

Volume 02 | Issue 01 | April 2025

FOCUS

Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous) | Department of Media Studies | Photography Magazine

Best photographs of FOCUS 2024 | Unveiling the Stories of Featured Photographers



EDITORIAL

FOCUS, a photography magazine where every frame is a window into untold stories, raw emotions, and the vibrant pulse of life. FOCUS is a curation of best photographs of young photographers of visual communication programme who exhibited their photographs on the world Photography Day August 19. Through the lens of passionate photographers, we travel through the busy streets, capturing the essence of fleeting moments, the rhythm of cultures, and the human spirit etched in every portrait. In this issue, we venture into the heart of street photography, where storytelling meets spontaneity, and we navigate through the textured streetscapes, revealing the hidden narratives of everyday dreamers, local artisans, and the striking contrast of light and shadow that characterises urban life. From candid snapshots to soulful portraits, this issue celebrates the unfiltered beauty of the world through a variety of artistic viewpoints.

Every visual storyteller has the difficulty of staying true to their artistic vision while stretching the bounds. In an image-rich world, how do photographers carve out a niche for themselves? How do they maintain authenticity while violating conventions? FOCUS spark discussions about these subjects, allowing the readers to consider the changing environment of visual storytelling. What makes a picture stand out? Is it the unadulterated feelings, the surprising events, or the way light and colour interact? Which moment, if any, would you choose to immortalise? We urge you to accept the feelings and narratives that each frame conveys as you lose yourself in this collection of striking images. Let these pictures be more than simply moments documented; let them be windows into various aspects of life, beckoning you to look, wonder, and enjoy the world from a new angle.

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Portraiture

“Every portrait is a story
paused in time.”



Portraiture is more than capturing a face it's about preserving emotion, heritage, and human stories in a single frame. In this collection, we explore identity through varied lenses from classical beauty and ritual to performance and gesture. Each subject stands as a reflection of their world, inviting the viewer into a moment of vulnerability or celebration.

It's a conversation between the subject and the viewer. This collection captures a spectrum of identity, emotion, and culture. From poised elegance to spiritual devotion and expressive art, each portrait reveals the soul behind the surface.



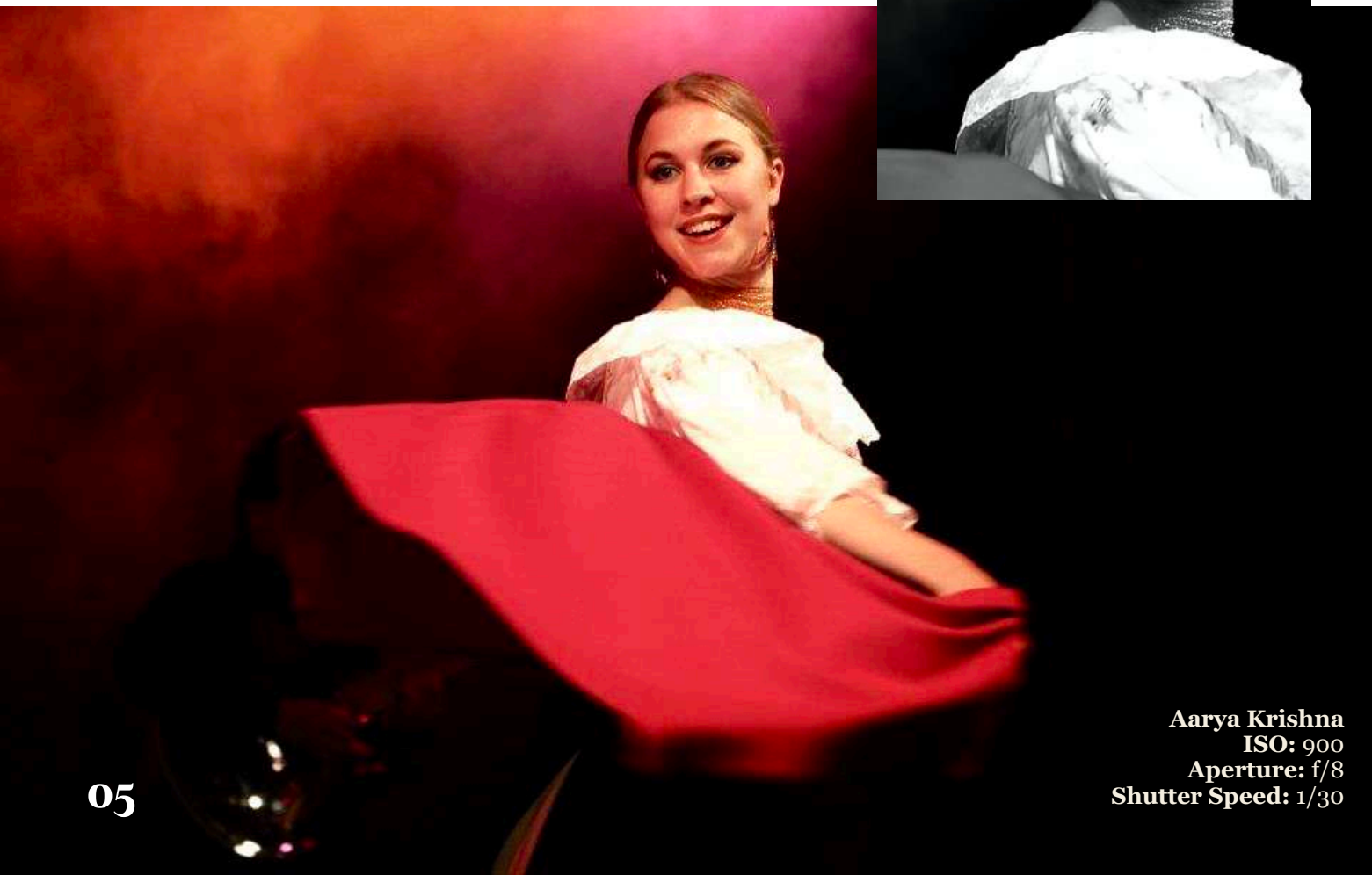
Richa Joanita Das
ISO: 800
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/125

