

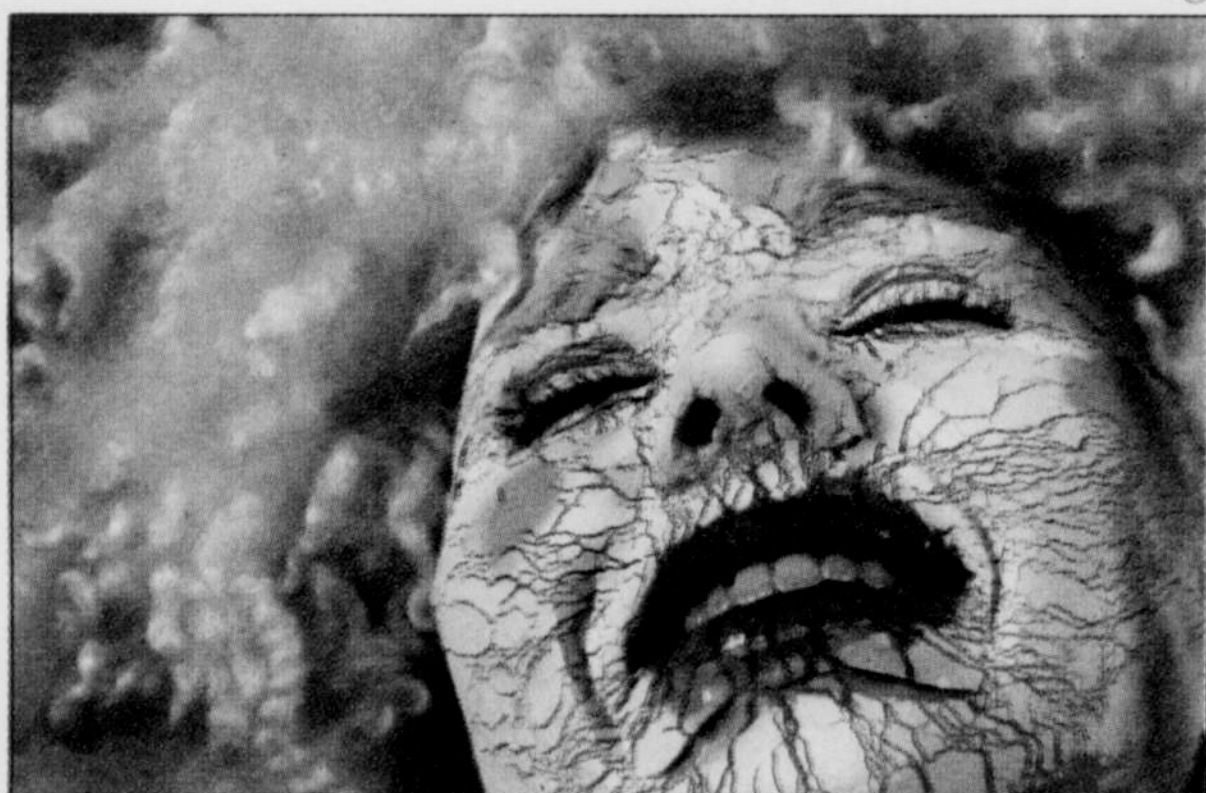
2006 *Just Out* AMATEUR PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Through the Out Lens

Amateur Photo Contest winners exposed
by Jaymee R. Cuti and Malka Geffen

WINNER **GRAND PRIZE**

Untitled Joseph Robertson



Joseph Robertson shot this photo at Clatsop Community College for his friend's fashion show.

Photography has been a hobby of Robertson's for 10 years, but cost kept him without a camera and other necessary tools. He recently traded in the hot stamp machine he'd been binding books with for the Canon that took this top-ranking shot, after realizing he was being poisoned from lead he used in the binding process.

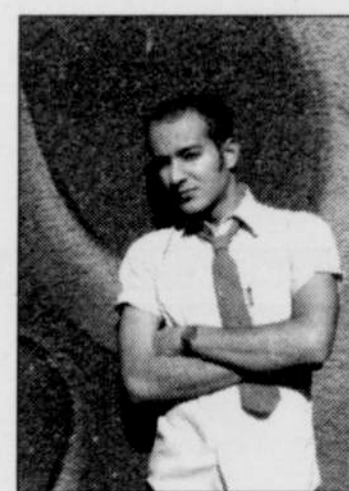
"It's always been a hobby, but I've dropped it from time to time because it was too expensive until digital photography improved," said Robertson.

Gillian Hall, the model, had been straining for hours during the fashion show to keep a straight face while wearing a plaster mask. In this final shot, Robertson asked her to smile and the mask broke into an intricate web of cracks that fascinated *Just Out* judges.

To Robertson, the shot evoked the peeling and decaying architecture he regularly interacts with in his Astoria dwelling.

Robertson is planning a move to Portland this summer. He would like to pursue graphic design and fashion photography and soak up some of the city's culture. Robertson is looking for a local venue to display a set of 20 prints.

To view his work, visit flickr.com/photos/josephrobertson.



WINNER **NATURE CATEGORY**

"Flower" Don Valerio

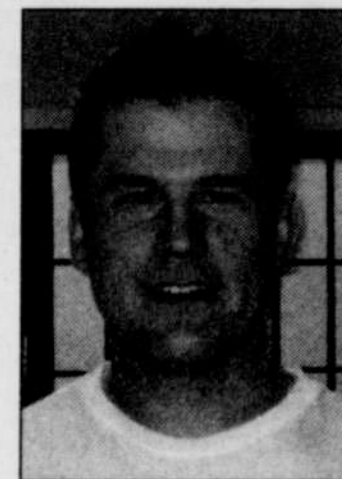


Don Valerio took this stunning photograph in March while vacationing in Costa Rica. The flower was on the slope of a volcano.

"It just came out like that," says Valerio about the rich blue background of his photo. *Just Out* judges enjoyed the piece's vivid colors and interesting focus. The photo stood out as a winner just as the flower pops out at the viewer.

Valerio was born in Anchorage, Alaska. He went to school in New York, where he lived for 10 years before moving to Portland in 2002. Valerio is primarily interested in nature photography and says there is more opportunity here than in New York for his work.

For his day job, Valerio works as a physician.



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