



Alana Perino, *Madi's Hair*, 2022

Artist Alana Perino Awarded 2025 Aperture Portfolio Prize

(New York—May 13, 2025) Aperture is pleased to announce photographer Alana Perino as the winner of the 2025 Aperture Portfolio Prize. Perino was selected from five shortlisted artists who include Sara Abbaspour, Emma Ressel, Hashem Shakeri, and Daria Svertilova.

Since 2006, the Aperture Portfolio Prize aims to discover, exhibit, and publish new talents in photography—identifying contemporary trends in the field and highlighting artists whose work deserves greater recognition. This year, a jury of leading figures in the field of photography awarded the prize: Noelle Flores Théard, senior digital photo-editor, *The New Yorker*; Lucy Gallun, curator, Robert B. Menschel Department of Photography, MoMA; Zack Hatfield, managing editor, *Aperture* magazine; and Mark Armijo McKnight, artist and 2019 Aperture Portfolio Prize winner.

Perino's winning submission, *Pictures of Birds*, is a mesmeric evocation of familial memory and mortality. Born in New York and raised by separated parents, Perino moved to live with their father and stepmother on the small Floridian island of Longboat Key in 2020, where their stepmother died the following year. The project combines contemplative domestic scenes with the lush environment of the island, contrasting cycles of life in both nature and the home. "This particular ecosystem within Longboat Key—the humidity, the scope of life—highlights how interconnected all of the different species are and how reliant we are on the shells, the mangroves, and the water to proceed from one generation to another," says Perino.

As the first-prize winner, Perino will be featured in *Aperture's* Summer 2025 issue launching in June, and will receive a \$5,000 cash prize, a \$1,000 gift card to MPB.com, and a solo presentation organized by Aperture in New York City. The four shortlisted artists will each receive a \$1,000 cash prize and an editorial feature on Aperture.org. To preview the Summer issue, which includes an article about Perino and their work by Eli Cohen, and to learn more about all the shortlisted artists, visit Aperture.org.

Perino and the 2025 shortlist join the ranks of illustrious winners and shortlisted artists for the Portfolio Prize in past years, including Felipe Romero Beltrán, Dannielle Bowman, Alejandro Cartagena, Jessica Chou, River Claire, Eli Durst, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Janna Ireland, Abhishek Khedekar, Natalie Krick, Daniel Jack Lyons, Vân-Nhi Nguyễn, Drew Nikonowicz, Sarah Palmer, A vion Pearce, RaMell Ross, Bryan Schutmaat, Donavon Smallwood, Laila Stevens, Ka-Man Tse, and Guanyu Xu.

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Press contact:

Lauren Van Natten

+1 212.946.7151

publicity@aperture.org

Aperture

548 West 28th Street, 4th Floor

New York, NY 10001

T +1 212.505.5555

aperture.org

The 2025 Aperture Portfolio Prize is supported by MPB.

Alana Perino (born in New York, 1988) is an artist based in Providence, Rhode Island. Their practice, which spans photography, sculpture, performance, and autofiction, is concerned with home, the nature of belonging, and perceptions of the self. Their work has been exhibited and published by *Aperture*, Lenscratch, LensCulture, and Palm Studios, among others. Previously, Perino has taught at Academy of Art University, Harvey Milk Center for the Arts, both in San Francisco, and at the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence.

About Aperture

Aperture is a nonprofit publisher that leads conversations around photography worldwide. From our base in New York, Aperture connects global audiences and supports artists through our acclaimed quarterly magazine, books, exhibitions, digital platforms, public programs, limited-edition prints, and awards. Established in 1952 to advance “creative thinking, significantly expressed in words and photographs,” Aperture champions photography’s vital role in nurturing curiosity and encouraging a more just, tolerant society. For more information on Aperture, visit: aperture.org

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