



2024 - 1191
HERCULES CIRCUIT 2024 (Digital)
Country – India
CONDITIONS OF ENTRY (COE)

CONTACTS

Exhibition Chairman: JOYRAJ SAMANTA (MPA, EFIAP, EFIP, GPU CR-2, EIUP, A.APS, Hon. PESGSPC, Hon. GPA.PESGSPC, Hon.WPAI, Hon. APF, Hon.FPMP, Hon.CPE, M.APS, Hon.VNPC)
Address: 33/A RAM NIDHI AWASTHI ROAD, BUDGE BUDGE, KOLKATA – 700137, WEST BENGAL, INDIA.
Salon Email ID – jspsalon2020@gmail.com
Chairman's Email ID – joy470@gmail.com

Website – <https://herculescircuit.com/>

WEBMASTER DETAILS

Webmaster Name – Raju Sutradhar
Webmaster Email ID - raju@stintsolution.com
Webmaster Contact No. - +91-9250055880
Webmaster Address – Ramendra Pally, Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur, Pin – 733134, West Bengal, India

HOW TO ENTER THE EXHIBITION

Visit the exhibition website, download & read the exhibition rules carefully. Then click on register. Fill the registration form with proper and correct details. After completion of registration, the webpage leads to the image upload page. Read the image specification & upload or submit images one by one. After completion, click on submit & pay button on top of the page. After a successful submission the webpage leads to the payment page or payment gateway. After paying the desire amount, entrants' status will be updated.



RECOGNITIONS:

PSA Recognition No. - 2024-1191
Organizing Club Recognition No. - JSP/11/2024

SECTIONS

HERCULES CIRCUIT 2024 has 4 sections and 4 judging, all digital, Recognised by PSA

OPEN COLOUR	(Only Colour)	PSA PIDC
OPEN MONOCHROME	(Color not allowed)	PSA PIDM
NATURE	(Color or Grayscale monochrome)	PSA ND
PHOTOJOURNALISM	(Color or Grayscale monochrome)	PSA PJD
PHOTO TRAVEL	(Color or Grayscale monochrome)	PSA PTD

ENTRY FEE

- USD \$30 or ₹2150/- for any one or two sections.
- USD \$38 or ₹2700/- for any three sections.
- USD \$45 or ₹3200/- for any four or all sections.
- Group Discount for all groups only for all sections – **5 Participants or More than 5 participants – USD \$30 or ₹2150/- for all sections.**
All entrants can change or modify images till closing date.
- PAYPAL (**Preferred method for the entrants outside of India**)
- Entry fee can be paid with PayPal-
PayPal ID – joy470@gmail.com

FOR INDIAN PARTICIPANTS

BANK DETAILS

Account Holder -	JOYRAJ SAMANTA
Bank Name -	UCO BANK
Branch Name -	BUDGE BUDGE
Account Number -	11170100003613
IFSC -	UCBA0001117
Account Type -	Savings

G-Pay -	9830124632
UPI ID -	joy470@okaxis



NOTE: Indian entrants must pay their entry fee through bank transfer (NEFT / IMPS). PayPal payments by Indian entrants will not be accepted.

Please send payment confirmation mail to – jspsalon2020@gmail.com

NOTE: If any participant failed to pay the desired entry fee on time, participant's submitted images will not be judged. Partial payment is not acceptable for any circumstances and authors images will not be judged. Partial payments are non-refundable. So, please make desired payments to get updated.

CALENDAR

Closing date:	9 th June 2024
All Judging Completed by:	30 th June 2024
Notifications Sent by:	7 th July 2024
EDAS PSA reports by:	30 th July 2024
Online Gallery by:	29 th August 2024
Online Catalogue by:	29 th August 2024
Awards sent by:	29 th August 2024

NOTIFICATION AND RESULTS

Report card, acceptance certificates & award certificates (Digital in PDF / JPEG format) will be downloaded by logging in participant's account in our website after declaration of result.