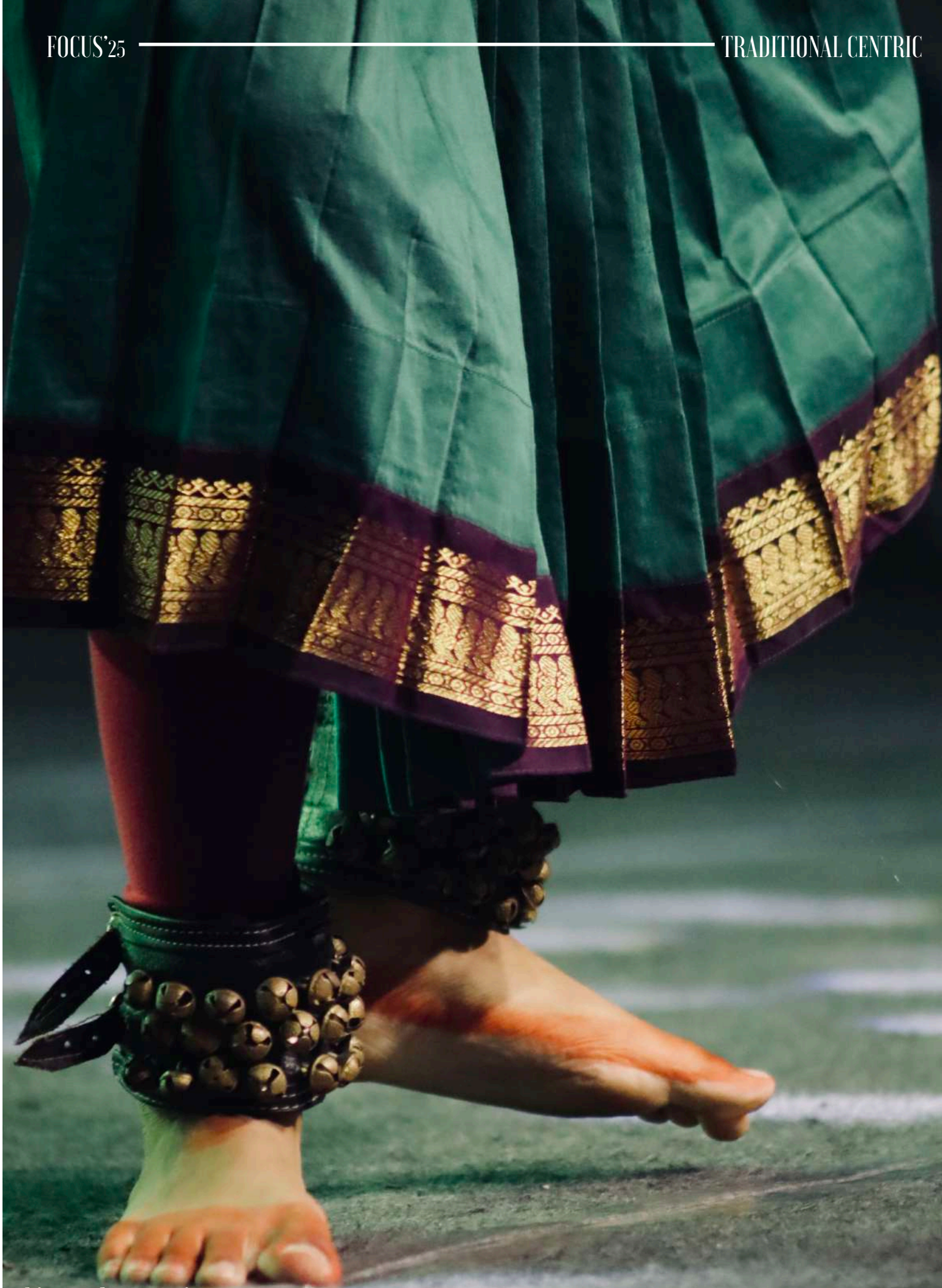
Traditional Centric

When tradition and history unite, they forge a lasting legacy—one that lives on through generations.

1. Flamenco dancer - Her fierce precision, the dress swirling around like a fire. Every stance is strong with passion

2. Bharatanatyam dancer's feet - adorned with traditional ghungroos that tinkle with each movement and the dancer's bare feet crowned with alta, press into the stage as the rich silk of the costume sways to the beat, expressing grace and tradition in action.





Shivanandana K Nair
ISO: 10000
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/1250

“Let your heart lead and
your feet will follow.
The heritage that is
spoken without words”.



Richa Joanita Das
ISO: 800
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/125



Richa Joanita Das
ISO: 600
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/600



Richa Joanita Das
ISO: 800
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/250

Lost in the dance

“

The High spirits- Each leap, each turn, each stomp brings out spirits of divinity and mesmerizing stories. The performers, lost in the dance, radiate passion and pride, their expressions alive with the spirit of celebration.

”

Abin K Babu
ISO: 3200
Aperture: f/4.5
Shutter Speed: 1/500



“In every stare,
centuries of
untold stories
awaken.”

Niranjan Das
ISO: 6400
Aperture: f/6.3
Shutter Speed: 1/400

3. Eyes are powerful storytellers. Through the lens, the eyes of a Kathakali dancer become the focal point of emotion and narrative. Each glance holds centuries of tradition, conveying fierce passion, divine grace, or quiet sorrow—all without a spoken word. The dancer's gaze, accentuated by elaborate makeup and costume, draws the viewer into a vivid visual drama, reminding us how expression alone can speak volumes.





