

Colours of summer by Bill Wisden

## A life in pictures

Camera club pays tribute to Honorary Fellow Bill Wisden

**THE LEGACY OF AN** Honorary Fellow is being celebrated by the camera club that he was involved with for more than six decades, until his death in January 2018.

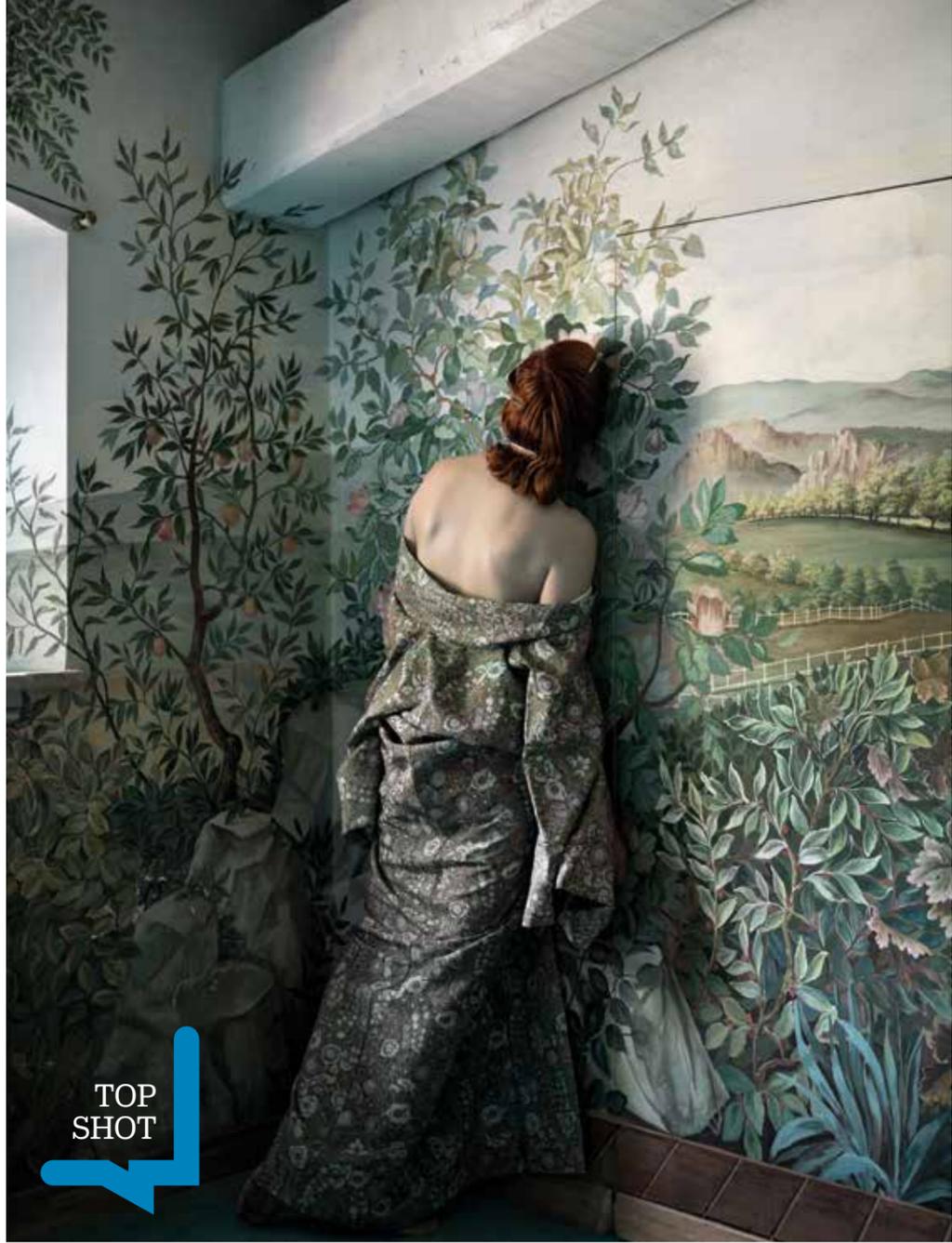
An exhibition of prints by Bill Wisden HonFRPS is being staged by the Brighton and Hove Camera Club, which has paid tribute to 'his talents, achievements and generosity'.

'Bill will be remembered by many for his passion for photography, and for the time he spent helping others to develop their own photography,' says David Gerrard ARPS, a former president of the club.

