

SONY

Visual Artist Rafael Mantesso Is First Photographer to Use Sony's Newly Announced Xperia™ X smartphone

London, 4th April 2016 – Brazilian visual artist, [Rafael Mantesso](#), has become the first photographer to use the newly announced [Xperia X smartphone from Sony](#). Touring Barcelona with a team of adorable dogs, Rafael used Xperia X's all new Predictive Hybrid Autofocus to capture a selection of quirky photos and then characterised them with his unique illustrative style.

Mantesso turned to art three years ago while going through a divorce. He found himself living alone in an empty house with white walls after his wife left. But it was Jimmy Choo, his French Bull Terrier who inspired him to start drawing again, turning his life around when the images went viral on Instagram.

Now, in a brand new challenge, Rafael has stepped out from the white walls and used Barcelona as his latest canvas, enlisting a few furry friends from dog fashion designers Brott Dogs to lend a helping paw along the way.

The team of dogs included:

- Nela, 7, Greyhound – Peaceful, loving and quiet
- Sopa, 5, Flat-Haired Retriever – Gentle and bubbly
- Joy, 5, (no-one quite knows) – Active and thoughtful
- Pato, 3, Scotty – Adventurous and really curious
- Compi, 3, Wire-Haired Dachshund – Excitable and mischievous
- Eddie, 1, Jack Russell Terrier – Cute and really intelligent

Rafael photographed the lively hounds using Xperia X's all-new Predictive Hybrid Autofocus feature, which was developed in close collaboration with

SONY

Sony's α™ camera engineers. The camera let him select the dog on the screen and then predicted its movement, letting him capture in perfect focus, free from blur.

After photographing the dogs around the city, Rafael took the photos back to his studio and put his own unique twist on them. The dogs were shown feeding pigeons outside Sagrada Familia, working the bar in the Gothic Quarter and dreaming of bones in one of the city's many tavernas.

Rafael said: "It can be extremely challenging capturing photos of one animal, let alone six, but I was really surprised at how easy it was to get great shots of the dogs, even as they wriggled about and refused to sit still! The autofocus on Xperia X anticipated their movement and meant the images always came out without any blur."

Jun Makino, Senior Manager, Product Experience Marketing at Sony Mobile said "Rafael has such a unique and recognisable style, so it's great to have him on board as the first ambassador for our new Xperia X series smartphones. His photos are a true testament to both his talent and the quality of the Xperia X camera technology. It was an absolute pleasure to work with him."

Sony Mobile's new devices, Xperia X, Xperia X Performance and Xperia XA will be available from Summer 2016.

- ENDS -

FOR MEDIA INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

For more information, images and videos please visit:

<http://sonymobile.com/press>

Sony Mobile Communications, Global Communications & PR department

SONY

General Press: +44 208 762 5858

About Sony Mobile Communications

Sony Mobile Communications is a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sony Corporation, a leading global innovator of audio, video, game, communications, key device and information technology products for both the consumer and professional markets. With its music, pictures, computer entertainment and online businesses, Sony is uniquely positioned to be the leading electronics and entertainment company in the world. Through its Xperia™ smartphone and tablet portfolio, as well as innovative SmartWear products, Sony Mobile Communications delivers the best of Sony technology, premium content and services, and easy connectivity to Sony's world of networked entertainment experiences. For more information: www.sonymobile.com

Legal

1) Facts and features may vary depending on local variant. 2) Operational times are affected by network preferences, type of SIM card, connected accessories and various activities e.g. playing games. Kit contents and colour options may differ from market to market. The full range of accessories may not be available in every market. 3) Icons displayed are for illustrative purposes only. The homescreen may appear different in your product. Some features may not be available in your country or area.

"SONY" is a registered trademark of Sony Corporation. "Xperia" is a trademark or registered trademark of Sony Mobile Communications Inc. All other trademarks or registered trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Additional information regarding trademarks may be located on our website at: www.sonymobile.com/global-en/legal/trademarks-and-copyright