Result will be available on website – <https://herculescircuit.com/>

JUROR & JUDGING DETAILS

SALON - 1 – JUDGES FOR ALL 4 SECTIONS

1. RAJDEEP BISWAS	INDIA	APSA, GMPSA, EFIAP, FFIP
2. PANDULA BANDARA	SRI LANKA	GMPSA, BPSA, EFIAP, MFIP, MIUP, GPU CR-V
3. AVIK SETT	INDIA	MPSA, EFIAP

SALON - 2 - JUDGES FOR ALL 4 SECTIONS

1. MANASHI CHATTERJEE	INDIA	PPSA, EFIAP
2. BUKET OZATAY	CYPRUS	EPSA, EFIAP
3. JOYDEEP DEB	INDIA	GMPSA, EFIAP/g, EFIP/p

SALON - 3 - JUDGES FOR ALL 4 SECTIONS

1. ASIM KUMAR CHAUDHURI	INDIA	MPSA, EFIAP/b, GPU CR-II
2. ACHINTA KUMAR SAHA	INDIA	APSA, GMPSA, EFIAP/p, GPU CR-IV
3. ABHIJIT SARKAR	INDIA	EPSA, EFIAP

SALON - 4 - JUDGES FOR ALL 4 SECTIONS

1. DONNA HOM	USA	MPSA, AFIAP
2. SHIRLEY TRINH	USA	PPSA, EFIAP
3. NAN CARDER	USA	FPSA, GMPSA, EFIAP

The jury's decision is final and irrevocable. Images may not be changed by the exhibition prior to or during judging. This includes resizing of images either smaller or larger or changing the aspect ratio of the original image to "Fit to screen" or to "Fill screen" by equipment.

AWARDS

AWARD TYPE	AWARDS PER SECTION	NUMBER OF SECTIONS	NUMBER OF JUDGINGS	NO. OF AWARDS FOR 4 SECTIONS
PSA GOLD MEDAL	01	05	04	20
JSP GOLD MEDAL	01	05	04	20
JSP SILVER MEDAL	01	05	04	20
JSP BRONZE MEDAL	01	05	04	20
JURIES CHOICE – JSP Ribbon	03	05	04	60
CIRCUIT MERIT – Digital Certificate in PDF format.	03	05	04	60
CIRCUIT CHAIRMAN'S CHOICE - MEDAL	01	05	04	20
BEST AUTHOR – GOLD MEDAL			4	4
BEST GROUP TROPHY				1
TOTAL NUMBER OF AWARDS				225

No more than 10% of the acceptances can receive medals/awards.

- BEST AUTHOR AWARD:** Best author can be judged by the number of acceptances accrued in all sections. If multiple authors get the same number of acceptances, then the best author will be decided on the awards rank.
- BEST GROUP TROPHY:** Only 10+ / more than 10+ participants from the same group is eligible for the best group trophy. Total number of acceptances from all the participants from the same group will be calculated for the best group. If multiple groups get the same acceptances, then best group will be decided on the rank of the awards.

CATALOGUE

Online PDF Exhibition Catalogue will be available on our website: <https://herculescircuit.com/>

EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS:

IMAGE CREATION AND OWNERSHIP

In all sections of the exhibition, images must originate as photographs made by the entrant. They may not incorporate identifiable images produced by anyone else (for example: clip art, replacement skies, or stock images). *Images created in whole or in part by image creation software (frequently called 'AI' images) are not allowed.* Editing or alteration of images is permitted within the limits specified in the relevant section definitions that are available here <https://psa-photo.org/page/division-definitions>

Any person submitting or attempting to submit a totally AI generated image that does not begin with a light capture from the maker, from any Photographic Society of America exhibition, social media, event, or publication, other than for editorial purposes, shall be prohibited from PSA for a period of from **3 years to life.**

IMAGE AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

This exhibition is open to anyone; however, an entry may be rejected when the Sponsor or the Exhibition Organizers, in their reasonable discretion, believes the entry does not conform to exhibition rules and these ES-COE. Membership in any photographic organization is not required.

- **Penalties: Entries will not be accepted from any entrant who is on the PSA Penalties List for Ethics Violation. Entry fees are not refundable in these circumstances.**

PSA STAR RATINGS:

To receive proper Star ratings credit from PSA, entrants must provide their names and country exactly the same way in each exhibition. Aliases are not permitted. Please contact PSA in the event of name changes or relocating to another country. Using one's name differently in different exhibition exposes the entrant to the risk that many of their acceptances may not be recognized by PSA Star Ratings.

