

Volume 6 | August, 2023

# HELIOGRAPHY

e-Magazine of Dum Dum Foto Unit



## In Focus

*Asim Moulik*

## Travelogue

*Anindya Phani*

## Photo-Synthesis

*Kallol Majumdar*

## Photo Competition Winners

*....more*



S P Mukherji

**T I M E**  
Past-Present-Future



Cover Photo Courtesy : S P Mukherji

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**Asim Moulik**  
*Vice-President, Dum Dum Fotounit*  
*Editor -in-Chief, Heliography*



*As you are aware, we celebrate the birth anniversary our founder father, a great teacher Sri Dilip Bose as our annual club day. For convenience, the program is held on Sunday. This year our annual club day will be celebrated on 20th August, 2023 commencing from 6 pm at Birendra Mancha, near Shyampukur Police Station, Kolkata. On this day we have planned to release third edition of our magazine "Heliography" for the year 2023. This edition will also contain some articles on photography penned by eminent and successful photo artistes which, we believe, will be of interest to the budding photographers.*

*Competitions organised by team Heliography have been gaining momentum. Many photographs are being posted in our facebook page for competition or otherwise. Please keep it up for our mutual benefit. The outings organised by the team are also becoming very popular among students in particular. The feedback from the participants is also very encouraging. We will continue our endeavour for sure with our limited abilities but fullest honesty.*

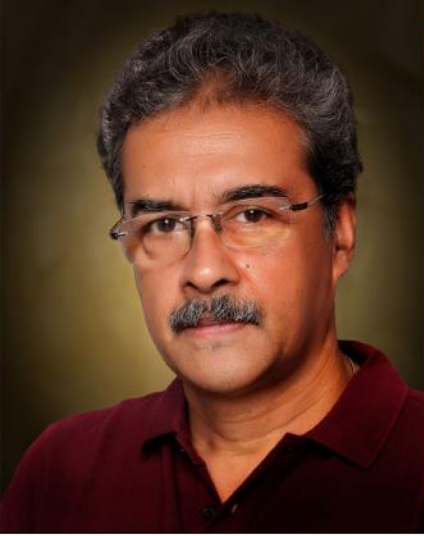
*This edition, like the earlier ones, also may be interesting to the readers. There may be some editing errors. Please bear with us. Your feedback/ suggestions on our magazine will be appreciated very much for our future reference/ guidance.*

*Annual festival of Bengal, i.e., Durga Puja is knocking at the door. The festive days bring immense possibilities for photographs of colourful events. Please keep on clicking and post your creations to our facebook page.*

*Enjoy the festive season ahead. Our best wishes.*







# Time

## Past, Present and Future

**Sri S P Mukherji**

EFIAP, AIIPC, IIPC Platinum,  
Hon. PESGSPC, Hon. WPAI, Hon. FICS

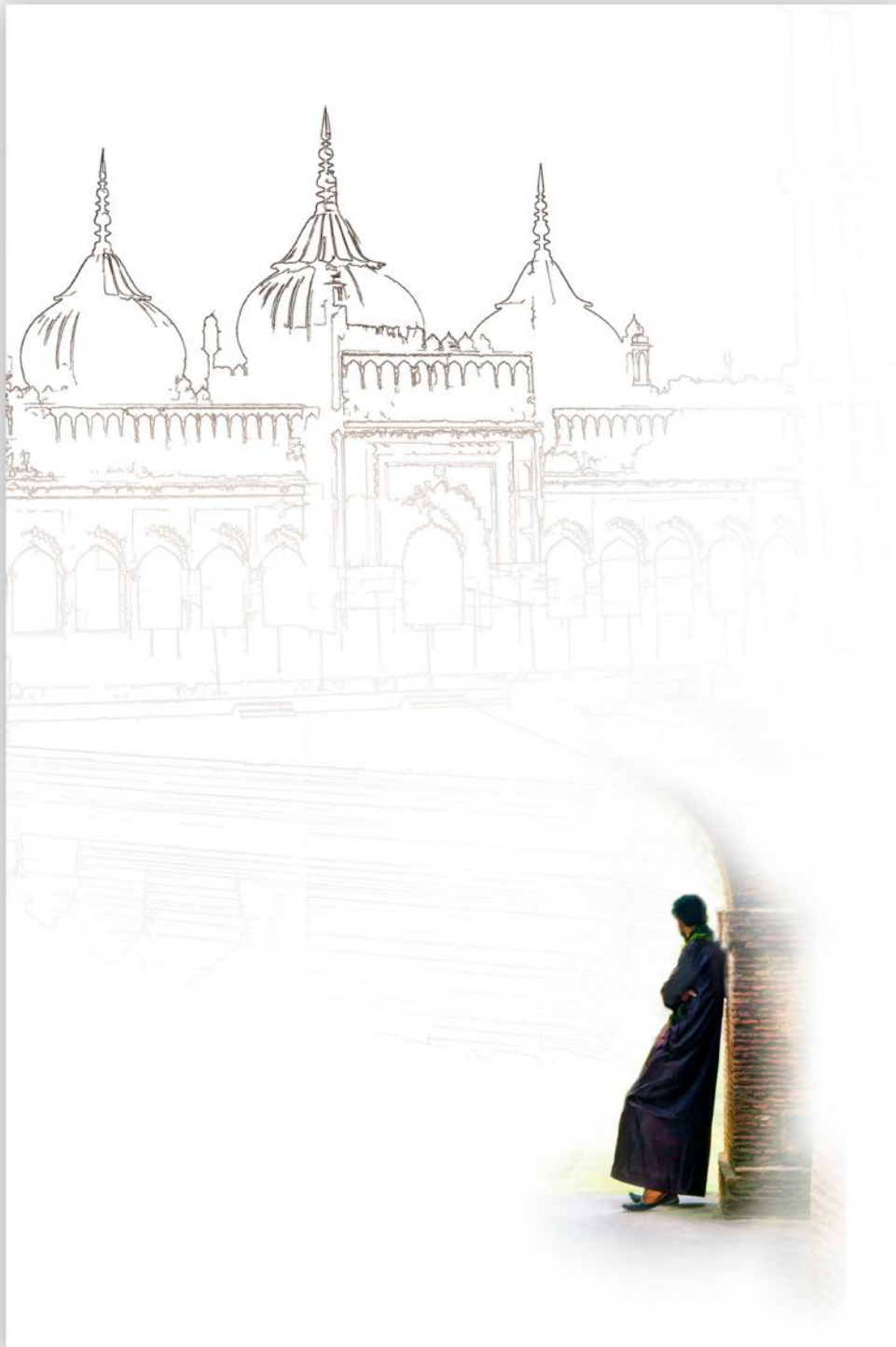
**T**he word **Time** cannot be defined or explained in a single sentence. Both physicists and philosophers are wandering from period immemorial to derive a perfect explanation. But, in general, great physicists agree to a point that time can only move forward. So far, there is no physical evidence that anything in the universe can dodge time and move backwards, nor can it jump ahead. Time is like a wave in sea – once the wave crushes on the beach, it is lost for ever. A ticked second will also not return anymore.

