

# MARJOLEIN MARTINOT

## *Riverland*

OD  
PHOTO  
PRIZE

"Over the last years, photography has taken a very important place in my life. Although I didn't realise it at the time when I started taking photo's (years ago), it has now become a life-changing activity for me, and especially during the last couple of years. While photographing, I find that I am able to create some kind of outlet for myself. A way to travel, to step away from everyday life. Immersing in something - into another world, yet without physically having to go anywhere. With all my photography-work, I often try to evoke

inner sentiments and feelings, while observing and drawing parallels to my own life. In my last photo-series, Riverland, I attempt to portray the way a meandering river compares to the always unexpected and unknown course life takes, and flows..." R I V E R L A N D - by Marjolein Martinot - "Some say love, it is a river That drowns the tender reed" (from 'The Rose') In between the bleakness of the times, the restrictions, fears, and constraints of the lockdowns and curfews, the summer of 2020 felt rather doomed. Travel



plans had to be canceled and all family visits were off. In addition, I was facing some internal turmoil and personal issues. Then, just when things seemed dull and dark, I happened to stumble upon a place where there was lots of lightness and laughter. A place in the middle of nowhere, a place of natural beauty, where everyone seemed happy and was just hanging out. Children - big and small - jumping and splashing, climbing and swinging from the trees. Families swimming together, playing together, having

fun. At once I felt connected again. Connected to life, to the beautiful nature around me, but most importantly, I felt connected to myself again... The wild boys do exist, somewhere in a happy time bubble, where viruses don't seem to live. A place where there is fun, and nature is beautiful. Life is beautiful, and mysterious... One never really knows what will be around the next bend.





# MARJOLEIN MARTINOT

## Artist Bio

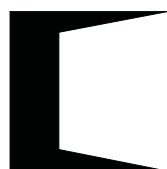
Marjolein is a Dutch photographer, based in France. She has always been drawn to photography from an early age, and has continued using and exploring the medium throughout her life, while raising a family of six children. Her photography touches on the poetic, while striving to remain authentic and true at the same time. She aims to evoke sentiments by using and mixing different photographic approaches and analogue cameras. The prime focus of Marjolein's work is on everyday life: family, friends, and the places and things that touch her. She has participated in various photography classes and workshops, and works on personal projects and commissions.

## Judges Pick | Selected by Bill Shapiro

*"Riverland is Dutch photographer Marjolein Martinot's poetic response to the dark sci-fi nightmare that was the global pandemic. With pictures that arise almost dreamlike from the water at the centre of her story, she focuses on the people—children, parents, lovers—drawn to the river to escape the pervasive loneliness and fear. Evoking memories of a favourite childhood summer, her images wash over us like a baptism of sorts, offering a new beginning."*

– Bill Shapiro, 2022  
Former Editor-in-Chief at LIFE Magazine, writer

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