

STEYPA

Photographs by 10 Icelandic and international photographers

Photography exhibition in
Hveragerði (in a greenhouse)
and Reykholt (Restaurant Mika)

(see page 3 for exact locations in Hveragerði and Reykholt)

1 June til 31 August 2017

Hveragerði: Monday to Friday 8 am - 4 pm

Reykholt: Daily 11:30 am - 9:00 pm

Free entrance

www.steypaphoto.com

www.facebook.com/steypaphoto

STEYPA 2017 - Photography exhibition

Hveragerði and Reykholt

After three successful exhibitions in Djúpvík and one last year in Ólafsvík, the 5th STEYPA is now being held at two places simultaneously – in Hveragerði and Reykholt. Ten photographers from Iceland and abroad are showing their unique and unusual perspectives of Iceland at a greenhouse among exotic plants in Hveragerði, and at the Restaurant Mika in Reykholt.

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Hveragerði: Open 1 June until 31 August, Monday to Friday from 8 am - 4 pm in a greenhouse of the *Agricultural University of Iceland* (horticultural campus at Reykir, Ölfus), close to the swimming pool. The entrance is free.

Reykholt í Biskupstungum: Open daily 1 June until 31 August from 11:30 am - 9 pm at *Restaurant Mika* (Skólabraut 4, 801 Reykholt), Road #35 between Selfoss and Geysir/Gullfoss. The entrance is free.

More information about STEYPA on www.steypaphoto.com and on **Facebook** www.facebook.com/steypaphoto
Please share STEYPA with the hashtag [#steypaphoto](https://twitter.com/steypaphoto)

Contact: Claus Sterneck - info@steypaphoto.com

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Thanks for the support: Uppbyggingarsjóðs Suðurlands, Hveragerðisbær, Melinda Kumbalek (editing, translations)

How to find STEYPA in Hveragerði and in Reykholt

This year STEYPA can be seen at two locations: Hveragerði and Reykholt í Biskupstungu, east of Reykjavík.

Hveragerði is right on the Ring Road #1, roughly 45 km east of Reykjavík. There, STEYPA is being held at the *Agricultural University of Iceland* (horticultural campus at Reykir, Ölfus), in a greenhouse among exotic plants. The school is located right behind the swimming pool and campsite at the end of the road “Reykjamörk”.

Reykholt (í Biskupstungu) is a small village on Road #35, which is on the way to Geysir and Gullfoss. The turnoff is just west of Selfoss and from there it's about 40 km to Reykholt. The *Restaurant Mika* can be easily seen from the roundabout.



Anna Grevenitis (USA)

(Hveragerði - greenhouse)

Anna Grevenitis (b.1974 in Colmar, France). After devoting most of her formative years to language and literature, earning two Master's degrees in English and American Literature and teaching literature and composition on CUNY campuses around New York City, French-born Anna Grevenitis embarked on her path to photography twelve years ago. Apart from a few basic classes that got her started, she taught herself the art. She uses her camera to search for meaning in her daily introspection. Day after day, creating images of her daughter and son, of people and places in her life, she is observing everything more closely and reflecting on it all; she is creating meaning.



Her series “A place for all things” was exhibited at STEYPA in Ólafsvík, Iceland in the summer of 2016. This year in her new series “Crane photobomb”, Anna tackles the implications of booming tourism in Iceland – specifically on Reykjavík’s urban vistas.

Homepage: www.annagrevenitis.com

Blog: www.annagrevenitis.wordpress.com



Claudia Kerns (GER)

(Hveragerði - greenhouse)

How can people live in a place in the middle of the ocean with unpredictable volcanoes and earthquakes? Driven by this question since the age of sixteen, Claudia wanted to see and experience Iceland for herself. On her first trip, she travelled from Reykjavík to Hveragerði, passing through the geothermal area. From that moment on, she knew that the place is somehow magical and she would have to return one day. Four years later, she found herself living in Iceland.

Today Claudia pursues her passions of writing and photography. In her project entitled “icelandworld”, she publishes snippets of her observations of people and places in Iceland. °ICELANDERS OF BERLIN is a new project that aims to take a look at the motivations of Icelanders living abroad. She interviews Icelanders living in Berlin and portrays them in surroundings that they feel emotionally connected to.