Archi Girish Kumar
ISO: 2000
Aperture: f/2.8
Shutter Speed: 1/125

4. It's wonderful to witness the making of such performance as we can see the efforts each one of them take but never can truly understand it. The smell of incense, the heat of the fire and fresh paint blend together showcase an amazing dance-drama. It's fascinating to witness the behind-the-scenes moments of these performers.

Each intricate layer of costume, every gesture perfected in silence, they speak of tireless dedication. In these quiet moments before performance, art and spirit blend — giving life to an unforgettable dance drama.

“More than
performance
it's a sacred
conversation
through eyes.”

The yellow light creating an aura

5. Dance forms and silhouettes evoke inner feeling with movements of dance and shadow. The contrast of darkness with light enhances the body gestures creates a mesmerising visual on stage. Capturing this beauty in cameras

wipes away the distractions and make people solely melt into the vibrant beauty captured.

6. The yellow light creating an aura behind the performers creates a goddess feel enriching the beauty of the form.





cha Joanita Das
ISO: 1600
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/800

Ronak M Nambiar
ISO: 250
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/8000

Street Photography

“The marvels of daily life are exciting; no movie director can arrange the unexpected that you find in the street.”

Robert Doisneau

At its essence, street photography revolves around storytelling—capturing life as it happens. It discovers beauty in the mundane, from men absorbed in their newspapers at a tea stall to the shimmer of city lights mirrored on rain-drenched streets. The enchantment lies in the transient moments—a solitary motorcycle

transporting a heavy load through the night or the serene concentration of a reader immersed in the day’s news.

What makes street photography genuinely remarkable is its unpredictability—each shot encapsulating a fragment of daily life, preserved in time by the attentive eye of the photographer.

Advaith Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran
ISO: 100
Aperture: f/3.5
Shutter Speed: 1/125





Advaith Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran
ISO: 100
Aperture: f/3.5
Shutter Speed: 1/500



Advaith Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran
ISO: 100
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/320



Advaith Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran
ISO: 2000
Aperture: f/5
Shutter Speed: 1/250

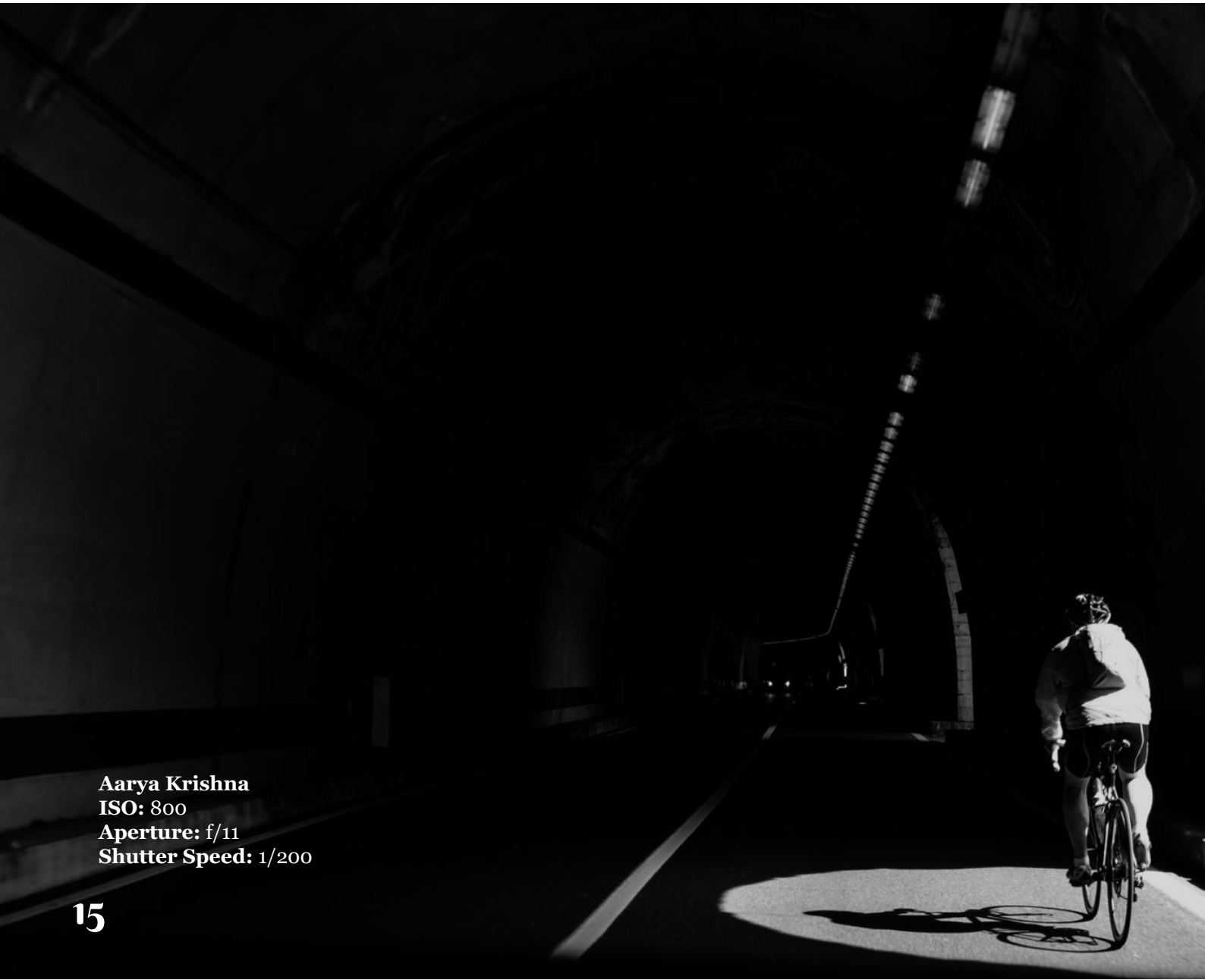
Monochromatic

“Shadows of the Everyday”

Monochrome photography peels away the distraction of color, revealing the essence of form, light, and texture. In the absence of hue, emotion is amplified. A

cyclist disappearing into a tunnel, a street buzzing with motion—these moments are captured in stark contrast, celebrating the subtle poetry of everyday life.