'He was always happy to give an honest opinion on a photograph, and had the gift of immediately seeing its strengths or weaknesses.'

Wisden became the youngest member of the London Salon of Photography in 1962, gaining his Fellowship of the Society in 1963. He was awarded an MBE for his services to the arts in 2011.

Exhibition of prints by the late Bill Wisden MBE HonFRPS APAGB is at the Jubilee Library, Brighton, 11-23 February



TOP SHOT

## Performance photographer's vanishing act

'Away from the stage, I do not exist.' Anja Niemi was reading an interview with an Italian actress when she was struck by these words. 'I could see it all instantly,' says the Norwegian artist. 'A story about an actress who only exists in front of an audience, and when no one is looking she starts to disappear.'

The Flower Room, left, is from the series *The Woman Who Never Existed*, which features in Niemi's latest



Above: *The Secretary*, from the series *Starlets*, 2013  
Left: *The Flower Room*, 2017, by Anja Niemi

monograph, *In Character*. Typical of her work, it features Niemi herself, but it is less a self-portrait, more a performance.

'Most of this series was shot in Italy, in places with rich textures and patterns. I used feathers, silks, velvet, floral fabrics and Italian frescoes to create the shell of her world,' Niemi explains. 'The elaborate costumes and lush interiors are her illusion – without them she fades away.'

Here, the actress almost melts into her ornate surroundings. 'Throughout the series she's portrayed faceless, mask-like or expressionless,' Niemi adds.

The artist, who studied at London College of Printing and Parsons School of Design in Paris and New York, has her first retrospective museum show at Fotografiska, Stockholm, from 8 February.

**Anja Niemi: *In Character* is published by Thames & Hudson, priced £24.95**

Rise – a cluster of fungi springs up from the forest floor



ONE TO WATCH

## Matthew Cicanese



The devil is in the detail for this rising star of macro photography

Nature photography is often about the wide angle – observing majestic creatures in dramatic landscapes. Macro nature photographer Matthew Cicanese sees the world a little differently, focusing instead on the fine details, revealing the delicate beauty of insects or moss.

Cicanese, 27, who is partially sighted and deaf in one ear having suffered meningitis as a child, got his break in

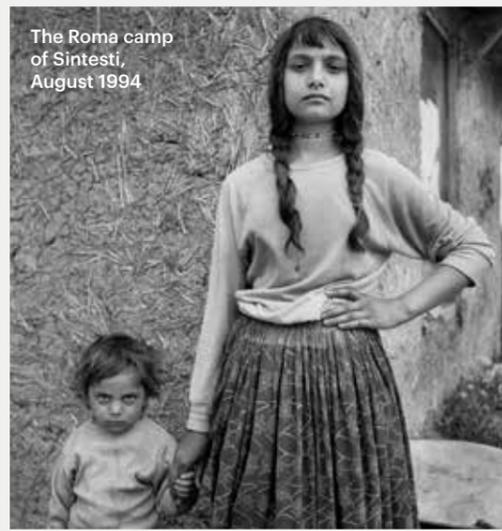
2016, when he won a National Geographic Young Explorer grant to document lichen in Iceland.

Since then Cicanese has been on the rise – named among PDN's 30 new and emerging photographers to watch, joining the International League of Conservation Photographers, and leading workshops for Canon USA.

Visit [matthewcicanese.com](http://matthewcicanese.com)



Small is beautiful for Matthew Cicanese



The Roma camp of Sintesti, August 1994

MY PLACE  
By Jeremy Sutton-Hibbert

## Roma camp, Sintesti, Romania



**What brought you to Sintesti?** Early in my freelance career in 1990 I was travelling in

Romania in the aftermath of the revolution and chanced on Sintesti, near Bucharest. I went back the next day and luckily there was a wedding, and I was

invited in. That was the beginning of my first big long-term project.

**What was it like?**

There were tents, horses and carts, smoke from fires, half-naked children running around, dogs barking, distant shouts ... It felt like a movie set. I'd only ever heard negative comments about the Roma from Romanians and wanted to make up my own mind, so I started trying to build a portrait of the camp, of Roma life and traditions: festivities, births, deaths and marriages.

**How did they respond to you?**

On my first day I was hit with a horse whip for taking a photo I was told not to take. I learned my lesson. As we got to know each other most people were welcoming, and some became good friends. The project is on show at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Iowa until April. Working with the photos again makes me think it's perhaps time to revisit the camp.

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