

# the Shot

IRELANDS PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINE

no.2



Welcome to

# ISSUE 2

So much for the difficult second album, the response we've had since the first issue has been fantastic. Thanks to everyone who submitted their shots to the magazine and to those who sent in work for the Daily Shot. The core idea about the Shot has been to promote and showcase photography in Ireland and from what we've seen there are great photographers throughout the country, and worldwide.

We hope you enjoy the second issue and we look forward to working on Issue 3.

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Debbie Castro

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I have a background in psychology and very interested in society as a whole, I find what makes people tick is so intriguing. I love the opportunities to learn so much about people through photography whether it is just for myself or a story I want to express to others. I am also intrigued in how one image may be made better than the other just by a fraction of a movement. The story you can tell, the intimacy you can share, and the moments taken that are unaware to others. Sometimes, nearly all the time I just have a compelling urge to take an image

Liverpool lies in the Northwest of England and in its heyday was a strategically important port city with a vibrant working class. Its women are unique and fashion has been a long standing trend within the city. The "scouse" man is always proud to show his woman off but women there often dress up just for themselves or to impress their friends. Some Liverpoolian women would argue simply that they just want to look the best that they can but this is a study that delves into the role that fashion plays in binding such women together; of how these women are bound by glamour.

Glamour in the Blood is a series of portraits capturing the essence of Liverpool women's identity and its relation with glamour. The project goes deeper into the history of the city and the need to project an 'ideal' image that has been passed down through the generations. According to BBC News, "Women in Liverpool are the vainest in the UK – checking their appearance in a mirror up to

71 times a day, according to a new survey". Endless wardrobes, WAGS-inspired outfits, towering heels, bleached hair, hair curlers, fake hair, fake nails and perma-tan. As well as tanning in sunbeds to achieve a golden glow, thousands of women in Liverpool are injecting Melanotan, an illegal tan drug dubbed as 'Barbie Drug'.

In the conversations I had with all the women I photographed I found a common and interesting thread of why these women are bound by glamour: to them glamour is not a superficial thing but a key and defining aspect of their lives. It is important to understand that from a very young age they have been taught to follow this beauty routine and that 'putting the best side out' is paramount, not only when going out but also in family life. Their mothers and grandmothers and even great grandmothers were also concerned with how they looked.

Ironically, women will walk around in the day with their hair in curlers. This is acceptable, I was told, because it allows other people to see "that they are going out that night, that they have somewhere to go. They are someone."

I have studied a Masters in Photojournalism from University of Westminster London, I am an Associate of Royal Photographic Society.













Maciej Korbas

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I am a digital artist (photography & graphics) and visual creative media addict, I constantly starve for music that inspires my life, people's stories, new skills and travels that paint my horizons and make my spirit blossom. I love being exposed to new challenges, breaking barriers, exploring both physical and mental frontiers. I always enjoy learning new things, helping, sharing, interacting with strangers, being close to the world surrounded by people passionate and conscious about life – natural free, challenging and stimulating, people that know who they are and what they want, willing to learn and share lots of goodies, just like me.

A year ago I decided to leave my office desk and go for an inspiring life journey drenched with my own sweat. With dirty hands and soaked, sweaty shoes while riding on top of a bus filled with cacophonous chickens through the jungle, I savored delicious foods, and basked in the company of the locals. This trip unveiled a vivid tapestry unknown to outsiders. In one year I have focused on my goals and dreams, did things I always wanted to do and opened the bag for more. I've found my balance of joy, work and happiness.

Recently I began working on two projects, Taiwan Streets and mePortrait. Street fashion in Taiwan is one of the most striking things to catch a foreigner's eye. The culture has and will always inspire many fashion trends as it takes its root into the mainstream. The political changes in recent years created lots of space

for free artistic expression including film, music and fashion. Flea markets and little vintage stores are blooming and blossoming attracting young and hungry eclectic maniacs that mix and customize their various trends. Recycling and merging new materials with what already has been found. There are many styles of dress in Taiwan, created and crossed between both local and foreign labels, mainly Japanese, American and European.

mePortrait is an idea that was born recently. Everything is RAW, 100% spontaneous and explosive! It's purely about facial expressions, and "me" character, based on emotional relief. The aim is to approach people whom we see every day that are often thoughtful and show them in a distorting mirror. In fact, as "many" faces that we have, the one that is the most close to us, the one that breaks the barriers with other people is the kind where we laugh at ourselves. The visual aspect of the images is simple, clear and minimal.