REPRODUCTION

The entrant permits the sponsors or exhibition organizers to reproduce all or part of the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the exhibition. This may include low resolution posting on a website. The Photographic Society of America (PSA) may request specific permission from entrants to reproduce entered images in its educational materials. The terms of that permission will be mutually agreed between the entrant and PSA except in the circumstances where the entered image is found to breach the PSA Ethics Policy. In those circumstances the image may be reproduced by PSA, without the entrant's further permission, for educational purposes to illustrate serious exhibition rule violations. For those reproductions, the entrant's name will be withheld.

Entries will not be accepted from entrants who indicate that their images may not be reproduced in materials related to the exhibition. The exhibition assumes no liability of any misuse of copyright.

RE-USE OF ACCEPTED IMAGES:

Any image that has been accepted in this exhibition, past or present, may not be entered again in the same Division Star Ratings Class in any future instances of this exhibition. It may, of course, be entered in any other PSA recognised exhibitions but **must always have the same title. Re-titling in another language is not allowed.**

ENTRY:

An Entry consists of, up to and including, four (4) images entered by a single entrant into the same Section. An entrant may only enter a specific Section once. Entrants may not enter identical or similar images into the same section or different sections of the same exhibition. Similar is defined as almost identical in subject, composition, props, lighting or technique so that a reasonable person viewing the entries together would decide the entrant has duplicated the previous image except for minor changes.

TITLES:

Each image must have a unique title that relates to the content of the image. That unique title must be used for entry of that image or of an identical Image into any and all PSA-Recognized exhibitions. Titles must be 35 characters or fewer. No titles may be visible to the judges, and nothing in the image may identify the entrant. Titles may not include file extensions such as .jpg or .jpeg (or any other camera capture filenames such as IMG 471). Titles may not consist of personal identifiers possibly augmented by a number; or include words such as “untitled” or “no title”. Titles may not consist solely of numbers unless those numbers are prominently contained within the image, such as a contestant number in a race.

COLOUR AND MONOCHROME:

Color and Monochrome images from the same capture that share substantial pictorial content in common will be considered the same image and must be given the same title.

SUBMISSION OF WORKS

ONLINE ENTRY FORM

All images should be uploaded through website software only.

Authors must fill out an Online Entry Form on the official website and submit entries online.

<https://herculescircuit.com/>

Digital entries on CD via postal mail will not be accepted. If you have trouble submitting your digital images on-line, please contact the Chairman by going to the Exhibition Web Site and clicking on Contact Chairman to resolve.

SIZE LIMITS, FILE DIMENSIONS & FILE FORMAT:

Photos must be in jpeg format.

Dimensions:

Maximum image width (For horizontal image) is 1920 pixels.

Maximum image height (For vertical image) is 1080 pixels.

Image resolution must be 300 dpi.

File size is maximum 2 MB.

The entry software will reject images that are larger than the above limits in either dimension even if it is only 1 pixel off. The exhibition will not resize any images. The maximum horizontal and vertical dimensions cannot be swapped. If you rotate your image to make it fit the limits, the exhibition will not rotate it to the proper position for judging.

Use the maximum quality for each of your .jpg images that do not result in a file size larger than 2 Mb.

FILE NAMING

Except for the restriction to use only English alphabet (a-z), no other requirements (do not use special characters) for file names; file name should be the way authors want it to appear in the catalogue (title name).

Each image must have a unique title. Once an image has been accepted in a PSA Recognized exhibition, that same image, or a like “in camera” or a “reproduction” duplicate of that image:

- i. May not be entered or re-entered in any section of the same Division Star Ratings class in that exhibition regardless of media, format, or title.
- ii. May not be re-titled for entry in any other PSA Recognized exhibition, including translation into another language.
- iii. Images meeting the Monochrome Definition and non-manipulated color images from the same capture shall be considered the same image and must be given the same title.
- iv. PSA members working on Galaxy and Diamond Star Ratings shall be allowed to continue using different titles of monochrome versions and color versions of the same capture that have already been accepted until the required number of acceptances for those titles have been completed.

Words such as “Untitled” and “No Title” are not acceptable as part or all of an image’s title, nor are camera capture filenames.

An image may be entered in only one section where acceptances of that image in multiple sections would be eligible for the same star path.

The Exhibition will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the PSA. An entrant’s images will not be presented to the judges consecutively. An entrant’s four images will be distributed throughout four rounds of judging in that section. Distribution of images will be in the same round order as submitted by the entrant. At no stage will a judge be able to view all the entrant’s images together.