Aarya Krishna
ISO: 800
Aperture: f/11
Shutter Speed: 1/200





Advaith Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran

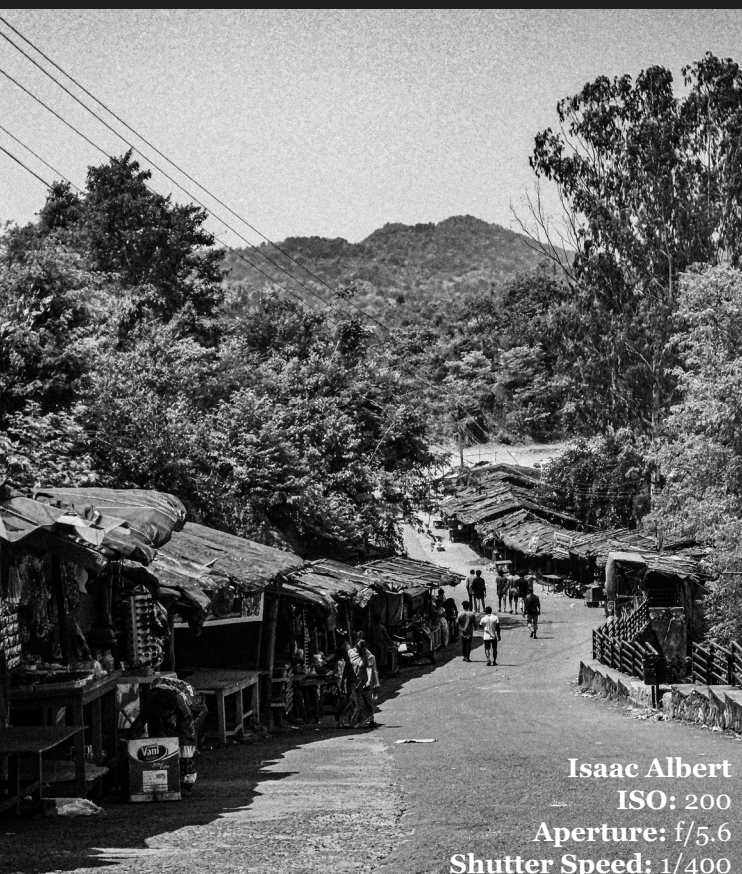
ISO: 100

Aperture: f/5.6

Shutter Speed: 1/250

MONOCHROMATIC

“In a world full of color, black and white speaks the loudest.”



Isaac Albert

ISO: 200

Aperture: f/5.6

Shutter Speed: 1/400



Advaith Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran

ISO: 200

Aperture: f/5.6

Shutter Speed: 1/250

CHROMATIC



Shivanandana K Nair
ISO: 320
Aperture: f/1.8
Shutter Speed: 1/125



Shivanandana K Nair
ISO: 320
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/125

Every line on a face, every crack on a wall, black and white brings them to life with raw honesty. These portraits hold generations of emotion, untold stories and dignified resilience. In architecture and in humans alike, monochrome finds the soul behind the surface.



Advait Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran

ISO: 100

Aperture: f/5.6

Shutter Speed: 1/250

“Human Harmony in Monochrome”

In black and white, emotion becomes unfiltered, pure and powerful. The rhythm of the drums, the strum of a guitar, the laughter of a stranger, or the quiet pride of a street vendor, each frame holds a story without the need for words or color.



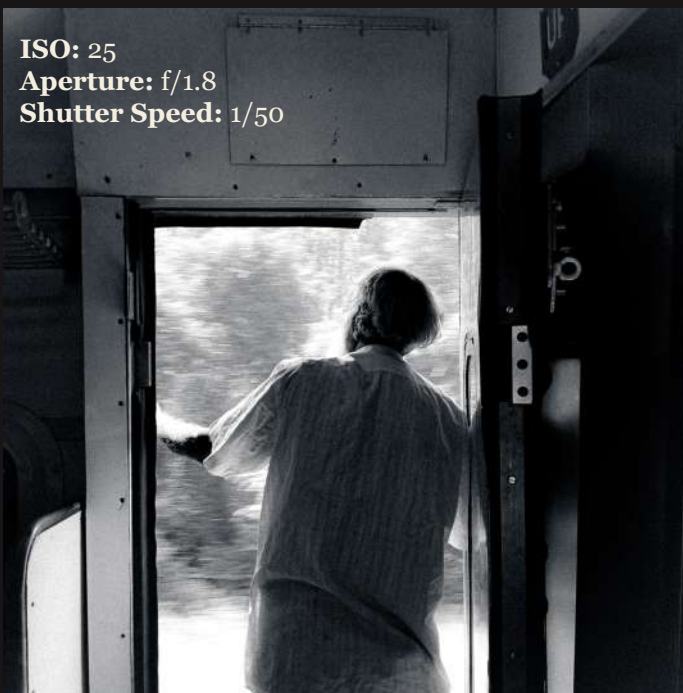
Tharun Gregor

ISO: 3000

Aperture: f/8

Shutter Speed: 1/300







ISO: 400
Aperture: f/4.8
Shutter Speed: 1/640



ISO: 100
Aperture: f/1.8
Shutter Speed: 1/160

Abhiram



Abhiram Krishnaprasad
22VICM04
VI semester BA Visual Communication

Abhiram's photography weaves storytelling, emotion, and composition into compelling visual narratives. His work spans street, portrait, and nature photography, marked by a sharp eye for detail, balanced framing, and masterful use of light and shadow.