This concept has a resemblance with theory in classical philosophy where time is divided into three distinct regions – past, present and future. As time flows, a part of the ‘present’ becomes a part of ‘past’ and simultaneously a part of the ‘future’ becomes the new ‘present’. Thus, the present moment moves only forward into the future, leaving the past behind.

And also, time is not that constant as it may seem. As per theory of

relativity and experiments thereafter, a second elapsed may not be equal across the entire universe. Even to a common person time is subjective as conceptually the speed of time seems to vary. Good times seem to fly fast, while troubled times seem to linger longer than usual. Time is viewed as an object of value and most of us wish we had more of it; on the other hand, time is also an enemy as it eventually, the element, which kills all of us.

**Think about past:** That is the history? And what does that signify? The past can be memorable or forgettable but nothing from it remains permanently, neither physically nor conceptually. It itself is immutably fixed and remains only in the memory. Do not repent about past; is it worth to worry about something that has already gone for ever? Instead take lessons from it. Past can be used to think and reflect and choose a course of action for the present. However, they are not ‘present’ anymore nor you are your past any longer. You are just entering your present anyway.



The Lost Empire

06



Demon of Past



Last Journey





Open the Door and Let Me Fly



The Last Flight



Reminiscence





The Demon of Time



Love Balloons in Happy Sky



Countdown





The Last Leaf

## Now think about present:

What are you now? What are you trying to accomplish? Are you afraid of your past? Are you fearful about the future? Both past and future are non-existent so 'You' are the now, here, at this moment. Dwell, be aware of the now and live a life in the present moment. Try to create something that would make you accomplished in the future. Do not speculate the future and repent for the past. What else can one do? Be aware of the present time as it is just a beautiful gift in your life ready to be cherished and adored. It is only of immense value doing something in the now to derive a more meaningful and purpose filled life in future.

“

'You' are the now,  
here, at this moment

”