Wishing you guys many life inspirations in everything that you do. To all the Shot Magazine readers, best regards,

Maciej Korbas

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## Matt Loughrey

[www.facebook.com/croaghpatrick365](https://www.facebook.com/croaghpatrick365)

[www.facebook.com/mattloughreyphotography](https://www.facebook.com/mattloughreyphotography)

365 is an initiative that focuses on those less fortunate in Ireland. Since the idea began in June 2010 it took on and maintains a huge following through the use of social networking. A lot of this has been down to capturing the event photographically. In the course of a year I have climbed Croagh Patrick for 365 consecutive days, in all weather conditions and at different times of day. In doing so, the initiative has raised much needed funds for its chosen charity, in this case the SVdP (Society of St Vincent de Paul). In a photographic sense it has been quite an adventure, no day is the same as any other. A terrain that changes dramatically with light, a trail that introduces new climbers always and a great variety of wildlife. Not to mention that the coastal view is dominated by one of the most beautiful bays in Europe.

I took up photography as a teenager and enjoyed it immensely, mostly the enjoyment came from getting out and about. I am glad I learnt the craft on film SLR, although now I use digital. I am also glad I kept those photography books I bought as a youngster, because you never know when you'll need to refer back. I enjoy landscapes, silhouettes and facial portraits. Black and white photography is a priority for me, I just feel as if you see more of a person or a place in a black and white image.

It's been great to be up on Croagh Patrick every day, taking pictures and being part of a positive movement. The more response you get from your images the more

inspired you become to find the shots. That inspiration was always there, even in the dead of winter at -18 degrees. To be quite honest, winter photography was easy. Everywhere you looked there were great contrasts and perfect light. Not to mention the bluest of skies.

I use a Nikon D3100, it's an entry level DSLR I would suppose, but it produces incredible stills. I recently invested in a Sigma 10 –20mm lens to go with it. I love to photograph people and the world around them through the Sigma lens, big skies and wide shots. Photographically this event has taken in to account the reasons for climbing Croagh Patrick. Either for challenge, religion, scenery or spirituality. I would like to think I have covered all angles and presented this mountain in it's best light to a lot of people.











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## Philip Behan

[www.philbehan.photoshelter.com](http://www.philbehan.photoshelter.com)

Relatively new to photography, Phil Behan is a part time freelance photographer based in Dublin, Ireland. The body of Phil's work is focused mainly around humanitarian issues dealing mostly with refugees and displacement. The majority of his work has been published by the UNHCR and United Nations Multi-Media Centre which thus feeds into a wide range of NGO publications across the globe.

Phil's most recently exhibited images from Yemen at the 2010 Fotografia Festival in Rome. As well as photography, Phil has a keen interest in culture and human behaviour. He is currently studying for a BA in Anthropology and Criminology in Dublin. He has also recently taken on the role of Saharan tour guide for Extraordinary Exposures Photo Tours in late 2010, which he has exclusive responsibility for countries such as Niger, Mali and Mauritania.

Phil also runs a successful humanitarian photo group in co-ordination with the UNHCR, as well as project 50 which organises fundraising nights around Dublin. Phil is currently working on two long term photo projects, one involving the recent integration of Karen Refugees from Burma to Mayo and also another on which he is in the planning on documenting the lives of Tuareg Cameleers across one of the longest camel journeys in the world in Mali in September 2011. He currently works in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin.

The Karen are the largest ethnic minority group in Burma. They have been in conflict with the Burmese military since Burma gained independence from Britain in 1946. Since this time thousands have fled their homeland to escape persecution. Many have ended up at camps on the Thai-Burma border where they face an uncertain future.

The Karen in Mayo came from the Ban Don Yang Refugee camp located near the Thai - Myanmar border. They came to Ireland at the end of 2007 as they were chosen to be part of the Irish governments Refugee resettlement programme which it undertakes in conjunction with the UNHCR. Mayo was lucky to have been chosen as the location for the Karen resettlement and since late 2007 early 2008 we have had a Karen community in both Castlebar and Ballina.

Phil has been following the Karen since Jun 2010. Through his photos he plans not only to show the daily life of the Karen people but also to show that with support, refugees coming from war torn or poverty stricken regions can successfully integrate into Westernised or normal functioning societies. This project is only gathering momentum and will continue for a further 2 years with a trip being made by Phil to Myanmar to contrast both sides of the Karen peoples stories. The final result will be a 50 picture exhibition in Dublin in 2012 / 2013.













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## Stephen Edwards

[www.flickr.com/photos/find-a-new-perspective](http://www.flickr.com/photos/find-a-new-perspective)

After struggling to take anything good with my DSLR for half a year, I picked up an Olympus Trip 35 last November and I've been shooting film since. The finality of taking photographs on film makes each shot important and valuable to me. I like the nervous excitement I feel while waiting to see how the shots have turned out and the high I feel when they've turned out well.

I always carry a compact camera on me now and being opportunistic has probably got me some of my most interesting shots. My main inspiration is probably the people I've befriended in Glasgow as a student and I enjoy documenting the places we go and the things we do together. For that reason, my Flickr photostream is a good insight into the best parts of my daily life.











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**[info@theshot.ie](mailto:info@theshot.ie)**

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