

Feedback Help IMF.org World Bank

All Sources

Advanced Search

Home About the IMF Staff Resources People News Events Departments & Offices Countries Data & Reference Services

IMF Intranet > News

Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Pictures
 News Home Page
 Staff News
 News Archive
 News Archive (July 2006-
 September 2007)
 Glossary
 Acronyms
 Current Account Archive

E-MAIL ARTICLE PRINTER FRIENDLY RSS

5/17/2011

Exhibit Captures World Through the Lens



International
Photographic
Society

The Annual Exhibition of the International Photographic Society (IPS) of the IMF and World Bank Group showcases photographic art taken around the world until June 3 in the HQ1 Gallery.

Some 15 photographers were awarded prizes this year in the 41st annual exhibit of the International Photographic Society, now on show in the HQ1 Gallery.

The exhibit, which runs until June 3, showcases 114 images by 30 photographers from the society, which includes members from both the Fund and World Bank Staff and families.

Top prize for the second year in a row went to Dirk Mevis, an ED's advisor, for his photo of an airplane coming into Reagan National airport over Rosslyn. It is a composite of three 30-second long exposures, creating a streak of light in the sky that is reflected in the waters of the Potomac. Mevis says he called the photograph "Tom Waits" because it reminded him of the Tom Waits song, "The Piano Has Been Drinking (Not Me)."

"Tidal Basin Still Life" by long-time IPS member Frederic Cochard won second prize—it shows a leaf adrift in a tidal basin. Mevis also won third prize for a photo of his young son perched at the mouth of a slide at a park, about to begin a journey into the unknown.



The 2011 IPS Annual Exhibit Award Winners

In addition to the top three awards, there were 14 honorable mentions. They were among the 15 photographers who received awards from IPS President Mary Wilson at a reception held earlier this month. ED Willy Kiekens was on hand to applaud his staff's achievements. "We try to be creative in all aspects of our work in this office," he said.



Mr. Kiekens and Mr. Sarr at the exhibit

The jury consisted of three local photographers, including Heather Goss who spoke briefly at the reception. Praising the “amazing photographs from all over the world,” Ms. Goss said that the best of them “capture the moment ... when a story is about to be told.”

The IPS is one of the oldest and most popular clubs of the IMF and World Bank Group. Founded in 1966 as the IMF Camera Club, IPS has over the years offered a combination of instruction, competition, and fun.



Visitors to the IPS Annual Exhibit

Old timers say that the format of the monthly meetings has remained much the same as in the early days. The group meets each month after work to socialize over wine and cheese and listen to a guest speaker. Then there is a friendly photo competition, with the guest speaker serving as the judge. Winning photographs from the monthly competitions are featured in an annual exhibition.

Wilson says IPS is always on the lookout for new recruits. Information on the club is available at its website (<http://www.ips-imfb.org/>) and in its monthly newsletter *Shutter Release*.

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