Award Winning Photographer Ted Dobosz

The Astronomy Photographer of the Year is an annual event run by the Royal Observatory Greenwich. The competition is open to anyone around the globe. The three main categories in the competition were:

(i) **Earth and Space** for photos of landscape, people and other 'Earthly' things combined with an astronomical subject (e.g. stars, the Moon, or near-Earth phenomena such as aurora).
(ii) **Our Solar System** for photos of the Sun, planets, moons, asteroids and comets.
(iii) **Deep Space** for stars, nebulae and galaxies.

In the inaugural year 2009 of the competition, the photo **Star Trails, Blue Mountains** by Ted Dobosz won the category of **Earth and Space**. It captures a dark starry night where the glow of the Milky Way and the Magellanic Clouds are stretched across the night-sky. As the Earth spins during the 30-minute exposure of the photograph, the stars make trails around the South Celestial Pole.

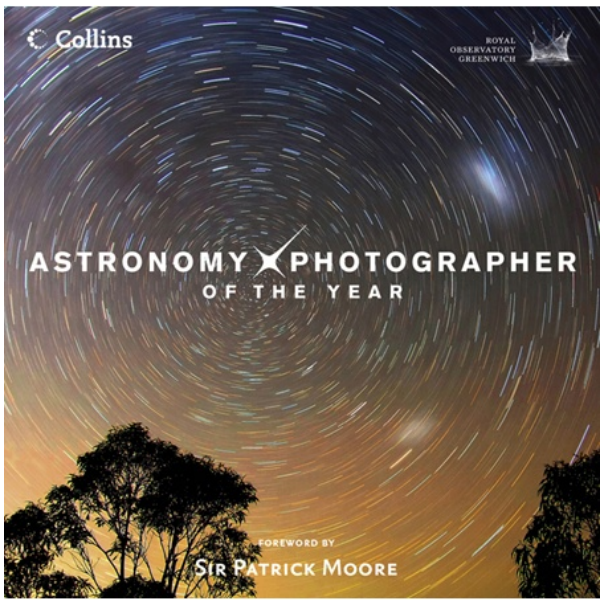
Ted comments on the winning photograph: "I recall clearly the night I grabbed an old film camera and placed it on a tripod and, using a cable release, I was able to keep the shutter open for a few minutes. Imagine my delight and surprise when a myriad of star streaks appeared in my pictures! Today that delight is still there whenever I again decide to try my hand at the most basic form of astrophotography, simple star trails from a long exposure. Anyone with a camera can do it: try it and enjoy the beauty of the night sky!"

Competition judge Chris Lintott said: "It is the ghostly images of the Milky Way's two companion galaxies that make this image something very special. The trees give a sense of being rooted on Earth as the heavens turn above you."

Ted's image of star trails was taken from a site at Woodford in the Blue Mountains. He used a Canon 40D DSLR camera with a Tamron 17mm lens at f/3.5 and an exposure of 30 minutes. The Large & Small Magellanic Clouds are clearly visible.