He skillfully plays with color and monochrome, using blur, bokeh, and depth to add layers of meaning. Whether it's a spider's web, a smoky concert silhouette, or nuns framed through soft foregrounds, each image reflects themes of solitude, movement, and human connection.

Blending observation with experimentation, Abiram captures fleeting moments with artistic precision, inviting viewers into scenes both intimate and expansive.



Mathew Jomy
ISO: 1600
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/100

Wild Lens



Mathew Jomy
ISO: 400
Aperture: f/5
Shutter Speed: 1/60

“Camouflage and Composition”



Mathew Jomy
ISO: 400
Aperture: f/5
Shutter Speed: 1/60

The world of wildlife photography offers a unique window into the often-unseen lives of creatures great and small. The photographs captured by Mathew Jomy skillfully showcase these hidden moments in nature, where instinct, beauty, and survival intertwine.

Wildlife photography is as much about timing as it is about technique. Photographers often spend hours—even days—in remote locations, waiting silently for the perfect moment. The rustle of leaves, the glint of scales—these subtle signs can signal an opportunity that lasts only a fraction of a second.

Understanding animal behavior is crucial. Reptiles like snakes are masters of stillness and stealth, blending into their environment so completely that spotting them becomes a trained skill.



Mathew Jomy
ISO: 16000
Aperture: f/9
Shutter Speed: 1/160



Mathew Jomy
ISO: 1000
Aperture: f/4.5
Shutter Speed: 1/125



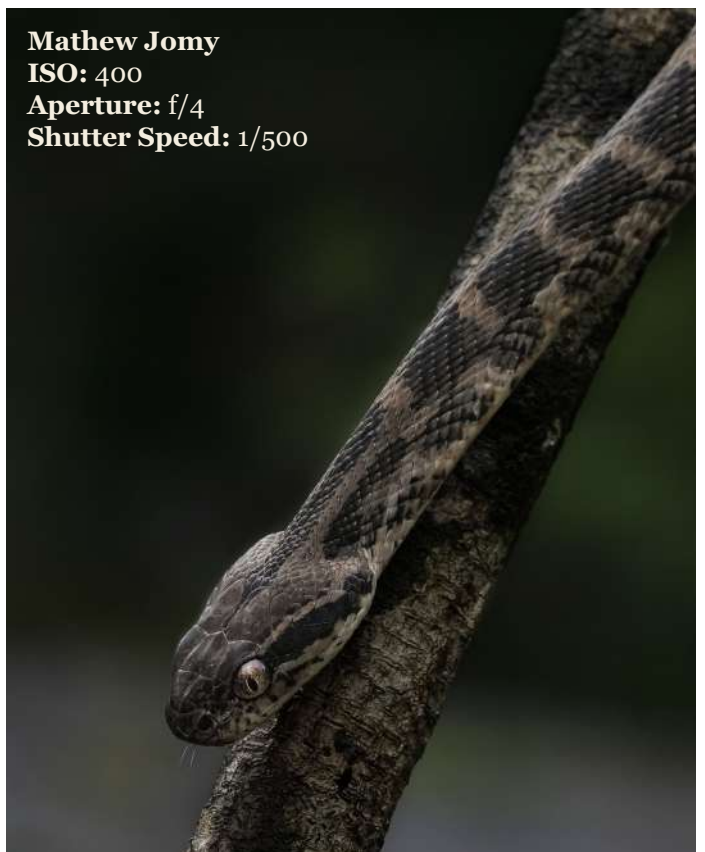
Mathew Jomy
ISO: 160
Aperture: f/8
Shutter Speed: 1/100



