



© Alessandro Gruzza



The Blue Pool on the Top of the World

Alessandro Gruzza

Earth's Environments

Celebrating the scale and magnitude of Earth's landforms, whether seen from the ground or the air, the natural forces sculpting them or pure wilderness on a landscape scale.

Highly Commended

Highly commended

Earth's Environments

Southern Europe

Adult Wildlife Photographer of the Year

2020

Italy

Europe

Alessandro had visited this spot more than 50 times, but he had never seen these conditions. The water had frozen to a rich blue, the first snowfall of the year edging the pond's curves with a delicate beauty. Alessandro composed his image so that the sky and foreground would mirror each other, bisected by the dramatic Dolomites.

The Lagorai mountain range is formed of fine-grained volcanic rock. This makes the ground impermeable, so rainwater tends to sit on its surface, forming many lakes and ponds. The nearby Dolomites, once a geological mystery, are now known to have originated as ancient coral atolls, elevated to great heights over the past 60 million years.

BEHIND THE LENS



Alessandro Gruzza

Italy

www.alegruzza.com

Alessandro was raised in the foothills of Italy's Dolomites and appreciated nature from an early age. He became a professional photographer in 2013 and has won many awards in photography contests and published several books. In 2018 he founded Munay Publishing. He has staged exhibitions and his photographs are permanently displayed at the Centrum Jana Pawla II in Krakow, Poland.

📷 Canon EOS 5D Mark III

📺 16–35mm f4 lens

⚙️ 80 sec at f14 • ISO 100 • 0.9 soft graduated ND filter + 6-stop ND filter

Copyright in WPY competition photographs remains the property of the respective photographers. You may not copy, share, reproduce or republish the photographs except as expressly permitted by copyright law. For media image usage enquiries, please contact us.