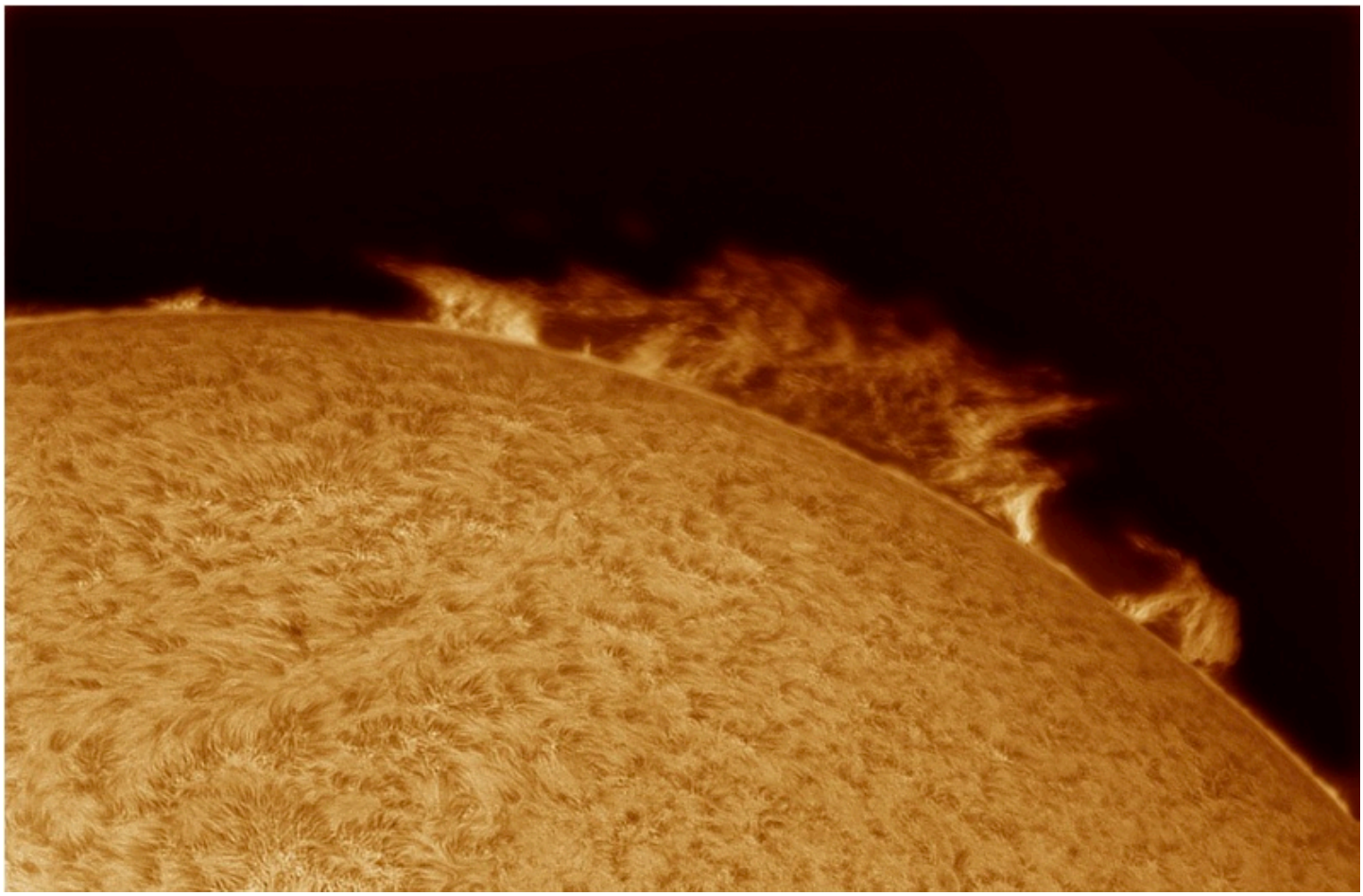
Comments and photo details from the October 2009 WSAAG Newsletter. Thanks to the editor Bob Paton.

Ted also has a number of his images displayed in the Astronomy Photographer of the Year COLLECTION 1 by the Royal Observatory Greenwich. Foreward by Sir Patrick Moore.



