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FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'ART PHOTOGRAPHIQUE

The International Federation of Photographic Art

DOCUMENT 2009/304 E

THE FIAP DISTINCTIONS

IMPORTANT: This document supersedes document 2006/303 E. For the distinctions in Audiovisual, see document 2002/300 E.

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1. In order to honour eminent personalities known in the field of photography, the International Federation of Photographic Art (FIAP) has created the following distinctions:

- *For photographic artists known for their artistic work:*

Artist FIAP	AFIAP
Excellence FIAP	EFIAP
Excellence FIAP Bronze	EFIAP/b
Excellence FIAP Silver	EFIAP/s
Excellence FIAP Gold	EFIAP/g
Excellence FIAP Platinum	EFIAP/p
Master FIAP	MFIAP

- *For those who, by their work or their achievements, have contributed to the progress of FIAP or of photography in general:*

Excellence FIAP for Services Rendered	ESFIAP
Honorary Excellence FIAP	HonEFIAP

1.2. Only national federations affiliated with FIAP and having paid their annual membership fee can propose their members as candidates for any of the distinctions; they are considered to be responsible for the control of the documents transmitted to FIAP. An official of the national federation must sign all applications. All applications should be made on forms prescribed by FIAP. The forms should be completed in one of the official FIAP languages.

1.3. In countries, which have no national federation affiliated with FIAP, individual authors can introduce their candidacy through another national federation or through an Individual Member (IRFIAP or ILFIAP).

1.4. No discrimination is made between the candidates, amateur or professional photographers alike. No age limit is imposed. No difference is made between prints and projected images.

- 1.5. The final decision whether or not a FIAP distinction is awarded rest with FIAP. Applications for distinctions are examined by a commission consisting of members of the FIAP Directory Board or of eminent personalities designated by the FIAP Directory Board. Decisions are taken without appeal and by simple majority. In the case of the HonEFIAP distinction, the decision must be taken unanimously. In order to ensure the complete independence of the commission, the names of its members are not published.
- 1.6. Awarding a FIAP distinction is considered in all countries a favour and not a right.
- 1.7. All FIAP distinctions are awarded for life. Holders of a distinction are allowed to append after their names the initials corresponding to the distinction(s) they hold. In the event where a holder of FIAP distinction(s) commits a serious offence against FIAP or against a national federation affiliated with FIAP, the distinction(s) can be withdrawn by the FIAP Directory Board. No appeal is allowed.
- 1.8. For either of the two different categories of distinctions (for "photographic artistry" and for "services rendered"), the persons to whom these distinctions are awarded will only mention the highest distinction. However "EFIAP Levels" and MFIAP may be used concurrently.

2. THE AFIAP DISTINCTION

- 2.1. The distinction "Artist FIAP" (AFIAP) is the first artistic distinction that can be obtained. It is awarded to photographic artists whose artistic qualities, technique and production of work have been acknowledged through the participation in international salons under FIAP Patronage.
- 2.2. **The candidate for this distinction must:**
 - a) Have taken part with success in international salons under FIAP Patronage for at least 1 year; i.e. his first FIAP-recognised acceptance must have occurred at least 1 year ago.
 - b) Have taken part with success in at least **10** international salons under FIAP Patronage in at least **5** different countries; a Circuit has to be considered as a single salon.
 - c) Have obtained at least **30** acceptances with at least **10** different works in international salons under FIAP Patronage.
- 2.3. **Candidates for AFIAP distinction must submit:**
 - a) A complete application using forms prescribed by FIAP (which can be downloaded from FIAP's website, see 9.1.).
 - b) Not less than 5 and not more than 10 photographic works of the candidate (black and white prints, colour prints or a mixture). All the submitted works must have obtained FIAP-recognised acceptances.
- 2.4. **The following procedure must be followed:**
 - a) Send the completed and duly signed printed application forms for AFIAP/EFIAP (pages A, B, C, D, E et F) to the FIAP Distinctions Service and to the FIAP Collections Service and, if possible, an additional soft copy of the complete document by electronic mail to the two Services.
 - b) The works have to be sent to the FIAP Collections Service.
 - c) The fee has to be paid to the FIAP Treasurer.
- 2.5. When the AFIAP distinction is awarded, the candidate will receive a diploma and a badge with **green** enamel.

