



**PHOCOS 2018**

The 3rd Photo Contest of  
SUN(Silk-road Universities Network)

# Masks and People along the Silk Road

**PHOCOS 2018**  
**MASKS AND PEOPLE ALONG THE SILK ROAD**

Copyright © 2018  
All Rights Reserved.  
No part of this book may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means  
without the written permission of the publisher.

Published in August, 2018 by SUN(Silk-road Universities Network)  
909, Main Building, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, 107, Imun-ro, Dongdaemun-gu,  
Seoul, 02450 Korea  
Phone: +82 2 2173 3581  
Fax: +82 2 2173 3582  
E-mail: sunofficial0822@gmail.com

Organized by Sungdon Hwang, Ph.D., Secretary General, Silk-road Universities Network  
Jaewoo Ryu, PHOCOS Administrator, Silk-Road Universities Network

Reviewed by Sangyoon Lee, Euihwan Cho, Jaho Koo  
Edited by DESIGN54  
Printed by SAM-A PRINTING CO.

# Masks and People along the Silk Road

## Crossing the 3-year Threshold

**Sungdon Hwang, Ph.D.**

Secretary General

Silk-Road Universities Network (SUN)

& Professor, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Korea

Silk Road is light. The light is bright and entrancing. However, the light sometimes is dark and chilly. At other times, it is solemn or heroic. So, the light of Silk Road is diverse, which is what makes the place beautiful. Recording of the light is photography.

2 years ago, the Silk-Road Universities Network (SUN) took the first step in its effort for sharing the works by students from Silk Road recording its light with the rest of the world. There was one expectation. It was that through the photographs by students from Silk Road, all people in the world would see how diverse its civilizations and cultures were, how similar and distinctively different they were, and how precious and beautiful their differences were. And the expectation has never been failed up to this third contest. As expected and all judges pointed out, many high-quality works were submitted for this year's contest. I express my deepest gratitude to the contestants who understood the purpose of this event and submitted good works. Also, I offer my congratulations to those who won prizes and comfort and encouragement to those who were not prize winners.

It is generally said in Korea that the sustainability of a newly launched restaurant can be usually confirmed after 3 years. Likewise, PHOCOS has just crossed the 3-year threshold. It has been possible because of interest, participation, support, and cooperation of many. I want to express my appreciation to Advisor Cho, Eui-hwan, whose expertise is more than the SUN deserves, for his involvement in virtually entire process from organizing it to editing and publishing works and to Koo, Ja-ho and Lee, Sang-yun for serving as judges. Also, I give my thanks to Assistant Administrator, Ryu, Jaewoo, in the SUN Secretariat for his hard work providing the administrative support and communicating internationally. And, I express my gratitude to others for facilitating this contest, including Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Kim, Kwanyong, who has provided financial support.

As the one who proposed and realized this photography contest, I have an ultimate dream or belief. With this annual event progressing, the recognition that the cultural differences in Silk Road are not the objects of discrimination, suppression, exploitation, and prejudice but those of respect and bless derived from the pride in being humans can be gradually settled in as the universal human behavior. Thus, I sincerely hope and am sure that this contest will grow into an international event and contribute to making Silk Road safer, more peaceful, and more fairly treated, and more sustainable than now. I request more people's continuous support, cooperation, and participation for this effort.

August 29, 2018

## Overall quality enhancement in the works submitted to this year's PHOCOS

**Sang-yun Lee**

Professor

Department of Advertising in Photography and Image  
Pai Chai University, Korea

Through the photography contest the SUN seeks to shed new light on cultures and societies of other countries and promote cultural exchange. 102 entries by 26 students from 13 universities in 11 countries made the event much more meaningful. Also, higher quality works and good contents made this year's contest more bountiful than ever.