ASNSW Annual South Pacific Star Party (Wiruna) April 2012

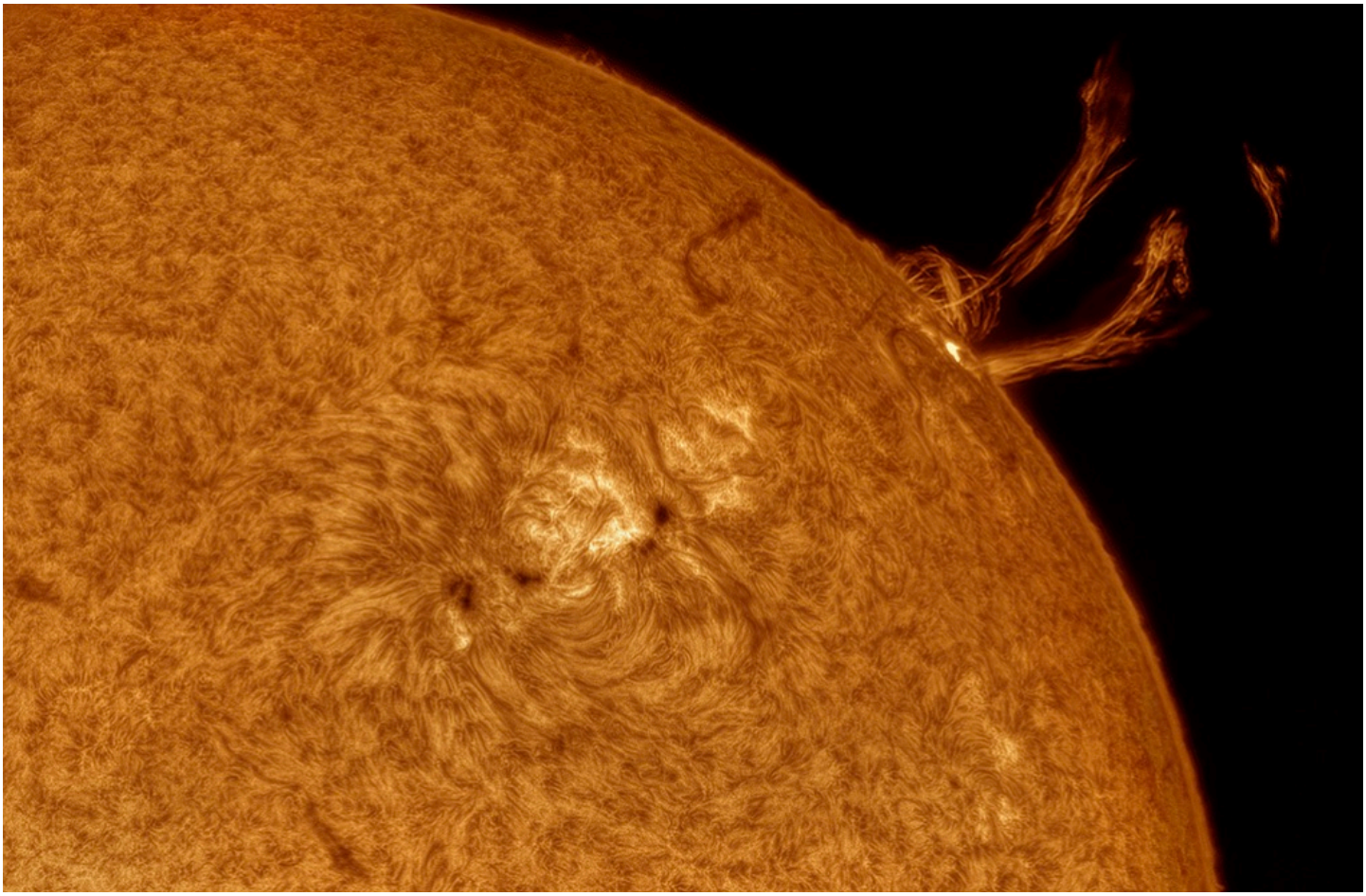
One of the popular activities at the star party is the Astro-Imaging Competition for amateur astronomers.
In 2012, Ted Dobosz was awarded first prize in the competition for one of his amazing solar images. The image (shown below) is a Hydrogen-Alpha composite to capture surface detail and prominences. It was taken with a Lunt LS80 telescope using a 2.5x Televue Powermate and a DMK41 camera.



Details and photo sourced from the May 2012 WSAAG Newsletter. Thanks to the editor Bob Paton.
More of Ted's photos can be seen on flickr at https://www.flickr.com/photos/74075989@N00/

ASNSW Annual South Pacific Star Party (Wiruna) May 2015

Ted Dobosz was awarded first prize in the Open Section for astrophotography. “Open” meaning everything other than deep sky e.g. planets, lunar, solar and comets.
His winning solar photo is shown below.The photo was taken with a Lunt 80mm hydrogen-alpha telescope and a Basler Ace aca1920-155um camera.