JUDGING METHOD

Judging is to take place remotely (online) by each jury member. Distribution of images shall be in the same round order as submitted by the entrant, but they shall not appear to the judges' consecutively. Remote judging will take place and all judges shall use their own Color calibrated equipment capable of displaying submitted images at 100% of their resolution. The images will not be enlarged beyond their native resolution. Online Judging will be done by using Computer Monitors & Laptops. The equipment should display 24-bit color (8 bits per channel) or better.

TARGET ACCEPTANCE RANGE

The acceptance range will not be higher than 30%.

DATA PROTECTION

By entering this exhibition, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including physical addresses, email addresses, being held, processed and used by the exhibition organizers for purposes associated with this exhibition. You also explicitly consent to such information being sent to organizations that have accorded official recognition, patronage or accreditation to this exhibition. You acknowledge, agree and accept that by entering this exhibition, your participation status which includes your first and last name, name of the country used during registration at the exhibition, number of sections entered and number of photos entered in those sections will be made public in a published status list and that the results of your entry shall be made public in exhibition gallery, exhibition catalogue. You also agree and accept the policy regarding non-compliance to the rules of PSA.

SUBJECT MATTER AND SECTION DEFINITIONS

Statement on subject matter applicable to all sections

The fundamental rule that must be observed at all times and **applies to all sections** offered in exhibitions with PSA recognition is that **the welfare of living creatures is more important than any photograph**. This means that practices such as baiting of subjects with a living creature and removal of birds from nests, for the purpose of obtaining a photograph, are highly unethical, and such photographs are not allowed in any exhibition with PSA recognition. Under no circumstances may a living creature be placed in a situation where it will be killed, injured or stressed for the purpose of obtaining a photograph. Images that show live creatures being fed to captive animals, birds or reptiles are not permitted under any circumstances.

There are also concerns about the use of aerial photography, drones, helicopters, low flying aircraft. These should not cause any interference with other individuals or animals which causes a disturbance in their normal activity or disrupt the way any individuals or animals interact with their environment. Entrants in PSA recognized exhibitions should comply with all relevant laws and regulations, associated with aerial photography, in the country in which the image was taken.

Entry into PSA recognized exhibitions is conditional on accepting these policies. The content of images must comply with the General Conditions and with the Division and Section definitions listed in these conditions. Images that - in the sole opinion of the judges- do not comply, will be disqualified so the entrant may be aware of the problem when considering entry into other exhibitions with PSA recognition.

MONOCHROME DEFINITION FOR PID MONOCHROME PSA MONOCHROME DEFINITION

PSA Monochrome Definition

An image is considered to be Monochrome only if it gives the impression of having no color (i.e. contains only shades of grey which can include pure black and pure white) OR it gives the impression of being a greyscale image that has been toned in one color across the entire image. (For example by Sepia, red, gold, etc.). A greyscale or multi-coloured image modified or giving the impression of having been modified by partial toning, multi-toning or by the inclusion of spot colouring does not meet the definition of monochrome and shall be classified as a Color Work.

Monochrome images may not be entered in PID Color Sections.

Greyscale Monochrome images may be entered for Nature but toned images are not permitted for the section.

Attention is drawn to the PSA Statement on Subject Matter which applies to all Sections.

Editing Guidelines for Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel

These sections require images to be truthful records, so there are limits on the amount of manipulation allowed.

PSA statement of subject matter applies to all sections.

Editing Guidelines

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible, except that conversion to grayscale monochrome is allowed.

Allowed editing techniques:

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction.
- Removal or correction of elements added by the camera or lens, such as dust spots, noise, chromatic aberration and lens distortion.
- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene.
- Complete conversion of color images to grayscale monochrome.
- Blending of multiple images of the same subject and combining them in camera or with software (exposure blending or focus stacking);
- Image stitching – combining multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively (panoramas);

Editing techniques that are not allowed:

- Removing, adding to, moving or changing any part of an image, except for cropping and straightening.
- Adding a vignette during processing.
- Blurring parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- Darkening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- All conversions other than to complete grayscale monochrome.
- Conversion of parts of an image to monochrome, or partial toning, desaturation or over-saturation of color

PSA/FIAP Nature Definition

CONTENT GUIDELINES

- Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans.
- Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed.
- The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected and the image must look natural.
- Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story.
- Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domesticated animals, human-created hybrid animals and mounted or preserved zoological specimens are not allowed.
- Images taken with subjects under controlled conditions, such as zoos, are allowed.
- Controlling live subjects by chilling, anesthetic or any other method of restricting natural movement for the purpose of a photograph is not allowed.