Live In The Present

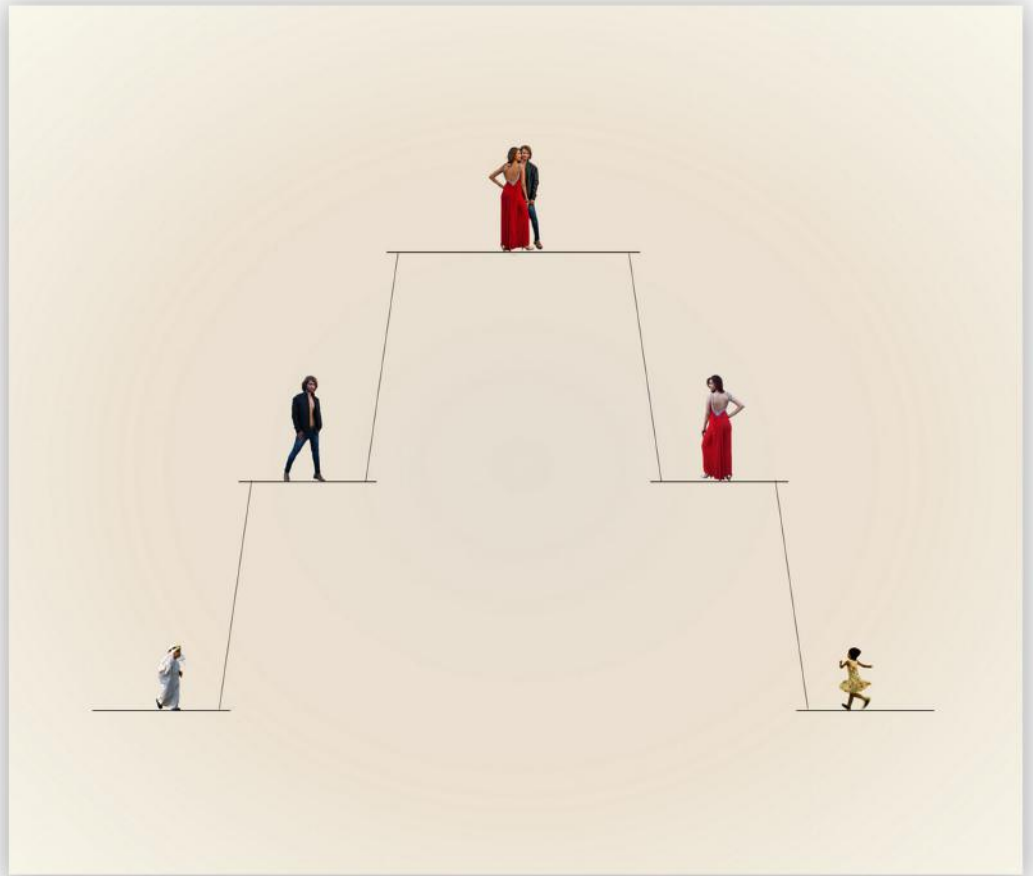




The Wheel of Time



Delve in The Now



A Story of Life



Education for All





**Break Free**



**Flight For Freedom**



**When Time Stops**



**Mother Nature is Crying**



Memories



## What about the future?

It is a dream. It is unpredictable. It is something unknown and at least partly undefined. We cannot control it, but yes, one can do the best in the present to create a future where one feels peace. This doing will not happen by wishing the future to be similar you expect. You will have to act in the present and train to be peaceful in the now. Live with mindfulness in the present to flow peacefully into the future, whatever it beholds for us.

“

We cannot control it, but yes, one can do the best in the present to create a future where one feels peace.

”



**Race Against Time**



Escape





Sighting The Inevitable



Caged Forest Goddess





Tunnel to Future



The Future We Are  
Heading For





Submission to God of Death



Happy Future We Look For



**Heartless Future**





Fusion With Eternity

## **An afterthought with a step towards spiritual manifestation:**

Time cannot be touched or seen but can only be perceived. Thus, time with its past, present and future becomes a single entity if one can delve deep inside oneself and transmute into the mysterious, invisible power that is the origin of all and which resides within all.

“

Time cannot be touched  
or seen but can only be  
perceived.

”



# ঘর হতে দুই পা ফেলিয়া

Anindya Phani

দেখা হয় নাই চক্ষু মেলিয়া  
ঘর হতে শুধু দুই পা ফেলিয়া  
একটি ধানের শীষের ওপর  
একটি শিশির বিন্দু

আপনি কতো জায়গায় ছবি তুলতে যান, তিনদিন ঘুরে বহু খরচ করে ভাড়ারে জমে  
গুটিকয়েক ছবি। অথচ বাড়ির পাশে ছবির ভান্ডার নিয়ে পড়ে আছে একটা গ্রাম,  
কেউ যাওয়ার নেই, কেউ ছবি তোলার নেই।





Canning এর আগে একটা স্টেশন আছে নাম তার চাঁদখালী হল্ট, ঠিক পূর্ণাঙ্গ স্টেশন নয়, কোনোদিন ট্রেন দাঁড়ায় কোনোদিন দাঁড়ায় না। চলে যান এইখানে। তারপর রেল লাইন ধরে হাঁটতে থাকুন তালদি স্টেশনের দিকে, সঙ্গে রাখুন জল আর ORS, কারণ আপনি শহুরে, আপনার কষ্ট হবে, ঘাম হবে। কাল হতে হবে বর্ষা, বৃষ্টি পড়ুক বা না পড়ুক ছবি আপনাকে ফেরাবে না।



রেল লাইনের ধার দিয়ে বয়ে যাচ্ছে নয়নজুলি, বর্ষায় ভর্তি জল, সেখানে প্রতিফলিত হচ্ছে আকাশ, মেঘ, অজানা রাজ্যে চলে যাওয়া ট্রেন। কতো মহিলা দুপুর বেলা রঙীন ছাতা নিয়ে মাছ ধরছে, কতো রাখাল আজ বয়েসের শেষ সীমায় এসে চলে গেছে ঘুমের দেশে, গরু গুলো ঘুরছে নিজের মতো। কতগুলো বাচ্চা ছেলে ছিপ নিয়ে ধরতে বেরিয়েছে স্বপ্নের মেঘ, সেই মেঘের পাশেই শালুকের ফুল উঠেছে ফুটে, আর সেখানেই বাসা বেঁধেছে ডাউক এর একটা পরিবার যারা অবাক হয়ে দেখতে আসবে আপনাকে।





কিছু চাষি নেমে যাবে জলে ধান বসাতে, সারাদিন ধান বসাবে, আপনিও নেমে যান জলে তাদের সাথে, জামা ভিজবে, প্যান্ট ভিজবে কিন্তু ক্যামেরায় ভর্তি হবে অসংখ্য ছবি, যেখানে থাকবে না কোনো AI, কোনো photoshop এর কারিকুড়ি, পুরো ছবি জুড়ে ছড়িয়ে থাকবে পথের পাঁচালি।