Solar Filament Eruption May 2015

More of Ted’s photos can be seen on flickr at https://www.flickr.com/photos/74075989@N00/

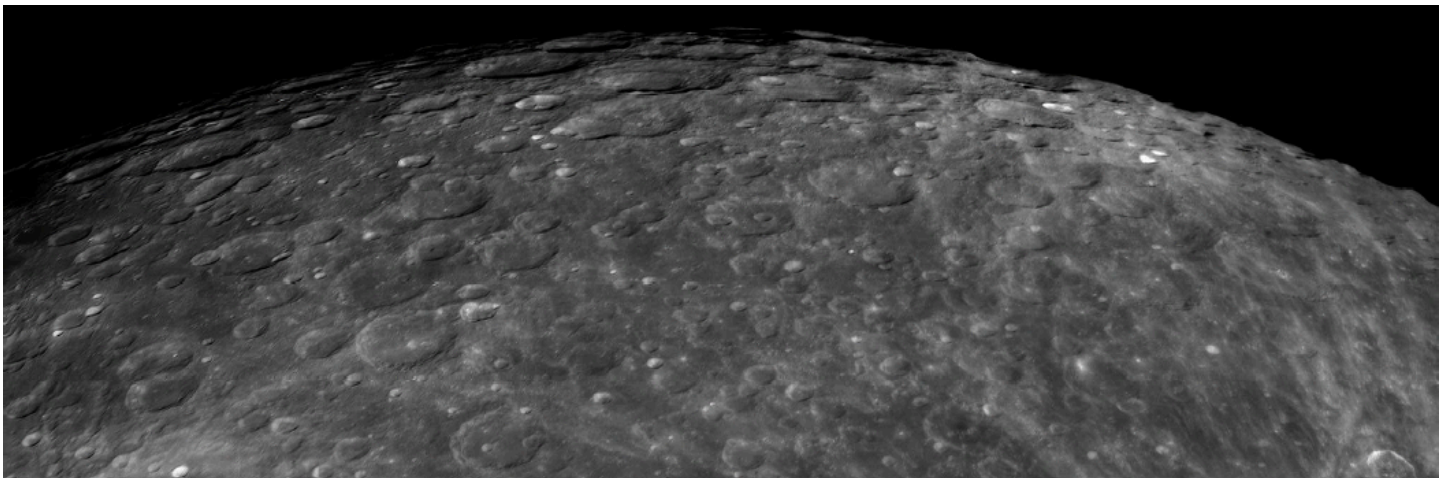
Ted Dobosz was also President of WSAAG from September 2001 to September 2003.

Ted Dobosz Scores Honorable Mention - David Malin Awards 2016

There were five categories of entry for the General section of the 2016 CWAS "David Malin Awards": Wide-field (camera shots), Deep Sky (telescope shots), Solar System, Nightscapes and Animated Sequences. The Animated Sequences had two subsections - Scientific and Aesthetic.

Ted Dobosz was a short-listed finalist for the category of Solar System and received an Honorable Mention plus a prize of $200 for his "Lunar Limb Flyover" – three separately processed images of the Moon stitched together to make a wide lunar panorama. His image is shown below.

Photographs were judged by world-renowned astro-photographer Dr David Malin, without him being aware of the identity of the photographers. It is not just technical skill that is assessed. Prizes go to pictures that are technically excellent and capture the beauty of the sky whilst promoting the astronomy of its subject matter.

