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media release

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Winners of 2013 Syngenta Photography Award announced

- **Jan Brykczyński** wins Professional Commission for his series *Árnes*
- **Holly Lynton** wins Open Competition for *Sienna, Turkey Madonna*
- **Major exhibition at Somerset House, London**

The winners of the Syngenta Photography Award, a new international competition to stimulate dialogue around some of our planet's key challenges, were announced today. In its inaugural year, entrants were invited to interpret the theme of "Rural-Urban" by exploring the issues of rapid urbanization and its impact on urban and rural communities and their environments.

Warsaw-based documentary photographer **Jan Brykczyński** won the Professional Commission for his series *Árnes*. His commission project, *Farming Tribes*, will explore the relationship between human beings and nature in four very different urban spaces around the world – New York, Yerevan, Warsaw and Nairobi. **Holly Lynton** won the Open Competition for *Sienna, Turkey Madonna*, part of a series in which she explores communities struggling to maintain agrarian traditions despite the challenges of globalization.

Mike Mack, CEO of Syngenta, said: "The winning photographers have created stunning images that bring to life some of the tensions and tradeoffs associated with rapid urbanization. With nearly 200,000 people moving to cities every day, urban and rural environments will increasingly compete for land, water and energy. We believe that these photographs can help spark an important conversation about what's needed to create a sustainable future for both environments."

The winners were selected by an international panel, chaired by the author and curator William A. Ewing and honored at a ceremony at Somerset House, London.

Ewing said: "The jury was unanimously impressed with the high standard of entries in the first year of the award. It was a great pleasure to see the commitment and dedication the photographers brought to their work and the wide range of approaches to the rural-urban issue. There were many fine images, and many possible winners, but ultimately the jury unanimously selected Jan Brykczyński and Holly Lynton for their singular artistic vision."

The winning images of both categories will be included in the Syngenta Photography Award Rural-Urban Exhibition at Somerset House, London from 17-21 May, 2013 which showcases the finest work entered to the Award and explores vital topics such as urban sprawl, deforestation and food production. For full details of all the Syngenta Photography Award winners, please visit <http://www.syngentaphoto.com>.

Syngenta is one of the world's leading companies with more than 27,000 employees in over 90 countries dedicated to our purpose: Bringing plant potential to life. Through world-class science, global reach and commitment to our customers we help to increase crop productivity, protect the environment and improve health and quality of life. For more information about us please go to www.syngenta.com.

Notes to the editor:

- Media inquiries relating to the Syngenta Photography Award can be addressed to:
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- To request hi-res images or an interview with the winning photographers or William A. Ewing, contact Four Colman Getty
- For Somerset House media inquiries, please contact Josephine Rodrigues or Stephanie Lilley on press@somerset.org.uk or + 44 (0) 20 7845 4638
- The **Open Competition** is open to both professional and amateur photographers.
- The **Professional Commission** is for professional photographers whose major income is derived from photography. The first place winner will receive a US\$ 15,000 prize, in addition to up to US\$25,000 to complete the commission. The second and third place winners will receive US\$10,000 and US\$ 5,000 respectively.
- The judging panel this year is chaired by the author and curator William A. Ewing. The other members of the panel are: Irina Chmyreva (Russia) curator and researcher of photography; Stephen Dunbar-Johnson (UK) publisher, International Herald Tribune; Milton Guran (Brazil) curator and photographer; Malu Halasa (Jordan/Philippines) writer and editor; Marcus Lyon (UK) photographer; Mike Mack (US) Syngenta Chief Executive Officer; and Liu Heung Shing (China) photographer and photo editor.

THE SYNGENTA PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

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