



Newsletter September 2024

Culture Identified: Global SinoPhoto Awards Revisited 2020 – 2024

Exhibition at Christie's 13 Jan – 2 Feb 2025

This fifth year of the Global SinoPhoto Awards (GSPA) will be celebrated with a special exhibition to be held at Christie's London, from 13 January to 2 February 2025, presenting a year of reflection that aligns with the celebration of the Chinese New Year. The exhibition entitled "Culture Identified: Global SinoPhoto Awards Revisited 2020 – 2024", is generously sponsored by Raymond Legal, and will display photographs selected and curated from the wide pool of entries from GSPA 2020 – 2024. In addition, for the first time, the Awards are introducing a special People's Award in this landmark year.



21st Century Types, by Grace Lau, Betser Prize Winner 2024

The GSPA annual photography contest showcases a shared Chinese culture worldwide through photography and promotes photographers internationally. Over the past four years the Awards have collected thousands of images from hundreds of photographers from more than 40 countries. The People's Award will be chosen by visitors to the exhibition and through social media.



Me, by Du Baoxian, GSPA winner 2020

GSPA founder, Yintong Betser, a UK resident for over 30 years, embodies the spirit of the Awards with her own Chinese heritage, one of the world's oldest cultures. She says, "Chinese foreign trade began as early as 206BCE, when the famous 'Silk Road' was pioneered by Chinese envoys, creating a Chinese diaspora and a fascination for its culture throughout the world. Chinese New Year has been integrated into many Western calendars, the practice of Tai Chi can be seen in many European city parks and who hasn't attempted to eat with a pair of chopsticks? Thanks to the continued support of Christie's, the forthcoming exhibition in 2025 will again be hosted at Christie's London where we will take a deeper dive into the extensive range of submissions from these formative years.



Dancing Dreams of a Mountain Girl, Shanxi, 2020
by Li Huaifeng, GSPA Winner 2021



Hankou Bund, Wuhan, 2017 by Fergus Coyle,
GSPA Winner 2022/23

We have been fortunate in the support and sponsorship of Raymond Legal, an international law firm based in the heart of London, dedicated to helping clients navigate the complexities of an ever-changing world. With multiple offices around the world, Raymond Legal prides itself in operating as "one firm", coordinating international legal advice that is necessary to deliver outcomes that are expected by its diverse clientele. The firm has also built its reputation by assisting UK and Europe-based companies in complex deals involving jurisdictions such as China and Hong Kong.

In June we began our new series of Stories which can be found [here](#). The Stories presented follow three strands, written interviews with GSPA winning photographers such as Han Yang, videos in which the photographer tells their own story - Daniela Olave, and historical articles of pioneering photographers of Chinese culture, landscape and life. The latest story is on [Felice Beato](#) an Italian-British photographer of the mid-19th century, whose images provided the first impression many Westerners had of China and the Far East. Starting out as a war photographer, he travelled first to the Crimea, then India and on to China to document the Second Opium War in 1860 and was the first to show the horrors of warfare by including human corpses, but only those of the enemy not the British forces! We hope you'll enjoy reading and listening to these personal stories and inspiring lives from the past. Coming next Grace Lau, the 2024 Betser Prize Winner.



Han Yang, 2024 GSPA Winner



Felice Beato, pioneer photographer



Daniela Olave, 2024 GSPA

The Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival falls on 17th September this year and is a celebration of the harvest. Also called the Mooncake Festival or the Moon Festival it is very much a family festival with people gathering together for dinners, lighting paper lanterns to celebrate the moon, and eating freshly harvested foods such as crabs, pumpkins and grapes. And of course the traditional moon cakes. Their round shape and sweet flavour symbolise completeness and sweetness.



Steaming Buns by Jianjun Huang, 2022 GSPA Winner

We at GSPA wish you a sweet and joyous Mid-Autumn Festival and hope you enjoy many moon cakes with family and friends.

GSPA Team
September 2024

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