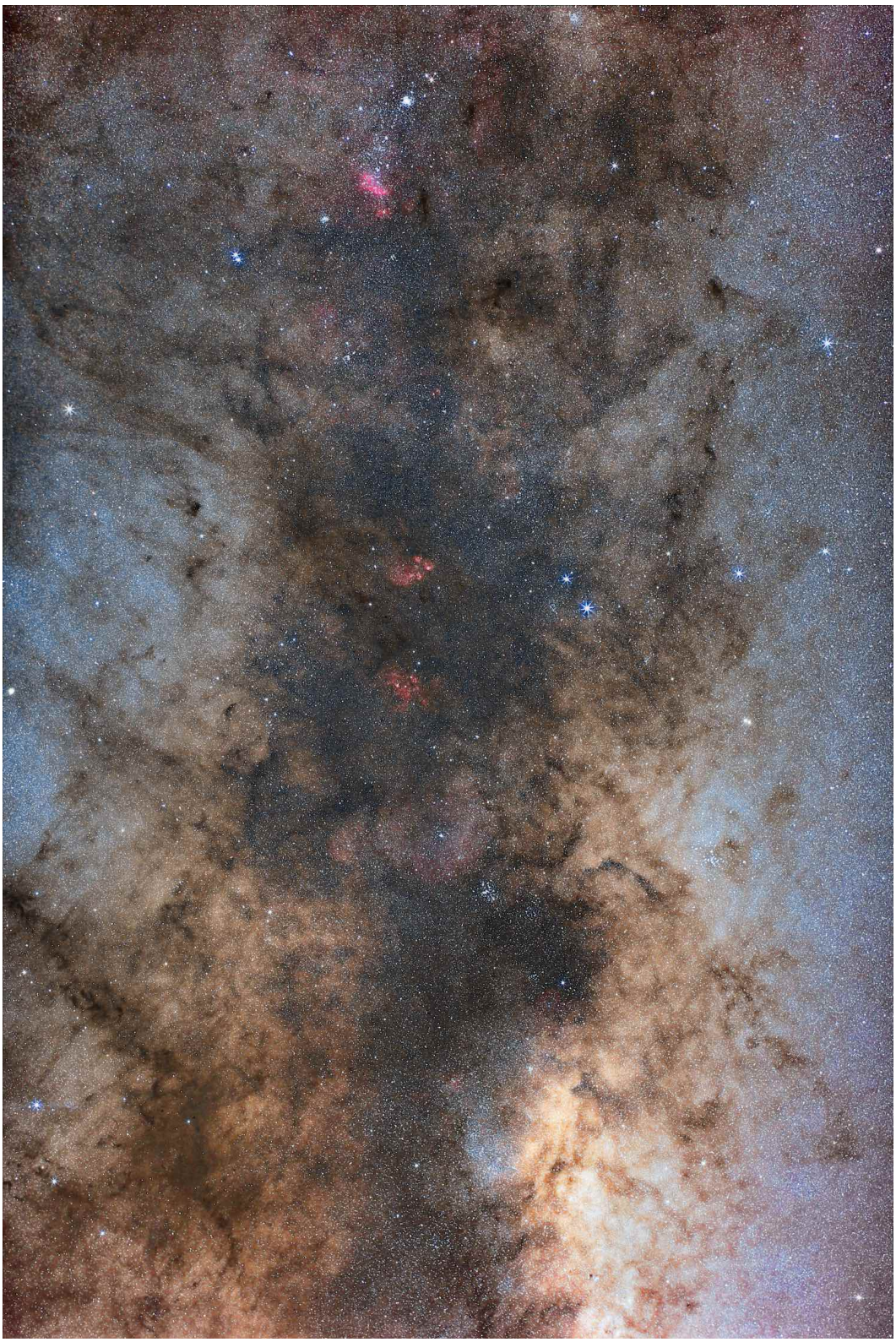


Following his David Malin award, Ted was invited to give a talk on astrophotography at Sydney Observatory with particular reference to his lunar image. The attendance for the talk numbered about 20 people. One group were from a photography club and wanted to see how they could expand into the astrophotography space.

More of Ted's photos can be seen on flickr at https://www.flickr.com/photos/74075989@N00/

Ted Dobosz – Highly Commended in the Wide-Field Section for his "Milky Way Delight" - David Malin Awards 2017

"Taken at the South Pacific Star Party. Heavy dew and some equipment issues meant I had to go to plan B during times when my scope was off line. Here is a milky way shot taken with a stock standard Canon 6D DSLR and 90mm lens. Includes from middle up, NGC6357 (Lobster Nebula), NGC6334 (Cats Paw Nebula) and IC4628 (Prawn Nebula). Consists of 10 X 5 minute unguided sub exposures."

