



AIB Press Photographers Association of Ireland Awards 2003

20th February 2004

The prestigious AIB Press Photographers Association of Ireland Awards were announced at a special gala banquet in O'Reilly Hall, UCD on Friday (20th). The AIB PPAI Awards recognise the very best in press photography, by Irish photographers at home and abroad and the images for this year did not disappoint.

This year's competition saw a record entry of almost 1600 photos from North and South and the international panel of female judges, under the chairmanship of Dr. Pat Donlon, with Ms. Daphne Angles (New York Times, Paris) and Ms. Grazia Neri (Grazia Neri Photography, Milan), had an extremely difficult task in choosing the winning photographs.

With a new Sports Features category this year, prizes were awarded in the categories of News, Features, Sports Action, Sports Features, People, Individual Study, The Arts, Politics, Picture Story and a special award for Humour. The highest accolade of the evening was the "Press Photographer of the Year" award, which went to Frank Miller of The Irish Times.

Frank's portfolio includes a range of memorable photographs such as Art Installation and Point of Protest. This is the third time Frank has received this noteworthy title, rewarding his excellence in press photography.

The international judging panel commented that the winning photographer's work shows the range and diversity of topics facing a press photographer in their daily work. The overall quality of the pictures are exemplary, with each topic handled with both sensitivity and creativity.

Speaking at the gala banquet, Donal Forde, Managing Director, AIB said, "AIB is delighted to be sponsoring the Awards and Exhibition for the second year running. These exceptional photographs provide an unmatched pictorial record of Ireland during 2003, including many unforgettable moments, which have a wonderful ability to tell a story and evoke emotions."

Steve Humphreys, President, PPAI said, "I wish to congratulate my colleague Frank for his achievements and contribution to press photography in Ireland. The AIB PPAI Awards are all about rewarding the best images, ensuring that great photography is highlighted accordingly and Frank is fully deserving of this prestigious prize."

The AIB PPAI Exhibition, featuring over 130 prints, opens in the Gallery of Photography, Dublin on Monday 23rd February and for the first time, will showcase on all 17 UGC Cinema Screens, Parnell Street for the coming two weeks. The exhibition will tour Ireland, visiting a selection of AIB branches and overseas venues in the US and Europe during the remainder of this year. Masterclasses for photography students will begin in the Irish Film Institute on 3rd March and will also travel to various locations in Ireland over the coming year.

Ends

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