

# Images Vevey unveils the winning projects of the Grand Prix Images Vevey 2025/2026

## PRESS RELEASE

Embargoed until 9 July 2025

*The Jury of the Grand Prix Images Vevey 2025/2026 met in Vevey to award prizes and mentions to the photographers who took part in the international photography competitions organised by the Images Vevey biennial. Between the Grand Prix Images Vevey, the Images Vevey Book Award and the various mentions, the Fondation Vevey ville d'images distributes nearly CHF 70,000 in creative grants every two years. The awarded projects will premiere at the next Biennale Images Vevey from 5 to 27 September 2026.*

The winning projects will be officially announced by Images Vevey during the Rencontres d'Arles, on Tuesday 8 July at 6pm at the Hôtel du Forum.  
RSVP : [presse@images.ch](mailto:presse@images.ch)

## GRAND PRIX IMAGES VEEVEY 2025/2026

Abdulhamid Kircher (DE/TR, 1996)

*Untitled (TBA)*

Abdulhamid Kircher's new photography project explores inherited wounds and generational masculinity through an intimate, autobiographical work. Blending portraits, archives, and everyday scenes, he will document father-son duos across Turkey at traditional oil wrestling tournaments. The project questions identity, tenderness, and whether paternal love can emerge in cultures where emotional expression is often suppressed.

### Artist quote

"I often think about how different my life would have been had I been exposed to love like this by my father or any other male family figure," writes Kircher.

### Jury statement

The Jury highlighted the project for its courage, raw energy, clear artistic vision, and Abdulhamid Kircher's remarkable versatility across photographic genres.

[READ FULL JURY STATEMENT](#)



Untitled, 2014–2024, from the first chapter of Abdulhamid Kircher's project *Rotting from Within*

## IMAGES VEVEY BOOK AWARD 2025/2026

Stacy Kranitz (US, 1976)

*Ain't No Grave Gonna Hold My Body Down*

Stacy Kranitz's new book examines the evolving representation of the Appalachian mountaineer, tracing how poverty in the region has been constructed, challenged, and reimagined over time. Through historical archives, critical essays, and contemporary images, the book explores how the camera has served as a witness to hardship, a tool of propaganda, an instrument of oppression, and, at times, a vehicle for redemption.

### Artist quote

"My project is an exploration of the ethical role of photography," Stacy writes. "Urging a deeper understanding of class, history, and generational poverty."

### Jury statement

The Jury was particularly impressed by the dignity and sensitivity with which the artist tells the story of one man and, through him, that of an entire marginalized community.

[READ FULL JURY STATEMENT](#)



Pat Greene, 2013, from the series *Ain't No Grave Gonna Hold My Body Down*, Stacy Kranitz



Pat Greene, 2023, from the series *Ain't No Grave Gonna Hold My Body Down*, Stacy Kranitz



Cover of *Ain't No Grave Gonna Hold My Body Down*, Stacy Kranitz

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## HONOURABLE MENTIONS – GRAND PRIX IMAGES VEVEY

### Pacifico Silano (US, 1986)

#### *Undercover Pleasures*

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Blending personal narrative with queer identity, family history, and the legacy of the AIDS crisis, Pacifico Silano plans to recreate part of his parents' former adult store as an immersive installation. This tribute to his late mother and uncle transforms a once-stigmatized space into one of remembrance and resilience.

#### Artist quote

"Taking all of the themes I have explored around loss, sexuality and identity, I plan to recreate parts of my parents' store, Undercover Pleasures, and merge it with my work around HIV/AIDS, gay identity and my unique upbringing. This installation will be a way to pay tribute to both my deceased uncle, and my mother, whose sacrifice went unnoticed by those around her."

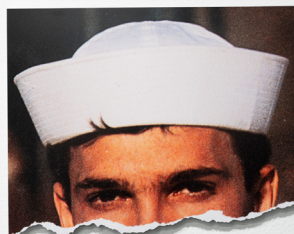
#### Jury statement

The Jury was moved by the sincerity and complexity of the proposal, which combines intimate storytelling with broader reflections on homophobia, sexuality, and visual culture.

[READ FULL JURY STATEMENT](#)



*Faded Glory, Undercover Pleasures,*  
2022, Pacifico Silano



*Archetype I (Sailor), Undercover Pleasures, 2024, Pacifico Silano*

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## Kata Geibl (HU, 1989)

### *Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue*

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Blending analogue photography, sketches, and AI-generated imagery, Kata Geibl explores how unconscious thoughts shape our lives. Praised for its originality and poetic depth, the project reflects on memory, imagination, and the tension between control and algorithmic unpredictability.

#### Artist quote

« When I was 12 years old, my mother's frustration with me for not talking that much got to the point of yelling. "Why don't you speak, like any other normal person?" she raised her voice at me. I promptly answered, "Instead of speaking, I have images in my head." With this new body of work, my mother will see those images that I was talking about. »

#### Jury statement

The Jury praised the originality of an approach in which introspection becomes a dialogue between imagination, personal narrative, and new technologies.

