

OLIVIO ARGENTI - FRPS

Born in Italy in 1955, he migrates at the end of high school to the UK where he graduates in Economics (University of London, 1981) and in Agricultural Economics (University of Oxford, 1982). He lives for six years in Ecuador and Venezuela and two years in Algeria. He returns to Italy in 1990 to work in Rome as an Agricultural Economist. He has travelled to more than fifty countries. He starts taking photographs in 1995 to illustrate technical publications and his interest for photography becomes a passion. His projects include: a street-photography project "Traits d'union" in Tunisia; "Losers of a forgotten conflict", a reportage in Azerbaijan and Armenia on refugees from the Nagorno-Karabakh; a reportage in Peru "Atrapados [No way out] - Family violence and juvenile deviant behaviour in Lima" (2005-2008), which combines photographic images with testimonials written by boys and girls met in gangs, drug-rehabilitation centres, family houses and prisons; and "Wrestlers and Wrestling", a personal view on the world of Olympic wrestling (2006-2008). He has received international awards and has published three books. His work has been exhibited in China, Colombia, Italy, Peru, Switzerland and Tunisia. He is "Fellow" of the Royal Photographic Society (FRPS) of the United Kingdom.

Awards and distinctions

- 2008 "Photo Excellence Award", International Portfolio Contest of the American "Black and White Magazine for Collectors of Fine Photography" (portfolios: "Traits d'union", "Losers of a forgotten conflict", "Atrapados").
- 2009 "Special Jury Award", 4th International Emirates Photo Competition (portfolio "Wrestlers and Wrestling").
- 2009 "Spotlight Award", International Portfolio Competition of the American "Black and White Magazine for Collectors of Fine Photography" (portfolio "Wrestlers and Wrestling"). Spotlight published on issue 73 of March 2010.
- 2009 "Associateship Distinction" of the Royal Photographic Society (UK) for "Wrestlers and wrestling" (Contemporary category).
- 2010 "Fellowship Distinction" of the Royal Photographic Society (UK) for "Atrapados" (Contemporary category).
- 2010 "Honor of Distinction", 4th Photography Masters Cup - Photographer of the Year - Photojournalism section (non-professional photographers). Portfolio: "Las familias Izquierdo y Gonzalez (The Izquierdo y Gonzalez families)".

Individual exhibitions

- 2006 Officine Fotografiche, Rome (Italy), *Out of focus, out of time*
- 2008 Olympic Games, Beijing (China), *Wrestlers and Wrestling*
- 2008 FILA Head Quarters, Corsier-sur-Vecve (Switzerland), *Wrestlers and Wrestling*

Group exhibitions

- 2006 Centre Culturel, Hammamet (Tunisia), *View on the Mediterranean*
- 2009 Fotoleggendo, Rome (Italy), *Atrapados*

Multimedia presentations

- 2007 Lima (Peru), *Atrapados*, Catholic University
- 2009 Rome (Italy), *Wrestlers and Wrestling*, Museum of Rome in Trastevere
- 2009 Milan (Italy), *Wrestlers and Wrestling*, Micamera
- 2009 Rome (Italy), *Atrapados*, Museum of Rome in Trastevere
- 2009 Manizales (Colombia), *Atrapados* and *Wrestlers and Wrestling*, Manizales Municipality
- 2009 Lima (Peru), *Atrapados*, First World Congress on Restorative Juvenile Justice
- 2009 Bogota (Colombia), *Atrapados* and *Wrestlers and Wrestling*, Italian Institute of Culture
- 2010 *Atrapados*, Royal Photographic Society, Birmingham (UK)
- 2010 Seminar "Social photographic reportage", University of Caldas, Manizales (Colombia)

Books (can be purchased via www.olivioargenti.it)

- 2008 *Wrestling*. Lussoso Group Publisher. Euro 50 (transport expenses to EU countries included)
- 2009 *Wrestlers*. Lussoso Group Publisher. Euro 40 (transport expenses to EU countries included)
- 2009 *Atrapados - Family violence and juvenile deviant behaviour in Lima*. Lussoso Group Publisher. Euro 50 (transport expenses to EU countries included)

Videos

- 2008 *Espero que me entiendas* (based on “Atrapados”), by Luciano Corvaglia (10 minutes)
2009 *Wrestlers and wrestling* (11 minutes), by Olivio Argenti and technical supervision by Lavinia Longo
2009 *Atrapados - Family violence and juvenile deviant behaviour in Lima* (21 minutes), by Olivio Argenti and technical supervision by Lavinia Longo

Contacts

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