



GLOBAL PHOTOGRAPHIC UNION
5TH PHOTO FESTIVAL
ROMANIA 2019



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During the eight days of July 2019, 123 photographers and friends from 23 countries enjoyed the treasures of Romanian landscape and culture, hospitality, and warmth of Romanian people. Not only was this photographer's journey, but as well as expanding horizons in many ways.

This photo album is to keep in our memory the beautiful moments we all shared in this photo festival. The participants, like a big and loving family, in the charming country of Romania, experienced beautiful moments, captured wonderful pictures, made new friendships, and reinforced existing ones, made this festival to be one of the most successful we have ever organized.

I want to express my appreciation to all of you who participated in this photo festival, all of you arrived from every continent, photographers, escorts, friends, and especially all of you who sent your photos for the creation of this album.

Also, I wish to thank the GPU Governing Board members for their moral support.

Moreover, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the people without whom the organization of this festival would not have been possible :

Eleftheria Konsolaki - support officer of GPU, Flavian Savescu - GPU representative in Romania with his wife Chivu Georgeta Mihaela, Mircea Albu, Marian Iancau, Dorin Fratila, Felician Sateanu, Virgilio Bardossi, Gheorghe Marchis, Bikfalvi Zsolt, Ovi D Pop, Adela Rusu, the Mayor of Sighetu Marmatiei Mr. Horia Scubli with his wife, Mrs. Mariana Scubli and Museum of Art of Cluj-Napoca.

And last but not least, I want to thank Marija Milovanović Maksimović for her great work in the creation of this book .

Metzakis Manolis
GPU ZEUS, GPU CR5, EFIAP/p, ESFIAP, QPSA
GPU President

During eight days of July 2019, 127 photographers and friends from 23 countries enjoyed the treasures of Romanian landscape and culture, hospitality and warmth of Romanian people. Not only this was photographer's journey, but as well expanding horizons in many ways.

Places visited:

Cluj-Napoca
Sighisoara
Salina Turda
Marin village
Baia Mare
Visuel de Sus - Mocanita train
Barsana
Sapanta- merry cemetery
Breb village

Organizing team: Manolis Metzakis, Eleftheria Konsolaki and Flavian Savescu.

“There are people everywhere who form a Fourth World, or a diaspora of their own. They are the lordly ones! They come in all colors. They can be Christians or Hindus or Muslims or Jews or pagans or atheists. They can be young or old, men or women, soldiers or pacifists, rich or poor. They may be patriots, but they are never chauvinists. They share with each other, across all the nations, common values of humor and understanding. When you are among them you know you will not be mocked or resented, because they will not care about your race, your faith, your sex or your nationality, and they suffer fools if not gladly, at least sympathetically. They laugh easily. They are easily grateful. They are never mean. They are not inhibited by fashion, public opinion, or political correctness. They are exiles in their own communities, because they are always in a minority, but they form a mighty nation, if they only knew it. It is the nation of nowhere.”

Jan Moris

Courtesy of Mata Anastasiou







“The trip to Romania was the most beautiful photography trips that I participated in, it was a wonderful organization by GPU in terms of the choice of the country , hotels and places of photography was wonderful, especially the villages of the Gypsies, steam train and churches. In addition to the trip I met many photographers from different countries. I was very happy to be with . A unique journey, despite the different nationalities and languages, but the language of art and photography make us one family.”



Alfarsani Najat

Bahrein





Alkhader Alya

Bahrein





Alshafoori Sumaiya

United Arab Emirates





Al Shamsi Saeed

United Arab Emirates





AlZaabi Muna

United Arab Emirates





Amonachaki Giasemi

Greece





Anastasiou Mata

Greece





“I have enjoyed very much the meeting of the photographic union that took place in Romania. I adored the overall spirit of sophistication and innovation, which promoted tolerance, collaboration, and shared the cultures of each participant. You have gained my respect and my admiration.”



Avgoustinaki Pavlina

Greece





Bakir Ayman

Jordan





Basias Nikos

Greece





Calosi Claudio

Italy





Chalkiadakis Kostas

Greece





“I always wanted to visit Romania but did not expect to visit it so soon. The region that we visited with GPU had a lot historical sites from churches to buildings and villages. The people there are very hospitable and were very friendly and treated us with love. The land is rich with colours from beautiful green valleys, flowers and traditional dress
Thank you so much GPU for the opportunity to take me there.”



Coumbias John

South Africa





Cui Xiu

China





“First off, I must say it was one of the best holidays I have ever had. Certainly, the best photographic holiday.

I first joined GPU, as I imagine a lot of people do, to get some distinctions after my name. I was entering international competitions and regularly had photos accepted into Salons, so it was a no brainer really. Then as soon as I saw the notice of the Romanian Photo Fest, I put my name down; I might have been the first!