PHOTOJOURNALISM DEFINITION

Photojournalism entries are:

- images with informative content and emotional impact,
- reflecting the human presence in our world.
- The journalistic (story-telling) value of the image should receive priority over pictorial quality.
- Images that misrepresent the truth, such as those from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are not eligible.
- When Human Interest is specified, those images depict a person or persons in an interactive, emotional or unusual situation, excluding sports action.

PHOTO TRAVEL DEFINITION

A Photo Travel image is a portrayal of the real world we live in, as it is found naturally. There are no geographic limitations.

Content guidance:

1. If the image is predominantly or exclusively a land-, sea- or cityscape, these “scapes” must include characteristic, distinctive and recognizable physical features, although it is not necessary that the image identify the exact location;
2. Images that predominantly or exclusively depict people and their activities must illustrate a distinctive culture of a country, region, or continent;
3. Images that predominately or exclusively depict animal populations are allowed, if the animals are in their native environment and are characteristic of that country, region, or continent;
4. Portraits or other close-ups of people or objects, in addition to meeting the above paragraphs as applicable, must include elements depicting some of the surrounding environment to make it obvious that the image was not taken in a studio setting;
5. Images from events or activities arranged for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are **NOT allowed**.
6. Time exposures are allowed, if they do not dominate the image as a special effect (star trails, for example, are a dominating effect).
7. Highly distorted images such as those produced by fish eye lenses are **NOT allowed**.

Attention is drawn to the PSA Statement on Subject Matter which applies to *all* sections and to the *Editing Guidelines for Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel*

PSA RULES

Non-compliance

See the PSA Ethics Policy at <https://psa-photo.org/page/ethical-practices>.

See the PSA statement on Subject Matter at <https://psa-photo.org/page/division-definitions>

If, in the discretion of the exhibition organizer or the judges, an entrant has submitted that may fail to comply with these Conditions of Entry, they are allowed to request unedited or raw files of the submitted image.

For composite images all files are required.

Exhibition organizers may verify that:

- a) the images are the original work of the entrant
- b) the images comply with the rules and definitions as set out in these ES-COE

Such entries may be referred to PSA for further investigation of possible ethics violations.

PSA retains the right to investigate all complaints, impose penalties if deemed necessary, void the acceptances of any image found to violate the PSA rules, include the entrant's name on the list of sanctions provided to Exhibitions, and share such investigations with FIAP. Entrants automatically agree to these terms by the act of entering the Exhibition and agree to cooperate with any investigation.

If another party is processing and/or submitting images on the entrant's behalf, the entrant will still be held responsible for adhering to the entry rules **and will be subject to penalties for any violations** to these Conditions of Entry or to PSA's Statement of Ethics.

Statutory Disclaimer

NOTICE: When entrants fill in the Entry Form to submit an entry they will see the following feature to affirm they have read these Conditions of Entry

"I hereby confirm that I have *read and understood and agree to* the Conditions of Entry of this exhibition. I have read and understood the PSA document to be found at <https://psa-photo.org/resource/resmgr/pdf/exhibitions/exhibition-entrants-agreemen.pdf> . I am aware that PSA may apply penalties for non-compliance to these Conditions of Entry"

Failure to agree will mean that the application will not proceed.

The sponsors of this International Exhibition of Photography have been awarded Recognition by PSA, the world's largest patron of international photographic exhibitions. PSA, although it has provided recognition, is neither a sponsor nor directly involved in the operation of this exhibition.



Valid acceptances received by PSA Members in recognized sections of this exhibition are eligible for PSA Star Ratings, listing in the world-wide PSA Who's Who of Photography and credited towards the PSA Distinctions of QPSA, PPSA, EPSA, MPSA, MPSA2, GMPSA, GMPSA/B, GMPSA/S, GMPSA/G, and GMPSA/P.

PSA is a non-profit organization promoting the advancement of photography in all its forms to novice, amateur and professional photographers worldwide.

For information on membership and the many services and activities of PSA, contact:

psa

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA
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