

Rules for the Fourth Edition (2020-2022)

Lausanne, October 2019

1. General Information

The Musée de l'Elysée is one of the world's leading museums entirely dedicated to photography. Since its establishment in 1985, the museum has worked to improve public understanding of the photographic medium through innovative exhibitions, key publications and engaging events. The Musée de l'Elysée has entered into an exclusive partnership with Parmigiani Fleurier to launch the Prix Elysée, a prize intended to encourage creativity and the production of new work.

The Prix Elysée was founded in 2014 and aims to enable promising photographers – eight nominees and one winner – to take a decisive step forward in their career. The prize runs every two years and the fourth edition will take place from 2020-2022.

There is no overall theme to the Prix Elysée, but it will emphasise the link between photography and print, with two publications being produced as part of the prize. Firstly, each nominee will be invited to introduce a project in a book published and distributed as part of the prize. They will each be given free rein to make use of 10 pages. Secondly, the winner will have the opportunity to publish a book of his or her project. The nominees' and the winner's books will be printed by one of the Sandoz Family Foundation printing companies.

The Musée de l'Elysée will assist the nominees to showcase their projects in the nominees' book. The museum will give advice and support to the winner in both carrying out his or her project and publishing the final book on time and within the budget provided. Both the project and the book will be launched during a major event at the museum.

Proposed projects must never have been previously exhibited or published, and must not have been submitted to any other prize.

2. Grants

The following grants will be awarded as part of the Prix Elysée:

- A contribution of CHF 5,000 to each of the eight nominated photographers.
- A prize worth CHF 80,000 to the winner, half of which is to be used to produce the project, and half for the book publication.

The photographers may only use these sums to carry out the work required as part of the Prix Elysée.

3. Timetable for the Fourth Prix Elysée

- Applications open on 1st January and close on March 9th 2020.
- Curators from the Musée de l'Elysée will select the eight nominees, who will be announced in late June 2020.
- The nominee must submit all the necessary material for publication in the Nominees' Book, by 13 September 2020 at the latest.
- The Nominees' Book will be published in January 2021.
- The nominee must submit a complete project portfolio for the jury by 17 January 2021.
- The jury will meet in spring 2021 to select the winner, who will be announced in June 2021.
- The winning project and the resulting book will be presented in June 2022.

4. Candidates

The Prix Elysée is aimed at promising photographers or artists who make use of photography. Artists should have experience exhibiting in group and/or solo shows in galleries, museums, or other cultural institutions, and have gained national recognition or even international visibility through their publications. Nevertheless, they have not yet enjoyed a mid-career retrospective.

Applications are welcomed from photographers of any age or nationality. They may submit work as individuals or a collective. In the case of a collective application, the group of artists must nominate a representative to act as the museum's contact. Individual and collective applications will be assessed in exactly the same way.

5. Submission Material

All photographic work will be taken into consideration. No preference will be given to particular genres or techniques.

No work containing any reference, whether direct or indirect, to any brand of watch or any product from the watchmaking industry will be considered.

6. Application Procedure

Photographers can enter the Prix Elysée in their own name by sending their portfolio directly to the Musée de l'Elysée at the following address:

Musée de l'Elysée
Prix Elysée
18 avenue de l'Elysée
1014 Lausanne
Suisse

Candidates for the Prix Elysée must be recommended by a reputed professional in the fields of photography, contemporary art, cinema, fashion, journalism or publishing.

