

Biography

Jean Marc La Roque was born in Cherbourg, a seaport in Normandy, north west France. He has worked as a professional photographer for the last 35 years and has lived in Melbourne since the late 70's. Jean Marc is an award winning photographer and has extensive experience in the Asia- Pacific region. He has specialised in large scale industrial, shipping and architectural photography and has been very successful in commercial photography and corporate portraits. His landscapes are very graphic with an abstract quality, perfectly reflecting the intensity of the Australian light. He often includes large scale industrial elements within these landscapes to give a sense of scale and place.

Jean Marc Laroque is represented in Europe by Monteoliveto Gallery from 2013 in many of our art events and fairs in Nice, Paris, Milan, Principality of Monaco, and soon in 2020-2021 the Milan edition of #Through Your Lens Photography exhibition.

Jean Marc captures the feeling of the natural world and shows the visual harmony that can exist between human and natural components. He constantly explores the ways that beauty can be found in industrial settings. This work often takes him to physically challenging and remote areas, which allows the viewer to have access to the beauty of these inhospitable areas.

Many large-scale works have been commissioned by clients in Australia and internationally for corporate offices and private homes.

Jean Marc has received numerous international photography awards and has also exhibited in New York, Paris, Florence, Milan and Melbourne.

Artist Statement

My inclination is to capture the range of feelings one can find in the natural world, and to explore man's presence in that world.

Like all photography, my technique focuses on light, shape and composition. I try to open myself to the subject, observe without judgement, organise the structure of the image, then persevere until I get the shot I want.

My work involves:

- landscapes with a graphic, almost abstract quality
- large-scale industrial elements within these landscapes, and
- studies of industrial structures.

- My aim is to express the feeling of the natural world, to show the visual harmony that can exist between human and natural components and to find beauty in industrial subjects. Occasionally, I include a fragile, human presence to emphasise scale and power.

- It seems to me that in Europe, the culture of visual expression runs deep in society. A lot of value is placed on aesthetics in art, design and architecture. So, when I started work as a professional photographer in Australia in the 1980s, I never saw photography as just a commercial enterprise. I always believed in the aesthetic validity of my work, beyond its commercial purpose.

- The biggest obstacle I have faced is maintaining a sense of artistic value while working in a commercial field.

- The most gratifying experience is getting a better shot than the one I imagine. It's when everything falls into place - the composition, light, shape and so forth, then something unexpected happens that brings a little bit of magic to the picture.- What do I want my art to accomplish? I want to bring people into my world. If I get a sense of peace or wonder from a location, I want people to get the same feeling when they see my image. In the case of industrial subjects, I want to show people a new way of seeing an object that would not normally be considered beautiful.

- I don't know if my art will stand out, but it is a reflection of my experiences and my values. My life has been unconventional in some ways, so maybe my work reflects this.

Awards

2019

Tokyo International photo awards honourable mention architecture

Nominee in architecture ICA 13th annual edition

Circle Foundation of the Arts Artist of the year Honourable Mention

Silver award WPE international photographers awards commercial

Silver award WPE international photographers awards landscape

Honourable mention in Fine Art at the 12th Annual International Colour award

2018

Nominee in Fine Art 13th Annual Black and White spider awards

Nominee in Fine Art 11th international Colour Awards

2016

Nominee in Advertising 11th Annual Black and White spider awards

Nominee in Advertising 9th international Colour Awards

2015

Winner at the PX3 prix de la photography Paris advertising/annual report

Nominee in Architecture 8th international Colour Awards

2013 One Eyland Photography award bronze in Architecture_Industrial

2010 Photography master cup aerial winner 1st place- Outstanding Achievement

2009 Award of Excellence Communication Arts

2008

gold award Aipp commercial category

international ARC Awards gold winner annual report cover photography

international ARC Awards bronze winner annual report photography

2007

Award of Excellence Communication Arts

photography Master Cup nominee in Architecture

2006

Award of Excellence Communication Arts

Black and White spider award nominee in nature

2002

Victorian illustrative photographer of the year

Victorian Commercial photographer of the year