হাঁটতে হাঁটতে ঠিক কোনো বাড়ি পেয়ে যাবেন, যেখানে আপনাকে বসিয়ে কেউ চা খাওয়াবে, ব্যাগ ভরে পেয়ারা দিয়ে দেবে। তারপর আপনার সাথেই খ্যাপলা জালে মাছ ধরতে বেরোবে, সঙ্গে তার বাচ্চা ছেলে ভেপু বাজাতে বাজাতে আপনার পিছনে ছুটতে থাকবে। একসময় সূর্য ডুববে, সন্ধ্য নামবে, স্বচ্ছ জল সোনালী আকাশ বুকে নিয়ে দাঁড়িয়ে থাকবে, পাশ দিয়ে সোনালী স্বপ্নের শেষ ট্রেন চলে যাবে। আপনিও বুলি ভরে ছবি নিয়ে ঘরে ফিরবেন। সবাই বারবার ক্যানিং যাবে, আর আপনি বারবার যাবেন তালদি।







# HELIOGRAPHY

**Theme based Monthly Contest**

## Obscura

**AWARD SPONSOR**





Obscura - July 2023

Theme - Surrealism

Judge - Sri S R Mandal



Author: Partha Mukherjee



40



**Obscura - June 2023**

**Theme - Creative use of noise  
and blur**

**Judge - Sri Saibal Mondal**



**Author: Prabir Kumar Adhikary**



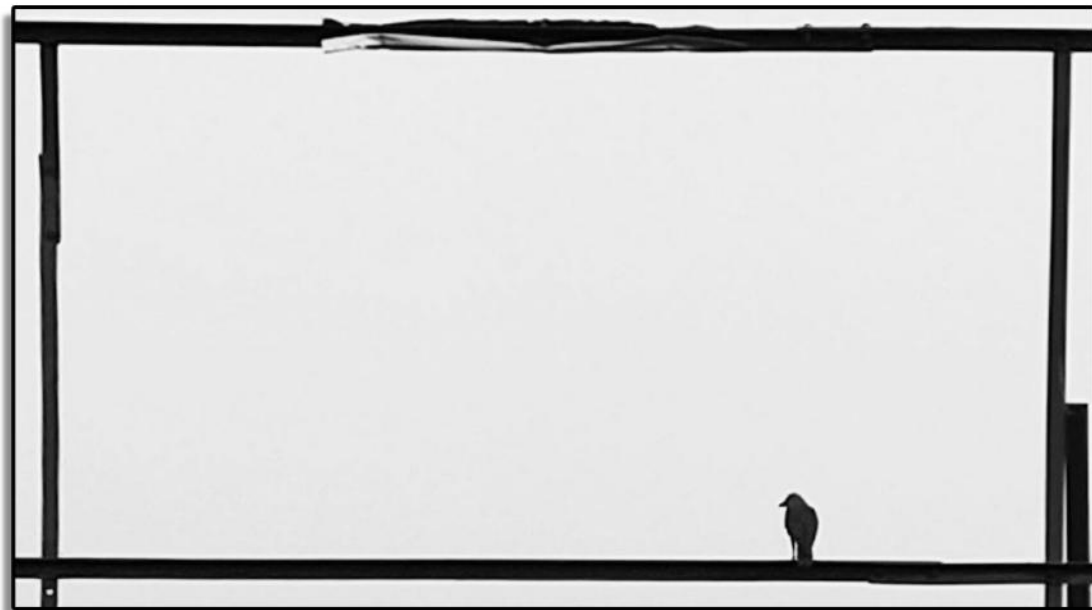
**41**



Photo of the Week



Author : Biplab Chandra Shil  
Date :28-01-23



Author : Avijit Sheel  
Date : 04-02-23





**Author :** Lam Makmak  
**Date :** 11-02-23



**Author :** Utpal Adhikary  
**Date :** 18-02-23



Author : Prabir Kumar Adhikary  
Date :25-02-23



Author : Prabir Kumar Adhikary  
Date : 04-03-23



**Author : Snehajit Lahiri**  
**Date :11-03-23**

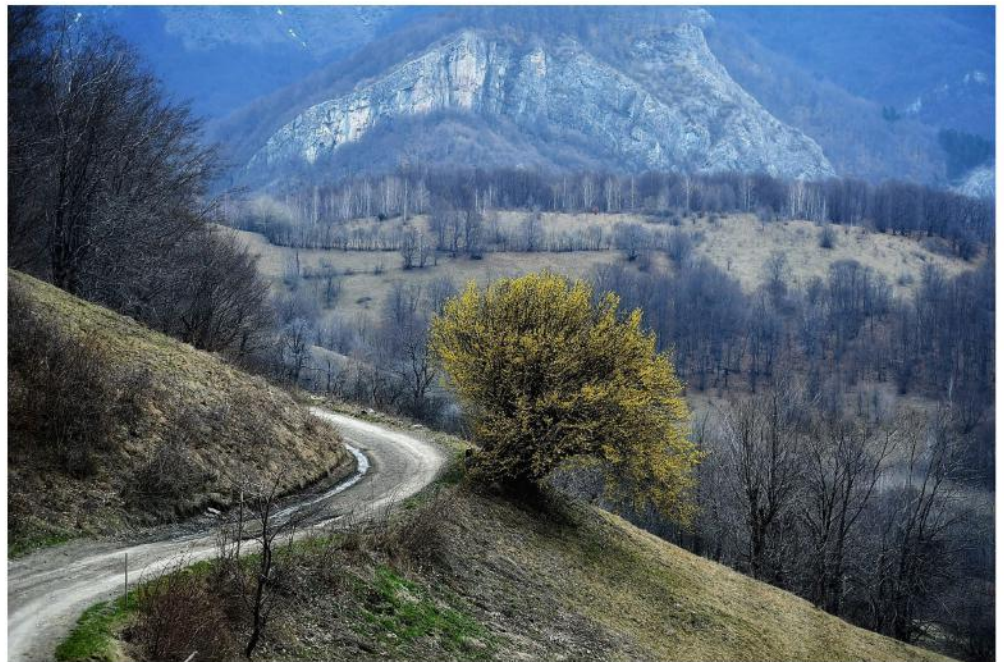


**Author : Neil Everett**  
**Date : 18-03-23**





**Author : Lam MAkmak**  
**Date :01-04-23**



**Author : Bella Vita**  
**Date : 01-07-23**

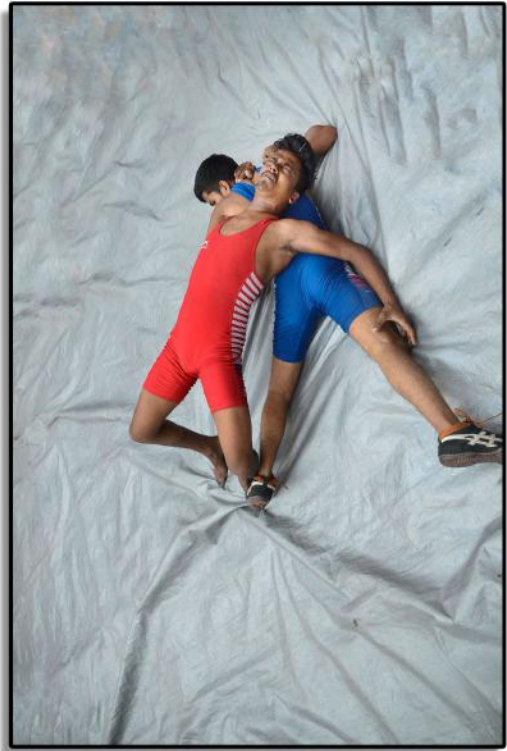


**Author :** Neil Everett  
**Date :**25-03-23



**Author :** Lam Makmak  
**Date :** 08-04-23





Author : Arnab Mitra  
Date :15-04-23



Author : Jerry Shen  
Date : 22-04-23





**Author : Arnab Mitra**  
**Date :29-04-23**



**Author : Avijit Sheel**  
**Date : 06-05-23**



**Author : Dwaipayan Mahalder**  
**Date :13-05-23**



**Author : Manish Kushari**  
**Date : 20-05-23**



**Author :** Izabela Nerat  
**Date :**27-05-23



**Author :** Ashim Pandit  
**Date :** 03-06-23



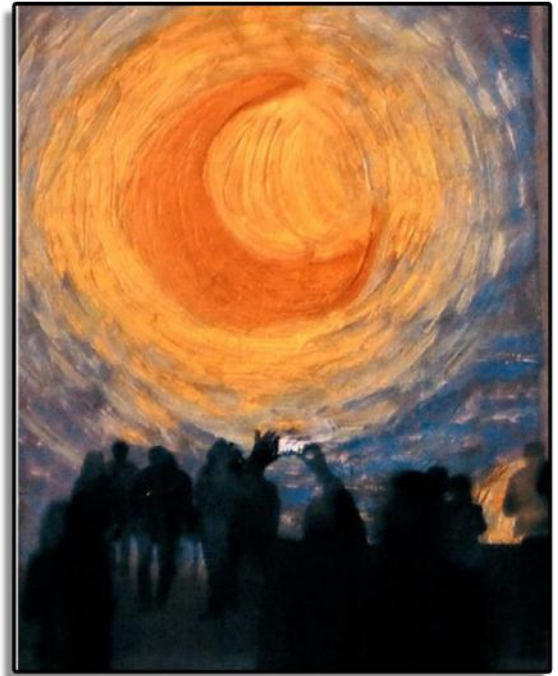


