

6th edition of the Photo Award - Yves Rocher Foundation

In partnership with Visa pour l'image Photo award - held in Perpignan, The Yves Rocher Foundation launched the photo award. It focuses on environmental issues, the relationship between humans and the natural world and the key issues regarding sustainable development.

The award winner of the year 2020, Mathias Depardon, will receive a price of 8000 euros for his coverage on the environmental and social impacts caused by rivers dry up in Mesopotamia he will conduct in the coming months. The river water shortage on the Tigris and Euphrates creates a salinization of the lands and results in population movements in a context fraught with a widespread draught in Iraq.

His work will be exhibited at La Gacilly Photo Festival and on display at the International Festival of Photojournalism Visa pour l'image - in Perpignan in september 2021.



Photos selected from **Mathias Depardon's** portfolio «Gold Rivers- The Land of Between». Water depletion on the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers highlight the consequences of a «water war» in the making, in a region already suffering from the war and general violence.



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Mathias Depardon is a French photographer born in 1980 who reported about the situation of migrants in various countries.

He received an award from the « Bourse du Talent» (a French notorious photography competition) thanks to his coverage Beyond borders in 2011. After covering the Arab spring, he settled down in Istanbul and began a project that will last several years regarding Turkey's borders. He got arrested in Hasankeyf in South Eastern Turkey on the 8th of May 2017 while covering for the National Geographic. He got released on the 9th of June following a month in custody.

His Photographs have been put on display in several institutions including The Cervantes Institute in New York, The BNF in Paris (France's National Library) in 2012 and the National Archives Museum in Paris in 2017 during his Transanatolia exhibit

<http://www.mathiasdepardon.com>



@mathiasdepardon



@mathiasdepardon