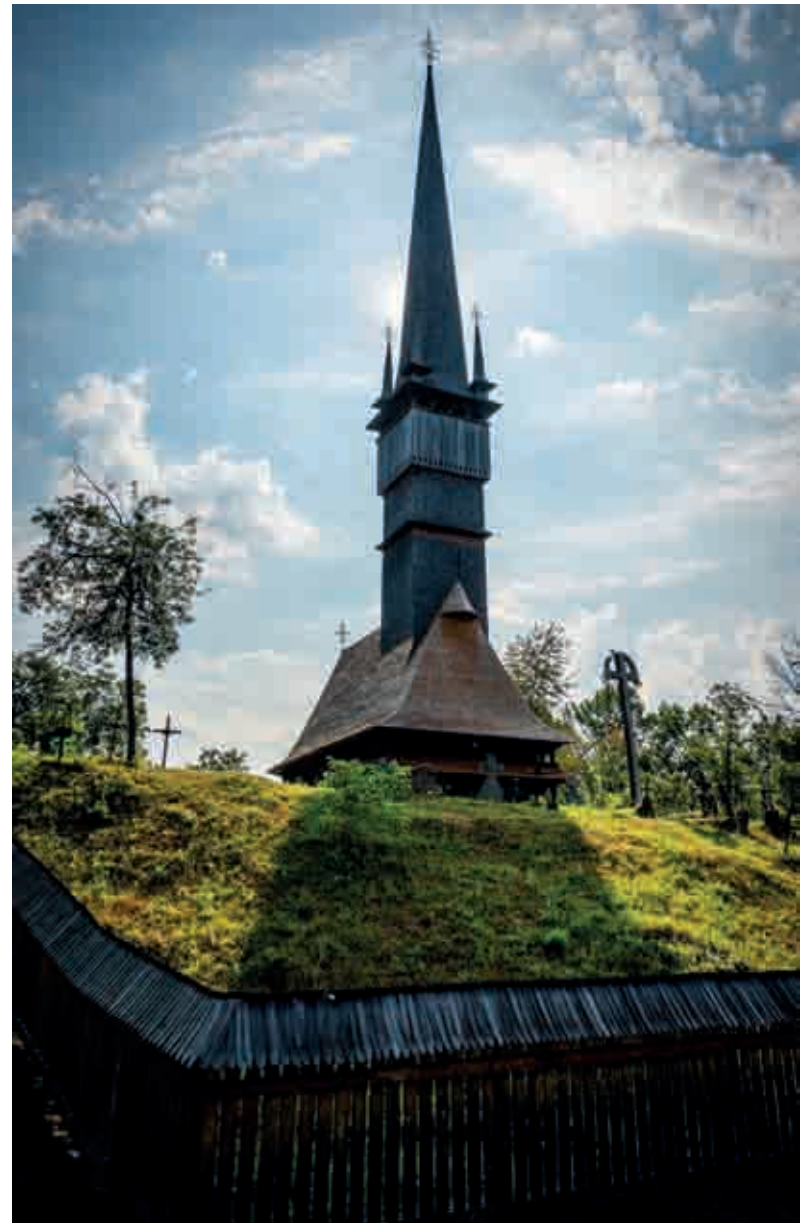
The organisation was brilliant, from being picked up at the airport in heavy rain, right the way through to organising my taxi back to the airport, even though I stayed an extra day and was about the last to leave.

There are lots of good memories from my time in Romania and I have made a lot of friends that I hope to meet again on future Photo Fests. When can I put my name down?

One of the highlights for me was being accepted as the official UK Representative for the GPU; what an honour. This was totally unexpected and a real surprise.

I am still in the process of developing all my photographs from the trip. Together with this note you will see some of my memorable photos and some with GPU participants and local guides.

What a great time I had!”



Davies Tony

UK





“A GPU Photo Festival is always an event I look forward to. Meet old friends, make new ones from all continents. At this occasion we discover new towns, new custom. In fact we share a common passion. Again It was a peak experience thanks to the excellent organisation. “



Decort Daniel

Belgium





Evans Stephen

USA





“The GPU Festival in Romania helped me meet so many wonderful people from all over the world. I like that I have connected with so GPU members on Facebook and get to see their Photographic achievements. I look forward to continued friendships and to the GPU Festival in 2021. “



Filiaggi Nadia

Australia





“One high point in this trip for me was my opportunity to share the experience with photographers from the Middle East. In my daily activities I haven’t had the opportunities to have such a rich interchange.”