[READ FULL JURY STATEMENT](#)

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Kata Geibl, from the series *Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue*

## HONOURABLE MENTIONS – IMAGES VEEVEY BOOK AWARD

Mario Wezel (DE, 1988)

### *Interstellar Nights*

Documenting five nights of weaning his second child, Wezel transforms the family bed into a poetic, interstellar landscape of care and connection. The Jury praised the emotional depth, conceptual clarity, and innovative use of a technology often linked to surveillance, here reimagined to depict tenderness and transformation.

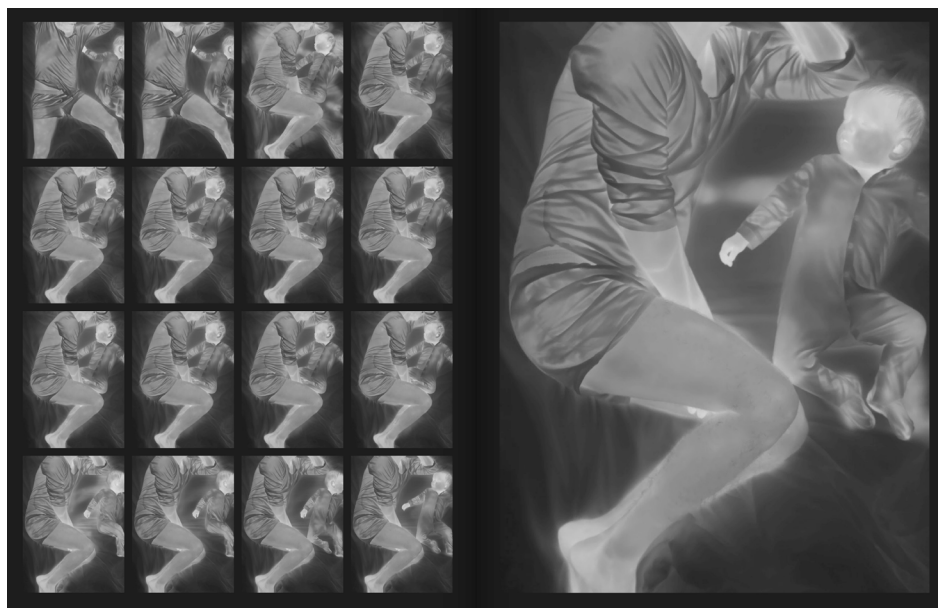
#### Artist quote

"Our bed transforms into an interstellar space where mother, father, and child orbit one another," Wezel writes. "Held together by an invisible gravitational pull, their orbits realign and a new kind of closeness emerges."

#### Jury statement

The Jury was particularly struck by the cinematographic rhythm of the proposed layout, as well as the use of thermal imaging: a technique more commonly associated with surveillance and political conflict, particularly in contexts such as migration or warfare.

[READ FULL JURY STATEMENT](#)



Mario Wezel, from the series *Interstellar Nights*



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## Karolina Wojtas (PL, 1996)

### *We can't live – without each other*

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Through a bold book dummy shaped like a children's fabric book, Karolina Wojtas blends photography, absurd humour, and digital manipulation to portray her love-hate bond with her younger brother.

#### Artist quote

"A little brother appeared one day, and our war began," "We decided to document some of our battles and tricks, to teach siblings from all over the world how to fight!"

#### Jury statement

The Jury praised the work's wild energy, tactile form, and its powerful evocation of familial closeness and tension.

[READ FULL JURY STATEMENT](#)



Karolina Wojtas, from the series *We can't live – without each other*

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# JURY DU GRAND PRIX IMAGES VEVEY 2025/2026

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The final Jury of the Grand Prix Images Vevey is composed of five international personalities from the institutional, artistic, curatorial media and editorial world. It is always chaired by an artist, a renowned photographer, which comprises international experts.

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## → RINEKE DIJKSTRA

Photographer and video artist, based in Amsterdam (NL), has chaired the Jury of the Grand Prix Images Vevey 2025/2026, which comprises the following international experts (in alphabetical order):

## → LEWIS CHAPLIN

Co-founder, Loose Joints, Marseille (FR)

## → OLUREMI C. ONABANJO

The Peter Schub Curator, The Robert B. Menschel Department of Photography, MoMA The Museum of Modern Art, New York (US)

## → ALONA PARDO

Director, Arts Council Collection, London (UK)

## → URS STAHEL

Artistic Director, Fondazione MAST, Bologna (IT)

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Explore the history of the Grand Prix Images Vevey, including all winning projects and past jury compositions, on our online press space. Don't miss the **aftermovie** of the 2024 Biennale Images Vevey, also available on the same page.

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