This year marks the 179th anniversary of the invention of photography. With the innovative advancement in film, camera, and printing technologies since the invention the medium has played an important role in recording all aspects around us. Though it took many years for photography to become a universal medium, the advent of digital technology has brought a fundamental change in work environment of photography. It has opened a new world where everyone can photograph.

We are living in the age of digital photography. When digital photography began cannot be clearly affirmed, I see that it began in February, 1990 when Photoshop 1.0 developed as a Macintosh computer program was first released. It has made it possible for photography to be massively reproduced and distributed as well as processed. Digital photography marking its 28th anniversary in this year was combined with mobile technology and has become a universal means of expression. It has become an important medium for widening human vision and quick communication and sharing. Anyone can easily take a picture in the age of digital photography, but when it comes to what to photograph and why, it is still a difficult matter.

Contestants' works were evaluated by three judges based on how well the theme was interpreted, and the beauty of cultural heritage was expressed and how creative shooting techniques and compositions were. Considering that entries are students' works not professionals', we put more weight on how creatively and experimentally the theme was interpreted than how well they were completed.

Overall quality of this year's works was quite high. Especially, the grand prize winning work by a Russian student who captured a woman's face surrealistically and the excellence award winning work by an Iranian student showing a woman in a traditional dress wearing a red mask and her slightly exposed eyes are great works that charm us with their mysteriousness and thus, making us have boundless imagination. Also, the work by a Bangladeshi student receiving the excellence award for its perfect composition and completion is a black-and-white photograph using backlight and capturing expressively pots and eyes of a young boy.

I give a very big hand to prize winning students and urge other students not to be disappointed but to move on.

August 29, 2018

## Thanks to the photos igniting the sparks of inspiration

### **Onur Açılan**

President

United Students of Silk-Road Universities Network (USSUN)  
& student, Ankara University, Ankara, Turke

Hello everyone!

My name is Onur Açılan and I am from Ankara University, Turkey. But more importantly, I am writing this message as the current president of USSUN. But first of all, on behalf of SUN, I wish to congratulate “Ksenia Varegina” for her victory and I would like to thank all of the participants for taking part in PHOCOS 2018.

So I did a bit of research about masks. As you all know PHOCOS 2018’s topic was “Mask and the people along the silk road”. I am curious in nature so I begin with questions whenever i think of something. I took the first word of PHOCOS’ topic. Mask. “What is a mask?” I asked myself. Something to cover your face with? At least nowadays we use it for medical and protective purposes. As any person who wishes to find out more about anything, I found myself in Wikipedia in mere seconds. If you do the same, you’ll see that first sentence about mask is; “A mask is an object normally worn on the face, typically for protection, disguise, performance, or entertainment.” I understand the protection and disguise aspects of mask myself. Since I am Turkish, Ottoman warriors used to cover their faces with masks integrated to helmets. To hide and protect their faces. In fact, I made a bit of research of masks in Turkish culture too. I must say it was a bit of failure, I couldn’t find much. It was either warrior or assassin masks. But I must admit, results told me the truth. Turks are of warrior culture. Ottomans and Turks before that, they used to fight all the time. It was mainly sieges and conquests. So no wonder all masks were about warfare. In my opinion, masks in my culture, although really few in quantity compared to other cultures, tell us a great deal of who my ancestors were.

These pictures will teach us, tell us about the cultures along the Silk Road. Some things cannot be explained with words and that’s where photography excels at. I am sure these photos will reach everyone and not only teach us about people but ignite the spark of inspiration in many hearts.

Thank you for reading.

August 29, 2018

## Purpose & Background of SUN

We aim to realize our vision of 'serving the world' by undertaking diverse projects that restore the historical value of the ancient Silk Road which, as the birthplace of four major civilizations, has been a source of immense pride for centuries. The most valuable lesson from the history of the Silk Road is that the key to peaceful coexistence and collective prosperity is to treat individual differences as a cause for celebration rather than segregation, best captured in Silkroadia-the spirit of ancient Silk Road. In line with this thinking, we believe that the coming together of universities can help realize this vision through fostering an exchange of ideas culminating into decisive action between intellectuals transcending national, religious and cultural boundaries. In addition, universities through educating and training the youth can create future leaders better equipped to promote peace and harmony in line with Silkroadia.