You are invited to look into the eyes of the Icelanders shown at STEYPA. What do you think drives them in life and gives them the courage to live so far away from home?

Website: www.icelandworld.pics

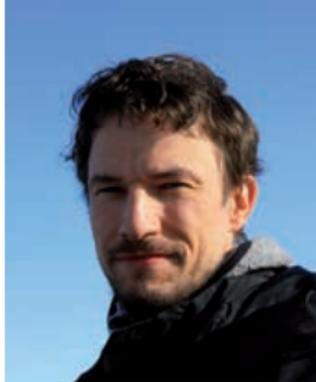
Facebook: www.facebook.com/icelandworld



Claus Sterneck (GER/IS)

(Hveragerði and Reykholt)

Claus (1970) first visited Iceland in 2003, going straight to Djúpavík (Westfjords) for a week. He immediately fell in love with Djúpavík and Iceland - and knew that this place would change his life forever. After spending two summers in Djúpavík, he decided to stay in Reykjavík over the winter 2008/2009 instead of returning to Germany. He now happily lives in Reykjavík where he works as a postman and in a museum.



His photography blog shows Iceland from a different perspective. The focus is on showing a unique view of Icelandic daily life which cannot be found in most picture books and articles on Iceland. Claus has been showing his photos in Iceland and abroad since 2009. One of his projects is “Pictures – and their sounds”, which combines the element of sound with his photography. When taking a picture, he also records the sound of the surrounding environment. Have a look at the webpage www.claus-in-iceland.com/pats

For STEYPA 2017, Claus is showing a collection of photos from the series “Silence”, “Djúpavík in winter” and “Kría” at the Reykholt location, and “hidden pictures” in Hveragerði.

Contact: claus@claus-in-iceland.com

Homepage: www.claus-in-iceland.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/claus.in.iceland



Frédérique Larousserie (F)

(Hveragerði - greenhouse)

Frédérique L., a French amateur photographer, lives and works in Paris (France), and loves Iceland and clouds (among other things!).



After being invited to join STEYPA this year, she decided to present 14 *clouds* and 2 *optical effects* from her CloudSpotter* collection. All pictures were shot in Iceland between July 2013 and December 2014 with an iPhone 4s.

“All clouds shown have been verified by the CloudSpotter team. As science can inhibit the imagination and contemplation, I didn’t indicate the name of the cloud species on the artwork itself, but on an additional leaflet,” she says.

* The CloudSpotter app was created by Gavin Pretor-Pinney and The Cloud Appreciation Society.



Stratocumulus (East Iceland, July 5th, 2013)

Gabrielle Motola (USA/UK)

(Hveragerði - greenhouse)

Gabrielle Motola studied psychology, film and photography at the University of Miami and the Spéos Institute in Paris. Her work often explores the formation of identity within society with an emphasis on gender-created issues.



Presented here is a selection of images from her first book *An Equal Difference* (2016). Inspired by Icelandic analysis of the 2008 financial crisis, Gabrielle made more than 20 trips to Iceland to photograph and speak with members of society. The result was a photographic and textual exploration of Icelandic society's relationship to the earth, the self and each other.

Gabrielle is an American-born British national currently living and working in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Contact: gaby@gabriellemotola.com

Homepage: www.gabriellemotola.com

Books available: www.anequaldifference.com



Julia Kozakiewicz (PL)

(Hveragerði - greenhouse)

Originally from Warsaw, Poland, Julia has been in Iceland since last summer and is now living in Reykjavík. Although she works with many forms of media, photography is her favorite. She studied photography at the Academy of Photography in Warsaw. Her photographs have been shown in several exhibitions in Poland.



Since she is concerned with the environment and human dependence on nature, human interference in the natural environment is a motif depicted in many of her works. She focuses on the unseen and averts the lens from the usual angle. The project “Still” shows Icelandic contrasts – differences in perspective and scale, yet overall harmonious. Her photographs are silent and calming. At the same time, they evoke a feeling of tension and disturbance. For Julia, Iceland is full of such never-ending contradictions. The title of the exhibition refers to the ambiguity of the word itself. The photographs are motionless – not only because of the nature of the medium, but also the static scenes captured. They are also visually peaceful. This is a subjective documentary – frames from observations of life in Iceland.

