exhibitions into the Slovak capital and attract a large number of foreign visitors, dominated by students from nearly every Czech photo school

VLADIMÍR BIRGUS Source Atelier 1/2009

CZECH REPUBLIC

Frame 008

Leica Gallery Prague, Školská 28, December 18, 2008 – January 10, 2009

Měsíc ve dne Gallery, České Budějovice, Nová 3, January 23 – February 20, 2009

Organizers: Ondřej Žižka and Evžen Sobek

Photo competition Frame is aimed particularly at students, but also at professionals regardles of age. It involves Visegrad Four countries Laureates of the first, second and third Frame competition were presented at Moravian Gallery in Brno and then, summarily, at The Brno House of Arts. This year, the awarded works will be presented in Leica Gallery Praque and other places

For the fourth time it was the evaluation of photographic works in three cathegories and three most successful participants have to be chosen in each of the cathegories. The number of applications showed *Identity* as the most appealing cathegory of the current Frame. The main prize received Petra Malá as result of nominations from five members of the jury. Equally excellent was her identification of family roots while defending her historical and experimental graduation work at Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague (www.vsup.cz)

The question remains, if in the adverisement of the Identity Category was motif well written to capture photographically. The cycle of solitary images by the second prize winner Martin Tûma, Limbus, is kept together by rather mysterious atmosphere and its form of testimony than its sense. Not to mention, that in the previous years the photographers did not succeed when using established techniques. Then it is without surprise that last year slayed two categories without all prizes being awarded.



Petra Malá: And She Said She is Looking, 2008

Tereza Vlčková made a splash with contribution to the Love category. The effect is built upon a single idea (a child in the llama paddock in fake colour. Untitled)

Vendula Knopová participated with her collection Three in the Love category, very intimate work about the three sisters, two of them in foster care.

Jakub Skokan won the Strenght category with his cycle Lukáš. The poetic snapshots looking like those from family album, but considering their size and sophistication, they are destined into the picture adlery.

Barbora Krejčová recieved the double prize in the same cathegory. Highly aesthetic showpieces Leave Bystrouška reached the silver level of attention of the jury and special prize of ISIFA, was awarded the first time.

The organizers do not prefere any photographic technique. The most important is the invention. The catalogues are enriched with the descriptions of artistic intention by authors themselves. The talents of new generation are thus promoted intermedially. And that is why is Frame a unique source of orientation in contemporary Central European photography. And the interest seems to be undiminishied. 78 authors entered the competition with 98 black and white or colour creations. And next year's competition is already being prepared.

JOSEF MOUCHA