3. THE EFIAP DISTINCTION

3.1. The distinction "Excellence FIAP" (EFIAP) is awarded to photographic artists who, apart from having excellent techniques, have a significant number of their work often been accepted in many international salons under FIAP Patronage.

3.2. The candidate for this distinction must:

- a) Be holder of the AFIAP distinction. An application for this distinction can be made 1 year after the award of the AFIAP distinction; based on the date of the diploma.
- b) Have taken part with success in at least **30** international salons under FIAP Patronage in at least **15** different countries; a Circuit has to be considered as a single salon.
- c) Have obtained at least **150** acceptances with at least **50** different works in international salons under FIAP Patronage.

3.3. Candidates for EFIAP distinction must submit:

- a) A complete application using forms prescribed by FIAP (which can be downloaded from the FIAP's website, see 9.1.).
- b) Not less than 5 and not more than 10 photographic works of the candidate (black and white prints, colour prints or a mixture), different from those submitted for his/her AFIAP distinction. All the submitted works must have obtained FIAP-recognised acceptances.

3.4. The following procedure must be followed:

- a) Send the completed and duly signed printed application forms for AFIAP/EFIAP (pages A, B, C, D, E et F) to the FIAP Distinctions Service and to the FIAP Collections Service and, if possible, an additional soft copy of the complete document by electronic mail to the two Services.
- b) The works have to be sent to the FIAP Collections Service.
- c) The fee has to be paid to the FIAP Treasurer.

3.5. When the EFIAP distinction is awarded, the candidate will receive a diploma and a badge with **red** enamel.

4. THE EFIAP LEVELS

4.1. In order to honour photographic artists who, after having received the EFIAP distinction, continue to actively participate in international salons under FIAP Patronage and by so doing help promote photography with their new artistic production, FIAP has instituted four additional EFIAP levels:

Excellence FIAP Bronze	EFIAP/b
Excellence FIAP Silver	EFIAP/s
Excellence FIAP Gold	EFIAP/g
Excellence FIAP Platinum	EFIAP/p

4.2. The candidate for these "EFIAP Levels" must:

- a) Be holder of the EFIAP distinction or a previous EFIAP level for at least one year; based on the date of the diploma.

- b) After the date of being awarded the EFIAP distinction, have obtained at least:

For the EFIAP/b	75 acceptances, with at least	25 different works
For the EFIAP/s	150 acceptances, with at least	50 different works
For the EFIAP/g	300 acceptances, with at least	100 different works
For the EFIAP/p	600 acceptances, with at least	200 different works

in international salons under FIAP Patronage.

4.3. **The candidate for an "EFIAP Level" distinction must submit:**

- a) A complete application using forms prescribed by FIAP (which can be downloaded from FIAP's website, see 9.1.).
- b) A number of photographs as indicated hereunder:

EFIAP Bronze:	3 photographs awarded, each in different countries,
EFIAP Silver:	4 photographs awarded, each in different countries,
EFIAP Gold:	5 photographs awarded, each in different countries,
EFIAP Platinum:	6 photographs awarded, each in different countries,

These photographs must be different from those submitted for other distinctions.

- 4.4. In each year only one EFIAP level can be applied for, and each level - Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum - must be achieved in this sequential order.
- 4.5. The "EFIAP Levels" distinctions, based cumulative achievements, is different from the MFIAP distinction. A photographic artist who holds these two distinctions, can use the initials of both distinctions after his/her name. A holder of the MFIAP distinction may apply for the "EFIAP Levels".
- 4.6. **The following procedure must be followed:**
- a) Send the completed and duly signed printed application forms (pages A, B, C, and D) to the FIAP Distinctions Service and to the FIAP Collections Service and, if possible, an additional soft copy of the complete document by electronic mail to the two services.
- b) The works have to be sent to the FIAP Collections Service.
- c) The fee has to be paid to the FIAP Treasurer.
- 4.7. When the EFIAP level is awarded, the candidate will receive a diploma and a badge with red enamel combined with a distinctive addition for each level: bronze colour for EFIAP/b, silver colour for EFIAP/s, gold colour for EFIAP/g and black-platinum colour for EFIAP/p.

5. THE MFIAP DISTINCTION

- 5.1. The distinction "Master Photographer of FIAP" (MFIAP) is awarded to a photographic artist in recognition of his/her entire achievements in the field of artistic photography. MFIAP is the third step, after AFIAP and EFIAP, in the FIAP distinctions awarded for personal successes in photography. The candidate must be holder of the EFIAP distinction for at least 1 year, based on the date of the diploma.
- 5.2. **The candidate for this distinction must submit:**
- a) A complete curriculum vitae using forms prescribed by FIAP. The text should be written in one of the official FIAP languages.