Frost Mary Lou

USA

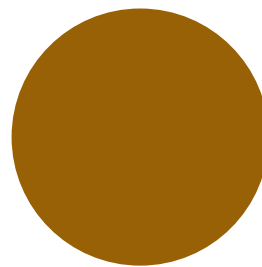




Gaberthuel Walter

Italy

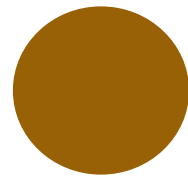




Gao Shimei

China





Gkouziotis Christos

Greece

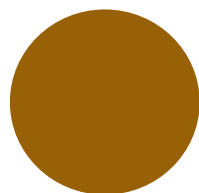




Guo Jing

China





Jiang Tao

China





Kantouna Erato

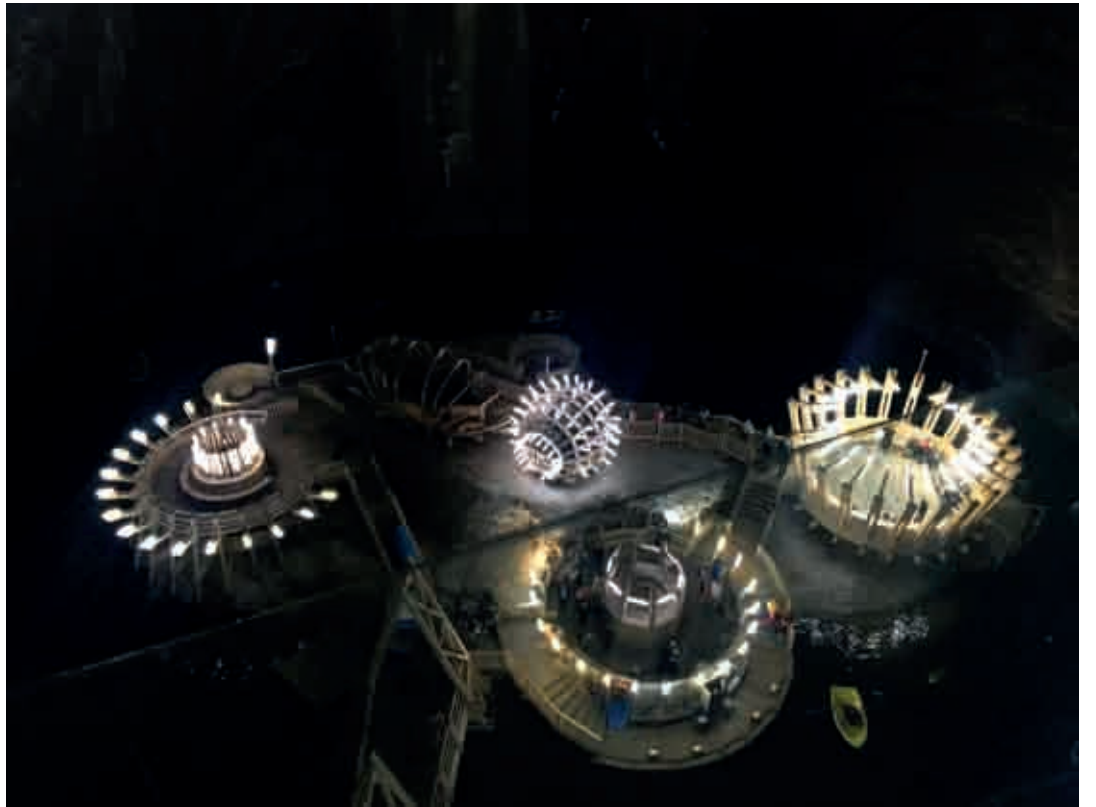
Cyprus





Kapadia Abbas

USA





Kismet Ayca

Turkey





Kismet Feridun

Turkey





Kodela Elizabeth

Australia





Konsolaki Eleftheria

Greece





Lahey Freddy

Belgium





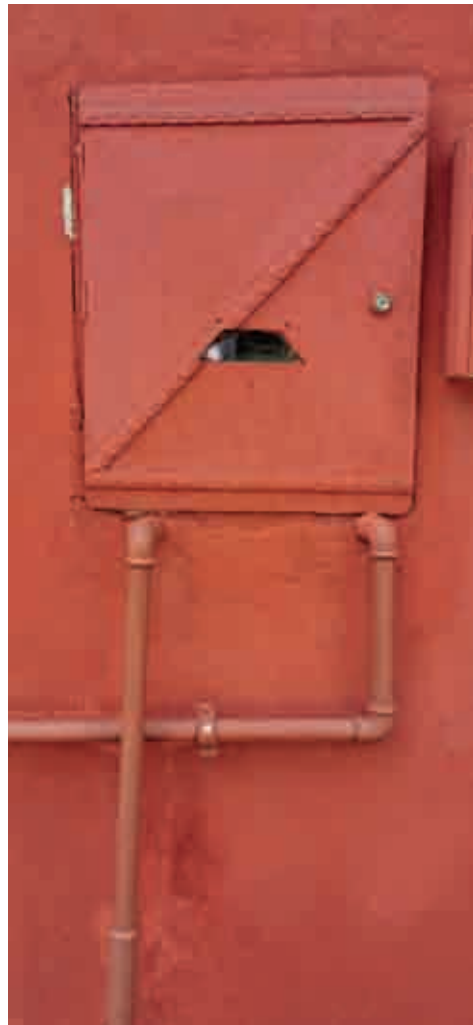
“Romania - amazing landscapes, interesting culture, lovely people but mainly new photo friends for all over the world. A memory that I will keep in my heart looking for our next festival. “



Laina Aggeliki

Greece





“Fotofestival Romania 2019 ...first full visit set the tone for the whole time we were together. The well preserved ancient city had much to offer. You could listen to the detailed history for the excellent guide, follow the well worn tourist trails or, I did, stride off on your own adventure. The weather was perfect. We were given sufficient time to see and savour most things. I heard many say they were well satisfied.”



Law John

Turkey





“It was a wonderful experience to be part of such a large international gathering of photographers, and the memories of this amazing photo trip will remain with me forever.

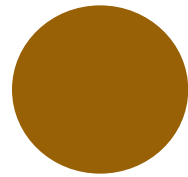
Sincere thanks to Manolis Metzakis and the enthusiastic members of the organizing Committee who dedicated so much of their time to make it a great success. I would be interested in taking part in any future GPU Photo Festivals.”



Lazar Lyndall

Australia





Lazar Roby

Australia





“There are so many things of the GPU Photo Festival Romania that I shall always remember and keep in my heart. First of all: the joy of renewing old friendships and making new ones! The astonishing work done by team Flavius and team Manolis!

Making your future bright is showing respect for culture, tradition and folklore and that is just what we saw in so many villages such as Marin!

And I also enjoyed the steam train Mocanita and I was amazed, and shall never forget the Salina Turda.

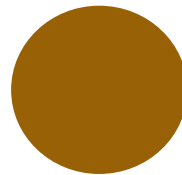
Rest me to say thank you for everything, from the bottom of my heart!”