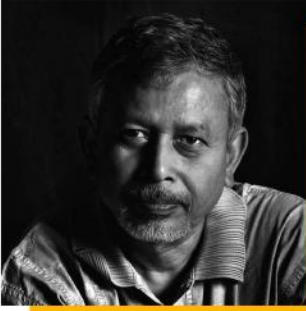
Author : Surya Kanta Sardana  
Date :10-06-23



Author : Tarik Midya  
Date : 17-06-23

**Author :** Mriyam Pitault  
**Date :**24-06-23





## Photo-Synthesis

### Street Dreams: An Autobiographical Series ~ Vicky Roy

**Kallol Majumdar**

*EFIAP, FFIP, Dip-in-Photo (FIP/FU)*

For the photo-synthesis column of Heliography magazine, the editorial team has asked me now and then to write an article on famous series of photographs. Historically, early artists who have established photography as an art always come to mind. But this time, why not talk about the younger artists? Why not be informed about their works? Why don't we become more knowledgeable about contemporary trends by knowing the series discussed globally? And if the artist is from India, we can better relate to them and their works and get to know their point of view as well.

Of course, this discussion cannot shed enough light on so many aspects. I can only give a basic introduction to the artist, a basic idea of his series and focus on the characteristics of the pictures depicted in the series. And if readers exchange ideas about the series after reading the article, then Heliography's initiative is worthwhile. Though, it is a very remote

This time, I chose **Vicky Roy** as the photographer for my discussion in this article. And his first series, 'Street Dreams', through which he became the point of discussion as India's representative at the international level, is my topic of discussion here. Because of this series, his fame has reached beyond the country and abroad. Today his name is mentioned in the same breath with the world's top photographers for his compelling documentary and street photography work.