Candidates' portfolios sent to the Musée de l'Elysée must include the following:

- A representative portfolio of the candidate's work consisting of 10 (minimum) to 20 (maximum) loose photographic prints, unframed and unmounted. They can be film or digital but must be in A4 format. Do not send originals or works with commercial value. Photographers may present a selection of individual works, works from a series or a series as a whole, or even preparatory work for the proposed Prix Elysée project, should it be available. The following information must be clearly noted on the back of each print: artist's name, title, series title if applicable, date, and format of the original work.
- A short description of the proposed prize project (maximum 500 words).
- A short biography (maximum 300 words).
- A CV including the following: complete contact details, education, selected exhibitions and publications.
- The Prix Elysée application form, available on the prize website (www.prixelysee.ch), completed and signed.
- A letter of recommendation, addressed to the Musée de l'Elysée, from the candidate's reference, who must also complete and sign the relevant form, available on the prize website (www.prixelysee.ch).
- A rights-free photographic portrait of the candidate.
- A CD or USB stick containing digital versions of the candidate's portfolio, namely a PDF version of all texts and image files in two high definition formats: TIFF 350 dpi (maximum 80 MB), and JPEG 72 dpi (long side: 1,200 pixels) (maximum 2 MB). The CD or USB stick must also include a digital version of the candidate's photographic portrait and all corresponding images' captions.

The official languages of the Prix Elysée are French and English. If the photographer is a native speaker of French, the portfolio can be submitted in French. If French is not the photographer's mother tongue, the portfolio may be written in French or English. The Musée de l'Elysée reserves the right to edit texts, in consultation with the photographers, and will take responsibility for translations between the two languages.

Incomplete submissions and portfolios that do not comply with the standards and formats laid out in these rules will be rejected automatically, and no further discussion will be entered into with the photographer concerned. No entry received at the Musée de l'Elysée postmarked after 9th March 2020 will be taken into consideration and no exceptions will be made.

The Musée de l'Elysée accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to portfolios in transit to the museum. Candidates' portfolios will not be returned. They will remain available to them at the museum until the end of September 2020, after which time any uncollected portfolios will no longer be available. The Musée de l'Elysée may decide to archive or destroy them.

All candidates agree to grant their projects exclusively to the Prix Elysée until the nominees are announced in late June 2020.

7. Nomination

The eight nominees will be selected by the curators of the Musée de l'Elysée. The curators' decision is final.

The nominees will be contacted individually by the Musée de l'Elysée at the end of April 2020. They will then have five days in which to confirm that they will participate in the Prix Elysée and be available to attend the nominees announcement event in late June 2020 (date to be confirmed in May 2020). The nominees will be publicly announced at the event and the museum will produce a projection of images taken from their application portfolios. This presentation will be made available to the public the following day on the prize website as well as during the Museum's closing event in late September 2020. A selection of images will be distributed to the press and used by the Musée de l'Elysée and Parmigiani Fleurier to promote the Prix Elysée.

Should any candidate decline the nomination, be unable to honour the commitments involved or fail to confirm his or her participation (or do so too late), the Musée de l'Elysée curators will select another photographer.

After being informed that they have been selected by the Musée de l'Elysée at the end of April 2020, the nominees will be invited to sign a contract granting the museum free and exclusive rights to use a selection of their work for the sole purpose of promoting the Prix Elysée and for the aforementioned publications. The museum will have the power to grant the same rights to Parmigiani Fleurier. After signing the contract, the nominees will receive their individual contributions and will be able to start work on their projects. They agree not to disclose that they have been nominated or to make their projects public until after the official announcement in late June 2020.

The nominees also agree to grant their projects exclusively to the Musée de l'Elysée and Parmigiani Fleurier until the winner is announced in June 2021. With the exception of the winner, they will then be free to carry out their projects, and to publicise and exhibit them, should they so wish. In this case, they will have the opportunity, but not the obligation, to describe themselves as "*Nominated for the Prix Elysée, supported by Parmigiani Fleurier*".

8. Production of Nominees' Projects

In return for the individual contribution of CHF 5,000 that they will receive, the nominees agree to provide the following elements. Submitted material must not include any images referring, directly or indirectly, to any brand of watch or any product from the watchmaking industry.

By 13 September 2020 at the latest:

- For the Nominees' Book, a PDF and Indesign layout of precisely 10 pages ready for insertion into the Nominees' Book, which complies with the technical specifications provided by the Musée de l'Elysée.

