

Documentary Photography Open

March – April 2023

The Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon are excited to announce the annual *Documentary Photography Open 2023* held during March to April in the temporary galleries. The exhibition is free to enter and provides a platform for amateur to established contemporary photographers looking to improve their exposure, enhance their practice and help document North Devon.



James Ravilious © Beaford Arts

With over fifty five thousand people visiting the museum every year, our aim is to help promote and inspire future documentary photography. Each year will see a different theme drawing on the museum's inspirational photography collections that include R. L. Knight and James Ravilious.

This year's theme is *Town*, the theme can be whatever entrants feels this means to them. Whether it's a comment of the heritage, sense of belonging of our town, to the strength shown in community over the last few years, documenting the changing times of our towns and villages and celebrating our local way of life.

Successful applicants will feature in the exhibition showcasing contemporary photography from across North Devon. Selected exhibition images will gain further exposure online as part of our digital marketing through our website, social media and mailing lists.



James Ravilious © Beaford Arts

During the exhibition's duration a public vote will be held within the community gallery and the image with the most votes by the closing date of the exhibition will be awarded with a £300 prize kindly donated by Jamaica Press to help further the photographer's practice. One standout piece from the exhibition will be selected by the Museum team to enter into the Museum's digital archive, continuing to help to document North Devon and its people.

Submission Guidelines

We hate to see photography work disqualified so please read our submission guidelines and terms and conditions carefully.

- Submissions are accepted **January** onwards and the exhibition will run from 4th March – 22nd April. You can enter through the website's online form.
- Submitted work must be supplied with the photographer's name, title, location and date.
- Exhibition images must be 300 dpi minimum and will be printed and hung by the museum team.
- Entrants can enter up to **two prints** for consideration each year.
- Submitted work can include borders but the museum requests these are kept to a minimum.
- Images may be in black and white or colour and can be taken on traditional or digital equipment.
- All submitted work must be a copy NOT an original. Due to time constraints unsuccessful entrants will not be contacted. Feedback on entries cannot be provided.
- Submitted works must have been produced in the **last 24 months**. Any works that have been displayed at the Museum before or previously entered for the 'Documentary Photography Open' will be disqualified.
- In the spirit of documentary photography, images cannot be overly manipulated however digital enhancement is allowed e.g. sharpening, contrast, exposure adjustment or cropping.
- All exhibited works will be recycled after the exhibition's run.
- All photographs must have been taken in the geographical area of North Devon, this includes Torrington, Lundy Island and Exmoor.

Terms and Conditions

- The 'Documentary Photography Open' is open all to amateurs, professionals and club members. You must be over 14 years old to enter, entrants under 18 will have to include the name, contact and consent of a parent or guardian. Entrants cannot enter on someone else's behalf.
- Selected museum collections, related to that year's theme may be exhibited alongside the 'Documentary Photography Open' within the community gallery.
- Copyright on all photographs submitted remains with the entrant however by providing images for submission each entrant grants the Museum permission to reproduce any image in the organisation's marketing including website, social media channels, posters and national press. If chosen the museum team will contact the entrant to request permission for their work to be entered into the Museum's digital archive.
- The Museum reserves the right to refuse photographic work that is deemed poor quality, unsuitable for that year's theme, is not in the spirit of documentary photography or goes against our code of ethics.
- All images submitted must be the work of the individual submitting them. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure the image they submit does not infringe on copyright rules and that all work submitted is the photographer's original work.
- The Museum cannot take responsibility for any images lost in the online application process.
- The entrant confirms by entering that all individuals featured in their work have given his/hers full consent to be used in conjunction with the 'Documentary Photography Open'. If under 18 years of age, consent must be given by their parent/guardian.
- Photographic work entered after the closing date **will not be accepted**.