

INTERNATIONAL OPEN PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

“THE BEGINNING OF CHAOS”

WITRYNA GALLERY

Curatorial Introduction

Chaos rarely begins with a dramatic upheaval. More often, it emerges as a barely perceptible impulse: the first crack, a single glance, an irreversible decision — the moment when the existing order ceases to exist.

“**The Beginning of Chaos**” is an open space for multidimensional photographic interpretations. We invite photographers to capture the moment when order gives way to unpredictability — both on a global scale and within the depths of human emotion.

Chaos may take a literal or symbolic form. It may manifest itself in the urban environment, in Nature, in human relationships or in the human body. It can be violent and unmistakable, but it may also remain hidden — perceptible only in a detail, in the interplay of light and shadow, or through artistic ambiguity and omission.

We are not seeking a single, unanimous answer. We seek to discover your individual artistic perspective on the turning point from which everything begins to change.

In this edition, **Witryna Gallery** opens itself directly to the voice of its audience. Submitted and selected works will be presented as part of the exhibition, while the winning photograph will be determined by the community gathered around the Organizer's social media channels. The final verdict will belong to the audience, who will select the work that inspires the deepest reflection.

A photograph does not end its story at the moment the shutter is released — its true meaning emerges through the process of viewing and interpretation.

REGULATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OPEN PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

“THE BEGINNING OF CHAOS”

§ 1. General Provisions and Organizer

1. The Organizer of the International Open Photography Exhibition “**The Beginning of Chaos**” (hereinafter referred to as the “Exhibition”) is the **Łódź Photographic Society**, with its registered office at ul. Piotrkowska 102, 90-004 Łódź, Poland (e-mail: ltf@ltf.com.pl, website: www.ltf.com.pl).

2. The Exhibition is open and international in nature. Participation is open to all photographers, regardless of their artistic achievements, professional experience or membership in photographic organizations.
3. The Curator of the Exhibition is **Katarzyna Berent**.
The Exhibition Commissioner is **Sławomir Grzanek**.
4. **Submission of an entry to the Exhibition constitutes full and unconditional acceptance of these Regulations.**

§ 2. Exhibition Schedule

- **30 September 2026** – Final deadline for submitting works and paying the entry fee.
- **1–10 October 2026** – Online voting period for the Audience Award.
- **14 October 2026** – Official opening of the Exhibition (vernissage) and announcement of the results.

§ 3. Participation Requirements and Technical Specifications

1. Each Participant may submit **a maximum of one photograph**.
2. Technical specifications of the submitted file:
3. **File format:** JPG
4. **Resolution:** 300 dpi
5. **Image aspect ratio:** 1:1, 2:3, 4:3 or 16:9
6. **Print dimensions:** the shorter side of the photograph must measure exactly 20 cm.
7. Entries must be submitted by e-mail to **ltf@ltf.com.pl**, with the subject line: *Exhibition "The Beginning of Chaos"*.
8. The submission e-mail must include:
9. Participant's first and last name,
10. Contact details (e-mail address and telephone number),
11. Title of the work and, optionally, a description (e.g. year and location where the photograph was taken).
12. **File naming:** the submitted photograph must be named according to the following format:

Surname_FirstName_Title.jpg

Example: *Nowak_Jan_Morning.jpg*

If the photograph has no title, the designation **"XXX"** must be used.

Example: *Nowak_Jan_XXX.jpg*

§ 4. Copyright and Exclusion of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

1. By submitting a work, the Participant declares that they hold full moral and economic copyright to the submitted photograph.
2. **The submission of works generated, co-created or substantially modified using artificial intelligence algorithms (AI/Generative AI) is strictly prohibited. The Exhibition is intended exclusively for original works created through the photographic process.**

§ 5. Audience Award

1. All works meeting the formal and technical requirements of the Exhibition will be published anonymously in a dedicated post-exhibition gallery on the Organizer's official Facebook profile.
2. Audience voting for the published photographs will take place from **1 to 10 October 2026**. The number of votes received by each photograph shall be determined by the total number of reactions ("likes") obtained during the designated voting period.
3. Following the conclusion of the voting period, the Organizer will establish a ranking of the **seven authors whose photographs received the highest number of reactions**.
4. From among the seven authors referred to in paragraph 3, the **Main Audience Award Winner** will be selected — the author whose photograph received the highest number of reactions in the public vote.
5. The **Main Audience Award Winner** will receive:
6. a Commemorative Medal of the Łódź Photographic Society,
7. a personalized Audience Award Winner's Diploma,
8. a printed album publication.
9. The remaining **six authors** included among the seven authors receiving the highest number of reactions will receive **personalized Audience Award Distinction Diplomas**.
10. If two or more authors receive the same number of reactions in positions determining qualification among the seven finalists, the Organizer may apply an additional tie-breaking criterion based on the time at which the relevant number of reactions was reached.
11. The Organizer reserves the right to verify the voting process and to disregard votes originating from fictitious, suspicious or artificially created accounts, accounts established for the purpose of manipulating the voting results, or votes generated automatically, including through so-called "like farms."
12. Following completion of the verification process, the final voting results will be announced by the Organizer on its official Facebook profile and through the communication channels customarily used by the Organizer to announce the results of the Exhibition.

§ 6. Entry Fees

1. Participation in the Exhibition requires payment of an organizational fee as follows:
2. **PLN 50** – standard fee,
3. **PLN 30** – fee for members of the Łódź Photographic Society with currently paid membership dues.
4. **Payment details:**
5. **Recipient:** Łódź Photographic Society
6. **Account number (PL):** 13 1020 3352 0000 1202 0074 2676
7. **IBAN (international transfers):** PL13 1020 3352 0000 1202 0074 2676
8. **Transfer title:** *Exhibition – The Beginning of Chaos – [Participant's First and Last Name]*
9. The entry fee is used to cover the technical and organizational costs of the Exhibition, preparation of the exhibition display and digital publication.
10. The entry fee is **non-refundable**.

§ 7. Personal Data Protection (GDPR)

1. The controller of the Participants' personal data is the **Łódź Photographic Society**.
2. Personal data will be processed solely for purposes related to the organization, administration, promotion and archival documentation of the Exhibition, in accordance with the provisions of the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**.