Mathew Jomy
ISO: 1000
Aperture: f/4.5
Shutter Speed: 1/125



Mathew Jomy
ISO: 400
Aperture: f/4
Shutter Speed: 1/500



Landscape

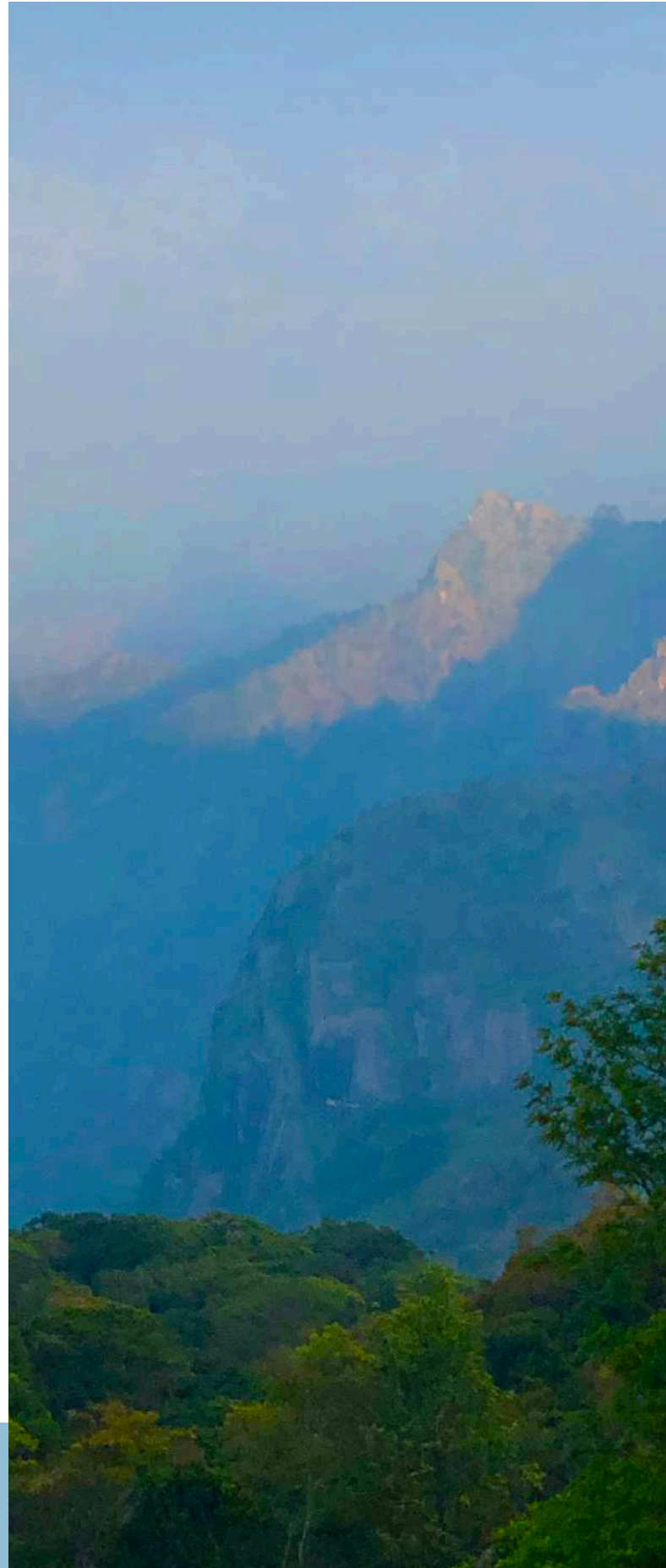
“Mountains don’t move,
yet they pull us in.
Stillness, serenity,
strength, all without a
sound.”

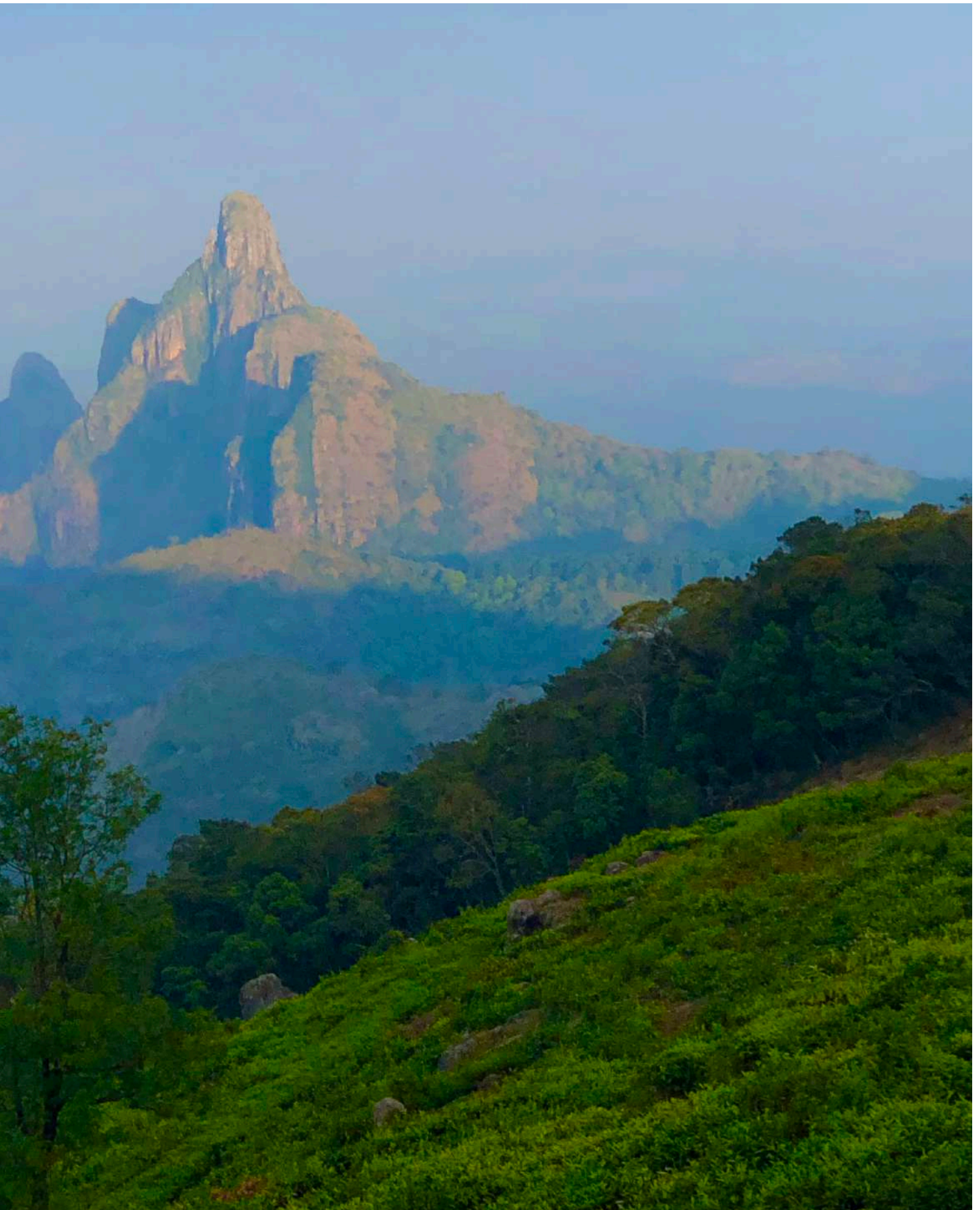
Landscapes speak in silence. They invite us to pause, to breathe, and to observe the world not as a blur of motion, but as a canvas of still beauty. From mist-wrapped peaks to sun-drenched valleys, every ridge and shadow tells a story carved by time and weather.

