



Luis Alberto Franke

# PATAGONIA

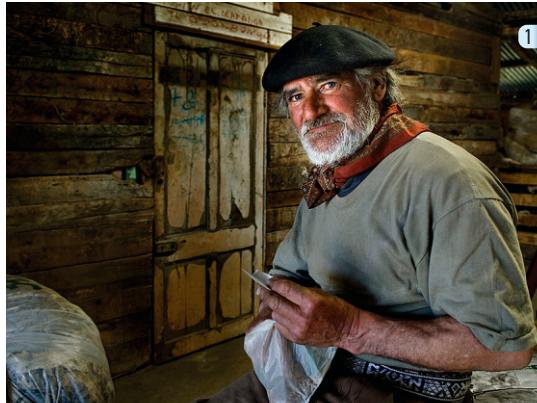
EXHIBITION OF ART PHOTOGRAPHY  
07-17 JUNE 2013 / KAVADARCI - MACEDONIA

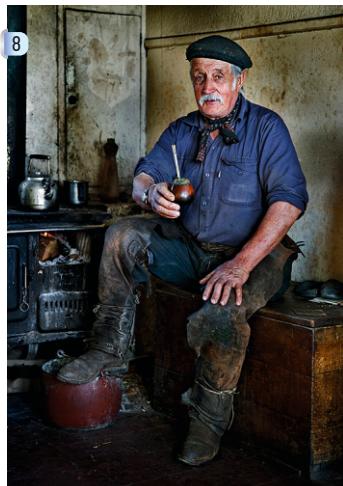
The word **PATAGONIA** contains concepts of rough weather, strange environments, specialized nature and unique lives.

Many years accumulate the first pictures I made in this distant land. Land that caught me with its contrasts: of nature and human characters. Thousands of kilometers travelled, by all means existing there, have shown me only a fraction of its charms. Some beautifully exposed to the lens: mountains, valleys, plateaus, plains, glaciers, changing skies and endless roads. Sometimes difficult to frame because of the roughness of the southern wind that does everything a permanent move. Others, elusive to the search and the shooting of the camera: lonely people, protected and distant buildings, endemic fauna camouflaged with its environment, vegetation fighting to survive the hostile climate.

Therefore, the hours spent on searching images were not only rude days of hiking, walking, horse riding or driving, not only were hours of freezing nights in stalls or in the shelter of scrubby shrubs that do not protect from the stormy wind. They were hours and moments of great joy: to meet for the first time with lonely landscapes; to discover a little flower just opened in the short austral spring; to capture the soft landing of flamingos in brackish lagoons; to photograph the skillful shearer working on the body of a sheep; to startle me with the thunder of ancient ice that break away in our majestic glaciers; to find perfect angles with which embody the clouds, the winds, the snows; to beg a few seconds of stillness to the fast guanaco and the inaccessible condor to capture a picture of pure nature; patiently studying the lonely shepherds in his philosophical rural life and portray them in concluding snapshots; holding the slow wanderings of thousands of sheep and the shepherd dogs; to find a culture and lifestyle that is being lost; to find beauty in the simplicity and complexity of its firmament.

Finally, these were and will be joys of a photographer who ended up loving this land. Land that traps by their greatness and their nitpicking, its soils and skies, its spaces and people, its history and its future. Perhaps this brief collection, chosen to best illustrate a great South American regional geography, will inspire and encourage others photographers and art enthusiasts to capture in pictures what appears in front of their lenses. Visiting and making images in this distant land of unknowns, they will enrich with new shots the small album that just for fun and curiosity one day I started.







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12



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1. Fritz
2. La vieja estafeta
3. En la matera
4. Más allá de los cerros
5. La Era del Hielo
6. Galpón patagónico
7. El ovejero y su rebaño
8. Tómese un mate mi amigo!
9. Arreo en Nibepo Aike
10. Los corderos y la tropilla
11. Un descanso y unos mates
12. Emblema de los Andes
13. El esquilador



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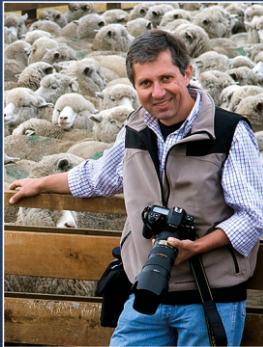


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17

14. Formación ovina; 15. Estepa Austral; 16. Mi charito; 17. Cerro Fitz Roy; Front cover: Arbol Bandera, Back cover: El molino



### LUIS ALBERTO FRANKE, EFAF, EFIAP/b, GMPSA

He was born in Argentina in 1963. He is an industrial engineer and an amateur photographer. Since 1988 he has been travelling round the Southern Patagonia in Argentina, where he has done several photographic reports on rural establishments of that area. His photography shows the natural sceneries, the people and especially they show the rural life of the vast southern farms.

He is an active member of the Grupo Fotografico Parque, an important photo club of Buenos Aires and he is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and have served as the PSA Region Director for South America since 2009. Regularly receives invitations to judge International Exhibitions. Since 2003 he has taken parts in national and international salons of photography and has obtained more than 8.000 acceptances and 1.400 awards in more than 50 countries. He has been first of the world in the PSA "Who's Who" listings in the Photo Travel and Nature Divisions.

The FAF distinguished him as "Excellence Artist" (EFAF) in 2009; the PSA as "Grand Master in Photography" (GMPSA) in 2012 and the FIAP distinguished him as "Excellence Bronze Artist" (EFIAP/b) in 2011.



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