Contact: jul.kozakiewicz@gmail.com

Tumblr: mercipetitgarcon.tumblr.com

Instagram: [instagram.com/mercipetitgarcon](https://www.instagram.com/mercipetitgarcon)



Michael Koenigshofer (A)

(Reykholt - Restaurant Mika)

Michael Königshofer first became interested in Iceland a few years ago through the music of Sigur Rós. The guys in this band really know how to make music that sounds just like the Icelandic countryside looks. Since then, Michael has been passionate about the country and its landscapes.



In 2016, he took a five-week trip to Iceland and hitchhiked around the whole island. He took pictures of everything he saw and experienced along the way, although he wasn't concerned with the famous spots, such as waterfalls or geysers. Instead, Michael focused on the smaller, inconspicuous places, encounters with people, and the atmosphere in Iceland.

Michael, who lives in Graz/Austria, works as a photographer for a branding agency and is mainly responsible for corporate clients. Apart from work, he enjoys documentary and travel photography, where he likes to tell stories through series of images.

Contact: office@koenigshofer.biz

Homepage: www.koenigshofer.biz



Nanne Springer (CAN)

(Hveragerði - greenhouse)

Photography has been an important part of Nanne's life since she moved from Germany to Canada in 2010.



Her first visit to Iceland in 2016 was to explore Icelandic architecture and speak with local architects. She was fascinated by the significance of landscape and natural surroundings in architectural projects and realized that they are symbiotic.

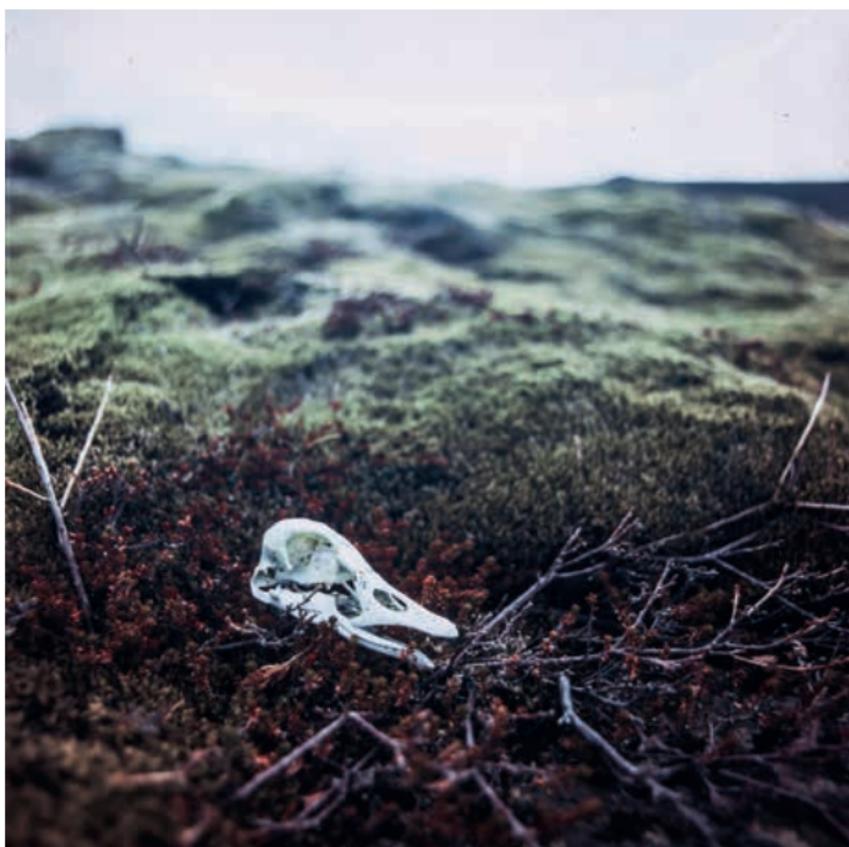
Beautiful mountains, waterfalls and volcanic scenes might quickly catch your attention, but if you take a closer look you will notice the little things: twigs like dry veins on the ground, bones scattered across moss, stranded fish that still seem to be alive, or sturdy grass thriving between volcanic stones. Even the small details of the Icelandic landscape can reveal hidden wonder.