By 17 January 2021 at the latest:

- A complete project portfolio for the attention of the jury which must include the following:
A detailed description of the project.
A timetable for producing the project.
Between 5 and 20 visuals of images to be published in the Nominees' Book (printed A4 versions and high definition files meeting the requirements set out in point 5 above).

Nominees are free to collaborate with editors and/or graphic designers of their choice on showcasing their projects in the Nominees' Book. The individual contributions must cover the whole costs of putting together the project portfolio and the PDF for the book. No additional financial support will be provided by the Musée de l'Elysée.

The rules on language, editing and translation for the application process (see point 5) apply equally to the entire project portfolio and the Nominees' Book. The Musée de l'Elysée reserves the right to modify submitted PDF/Indesign layouts in consultation with the nominees.

Any nominee who fails to submit the necessary material by the aforementioned dates or to comply with the required standards and formats will be automatically eliminated from the Prix Elysée.

In January 2021, two versions of the Nominees' Book will be published: a paper version to be launched at the Musée de l'Elysée, and a digital version on the Prix Elysée website.

Images provided in the final project portfolios may be used by the Musée de l'Elysée and Parmigiani Fleurier to promote the Prix Elysée.

9. Jury

The jury's decisions are final. It has the sole authority to select the winner on the basis of the applications, completed project portfolios and presentations published in the Nominees' Book.

The jury will consist of seven members. Individuals may change on each running of the Prix Elysée but it will always include:

- One representative of the Musée de l'Elysée.
- One representative of Parmigiani Fleurier.
- One representative of the Sandoz Family Foundation.
- Four leading and internationally acclaimed professionals in the world of photography, selected by the Musée de l'Elysée.

The jury will convene in spring 2021 and will judge the nominees on the quality of their photographic work, the relevance of their projects and their ability to carry them out. Once the jury has selected a winner of the Prix Elysée, its decision cannot be changed.

The winner will be contacted in person by the Musée de l'Elysée in May 2021. He or she commits to attend the announcement event in June 2021, the date of which will then also be confirmed, and not to reveal his or her victory before that date.

An award ceremony will be organised during the above mentioned event, and during which the identity of the winner of the Prix Elysée will be announced. It will then be published on the prize website the following day.

10. Production of the Winning Project and Book Publication

After May 2021, a Musée de l'Elysée curator will assist the winner in producing his or her project and publishing the accompanying book. This curator will be available to advise the winner on form and content so that the winning project can be carried out within the deadline (the end of June 2022) and available budget.

The winner agrees to respect the technical specifications laid down by the Musée de l'Elysée and to grant exclusive rights to the project and related book to the museum from June 2021 to June 2022.

The winner's project will be presented in June 2022 in the form of a projection. The book of the project will be edited by the Musée de l'Elysée and published on the same occasion.

11. Rights and Responsibilities

- All texts and images submitted as part of the Prix Elysée must be free of third party rights following the submission of applications.
- The Musée de l'Elysée and Parmigiani Fleurier will have the necessary rights for publicity and promoting the Prix Elysée by the Musée and Parmigiani Fleurier, for publication in the press and projection in the course of all aforementioned events.
- These obligations remain in force for the nominees until the winner is announced. The winner's image rights will be detailed in a separate contract with the museum.
- By entering the competition, photographers accept all aforementioned terms and conditions.

12. Miscellaneous

The Musée de l'Elysée reserves the right to alter the rules set out here at any time, after having duly informed any candidates who have submitted an application that complies with the criteria laid out before any such modification.

These rules are governed by Swiss Law and the competent courts in Lausanne, Switzerland, have exclusive jurisdiction.

13. Timetable

- 1st January to 9th March 2020: applications open.
- Late June 2020: presentation of the nominees.
- 13th September 2020: deadline for nominees to submit material for the Nominees' Book.
- 17th January 2021: deadline for the nominees to submit final portfolios for consideration of the Jury.
- June 2021: Prix Elysée award ceremony.
- June 2022: deadline for the winner to complete his or her work and for the publication of the book, to be launched during a dedicated event.