

Photographer Forest Harder was born in the North Island of New Zealand and moved to Australia with his family at a young age. He currently resides in South Australia, Australia.

Originally trained as a journalist, Forest discovered his love for visual storytelling when he found the reality of mainstream journalism fell short of his romantic expectations. Self-taught, Forest's subjects include the natural environment, urban settings and people. He has spent the majority of his time in recent years exploring and photographing Indonesia, Japan, Fiji, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Hong Kong, China and of course his home Australia.

Initially what drove Forest was producing atmospheric, dramatic landscapes but with time a stronger focus on raw, honest streetscapes and evocative images of people have taken more of a front seat.

Forest recently exhibited as part of the Australian Refugee Association Portrait Exhibition in South Australia's, Hawke Centre Civic Gallery. An experience he relished and one that has served to drive his next major project: A solo exhibition based on the lives of Australian Refugees.

In 2015 Forest was a finalist in five major art awards including The Advertiser's Contemporary Art Prize, The Brisbane Art Prize and The Emma Hack Art Prize. In 2016 Forest was a finalist in South Australia's Unley Art Prize and in 2017 he is happy to be showing works here at the Asia Contemporary Art Show.

As touched on previously, the next major initiative for Forest Harder will be his Australian Refugee project, as the plight of refugees has been topical throughout Australia and indeed the wider world for the last decade and more.

In addition, Forest's work has featured for the South Australian Tourism Commission, SA Life Magazine, Art Edit Magazine Gourmet Traveller Wine Magazine and others.

You can also see more of his work at [forestharterimages.com](http://forestharterimages.com) or at Forest Harder on Instagram.