Lindebrings Kristien

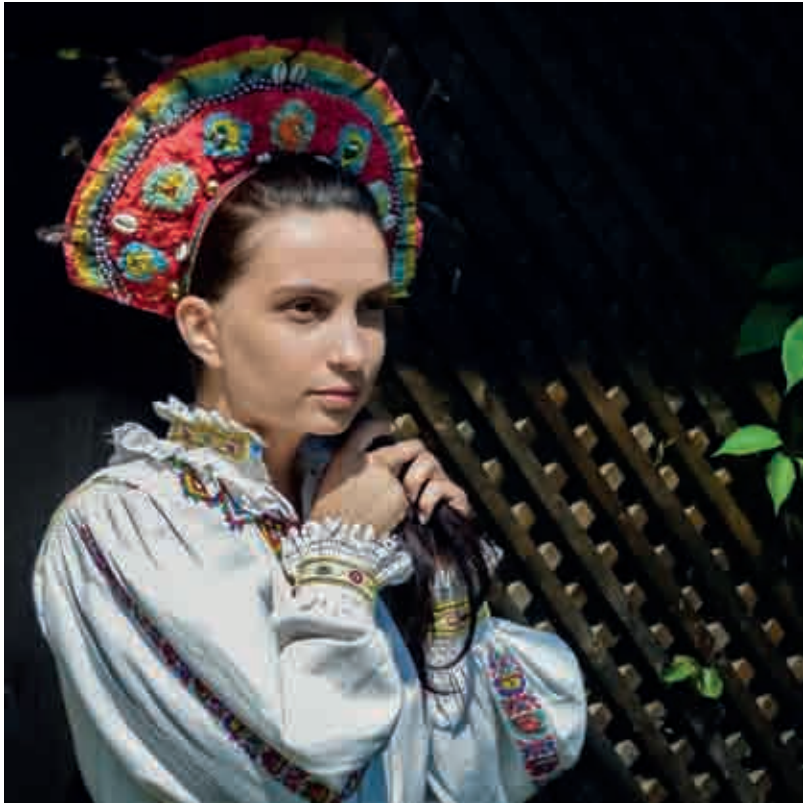
Belgium





Lu Cuimei

China





Lu Qingquan

China





“It was indeed an unforgettable trip and we are looking forward to the upcoming trips. My trip to Romania marks my first step to photography. Beautiful country and lovely people. Also, it was a great experience to meet all the talented photographers from different parts of the world. Thank you, GPU for giving us this opportunity and bringing all the great photographers together.”



Maarouf Farah

Jordan





Metzakis Manolis

Greece





Milan Elise

France





Milan Jean-Jacques

France

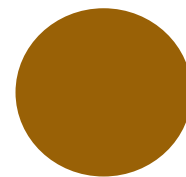




Milovanović Maksimović Marija

Serbia





Ni Feinlang

China





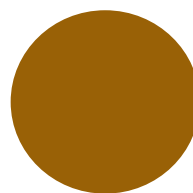
"I really enjoyed the time in Romania, loved the country the People and their culture; they are such happy helpful people caring for each other. Would like to go back one day. Enjoyed the cuisine along with the relaxed hassle free country side."