Contact: nanne@nannespringer.com

Homepage: www.nannespringer.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/nannephotography/

Instagram: [@aelavedur](https://www.instagram.com/aelavedur)



Thomas Verfaille (BE)

(Hveragerði - greenhouse)

Thomas (1977) is a Belgian photographer based in Ghent. The original plan was to become a civil engineer/architect, but after 5 years of studying at the University of Ghent, he made an overnight decision to become a photographer.



He graduated in 2005 from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Ghent with a master's degree in photography. Since 2005 he has worked as an independent freelance photographer and tries to travel as much as possible, using his camera to explore the world. He first visited Iceland in the summer of 2013 and immediately fell in love with the country. It became the start of a series of visits to work on a photo project.

The pictures shown in STEYPA are part of the series 'I like you standing in my landscape'. In these photos you often see simple objects and everyday life, but framed and combined in such a way that it becomes narrative.

Iceland becomes the backdrop to these little stories.

Contact: Thomas.verfaille@telenet.be

Homepage: www.thomasverfaille.com

tumblr: www.thomasverfaille.tumblr.com



Valdimar Thorlacius (IS)

(Hveragerði - greenhouse)

Valdimar Thorlacius (b.1988) is from Hveragerði, Iceland. His project for Steypa 2017, “An Island in Ölfus”, can be described as a personal documentation of his own surroundings where he photographs Hveragerði in relation to how it came into existence. For him, photography is a creative outlet – he has always been a creative person and photography is just one more way for him to make things. Taking photographs and combining them with stories that affect people in one way or another may be a form of expression for him, but he doesn't really think about photography in that way. He simply likes working with the medium and how the act of taking a photograph lets him interact with people, places and nature in so many different ways.



Homepage: www.valdimarth.com

Instagram: www.instagram.com/valdimar_thorlacius



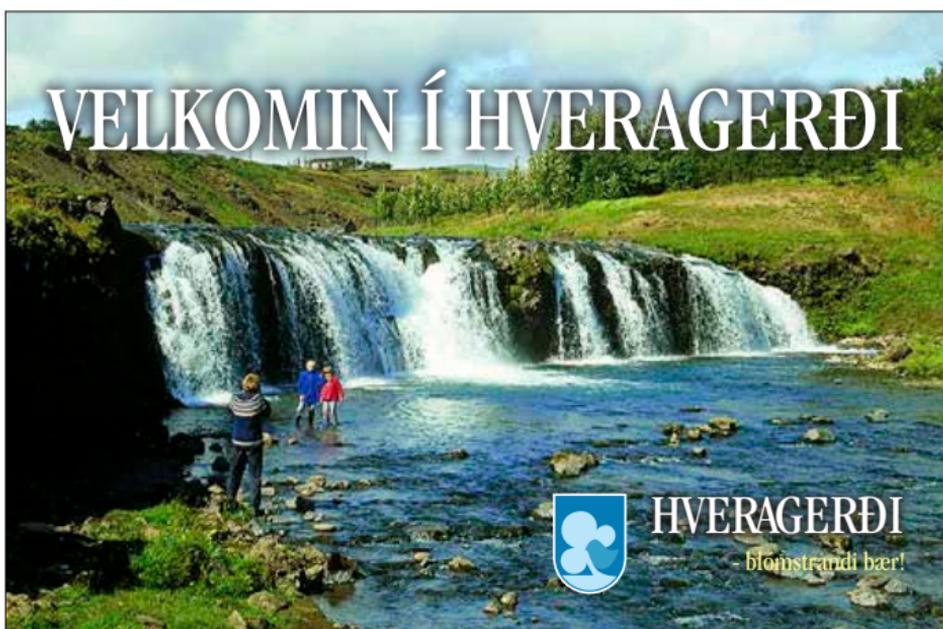


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12 Tónar

Skólavörðustíg 15 • 101 Reykjavík

12tonar@12tonar.is

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More information about STEYPA on www.steypaphoto.com and **Facebook** www.facebook.com/steypaphoto

Contact: Claus Sterneck - info@steypaphoto.com

Thanks for the support:



Uppbyggingarsjóðs Suðurlands, Hveragerðisbær,
Melinda Kumbalek (editing, translations)