

INSPIRATIONS

AMAZING CLOSE-UP IMAGES FROM THE WORLD OF CANON PHOTOGRAPHY

01 THE BOW TIE BY EMMANUEL GRAINDÉPICE (INSECTS)



Emmanuel's fantastic macro shot is aptly called the 'bow tie', with his vibrant yellow insect's outstretched wings beautifully decorating this round-headed garlic flower. His off-centre composition is spot on and his use of a fully open f/2.8 aperture on his 150mm Irix lens has created separation between background and his subject with a soft, creamy shallow depth of field. Emmanuel told us: "The insect had its wings stretched out to warm up and was preparing to take flight on this sunny morning. The photo was taken under the subdued light of the trees in Toul, France."

Lens	Irix 150mm f/2.8 Macro
Exposure	1/640 sec, f/2.8, ISO200



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02

© Jeremy Lintott / cupoty.com



Close-up
Photographer
of the Year

All of the images in this month's gallery were taken on Canon EOS cameras and shortlisted for Close-up Photographer of the Year 04. The next CUPOTY 05 contest opens March 2023 with prizes of up to £2,500 up for grabs. Be sure to check the CUPOTY website regularly for entry details and for your chance to win.

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02 SCARLET WAXCAP BY JEREMY LINTOTT (FUNGI)



Jeremy's early morning shot of a scarlet waxcap is moody and atmospheric with dew drops and spiderwebs filling the frame. He told us: "I spotted a large number of waxcaps growing around the periphery of a nearby cricket pitch at Ebernoe Woods last October. The whole area was covered in spider webs and early morning dew, creating an ethereal scene. I got down low, resting on a beanbag and took a series of 12 focus-bracketed images for maximum detail in the waxcap."

Lens Canon EF 100mm f/2.8L Macro IS USM

Exposure 1/125 sec, f/3.2, ISO160

03 SWIRLS BY HENRIK SPRANZ (BUTTERFLIES & DRAGONFLIES)



Henrik took this wonderfully textured shot of a marbled white butterfly (*Melanargia galathea*) just south of Vienna. He told us: "It was a sunny morning in June with the first light shining through the wings. It helps to know about the habits and habitats of butterflies so you can find them still resting at dawn. Using an open aperture on a long lens, I captured a painterly bokeh shooting through the vegetation."

Lens Sigma 180mm f/2.8 APO Macro EX DG OS HSM

Exposure 1/200 sec, f/3.2, ISO250



03

© Henrik Spranz / cupoty.com

04 **PURPLE WORLD BY MARIT VAN EKELEBURG (PORTRAIT)**



Marit has captured an incredibly vibrant close-up of this green immigrant leaf weevil (*polydrusus formosus*) climbing up a purple geranium. She told us: "Weevils are among the most colourful, interesting looking, overdramatic creatures I've ever see; they will often stop, drop and play dead for any tiny disturbance. They have such stunning colours, revealed by a macro lens, that they look completely exotic. I found this weevil climbing up a stalk towards the colourful purple flower of a geranium. I quickly got into position and waited for it to climb up and held the flower so I could change the angle for the best lighting."

Lens Canon MP-E 65mm f/2.8 1-5x Macro

Exposure 1/60 sec, f/7.1, ISO400

© Marit van Ekeleburg / cupaty.com



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05 JEWELS BY EMMA STOKES (INTIMATE LANDSCAPE)



Emma's shot is simple and effective, using nothing but natural light, an interesting subject and a creative composition. The spiderwebs are laden with dew drops which makes them look like necklaces adorned with twinkling jewels. She told us: "I woke up one morning and saw mist in the valley where I live so I ventured out in the hope of capturing the sunrise. Before the sun rose, the dewy cobwebs caught my eye and I had to get a close-up shot."