North John

Australia





Qian Xinyu

China

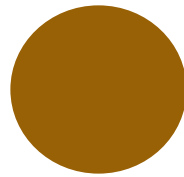




Qin Dong

China





Quan Lianjun

China





Samoyault Guy

France





Savescu Flavian

Romania

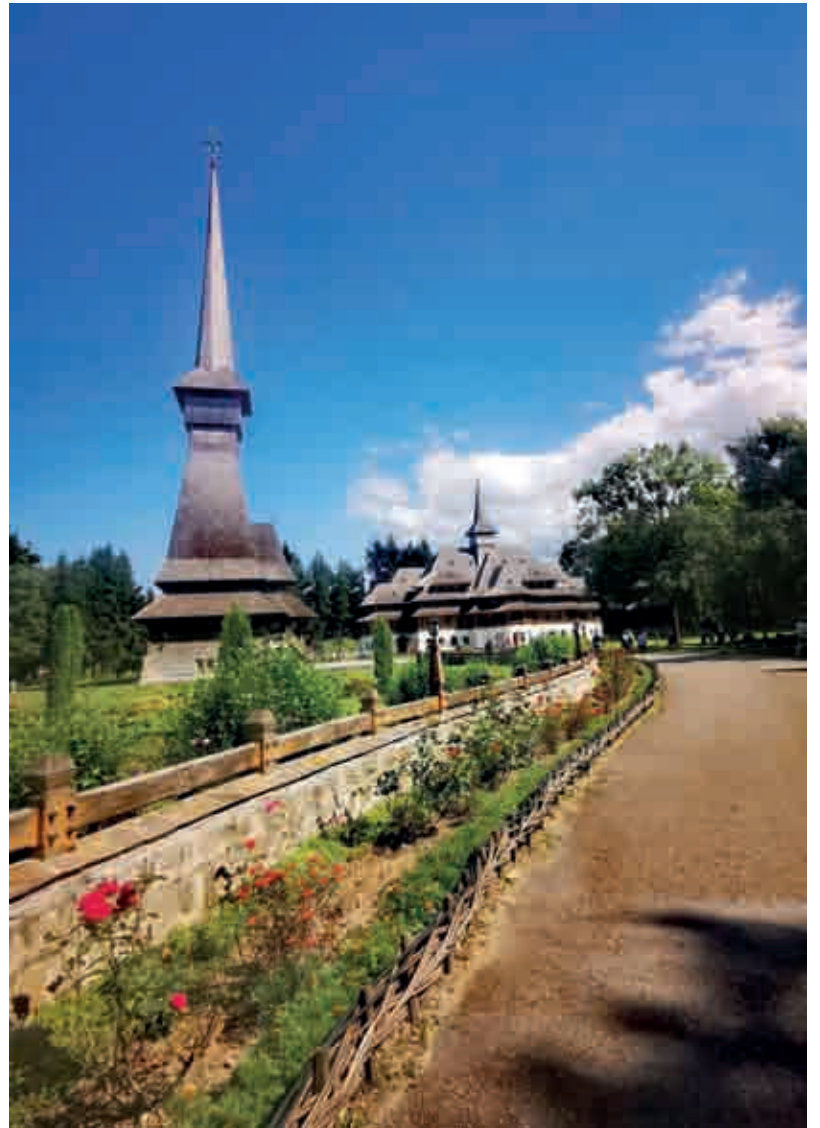




Schmidt Barbara

Germany

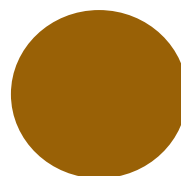




Senanayake Vickum

Sri Lanka





Shui Qinghua

China

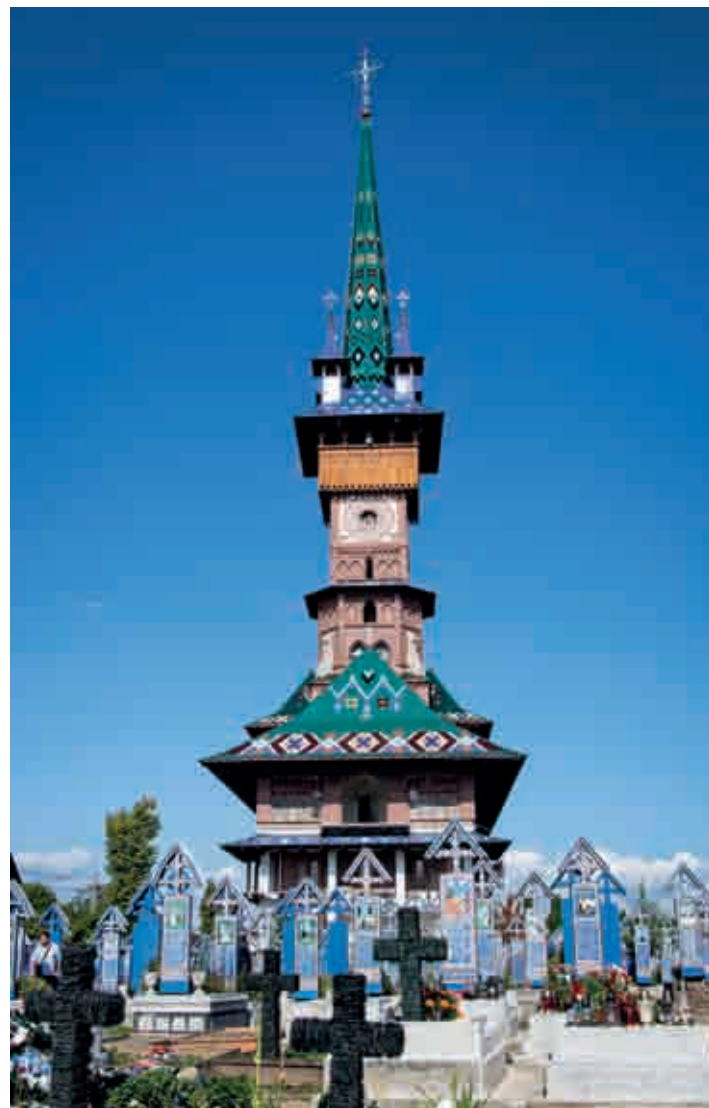




Stolte Joanne

USA





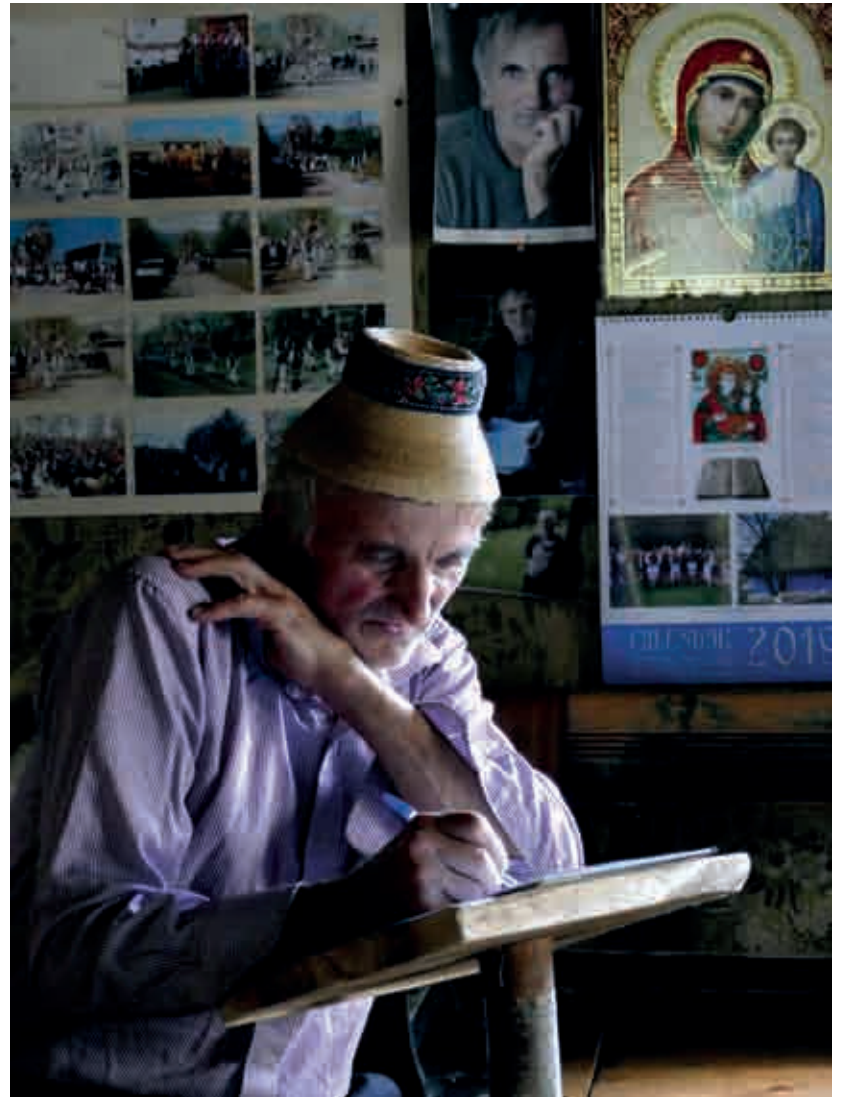
“This was my second trip with GPU. I loved seeing all the people I met from my first trip in the Greek Islands and 2 years later in Romania. How wonderful to share the Romanian culture with over 100 fellow photographers from 23 countries. I appreciate the tremendous efforts to plan and organize this trip by the GPU President, Metzakis Manolis, the officers, and committees. A new highlight for me was our Photo Salon Exhibition. I look forward to future experiences sharing different cultures with my photography friends from all over the world. “