Vicky Roy is one of the youngest-generation photographers in India. He was born in 1987 in the marginal town of Purulia in West Bengal. And his life story will beat the silver screen drama. He ran away from home at 13 after consuming every pinch of poverty and reached the New Delhi railway platform. He met with the bottle picker boys there and chose that work as a profession for sustenance. He was a rag picker. He collected discarded bottles from the railway lines and compartments. Then he filled them with water and sold them for five rupees on the train. His daily earning starts from rupees 100-150. But when life there



became miserable with anti-social pranks and fights, and the goons gradually snatched his income, he left the place and took up the dishwasher job in a hotel near Ajmeri Gate at fifty rupees daily. And he spends his days eating leftover foods of the customers. At this time, he met with someone who took him to the office of an NGO called Salam Balak Trust. They keep street children in shelter homes, nurture them until they are 18, and educate them to become self-reliant. Vicky finally got a place in this shelter home's 'Apna Ghar' branch. From here, he passed the secondary examination with 48 per cent marks. His teachers tell him, and he understands that he needs to establish himself with his mind on something other than academics.

While staying at the Salam Balk Trust, Vicky took a workshop with British photographer Dixie Benjamin and toured the city with him, even though he couldn't understand the language. Excited, he thought to learn from renowned photographer O P Sharma to become a professional photographer. He has already turned 18 years old then. Coincidentally, Dixie Benjamin learns of Vicky's interest and introduces him to professional portrait and fashion photographer Anay Mann. And Anay Maan hired Vicky as his assistant for a salary of 3000 rupees per month. Vicky then started studying photography at Triveni Kala Sangam. He started living in a flat rented for 500 rupees with three other mates. His journey in the world of photography started from here.

According to Vicky, this work shows him how to fulfil his dream. He went around with his employer shooting pictures of glamorous models, travelling by plane to exotic destinations, meeting important people and eating good food. Once, he'd only dreamed of seeing the interiors of an aircraft, but here he was, travelling by air every other week, changing flights like a pro.

It is where our 'Street Dreams' project begins. When Vicky was free and did not need to help his boss, he would take an old, borrowed camera and go out to practice photography. The subjects of his photographs were - street life and street children. In this way, Vicky began to take pictures with the children, becoming like them. In this way, a collection of 50 photographs of his choice came in his kitty.

Vicky showed this series of pictures of fifty street children to people around. They liked the series. Encouraged, Vicky began exhibiting at more than a dozen art galleries. One agrees to display that work in an exhibition. In 2007, he had his first solo exhibition titled 'Street Dreams' at the India Habitat Centre, with a selection of twenty-five images. The British High Commission and UK's Department for International Development (DFID) sponsored the exhibition.

It is the story of creating the 'Street Dreams' series. But before that, it is necessary to say the words of recognition and fame of Vicky Roy worldwide. In 2008, the Maybach Foundation of the United States selected him to photograph the reconstruction of the World Trade Center in New York. While doing this, as part of the project, he took a course in documentary photography at the International Center for Photography in New York. Vicky received the Ink Fellowship in 2012. In 2013, he participated in National Geographic's TV show 'Mission Cover Shoot'. Nazar Foundation published his first monograph, 'Home Street Home', in the second chapter of the Delhi Photo Festival (September-October 2013). This book is well-received all over the world. As a result, he received the MIT Media Fellowship in 2014. In addition to this, he received the Neel Dongre Grants for Excellence in Photography in 2014. In 2016, his name emerged in Forbes Asia's 30 under 30 list. He received the Ixora Knowledge Foundation and



Tata Trusts Grant this year. In 2017, he had another solo exhibition – The Scared Land: New Mountainscapes – at the Vadehra Art Gallery. This year he also got Ixora Knowledge Foundation Grant. In 2018, he participated in the Houston Photo Fest Biennial and the Kochi-Muziris Biennale. This year he was named to Vogue India's 40 under 40 list. In 2019, the Asia Society Texas Center (ASTC) debuted with his series 'Scraping the Sky'. In addition, he received the Moscow International Photo Award this year.

Now let's talk about 'Street Dreams'. Vicky's series is his autobiography. Even though he is not the protagonist in the series, every character is like him. Street children are depicted in daily activities, some at railway stations and some at road junctions. Vicky knows from personal experience how difficult street life is. Yet within him, he has always sought to find a glimmer of hope. His lens, therefore, always focuses on children's bright optimism and dreams and how he has reached today by always looking for the light of hope. About this series, Vicky said, "I started photographing these children in 2005, hoping to capture their spirit along with their circumstances. To be honest, these children also remind me of my difficult past. My aim is to show the positive aspects of life instead of the darker side. If I could come out of the difficulties and become successful, I believe anyone could do it."

Looking closely at Vicky Roy's series, we can see that his personal experiences have greatly influenced how he portrays these marginalised children's stories. Here truth and compassion walk hand in hand. Through his pictures, he has highlighted the harsh reality that street children are constantly facing. At the same time, he remembered to show the viewers their enthusiasm, dreams and aspirations. Among the images, we can see a boy with dreamy eyes, oblivious to the harshness of his surroundings, seeing a newspaper advertisement. In another picture, two almost naked untidy girls play obliviously on a railway platform. A boy is resting peacefully under a flyover. Somewhere, a boy and, in another picture, a group of children are bathing at the side of a railway line. So in all the images, we see the children move forward despite their challenging circumstances. Thus Vicky said, "Having lived this life, I understand that buried beneath all the misery is a gritty determination and shining optimism."

