

**Double Victory for Hong Kong Photographer
at 2019 Sony World Photography Awards**



© Rachel Yee Laam Lai, Winner, Open competition, Still Life /
National/Regional Awards 1st Place, Hong Kong SAR,
2019 Sony World Photography Awards

- **Rachel Yee Laam Lai wins the Awards' Open Still Life category and National /Regional Award, Hong Kong SAR**
- **All winners of Awards' Open competition and National/Regional Awards announced today**
- **Images available at www.worldphoto.org/press**

Hong, Kong, February 26, 2019 - A striking image by Hong Kong photographer **Rachel Yee Laam Lai** is today announced as the winner of both the Open Still Life category and the National/Regional Award, Hong Kong SAR at the internationally acclaimed 2019 Sony World Photography Awards.

Beating hundreds of thousands of entries worldwide, the winning work *Peony and Leaves* was selected by an expert panel of judges for two prizes: firstly, as the best single image entered by any photographer worldwide to the Awards' Open Still Life category, and

secondly as the best single image by a Hong Kong photographer entering any of the Awards' ten Open competition categories. The achievement is extraordinary as Lai is an amateur photographer and this is her first major award.

As an Open category and National/Regional Award winner, Lai receives the latest digital imaging equipment from Sony. In addition, the winning work will be published in the 2019 Awards' book and shown at the Sony World Photography Awards Exhibition in London from April 18 – May 6 before being toured globally.

The photographer will now compete against the nine other Open category winners to become the *Open Photographer of the Year*, winning \$5,000 (USD). The overall winner will be announced at the London awards ceremony on April 17.



(From Left to Right): © Leung Ho Chan, National/Regional Awards, 2nd Place, Hong Kong SAR, Shortlist, Open competition, Travel, 2019 Sony World Photography Awards / © Kwan Wai Pang, National/Regional Awards, 3rd Place, Hong Kong SAR, 2019 Sony World Photography Awards

The Awards also recognise the local talent of photographers **Leung Ho Chan** and **Kwan Wai Pang** and present them with 2nd and 3rd place respectively in the Hong Kong National/**Regional** Award.

Rachel Yee Laam Lai - Winner of Open Still Life category and National/Regional Award, Hong Kong SAR

Rachel Yee Laam Lai is a self-taught amateur photographer, artist and plant breeder from Hong Kong who loves to create artworks with strong, bold color. Her winning work, *Peony and Leaves*, is a photograph of a resin artwork created by Lai. In the artwork Lai mixed self-made paint with resin and used macro photography to capture the colours as they turn from liquid to solid state.

Talking about her win, Lai comments: *“I am honored but humbled to receive such recognition. I am very grateful of my work Peony and Leaves won the Open category and the National/Regional Award, HK SAR I believe the judges see some raw potential in me.”*

Produced by the World Photography Organisation, the prestigious Sony World Photography Awards are one of the most important fixtures on the global photographic calendar. The Awards are now in their 12th year of partnership with headline sponsor Sony and consist of four competitions in total: **Professional** (for a body of works), **Open** (for a single image), **Student** (for academic institutions) and **Youth** (for 12-19 year olds).

All 62 National/Regional Award winners and the ten Open category winners are announced today. The Professional and Student competition shortlists will be announced March 26. The overall and Professional category winners of the Awards will be announced April 17. For more details visit www.worldphoto.org

Notes to Editors

All winning and shortlisted images are available to download for publication at www.worldphoto.org/press

About World Photography Organisation

The World Photography Organisation is a global platform for photography initiatives. Working across up to 180 countries, our aim is to raise the level of conversation around photography by celebrating the best imagery and photographers on the planet. We pride ourselves on building lasting relationships with both individual photographers as well as our industry-leading partners around the world. The World Photography Organisation hosts a year-round portfolio of events including the **Sony World Photography Awards**, one of the world’s leading photography competitions, and **PHOTOFAIRS**, leading international art fairs dedicated to photography For more details see www.worldphoto.org

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