

PHOTO ARTS

January 2020

Calcutta School of Contemporary Photography Special Issue



**A special issue celebrating the talented young and
upcoming photographers honing their skills at the Calcutta
School of Contemporary Photography**

**FEATURING THIRTY SEVEN SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHS HANDPICKED BY THE
RENOWNED CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHER SOUNAK BANERJEE**

Sounak Banerjee is a contemporary photographer from Calcutta, India. He has over 25 years of experience in the field of art and photography. He is an apprentice of the world famous Magnum photographer, Raghu Rai, and is currently engaged in many projects with the Grand Master.

Banerjee's prime area of photography is contemporary streets. He is also an ardent lover of people oriented travel photography. Apart from outdoor, he also specializes in still life and fashion photography.

Continuous creative upgrade has been the most dominant principle of Banerjee's works. He is known for his variety and diversity in this field. Never sticking to one style, continuously changing and experimenting, this has been his guiding operational methodology.

Banerjee is the recipient of over 600 international awards from over 60 countries and numerous photographic distinctions. His works have been exhibited globally in more than 70 countries. In 2017, Banerjee founded the renowned photography institute in Calcutta, India, 'Calcutta School of Contemporary Photography'. His vision for this establishment was an organised and disciplined approach towards photography, and stressing on the development of creative contemporary skills in the students, rather than old style pictorials. He was motivated when he found a lack of such structured professional training, particularly in the development of innovative and unconventional techniques. CSCP has grown exponentially since then, and now boasts to have trained over 350 students. It is proud to have produced, in such a short time, over 50 award winners with over 350 awards under their belts.



Sounak Banerjee

**Founder and Director of Calcutta School
of Contemporary Photography
www.SounakBanerjee.com**



Photographs by Sounak Banerjee



The Honor Board



Apurba Sarkar



Ritam Mitra



Jhuma Bala



**Sandeep Kumar
Mohanty**



Aditya Heda



Amrita B Gupta



Nilay Pandey



Tushti Dutta



**Arpan Dutta
Chowdhury**



Ashmita Dey



Chinmoy Sinha



Swarup Dutta



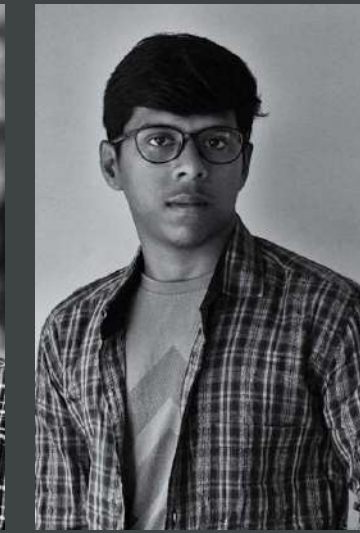
Avik Pal



Bidisha Deb



Nilava Banerjee



Barun Sarkar



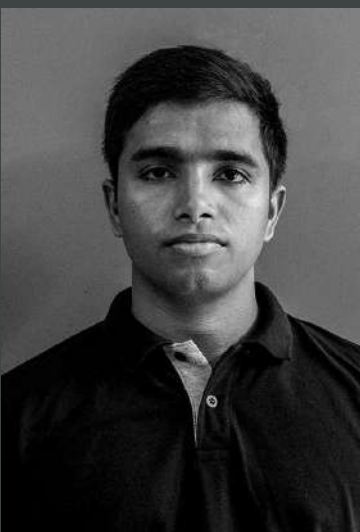
Sourav Mondal



Trishit Dey



Rohan Barik



Dipankar Shil



**Dwaipayan
Mahalder**

“This special issue celebrates the outstanding achievements of a select few from the Calcutta School of Contemporary Photography – the eminent photography school founded by the renowned contemporary photographer Sounak Banerjee. It features a collection of photographs handpicked by Sounak Banerjee himself from the massive body of work produced by the students of this institution. Our heartiest congratulations to everyone who got featured and we would like to wish them all the success in their future endeavours. It is a matter of great honour for us to be associated with such an eminent photography school and we are delighted to be able to provide our viewers an exclusive glance into the promising world of young and upcoming talents that the CSCP promises to churn out in the near future.”
Rahul Bera (Editor of Photography & Design)



Photograph by Bidisha Deb

Calcutta School of Contemporary Photography is a photography school founded by the renowned contemporary photographer, Sounak Banerjee. It boasts a distinguished panel of guest mentors such as Magnum Photographer Padma Shri Raghu Rai, Portrait Photographer Mario Marino, Fashion Photographer Rafique Sayed, to name a few, and a committed and high-achieving student body.

While photography has taken a lead interest of many enthusiasts today, a lack in professional training and guidance restricts a wholesome development of their talents and they are confined to showcasing their creativity to a very limited circle. This void was the reason behind the birth of CSCP.

It was founded in March 2017, with an objective of realizing the potentials, by a professional and object oriented training, and to provide knowhow into gaining international exposure.





Photograph by Nilava Banerjee

Constant development of ideas, evolution of the creative eye, these are the mission principles of CSCP.

One of the primary goals of CSCP has been to bring out photographers from the common mind-sets of pictorial photography,

and evolve more meaningfully through contemporary photography. It stresses on creativity and fresh approaches to photography, rather than programming minds with existing and old styles.

Knowledge, hard work and discipline have

been the guiding tools of this institute.

Regular intra institute photography contests, various projects, photo-walks are ongoing processes at CSCP, to keep its students constantly on their toes. The institute also serves as a home base where students meet

up regularly for discussions, and analysis of photographs. From time to time, many distinguished photographers visit CSCP as guest speakers, constantly enriching the students with their ideas and a variety of view-points.

The campus of the institute is equipped with a library of the greatest photography books from around the world, completely at the disposal of its students. It serves more than just being an academy or school. It relates more closely to a Gurukul, where bonding between the students are harnessed like a family of brothers and sisters, and the mentors, looked upon and revered more as Gurus. To the extent, that students treat the campus as their home, and are even engaged in the maintenance of the place. This is probably the only institute where the grooming of the self in individuals, development of culture, and lessons of humility, are given equal importance as the teaching of technical lessons.



In the last two years, CSCP has trained more than 300 photographers, and its primary focus has been on the core development of its students and providing them with the required exposures. It has produced many award winning artists in record time, and is critically acclaimed for its quality of work. CSCP is much renowned for excellence of teaching methodologies and accomplishments.

Photographs by Nilay Pandey





Photograph by Aditya Heda

The courses offered are Basic & Advanced, Fashion & Portraiture, Products & Still life and Editing. Recently, it has launched a very special course on Wedding Photography, which is the first of its kind in the country. This was following an observation that while many photographers are taking up Wedding Photography as a profession, the lack of a formal training, eventually results in mediocre projects, most of the times. This initiative by CSCP is to train photographers to handle wedding and event photography with a contemporary approach, while deep diving into the technical bases, through a detailed and thorough training program.

Photograph by Aditya Heda





Photographs by Apurba Sarkar





Photographs by Dipankar Shil



Photograph by Dwaipayan Mahalder



Photograph by Ashmita Dey



Photograph by Barun Sarkar





Photograph by Swarup Dutta



Photograph by Ritam Mitra





Photographs by Sandeep Kumar Mohanty



Photograph by Sourav Mondal



Photograph by Trishit Dey



Photograph by Avik Pal



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