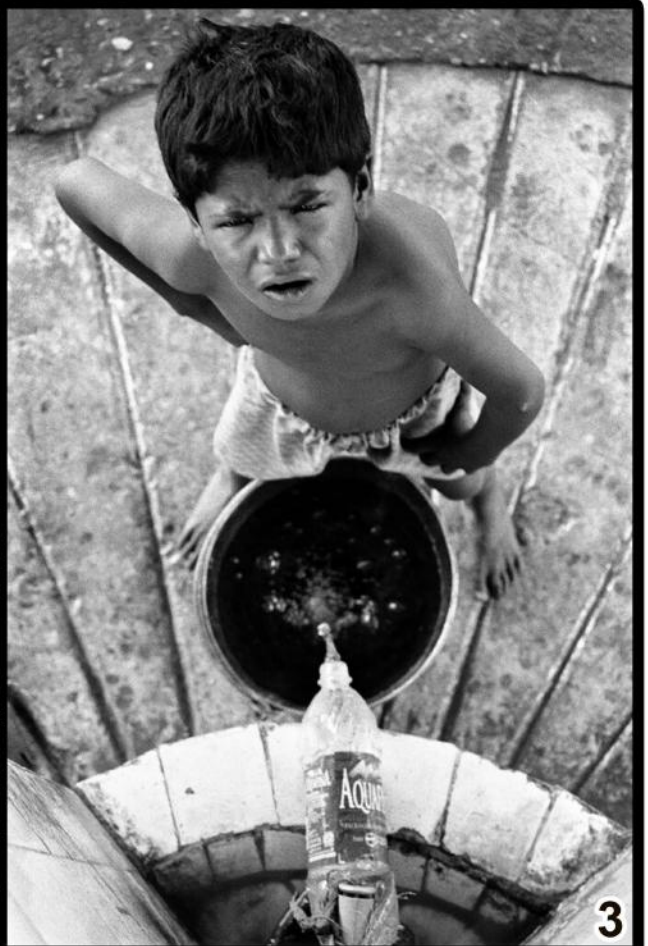
Undoubtedly, Vicky's series 'Street Dreams' explores a fascinating subject in the world of photography and encompasses the reality of street life in a thought-provoking manner. In this series, Vicky beautifully portrays the hopes, dreams and struggles of those street children for whom the streets are their home, ambition and family. We can relate to the stories of street children through Vicky's lens, not only because of the stories of sadness and failure but also because of learning how to find joy and hope in the seemingly insignificant. This series does not choose this life just for presentation or to create sympathy but shows the unity of the beauty that exists even in chaos. At the same time, these images make us aware of the challenges of poverty, lack of education and absence of proper shelter. Vicky says this – "I do not aim to shock the viewer and push them to look at the reality by painting a bleak picture of despair and, in the process, point fingers at others for their apathy. Instead of confrontation, I have attempted to portray this difficult world with a soothing balm of a child's hopes."

Another exciting thing is that Vicky's intimate relationship with every character in the series keeps the theme dynamic and lively. Because of this, Vicky kept giving a running commentary on the characters' lives in his exhibitions, which engages the viewer. For example, picture no. 1 is of ten-year-old Sonu. Sonu is also a bottle picker. He was thrown out of the train. Picture No. 2 is like Vicky's previous life as a bottle picker. Photo No. 3 is of 8-year-old Vicky.

Photo No. 4 is of 8 years old balloon seller Lachi at Connaught Place. Photo No. 5 is of washing clothes by the children at the New Delhi railway station. Photo No. 6 shows 9-year-old Sagar and 8-year-old Pooja polishing shoes at the Delhi Haat. Picture No. 7 shows children of neighbouring slums playing at Sadar Bazar railway station. Photo 8 is of 8-year-old balloon seller, Bali, at New Delhi Railway Station. Photo No. 9 is of 7-year-old Ravi, a beggar, resting under the IIT flyover but is being disturbed by a dog. Photo No. 10 is of Vicky, a 9-year-old beggar from Connaught Place. Photo No. 11 shows a 12-year-old beggar, Munna, at New Delhi railway station. Photo No. 12 is of the resting area for rag picker boys at New Delhi railway station and looks like Vicky Roy's self-portrait. His bonding with the children is clear from his statement, "On certain bright evenings, I took them to India Gate and Children's Park. We used to play games together and I would become another kid. I used to lie down in mud with them and laugh out loud, eat the same food they ate and talk like them. They trusted me and let me shoot however I wanted. As I became one with them, they saw me as part of their clan." Even Vicky used to take these real characters in the exhibition hall. Vicky says, "When the photos were displayed in an art gallery, I took them with me to see the show. Seeing themselves on the walls, they giggled and laughed with excitement. It was a big achievement to hear their familiar laughter."

Street Dreams was tremendously successful and gave Vicky Roy an immense recognition. The series travelled to London thrice, South Africa, and Vietnam.