The strength of a good landscape photograph lies in its ability to stir emotion. It’s not just about the scene, but about how light falls across it—how depth is created with contrast, and how the vastness is framed with intent. Composition becomes a quiet conversation between nature and the lens.

To photograph a landscape is to honor a place. It’s a practice of patience, perspective, and reverence for the enduring artistry of the earth.

Rakesh Varma
ISO: 100
Aperture: f/2.4
Shutter Speed: 1/800







“

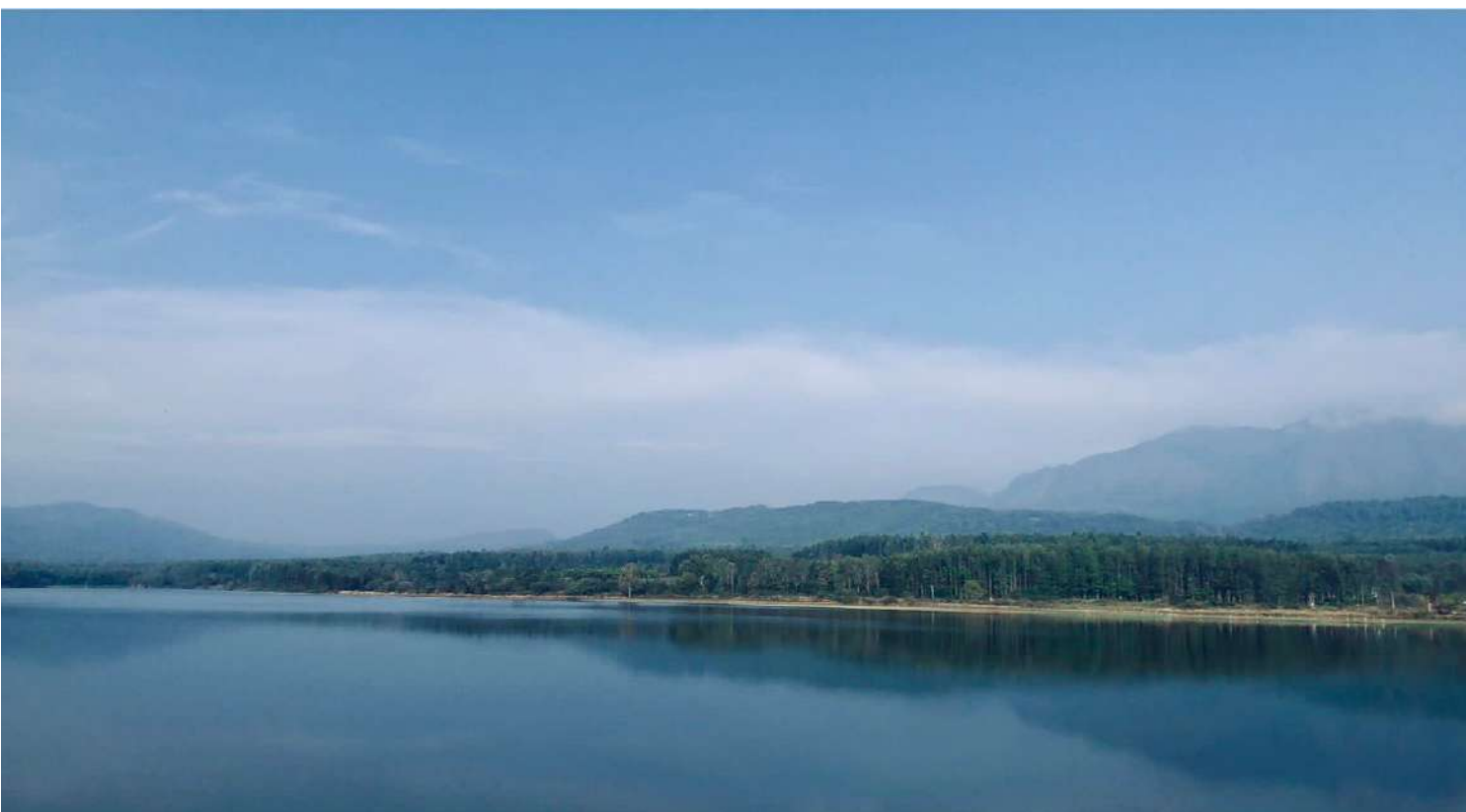
The landscapes of 2025 invite us to pause, breathe, and look further. From morning fog to golden peaks, nature remains the finest storyteller — if we take the time to listen.

”



These images reflect the harmony of light and land, where sunrays pierce the mist, and horizons melt into blue. From verdant hills to tranquil waters, this collection invites us to slow down and see, not just with our eyes, but with wonder.

Kiran I
ISO: 100
Aperture: f/8
Shutter Speed: 1/320



These photographs, taken across high-altitude regions, capture nature in its quiet majesty. From mist-draped peaks to light-split skies, the series is a visual meditation, each frame a reminder of the beauty that exists beyond the noise. The challenge for the photographer lies not in finding such landscapes, but in waiting, watching, for the right moment when the light turns from ordinary to ethereal.

Aryan Das

ISO: 100

Aperture: f/11

Shutter Speed: 1/200





“Where the **sky**
touches silence.”



Hariharan
ISO: 200
Aperture: f/4
Shutter Speed: 1/1600

Automotive

Revving Up the Visual Symphony: A Journey Through Automotive Elegance

These captivating images encapsulates the dynamic world of automotive artistry. More than machines, these vehicles are sculpted icons—reflections of speed, innovation, and identity. Automotive photography celebrates the fusion of form and function, where every curve,

contour, and chrome accent is meticulously captured.

