2 Entrants shall be deemed to warrant that they have permission from any represented rights-holder/s to have the work judged and to be credited for the work, and that all necessary model and/or property releases have been obtained. The Entrant undertakes to indemnify the AOP and the sponsors of the 39th AOP Awards in respect of any breach of the same.

3.3 Entrants grant to the AOP a non-exclusive licence to use the work submitted for the purposes outlined below:

The AOP and the partners of the Photography Awards reserve the non-exclusive right to display, reproduce, adapt, modify and publish in any media, any successful entry, without payment, for a period of up to 15 months from the announcement of the winners, for the sole purpose of promoting and publicising the AOP and the associated AOP Awards programme which includes the Photography Awards, Open Awards, AOP Projects and the Student Awards. The AOP also reserves the right to display all the successful images on the AOP Awards website and archive the work for an indefinite period unless the Nominee requests otherwise in writing to the AOP office. The Entrant will be credited whenever the work is published or displayed on the AOP's own platforms, accounts and channels.

### **4. Exhibition prints**

4.1 Any exhibition prints will be produced by the AOP at its cost using its preferred supplier(s) for the purposes of the exhibition only, both at the exhibition's original location and any touring locations that may be secured over the subsequent 12 months. These prints are the property of the AOP and will be destroyed at the end of any exhibition period and any case at the end of a 12-month period following the launch of the exhibition.

### **5. Risk and Insurance**

5.1 The AOP and any venue hosting the exhibition will not be responsible for any loss or damage to entries or exhibition prints, whether or not caused by negligence.

5.2 While the AOP makes every effort to ensure that the AOP Awards Book is of the highest standard, we are unable to guarantee the quality of the reproduction.

### **6. General**

6.1 All entries must meet the conditions required under Entry Procedure, Technical Specifications and Format.

6.2 You may only enter a piece of work once into the AOP Photography Awards or any associated AOP Award.

6.3 Entries must be submitted online by following the instructions. A current valid email address must be included - all communications from the AOP will be made via email.

6.4 All judging will be of digital files.

6.5 There are no restrictions on the number of entries received per person or team. Entries can consist of either individual images, a series of images or a short moving-image piece, or a piece of work that uses technological innovation in some way (such as virtual reality, augmented reality, CGI-rendered imagery – note, this is not AI-generated imagery), with no restrictions on subject matter.

6.6 The AOP reserves the right to use its own discretion throughout, which may include, but is not limited to: Disqualifying any entry not complying with the rules.

6.7 If it is believed that a contravention of the rules has taken place, the AOP reserves the right to examine original material in the form of RAW and/or processed files, film negatives/positives and/or any other media. Any Entrant unable or unwilling to supply the necessary material on request will be disqualified.

6.8 There will be no appeals against the decision of the judging panel and no correspondence will be entered into regarding the decision-making process.

6.9 Any successful Entrant to the Martin Evening Excellence in Digital Retouching Award may be called upon during the ensuing 12-month period to participate in any appropriate marketing and PR activities for and on behalf of the AOP. By entering the Martin Evening Excellence in Digital Retouching Award. Entrants agree to take part in this activity.

6.10 Any work selected and sold from the exhibition, including online from the AOP Awards site, will attract the usual AOP Gallery Sales Commission Fee (currently 30% of the sale price).

6.11 By entering the AOP Photography Awards all Entrants are deemed to have accepted without reservation all the Terms and Conditions of entry.

## **7. Entry Procedure, Technical Specification and Format - Stills**

7.1 When entering a Series each group of images must be treated as a separate entry.

**7.2 Neither the Entrant name(s), nor any copy, must appear anywhere on the image.**

7.3 File names must only contain letters (upper or lower case, and/or numbers (0-9), and/or underscore character plus the suffix .jpg.  
Any other characters including further dots, hyphens or spaces could result in your file being rejected during the upload process.

7.4 Images submitted online should be RGB and in JPEG format. **They should be 3500 pixels on the longest edge.** Your final file size must not exceed 10 megabytes.

7.5 All images must contain metadata embedded in the image, and include your name, caption and description of the image. Any image without metadata will be returned to you to complete in a timely manner. An image may result in being disqualified if not completed.

7.6 You are responsible for preparing your images for viewing on a monitor, so we suggest that images are targeted/optimized for, and tagged with, the sRGB or sRGB IEC61966-2.1 colour profile and **not** Adobe RGB or any other working- or output-space profile.

## 8. Entry Procedure, Technical Specification and Format - Moving Image

8.1 A thumbnail image of your moving image entry must be uploaded, as stated above for stills. Your moving image file can then be uploaded via the link included in the submission confirmation email.

8.2 Only the following format will be accepted for judging:

- H.264 or H.265 encoded MP4 files
- Resolution: 1920 (width) x 1080 (Height) (HD)
- Maximum File size: 5GB
- Maximum length: 15 minutes. If your submission is successful, you may be required to submit an additional shorter edit of the winning entry, for screening during the presentation.

8.3 **Please note** - Quicktime .MOV, Flash .SWF, Windows WMV, .OGG or WebM- encoded files will not be accepted.

## 9. Collaboration – in addition to the rules laid out in s.7 and s.8

9.1 Where more than one person has contributed to the entry, the roles and responsibilities of each should be made clear in the event that credits and copy are required for acknowledgment purposes.

9.2 In the event of the above clause 9.1, only one person is to act as the Entrant.

## 10. Dates & deadlines:

10.1

20-Mar-24	Entries Open (4 weeks)
13-May-24	Entries Close
14 to 20 May-24	Internal admin
22 to 2 Jun-24	Judging period (2 weeks)
3 to 7-Jun-24	Internal admin
28-June-24	W/E 28 June online announcement of Finalists
26 September – 24	Winner Announced live at 39 <sup>th</sup> AOP Awards Showcase

10.2 All Entrants must have uploaded high-resolution digital files by **midnight** on

**13 May 2024**. All image credits need to be uploaded at this point.

10.3 Copy will **NOT** be checked, so it is the Entrant's responsibility to ensure all image credits are correct. Details of the procedure will be given when informed of the results.

**The high-resolution version must be supplied online as:**

- a jpeg file saved with minimum compression
- be 3500 pixels along the longest side, and
- be at a resolution of 100ppi

**Contact details:**

Any questions or notifications should be directed to the AOP here: [info@the-aop.org](mailto:info@the-aop.org)