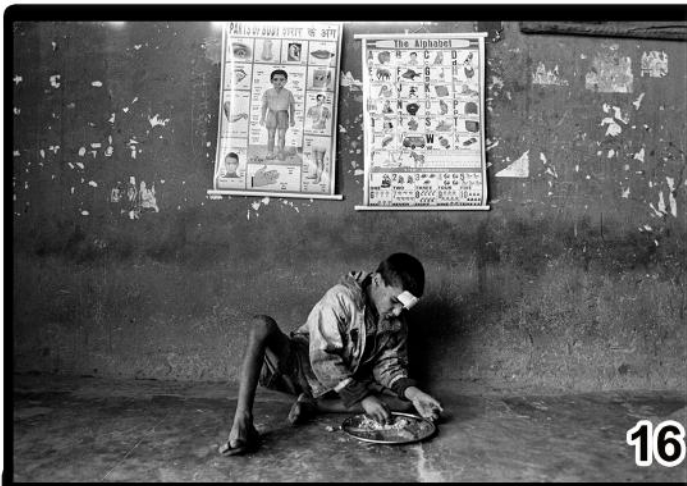






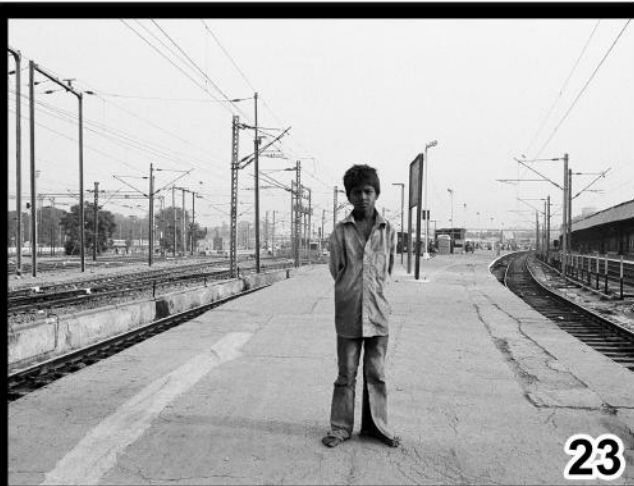








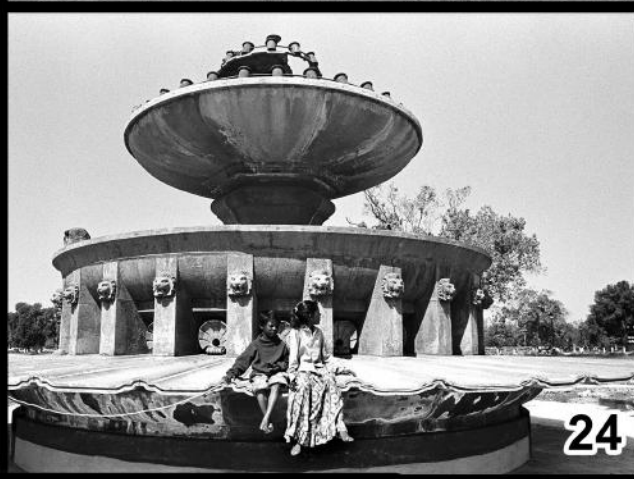
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Our Readers'

# Feedbacks & Testimony





### **"A Visual Delight!"**



*I eagerly await every issue of Heliography Photography Magazine, and it never disappoints. The selection of images and content are always breathtaking, showcasing a wide range of styles and subjects. Each issue feels like a journey through different worlds, and the articles provide valuable insights into the photographers' thought processes. This magazine has truly enhanced my appreciation for photography and inspired me to push my own creative boundaries.*



**-Payel Kundu Basu,**  
Founder Payeliana®

### **"An Endless Source of Inspiration"**



*As a budding photographer, I can't thank Heliography Photography Magazine enough for being a constant source of inspiration. Every page is a reminder that there's so much beauty in the world waiting to be captured. The tips and tutorials of Photoshop and Photography technics have been immensely helpful in improving my skills, and the featured interviews give me a peek into the minds of accomplished photographers. This magazine is my go-to guide for everything photography-related.*



**-Pradipta Chowdhury,**  
Director Altis Infonet Pvt Ltd

## "A Learning Playground"



*Heliography Photography Magazine is like a playground for photographers. Whether you're a hobbyist or a professional, there's something for everyone. The technical tips are presented in a user-friendly manner, and I've learned countless techniques that have significantly improved my work. The reviews of photography and Photoshop software are a bonus, helping me make informed decisions about my photography journey. This magazine is an essential part of my creative journey.*



**-Tanmay De,**  
Director Altis Infonet Pvt Ltd

## "A Magical box of dream"



*Being a fan of good pictures and having a huge interest in photography, for me Heliography has been a great exposure. The way I got to learn about every small, minute details of photography, colors and specifics was amazing! Not to forget, the exceptionally excellent photos which are clicked and shared... Moreover, for someone who wants to learn more about photography and this genre, i feel the inputs given by the writers in the columns are absolutely note worthy! I wish Heliography to excel more and make a huge impact the same way they have made one now!*

*It pays a huge role to encourage people like me and others to persue and be interested in photography when the exposure and guidance is so appropriate.*



**-Abhishek Jain**  
Manager, HDFC Bank



***"Heliography"** is an intriguing photography magazine that consistently delivers a captivating blend of breathtaking images. Its commitment to showcasing innovative techniques and stories from photographers around the world is truly commendable. The magazine's sleek design and high-quality printing enhance the overall aesthetic experience. For anyone learning the art of photography, "Heliography" is an absolute must-read.*



**-Ankit Bandyopadhyay,**  
Software Engineer



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Sri S P Mukherji

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Heliography E-magazine

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