- b) A portfolio of 20 images numbered from 1 to 20 (black and white prints or colour prints). The prints or support must measure 30 x 40 cm. A portfolio-style of presentation is required. The weight of the complete portfolio should not exceed 2 kilograms.
This collection must be coherent from its conception to its realisation and presentation.
 - c) An introductory text that describes the subject and the creative concept of the photographic artist. The text must be written in one of the official FIAP languages.
 - d) The fee has to be paid to the FIAP Treasurer.
- 5.3. A list of acceptances and prizes obtained in international salons under FIAP Patronage is not necessary and these will not be taken into consideration.
 - 5.4. Applications for MFIAP (documents of 5.2. in printed form) must be signed and sent **to the Secretary General of FIAP** and, if possible, together with an additional soft copy of the complete document by electronic mail
 - 5.5. The works must be sent **to the FIAP Headquarters in Paris** with the pages "A" and "B" and the introductory text.
 - 5.6. The portfolios will be examined at one of the ordinary meetings of the FIAP Directory Board. The FIAP Directory Board may call upon the advice of any qualified person.
The MFIAP distinction is awarded by simple majority of the members of the FIAP Directory Board. If the MFIAP distinction is not awarded, the candidate receives a written explanation for the reject.
 - 5.7. If the portfolio of the author is accepted, it becomes the property of FIAP. The collection of works of holders of the MFIAP distinction can be used by FIAP for exhibitions or other events for the benefit of FIAP. Candidates awarded the MFIAP distinction must provide a digital collection in a CD-ROM to FIAP, so that FIAP can reproduce the works to their original quality, should the original images deteriorate. It must be possible to open this file with Adobe Photoshop software-
 - 5.8. When the MFIAP distinction is awarded, the candidate will receive a diploma and a badge with **yellow** enamel.

6. THE ESFIAP DISTINCTION

- 6.1. The distinction "Excellence for Services Rendered" (ESFIAP) is awarded to those persons who have accomplished exceptional services over a long period for the benefit of FIAP.
- 6.2. Holders of the photographic distinctions AFIAP, EFIAP and MFIAP may also be nominated for the ESFIAP distinction if they fulfil the criteria.
- 6.3. Applications for the ESFIAP distinction must comprise a complete dossier with a curriculum vitae and a detailed description of the services rendered by the candidate. The application should be made with the form prescribed by FIAP. The text must be written in one of the official FIAP languages. The application must be addressed **to the Secretary General of FIAP**.
- 6.4. When the ESFIAP distinction is awarded, the candidate will receive a diploma and a badge with **black** enamel.
- 6.5. **Applications for the ESFIAP distinction are handled free of charge.**

7. THE HonEFIAP DISTINCTION

- 7.1. The "Honorary Excellence FIAP" (HonEFIAP) distinction is the highest honour the International Federation of Photographic Art can award to the holder of the ESFIAP distinction. The number of living holders of this distinction is limited to a number set by the FIAP Directory Board.
- 7.2. The HonEFIAP distinction is awarded by the FIAP Directory Board. Unanimity of the votes of the members of this Board is required.
- 7.3. Any extraordinary contribution of an international nature to the development of photography or of photographic art will be taken into account as will be any exceptional service that has contributed to the progress of FIAP.
- 7.4. The application for a HonEFIAP distinction should comprise a complete curriculum vitae and a full description of the services that justify the candidacy. A form prescribed by FIAP should be used. The application written in one of the official FIAP languages should be sent **to the Secretary General of FIAP**.
- 7.5. **Applications for the HonEFIAP distinction are handled free of charge.**
- 7.6. The applications for HonEFIAP are examined by the FIAP Directory Board at one of its ordinary meetings.
- 7.7. When the HonEFIAP distinction is awarded, the candidate will receive a diploma and a badge with **white** enamel.

8. IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- 8.1. **The FIAP Photographer's Life Card**
Any candidate for a photographic distinction of FIAP must be holder of a FIAP Photographer's Card. At the time of a later request for a new photographic distinction, the Photographer's Card will be replaced free, provided that the candidate submits a photograph and a new request form indicating the number of the current card.
The requests for distinctions must obligatorily mention in page "A" of the form of the distinctions the number of the Photographer's Card.
- 8.2. The same work submitted to several salons under FIAP Patronage or to FIAP Biennials must always bear the **same title**.
- 8.3. The acceptance of a **series of prints** or projected images is taken into account as 1 acceptance.
- 8.4. Participations in the **FIAP Biennials** are taken into account for the FIAP distinctions.
- 8.5. For the AFIAP and EFIAP distinctions, at most 20% of the required acceptances in international salons under FIAP Patronage can be acquired by **youth salons or FIAP Biennials**; the other 80% of required acceptances in international salons under FIAP Patronage have to be gained in normal salons open to anyone.

- 8.6. National federations have the right to add for the AFIAP and EFIAP distinctions **national requirements** within reasonable limits.
If the required number of acceptances is reached, the application for the distinction has to be forwarded to FIAP, without any supplementary judging of the works
- 8.7. **Application fee:**
For every application for an AFIAP, EFIAP, EFIAP level or MFIAP an application fee must be paid to the FIAP Treasurer. The amount is determined by the FIAP Directory Board. The fee is to cover the cost of examining the application and, if the application is granted, the dispatch of the diploma and the badge.
Applications will only be processed after the FIAP Treasurer has received the application fee.
- 8.8. When a distinction application is rejected, the applicant needs to wait for at least one year before submitting a fresh application. The candidate must send an updated dossier and, if necessary, other photographic works. He must again pay the application fee.
- 8.9. **On each photographic work sent to FIAP the following data should be:**
- name, address and country of the candidate
 - title of the work and year of taking the picture
 - an indication of the place
 - the indication "FIAP Distinction" and the signature of the author
- All these data must be written very legibly.**
- 8.10. All photographic works presented by the candidate should be accompanied by a **list giving the acceptances**, medals and diplomas obtained in salons under FIAP Patronage (page D of the dossier). The national federations have to verify all the acceptances.
- 8.11. **Acceptances in the digital salons** are taken into account for the FIAP distinctions. However, concerning the works to be submitted, FIAP accepts only photographs of good quality (that means prints with at least 2,400 pixels for the greatest dimension).
- 8.12. **The unmounted prints** should measure 30 x 40 cm; smaller prints must be mounted on a very thin support of 30 x 40 cm. The total weight (photo with light support) may not exceed 90 gr.
- 8.13. Whether or not the distinction is awarded, **the works become the property of FIAP**. They will become part of the artistic patrimony of FIAP and may be used to put together collections.

9. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- 9.1. The **forms for applications** for distinctions are available on FIAP's website *www.fiap.net > distinctions* in Excel format which facilitates downloading and completion by the applicants by "Copy/Paste". It will also enable FIAP to extract the data from these forms without errors when the files are sent by electronic mail.
The forms can also be asked to the Secretary General of FIAP.
On these forms, the federations may replace the second language by a local language of the country.
- 9.2. The national federations are requested to group the various applications and to present them to FIAP **only once a year**. The applications must reach FIAP at least three months before the national federation wishes to receive the diplomas and badges.

- 9.3. Works are to be sent in flat and resistant **packing**.
The weight of a package should not exceed 2 kilograms and the sum of the outer dimensions should not be more than 90 cm. Packages should be sent by post as ordinary mail or by courier service.

Packages must obligatorily carry the mention

"Photographic works for exhibition, no commercial value".

FIAP may refuse to accept any packages, if they involve additional expenses for FIAP.

10. SOME DEFINITIONS

International salon under FIAP Patronage:

any photographic salon organized in accordance with the rules laid down in the regulations "FIAP Patronage" and having been awarded the patronage by the FIAP Patronage Service (indicate the Patronage number on the forms)

Photographic work:

black and white, colour print, projected images, series of prints or projected images

Series of prints or projected images:

a series of prints or projected images to be viewed in a predetermined order and without any sound, or a series of prints or projected images about one subject forming a whole

Acceptance:

any photographic work that has been selected by the jury of the salon for inclusion in the exhibition or projected image presentation or catalogue

Award:

special recognition given to a photographic work by the jury of the salon in the form of a prize, a medal, an honourable mention or a diploma.

See also INFO 2009/573 E "FIAP DISTINCTIONS – PRACTICAL INFORMATION"

This regulation comes into force on 1st January 2010.