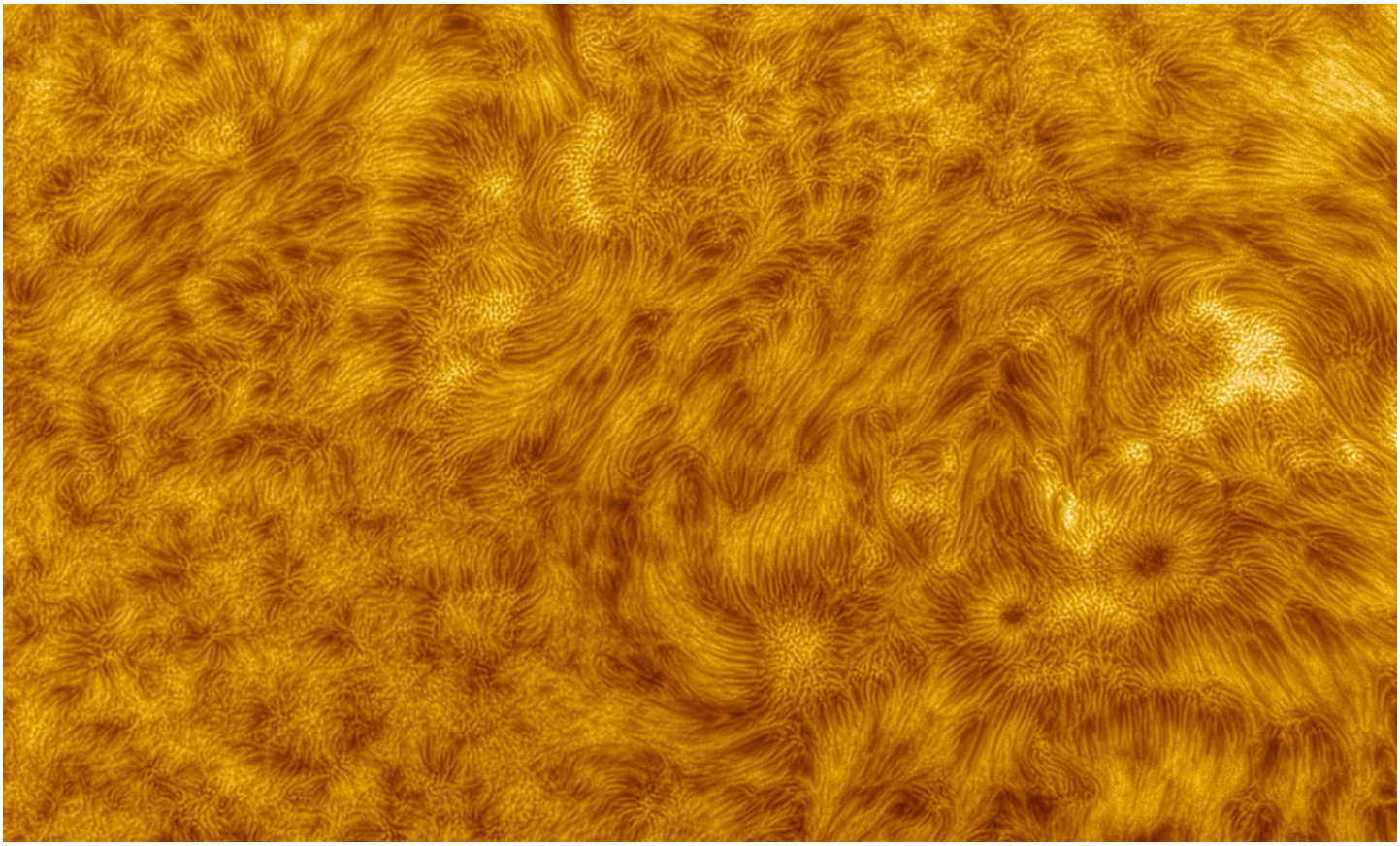


More of Ted's photos can be seen on flickr at https://www.flickr.com/photos/74075989@N00/

Ted Dobosz – Shortlisted for the 2018 Insight Investment Astronomy Photographer of the Year competition (Royal Museums Greenwich)

There were 8 categories (excluding Young Astronomy Photographer of the Year):

Aurorae, Skyscapes, <People and Space>, Our Sun, Our Moon, <Planets, Comets and Asteroids>, <Stars and Nebulae>, Galaxies.



Ted's entry in the solar category was "Solar Swirl", which he described as more of a filler.

More of Ted's photos can be seen on flickr at https://www.flickr.com/photos/74075989@N00/

Rob Horvat (WSAAG)