

The Inaugural International Aerial Photographer of the Year 2025

Professional and amateur photographers worldwide were invited to enter the first International Aerial Photographer of the Year competition.

From over 1500 entries from around the world, exceeding first year expectations, the winner of the Inaugural International Aerial Photographer of the Year (based on a folio submission of at least 4 images) is Joanna Steidle of the United States.

Joanna is a professional drone pilot and artist based in the Hamptons on Long Island, New York.

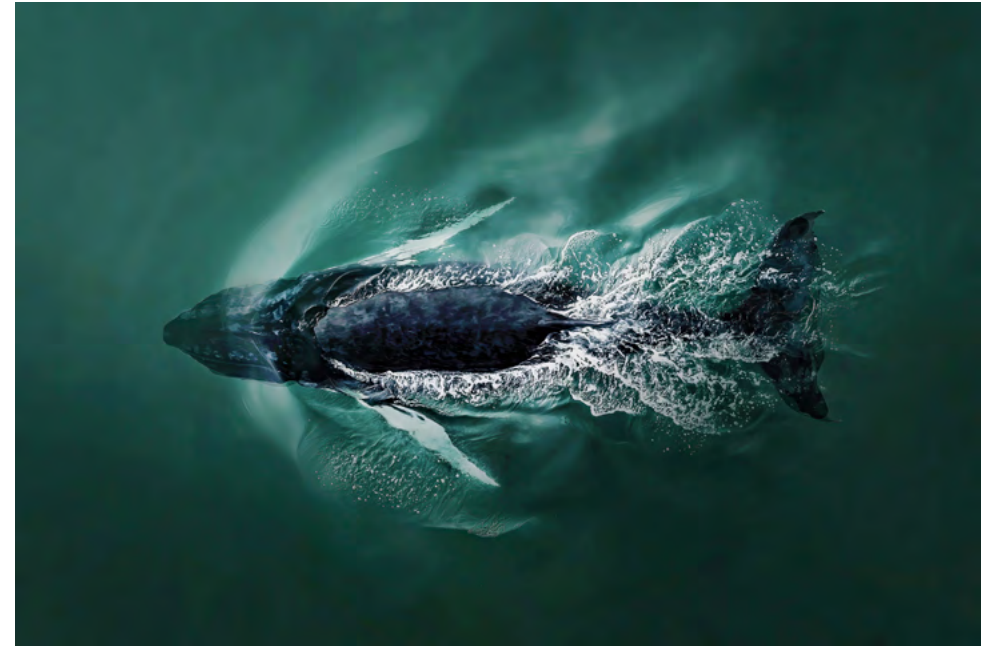
Joanna says, "Aerial photography offers so many possibilities not yet explored. Every day is exciting as I look for unique subjects and moments. I try to stay away from the ordinary. I live in a very flat landscape, so top-down imagery has become quite a theme in my photos which happens to work well with my love for marine life."

www.joannasteidle.com

Diving

A humpback whale diving back under the surface of the Atlantic Ocean after taking a breath of air. This was taken within 500ft of the coast in Southampton, NY, USA

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The Gateway

A spinner shark hunting in a school of menhaden bait fish in the Atlantic Ocean, Southampton, NY, USA

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A small fever of cownose rays stirring up sand along their travels. Taken in Southampton, NY USA, just a few hundred feet from the coast.

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A fever of cownose rays approaching a school of menhaden bait fish, taken just a few hundred feet from the coast of Southampton, NY. USA.

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