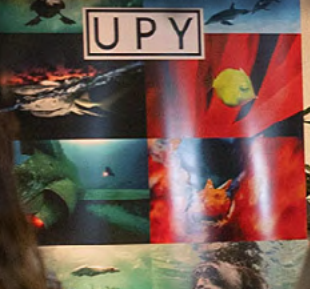


UPY Awards Evening 2024

London

by Alex Mustard

All images by Saeed Rashid



The 2024 Underwater Photographer of the Year awards were announced at a special awards evening in Mayfair, London. Alex Mustard, chair of the UPY jury, presented the awards on stage, with winners travelling to London from as far away as Brazil.

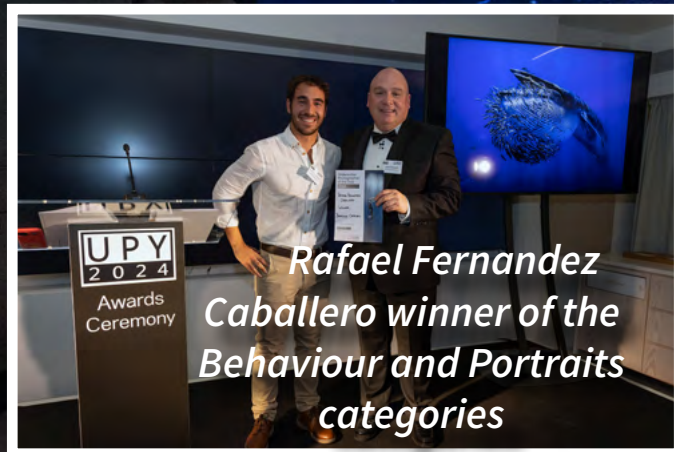
Although UPY's history stretches back to 1965, this was the 10th edition of the modern awards, and the event celebrated this rich history. "A real highlight was fortuitously having five of our UPYs [Underwater Photographer of the Year overall winners] attending," commented Alex Mustard. "Alex was obvious just crowned, and Tobi is a judge, but Rafa, Kat and Nuno were all category winners again this year. It was also great to see an even split between the sexes – with the boys and girls each claiming 6 of our 12 categories. Although female photographers edged it with the big awards, 3 to 2."

"Although the UPY Awards Evening was instigated to celebrate the 10 year anniversary, its popularity means that we plan for it to become a regular event. There are very few such socials that allow top photographers to come together with the only obligation of building friendships and exchanging ideas and information. And most of the well-lubricated audience headed out in London's West End for a memorable after-party."

The event was hosted by long-time UPY sponsors The Crown Estate at their prestigious property One Heddon Street, London W1.



Kirsty Andrews wins the British Waters Living Together category, sponsored by The Crown Estate.





*Sandra Stalker was named Most Promising
British Underwater Photographer, 2024.*



*Kirsty Andrews with
Chelsea Bradbury of
The Crown Estate.*



*Alex Dawson UPY 2024 and
Jenny Stock BUPY 2024.*



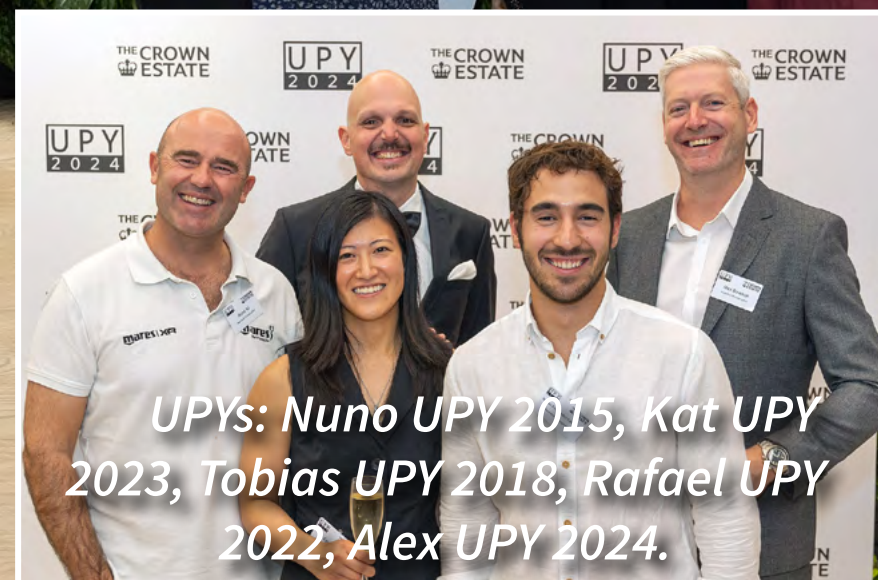
UPY
2024

Awards
Ceremony

*Nuno Sa was named
Marine Conservation Photographer of the Year,
sponsored by
The Save Our Seas Foundation.*



Some of UPY 2024 winning female photographers and members of the Mustard family



UPYs: Nuno UPY 2015, Kat UPY 2023, Tobias UPY 2018, Rafael UPY 2022, Alex UPY 2024.



Some of the British winners, Gill Marsh, Rick Ayrton, Dan Bolt (also of the UPY team), Kirsty Andrews and Guilhem Duprat.

Don't settle for 2nd best



Film - No Filter No White
Balance



Digital - No Filter Manual
White Balance



Magic Filter Manual White
Balance

Digital cameras have opened up new possibilities to underwater photographers. For available light photography manual white balance is an invaluable tool for restoring colours. But when you use it without a filter you are not making the most of the technique. You're doing all the hard work without reaping the full rewards. These three photos are all taken of the same wreck in the Red Sea. The left hand image was taken on slide film, which rendered the scene completely blue. The middle image is taken with a digital SLR without a filter; using manual white balance. The white balance has brought out some of the colour of the wreck, but it has also sucked all the blue out of the water behind the wreck, making it almost grey. The right hand image is taken with the same digital camera and lens, but this time using an original Magic Filter. The filter attenuates blue light meaning that the colours of the wreck are brought out and it stands out from the background water, which is recorded as an accurate blue.

www.magic-filters.com