Lens Canon EF 100mm f/2.8 Macro USM

Exposure 1/1000 sec, f/4.5, ISO100

© Emma Stokes / cupoty.com



© Sophia Spurgin / cupoty.com

06



© Pierre-Victorien Compagnon / cupoty.com

07

06 FLY AGARIC TRIO BY SOPHIA SPURGIN (FUNGI)

Fly agaric is undeniably the most photogenic fungi and Sophia has found not one, but three, all in different stages of development that look like a little family! She told us: "I've found a place in my local wood, Hatfield Forest, where fly agaric grow and I visit every autumn. I piled a few leaves in front of the lens to add a little blur in the foreground. I shot at f/2.8 to blur the foreground and background, then stacked another shot taken at f/11 to make sure the mushrooms were perfectly sharp."

Lens Canon EF 100mm f/2.8 Macro USM

Exposure 1 sec, f/11, ISO100

07 INTO THE BLUE BY PIERRE VICTORIEN COMPAGNON (INSECTS)

Pierre took this graphic shot of a harvestman spider (Opiliones) moving on a Himalayan pine in his garden. He told us: "I really enjoy that in macro photography you don't have to go very far to find your subjects. For this image, my garden became my inspiration and I used a cold white balance for a dark and moody vibe."

Lens Tamron 90mm f/2.8 Di VC USD Macro 1:1

Exposure 1/640 sec, f/2.8, ISO200



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08 HAIRY COUPLE BY HARALD CEDERLUND (PLANTS)



Harald took this shot at the Fullerö backar nature reserve, Sweden, and backlit these colourful pasqueflowers to reveal all of their incredible hairs and details. He told us: "I exposed for the white hairs that were lit by the last sunlight and lined up my shot in order to get a dark juniper bush in the background for a deeper contrast."

Lens Canon EF 135mm f/2L USM

Exposure 1/200 sec, f/2, ISO160

09 IN THE PINK BY RORY LEWIS (INVERTEBRATE PORTRAIT)



Rory's lovely macro shot ticks all of the boxes with his frame-filling, pin-sharp damselfly shot. Perched on pink flowers, his image is bursting with colour. He said: "It's not every day you get to shoot a beautiful blue damselfly on a bright pink background. While it was sleepy in the early morning, I shot from a low angle to give it a cute appearance. If you look carefully, you can see a little barklouse behind admiring the view!"

Lens Laowa 100mm f/2.8 CA-Dreamer Macro 2x

Exposure 1/160 sec, f/14, ISO400

10 YIN AND YANG BY JULIE FIGULA (INTIMATE LANDSCAPE)



"On a frosty January morning I spotted a metal tray with a birch leaf encased in a thin layer of ice. When I moved it into a better light, I found that there was some water under the ice and it created new shapes whenever I moved it. I liked the curved shape of this particular image – it reminded me of the yin and yang symbol, hence the title."

Lens Canon EF 50mm f/2.5 Compact Macro

Exposure 1/80 sec, f/8, ISO640



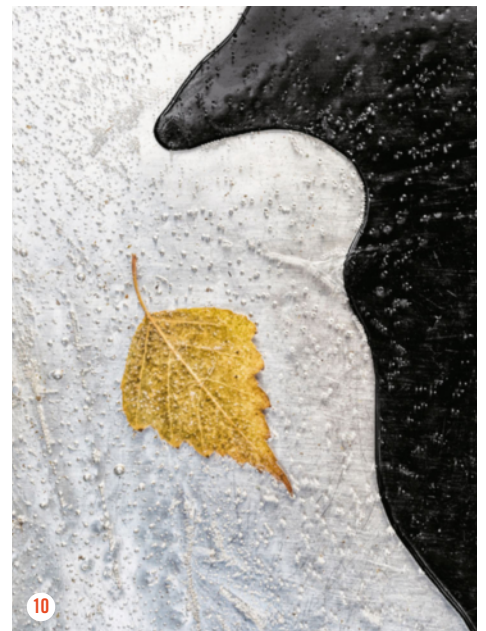
08

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09

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