### **Silkroadia (the spirit of ancient Silk Road)**

- Recognizing and acknowledging individual differences as reason for celebration rather than segregation.
- Diversity is beauty; a source of strength and vitality for human flourishing.
- Pursuing peace and prosperity through mutual understanding, dialogue and collective action.



**Grand Prize**

**Bloom from Inside**

Ksenia Varegina

Moscow State Linguistic University

Russia





**Excellence Award**

**Identity Mask**

Bagher Nassir

Allame Tabataba'i University

Iran







**Excellence Award**

**The Uncertain Life**

Mohammad Asif Hossain

University of Malaya

Bangladesh



**Special Selection**

**Teatime**

Elise Morton  
Aristotle University of  
Thessaloniki  
UK





Special Selection

Stop War

Farzin Khodaverdian  
Imam Khomeini International  
University  
Iran





**Special Selection**  
**Bongsan Mask Dance,**  
**The Lion Dance**  
DongGyun Han  
Hankuk University of  
Foreign Studies  
Korea



**Special Selection**

**Beauty**

Luliana (Pana) Gheorghe,  
University of Bucharest  
Romania





**Special Selection**  
**Man and The Holy Cow**  
Marina Satanaki  
Ionian University  
Greece





**Selection**

**Mask and Prejudice**

Jaehyun Kang

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Korea





**Selection**

**Broken Soul**

Marta Ferrer Brusel  
University of Valencia  
Spain







**Selection**

**Zoroastrian**

Maryam Bolouri

Allame Tabataba'i University

Iran





**Selection**

**Respect of The Lord of The Silk Road**

Mourid Khadija

Facultatea de Litere, Universitatea din Bucuresti

Morocco





**Selection**

**Alighapou Mansion**

Monir Shalbafan

Imam Khomeini International University

Iran





**Selection**

**Masks and People**

Mudarisova Alena

Moscow State Linguistic University

Russia





**Selection**

**All The World's a Stage**

Sadikova Polina

Moscow State Linguistic University

Russia





**Selection**

**Hanuman, The Monkey God**

Calyn Tan Jen Ai

University of Malaya

Malaysia





**Selection**

**Aswan**

Eirini Karamfyllidou  
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
Greece





**Selection**

**Freedom**

Zisis Skentos

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Greece





## Participating Universities & Institutions

Nation (30)	City (63)	University & Institution (78)
Cambodia	Phnom Penh	International University
		Royal University of Phnom Penh
		University of Cambodia
Czech Republic	Prague	Charles University
Finland	Tampere	University of Tampere
Greece	Thessaloniki	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
	Athens	National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
India	Delhi	University of Delhi
Indonesia	Jawa Barat	Universitas Indonesia
Iran	Teheran	Allameh Tabataba'i University
	Isfahan	University of Isfahan
	Qazvin	Imam Khomeini International University
Italy	Naples	Naples University "L'Orientale"
	Venezia	Ca' Foscari University of Venice
Japan	Nara	Tenri University
	Tokyo	Tokyo University of Foreign Studies
Jordan	Amman	University of Jordan
Kazakhstan	Almaty	Al-Farabi kazakh National University
		Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages
		Kazakh National Agrarian University
		KIMEP Kazakhstan Institute of Management Economics and Strategic Research under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan
		Eurasian Technological University
Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	International Medical University
Malaysia	Melaka	Melaka Museums Corporation
	Kuala Lumpur	University of Malaya
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolian State University of Culture and Arts National University of Mongolia
Myanmar	Yangon	University of Yangon
	Mandalay	University of Mandalay
Oman	Muscat	Sultan Qaboos University
People's Republic of China	Beijing	Beijing Foreign Studies University
	Hong Kong	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
	Lanzhou	Lanzhou University
	Shanghai	Shanghai International Studies University
Poland	Xi'an	Xi'an Jiatong University
	Kraków	Jagiellonian University
Portugal	Warsaw	University of Warsaw
	Lisbon	Nova University of Lisbon
Republic of Korea	Coimbra	University of Coimbra
	Andong	Provincial Government of Gyeongsangbuk-do**
Republic of Korea	Changwon	Changwon National University
	Daegu	Keimyung University
	Gyeongju	Dongguk University at Gyeongju
	Gyeongsan	Daegu Haany University
		Daegu University
		Yeungnam University
	Jeonju	Chonbuk National University
	Mokpo	Mokpo National Maritime University
	Pohang	Handong Global University
		Pohang University of Science and Technology
	Sejong	KDI School
	Seongnam	Gachon University