The art lies not just in showing the vehicles, but in narrating its essence—its legacy, its lifestyle, and its impact. Through these frames, we don't just see the vehicle; we feel the road, the performance, and the passion behind the wheel.



Advaith Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran
ISO: 200
Aperture: f/1.8
Shutter Speed: 1/100



Sreehari Suresh
ISO: 100
Aperture: f/1.8
Shutter Speed: 1/800



Advaith Kizhuppilly Pushpakaran

ISO: 200

Aperture: f/6.3

Shutter Speed: 1/200

AUTOMOTIVE

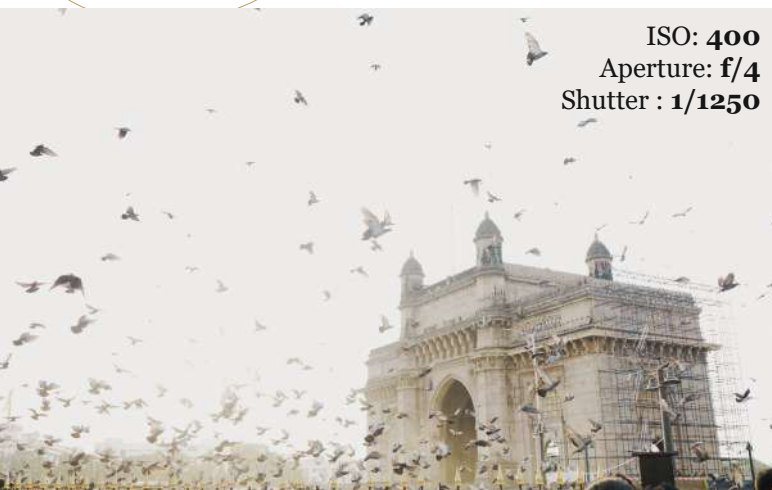
Shivanandana's photography captures the deep interconnection between travel, culture, and human expression. Her black-and-white portraits are emotionally charged, using natural light and candid compositions to spotlight the resilience and character of everyday individuals. Having showcased her talent in various competitions, she won 2nd prize in the Bangalore North University Photography Competition and 1st prize in the national-level photography competition conducted by Christ University, Bangalore. The use of monochrome enhances textures, wrinkles, fabrics, and expressions, bringing out the raw, unfiltered essence of her subjects and immersing the viewer in their world.

Blending portraiture with documentary style, her images often feature close-up perspectives that draw attention to a single face, while the blurred backgrounds offer subtle hints of context. High contrast and detailed focus give each frame intensity, allowing even the smallest elements, like woven fabric or strands of hair, to tell a story. Through her lens, street life is not just observed, but deeply felt, preserving culture and

Shivanandana K Nair
22VICM46w
VI semester BA Visual Communication



Shivanandana





ISO: 640
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter : 1/640



ISO: 12800
Aperture: f/8
Shutter : 1/2500



ISO: 1250
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter : 1/800



ISO: 400
Aperture: f/8
Shutter : 1/1600



ISO: 250
Aperture: f/5
Shutter : 1/640



ISO: 800
Aperture: f/8
Shutter : 1/250



ISO: 800
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/200



ISO: 2000
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/800



ISO: 125
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/20

Soft Stories

Joy of Solitude with Nature



The beauty of solitude through a lens that values softness over spectacle. The use of white — in the delicate daisy petals, the flowing dress, the bare walls — speaks of purity, innocence, and inner stillness. Each image tells a silent story: of a woman lost in

thought, of hands meeting nature, of still frames alive with emotion. These are not just portraits — they are windows into calmness, into reflection, into connection with the self.

- **Scania Sabrina**
IV BA Visual Communication

“Stillness on the Shore”

As morning light floods the coast, a quiet moment unfolds between man and animal. The horse stands patient, the boat rests still, and the beach stretches endlessly, empty, golden, and calm.

There's a timeless quality to this frame: no rush, no noise, just a gentle bond beneath a hazy sun. It's a scene that speaks of early routines, unspoken understanding, and the kind of peace that only the shore can offer.

Advaith Kizhuppilly
Pushpakaran
ISO: 100
Aperture: f/6.3
Shutter Speed: 1/1000







ISO: 200
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/320

ISO: 100
Aperture: f/5
Shutter Speed: 1/320

“Whispers of a Gentle Afternoon”

- Matam Vishreeta
IV BA Visual Communication



ISO: 100
Aperture: f/4
Shutter Speed: 1/400



ISO: 100
Aperture: f/4
Shutter Speed: 1/1000



ISO: 100
Aperture: f/5
Shutter Speed: 1/500

This photo series captures the essence of peaceful solitude through soft tones, natural light, and quiet moments. Each frame reflects a lifestyle rooted in calm, reading under trees, picnicking on grass, stitching by hand, or simply resting beside a pet.

The visuals highlight a return to simplicity, minimal distractions, organic textures, and the beauty of unhurried time. It's about presence. A pause from the noise. An afternoon spent doing less, but feeling more.

The use of whites and pastels enhances the visual calmness, giving each image a dreamy, nostalgic atmosphere, inviting the viewer to slow down and just be.

ISO: 32
Aperture: f/1.6
Shutter Speed: 1/180







Afterword

The art of capturing the essence of life through a lens demands commitment, imagination, and foresight. By examining the technical, philosophical, and artistic facets of this broad medium, our goal at FOCUS is to inspire and instruct photographers of all skill levels. We want to encourage creativity, promote development, and honor the craft of visual storytelling. We want to inspire you to push the limits of photography and artistic expression, spark new ideas, and stimulate your creativity.

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