St. Pierre Cherie

USA





Tofaridou Maria

Cyprus





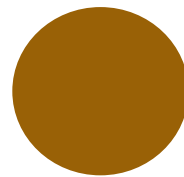
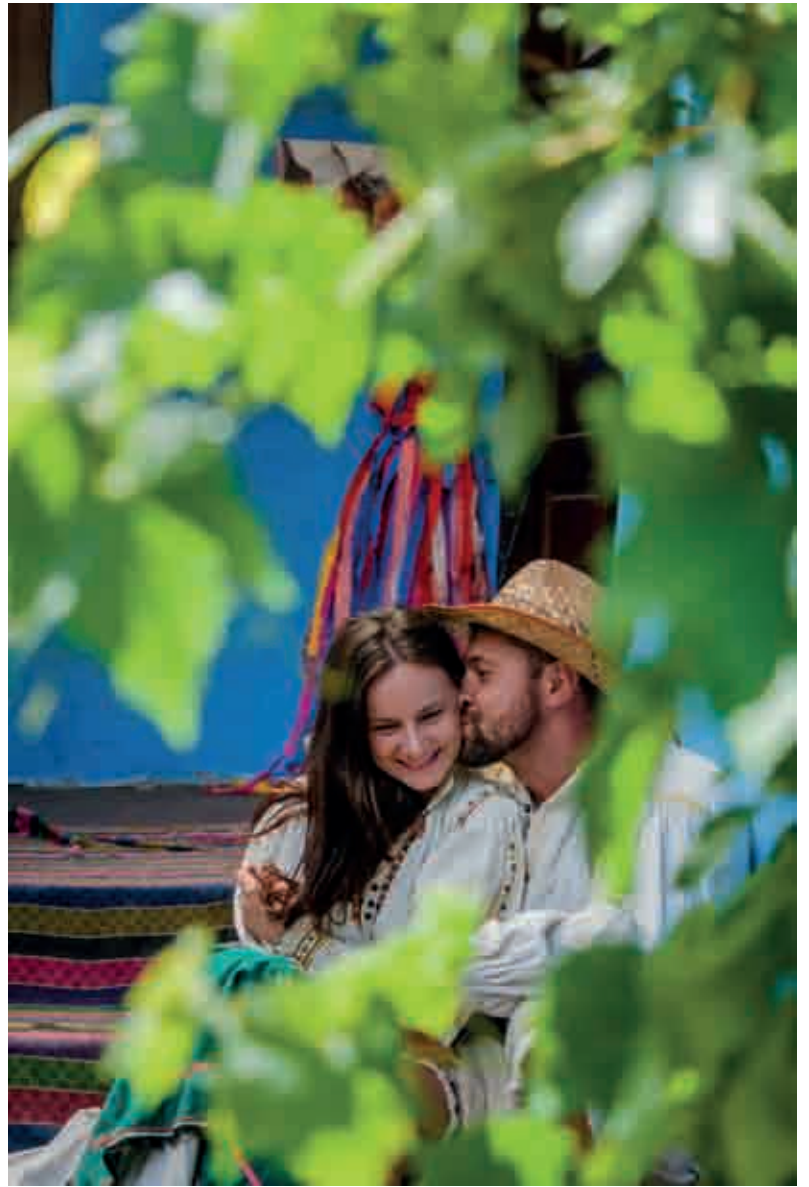
“Without doubt, this festival was one of the most well-organised festivals that GPU has held so far. Everything was perfect, from the accommodation and the variety of meals to the everyday schedule and organisation of our trips. Moreover, I had the chance to meet new people, share ideas, make some new friends and have fun while doing my hobby. After all, this is what the GPU festivals are all about, isn't it? I had a great time and I can't wait for the next GPU festival to come!!!! Hopefully we will all meet again!!”



Vogiatzaki Maria

Greece

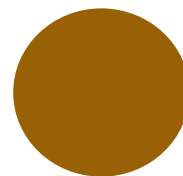




Wang Guangxiang

China





Wang Yonghe

China





Wat James

USA

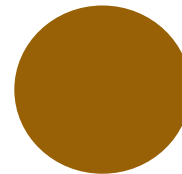
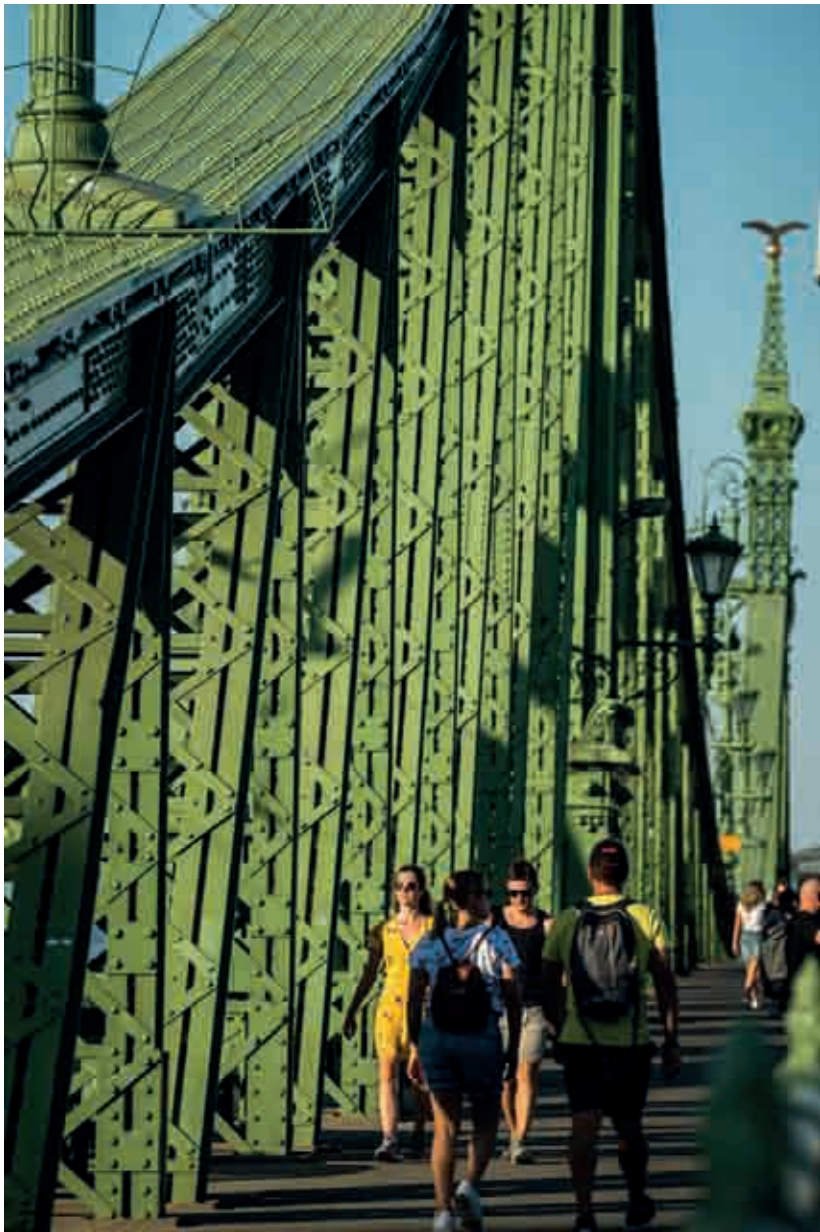




