

The Photographer's Mail

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Warren Williams, Williams Photography (www.williamsphotography.co.nz)

Wedding and portrait professionals strike gold

Some of New Zealand's top photographers have been celebrated in the latest edition of the awards programme aimed exclusively at professionals working in the portrait and wedding industry.

Taking place later in the year than usual, the Kodak Professional Gold Awards were judged in late December, with 62 gold awards assigned to outstanding prints across four categories — Wedding: Bride and/or Groom, Wedding: Group, Portrait: Individual, and Portrait: Group.

Pictured is a gold-winning portrait by Auckland photographer Warren Williams of Williams Photography, one of the competition's top 10 photographers. Head to page 16 to see the rest.

Williams captured this shot while in Fiji for a destination wedding. Taking a few days to relax, he and his wife Katrina were treated to some

incredible sunsets the photographer says he could not resist shooting.

"Split underwater photography is incredibly challenging, with a few factors to consider including varying stops of light and hyperfocal distances," Williams says.

"We've captured many subjects underwater, including a couple of brave brides and grooms over the past year."

This latest edition was run by Independent Photographic Supplies New Zealand (IPS), appointed Kodak distributor for the country.

Organizer Brian Kearney says there was a huge learning curve in putting the event together but looks forward to this year's edition, planned to take place soon after the New Zealand Institute of Professional Photography's annual conference in August.