Romania	Seoul	Hankuk University of Foreign Studies *
		Korea National University of Arts
	Yeongju	Dongyang University
Romania	Sibiu	Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu
	Brasov	Transilvania University of Brasov
Russia	Bucharest	University of Bucharest
	Ekaterinburg	Ural Federal University
	Moscow	Moscow State Institute of International Relations
		Moscow State Linguistic University
Spain	Irkutsk	Irkutsk National Research Technical University
	Valencia	University of Valencia
Sri Lanka	Kelaniya	University of Kelaniya
Taiwan	Taipei	National Chengchi University
	Tainan	National Cheng Kung University
Thailand	Salaya	Mahidol University
Turkey	Ankara	Ankara University
	Erzincan	Erzincan University
	Kayseri	Erciyes University
UAE	Dubai	British University in Dubai
Uzbekistan	Tashkent	Tashkent State University of World Languages
		University of World Economy and Diplomacy
	Samarkand	Samarkand Agricultural Institute
Vietnam		Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages
	Ho Chi Minh	University of Social Sciences and Humanities – Vietnam National University
		Ho Chi Minh City
		Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City

\* Chair University  
\*\* Honorary Chair Institution

## PRIZE WINNERS OF PHOCOS 2018



### Grand Prize

#### **Bloom from Inside**

Ksenia Varegina  
Moscow State Linguistic University  
Russia



### Excellence Award

#### **Identity Mask**

Bagher Nassir  
Allame Tabataba'I University  
Iran



### The Uncertain Life

Mohammad Asif Hossain  
University of Malaya  
Bangladesh



### Special Selection

#### **Bongsan Mask Dance, The Lion Dance**

DongGyun Han  
Hankuk University of Foreign Studies  
Korea



### Stop War

Farzin Khodaverdian  
Imam Khomeini International University  
Iran



### Teatime

Elise Morton  
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
UK



### Man and The Holy Cow

Marina Satanaki  
Ionian University  
Greece



### Beauty

Iuliana (Pana) Gheorghe,  
University of Bucharest  
Romania



### Selection

#### **Hanuman, The Monkey God**

Calyn Tan Jen Ai  
University of Malaya  
Malaysia



### Mask and Prejudice

Jaehyun Kang  
Hankuk University of Foreign Studies  
Korea



### Alighapou Mansion

Monir Shalbafan  
Imam Khomeini International University  
Iran



### Zoroastrian

Maryam Bolouri  
Allame Tabataba'I University  
Iran



### Masks and People

Mударисова Alena  
Moscow State Linguistic University  
Russia



### All The World's a Stage

Sadikova Polina  
Moscow State Linguistic University  
Russia



### Freedom

Zisis Skentos  
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
Greece



### Aswan

Eirini Karamfyllidou  
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
Greece



### Broken Soul

Marta Ferrer Brusel  
University of Valencia  
Spain



### Respect of The Lord of The Silk Road

Mourid Khadija  
Facultatea de Litere, Universitatea din Bucuresti  
Morocco

