

## 25<sup>th</sup> AOP STUDENT AWARDS AOP Student Photographer Of The Year Announced

Announced to a packed audience at the prize giving on 24 May, the winner of the coveted **AOP Student Photographer of the Year** award is Welsh BA Photography student, Huw Davies. His series showing young families within the setting of their homes, shows insight and empathy with the subject matter and was a unanimous winner with the judges. Judge David Kampfner feels the series 'shows technical ability, creative and conceptual skill, and an original idea with strong narrative content.'

Huw Davies receives a package of prizes to launch his professional career, including an Epson Stylus Photo 2400 printer, a double page spread in the prestigious AOP Photography Awards book and extensive PR coverage. He will also gain hands on experience he assists an AOP Photographer of his choice on a shoot.

**Merit prizes** were also awarded to three student photographers, who each receive an Epson Stylus Photo R340 printer. These were Tess Hurrell for her striking still life series; Agnes Thor for a stunning, stylish portrait; and Anna White for her evocative and thought provoking series. Harry Hardie, Picture Researcher for the Times Magazine, said "what was interesting was that in some sense the strongest work, with some exceptions, really made use of both narrative and scenario. This gave depth to the pictures and made either the specific picture or the series much more engaging. This was particularly evident in the winners work."

The Association of Photographers has been running an annual competition for students since 1981. These awards recognise the excellent standard of photography produced by individuals studying on photography related courses in the U.K. Now, a quarter of a century since their inception, the Student Awards continue to flourish and offer the winning students and their colleges both support and valuable publicity. Ella Basford, AOP Education Officer, has looked back over the last 25 years of AOP Student Awards. "One of the things that jumps out is the quality. Every year the quality gets better and better and every year the judges find it harder and harder to choose...The beauty of the AOP Student Awards is its uniqueness; there is no brief so anything goes. We look for technical ability, composition, original ideas and of course that indefinable ingredient, talent."

The Association of Photographers proudly celebrates 25 years of the AOP Student Awards this year, and the 83 selected images will be on show at the AOP Gallery, London EC2, until 2 June 2006.

### Notes to Editors

Announced at the prize giving on 24 May, the 2006 'AOP Student Photographer of the Year' is Welsh photography student, Huw Davies. The 25<sup>th</sup> AOP Student Awards exhibition, in association with EPSON, is on at the AOP Gallery, London EC2, 23 May – 2 June 2006.

For press images and further media opportunities contact Anna Roberts, [E annar@aophoto.co.uk](mailto:annar@aophoto.co.uk)

### AOP Gallery

**A** 81 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4QS

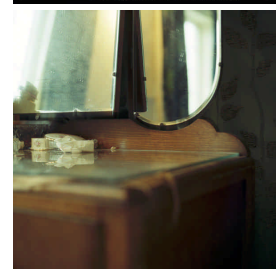
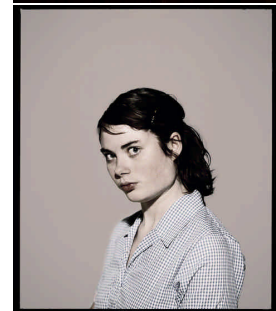
**T** +44 (0)20 7739 6669

**W** [www.the-aop.org](http://www.the-aop.org)

**Tube** Old Street

**Open** Mon - Fri 10am-6pm – free entry

**The Association of Photographers** actively supports and promotes professional photographers interests globally and is recognised benchmark for rights, ethics and business practice. It forms an effective network to encourage the highest standards in creative, technical and commercial practices in the photographic industry.



from top © Huw Davies,  
Agnes Thor, Anna White,  
Tess Hurrell