Wu Shengjie

China

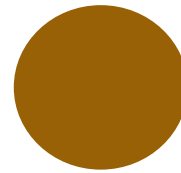




Wu Yingchen

China

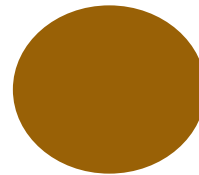




Wu Yingyun

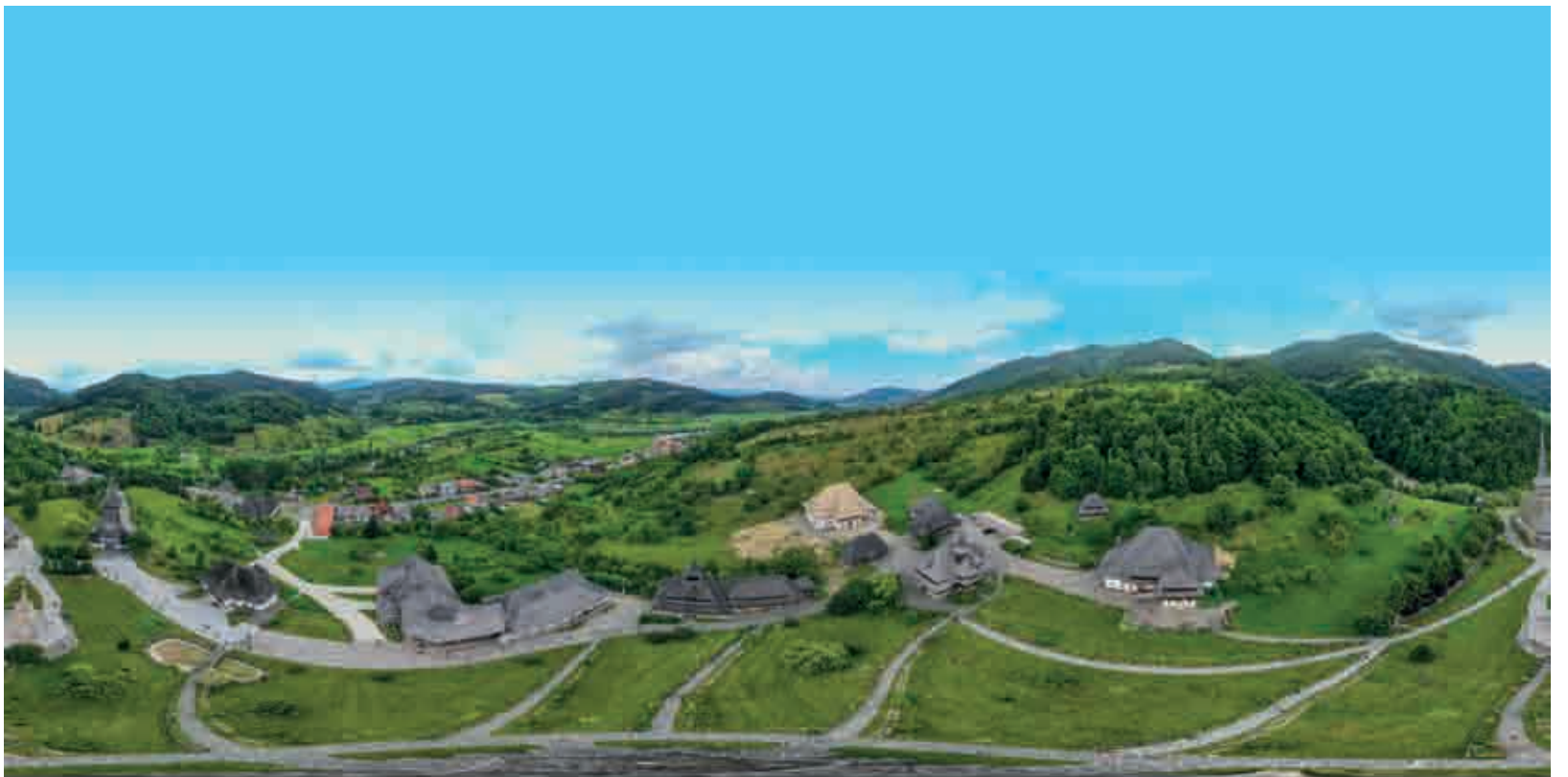
China





Xie Changshun

China

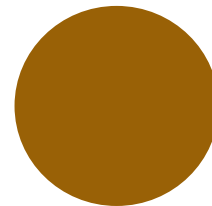




Xu Jian

China





Yang Mingqian

China





I am a GPU member, participating in such a grand photo festival, I felt, photography makes me healthier, richer, happier and more energetic. Thanks to GPU, thanks for GPU organizer and leader.



