

*'Nature will bear the closest inspection.
She invites us to lay our eye level with her
smallest leaf, and take an insect view of its plain.'*

HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Winning nature photography

While many Australians will be familiar with the UK-based Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition and touring exhibition, few will have heard of the annual ANZANG (Australia, New Zealand, Antarctica and New Guinea) Nature photographic competition held in Australia.

Stuart Miller, a Perth-based surgeon, started the ANZANG Nature landscape photography competition in 2004. A conservationist and photographer himself, he says he established the competition with the aim of encouraging greater public appreciation of the Australasian region's natural heritage.

Now in its fourth year, the competition has become a landmark event for Australasian photographers. It is open to both amateurs and professionals, of any age or nationality, with the only proviso being that images must have been taken in the ANZANG region.

Jennifer Horsnell, whose photo series of a huntsman spider devouring another huntsman won the Portfolio category of the 2006 competition, says that nature and wildlife photography competitions are very important in 'educating people about the diversity and fragility of our natural environment'.

'More awareness ultimately leads to habitat conservation and the preservation of species – in all, a greater appreciation for the beauty of our natural world.'

Miller assembles the winning and highly commended entries into an exhibition that tours Australian and overseas venues, for example, Australia's Parliament House, the Western Australian Museum and Otago Museum, Dunedin, New Zealand.

CSIRO Publishing is now collaborating with ANZANG Nature to publish *Nature and Landscape, The Fourth Collection*, the winning and highly commended images from the 2007 ANZANG Nature and Landscape Photographer of the Year competition. Winners will be announced in September 2007 and the book will be available later in October.

Meanwhile, 'ANZANG Nature and Landscape: The Second Collection (2005)' and 'The Third Collection (2006)' are currently touring Australia. Check the ANZANG website for tour venues and dates, and information on entering the competition.



'Camel Rock dawn', Gary Steer, Winner: Wilderness Landscape category, 2006.

ANZANG



'Huntsman devouring huntsman', Jennifer Horsnell, Winner: Portfolio Prize, 2006.

ANZANG



'Rainforest dragon', Stanley and Kaisa Breedon, Winner: Photographer of the Year, 2006, and Winner: Animal Portrait category, 2006. ANZANG



'Clownfish in blue/purple anemone', Ann Worthy, Winner: Underwater Subject category, 2006. ANZANG



'Red-necked wallaby eating flowers', Peter Fakler, Highly Commended: Animal Behaviour category, 2006. ANZANG

More information:
ANZANG Nature, www.anzangnature.com
Nature and Landscape, The Fourth Collection (ANZANG). Available for advance order through CSIRO Publishing.
Local call: 1300 788 000, www.publish.csiro.au