Yang Xuebiao

China



"Love! Only one word but last forever
Along the village path to Barsana in
Romania, which located the house of
Batulu and Illawa, the couple warmly
invited us into their family....."





**"Friendship without borders
The world is so big, how magic we could meet each
other and retain the most beautiful moments, I will
remember the warm and hospitable aunt..."**



Yu Mei

China





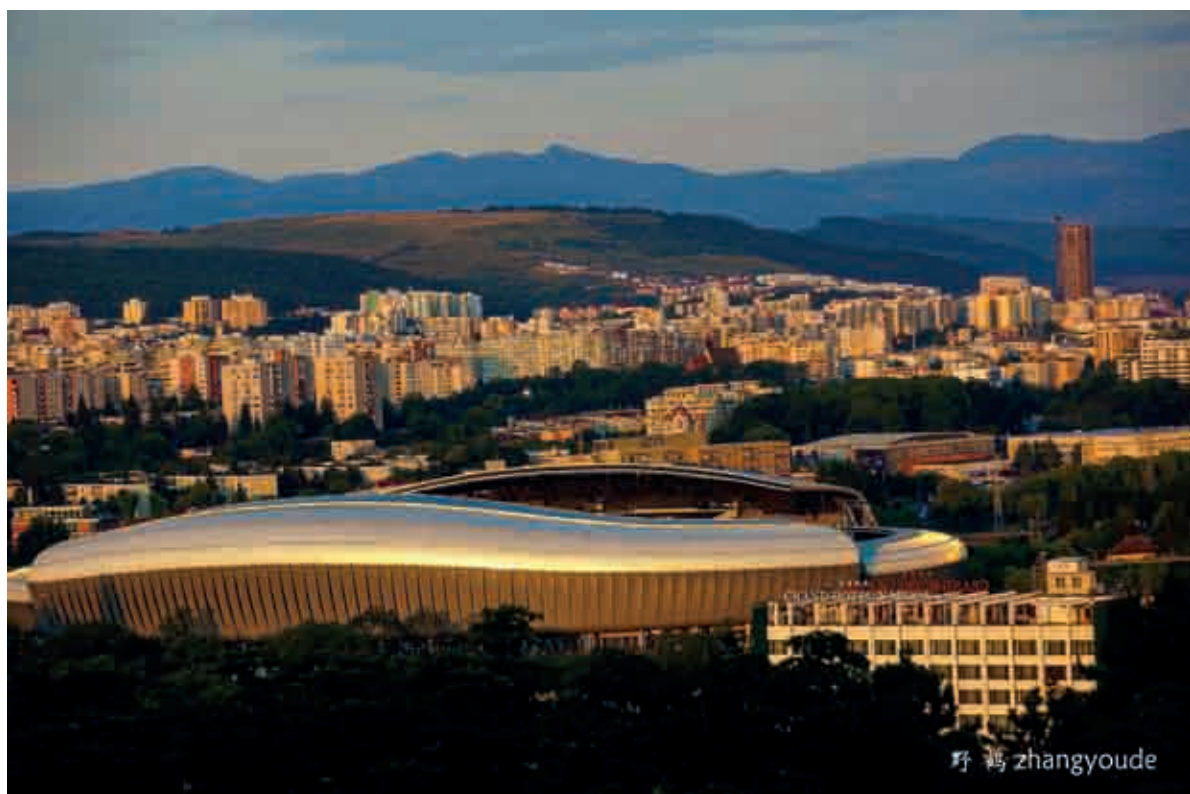
An Unforgettable Experience

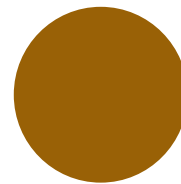
"I had the opportunity to participate in GPU Photo Festival held in Romania this summer, during the festival, organizer had various photo tours, specially industrial photography "train travelling", I felt very excited. Romania was able to make use of the steam locomotive eliminated in the old industrial era for tourism activities, which was warmly welcomed and experienced by the local people and foreign friends. Besides, the warm hospitality and smiling service of the station attendants and steam locomotive drivers left us a very good impression. I sent a profile of Memories about train station to remember this unforgettable experience."



Yuan Yongjie

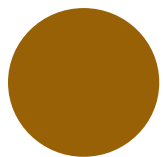
China





Zhang Youde

China



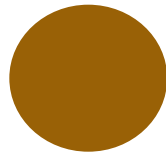
Wang Xioafa

China



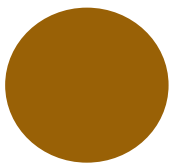
Zhang Boang

China



Chen Jun

China



Sun Mingru

China





Wang Jianguo

China



Ye Liu

China



BEHIND THE SCENES



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© Kismet Ayca



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© Wang Xiaofa



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© Quan Lianjun



© Wu Shengjie



© Lu Cumei



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THE POWER OF FRIENDSHIPS AND SELFIES





© Yang Xuebiao



GENERAL MEETING

GPU EXHIBITION ART MUSEUM, CLUJ NAPOCA



© Shui Qinghua



© MMM



© St. Pierre Cherie



© Wang Guangxiang

GALA DINNER



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GAO SHAOFENG
GEDDES WENDY
GIAMBERINI MARIA
HASSAN AHMED MOHAMED
HO BUU
HUANG GUIXIANG
HUANG DAN
KATZILIERI AGGELIKI
KHUDUR KHALID
KOUTSAKIS MANOLIS
LAU CHUI KING
LEA RAMPELBERG
LEONG TERESA
LUCE SAMOYULT
MAKSIMOVIC IVAN
MALEK NASSER
MAO XIAOCHU
NORTH DENISE
SHENG YAOJIAN
TAN WENLI
TRAN BAI KIM
TRAN MINH NGUYET
WANG HONGBO
WANGJUE
WAT MIRANDA
WONG YU LUT JULIUS
WU JIANYU
WU YUEHUA
XU GUOFEN
XU XIAOWEN

ZAGIANIKIS COSTAS
ZHANG XIAOQING
ZHILI GU

