

A Journey through the Lens with Wildlife Photographer

GURCHARAN ROOPRA



STORY BY
MAYA MANGAT

On a sunny afternoon in Nairobi, I stumbled upon Gurcharan Roopra's wildlife photography, drawn in by the captivating moments he had captured. Intrigued, I reached out to learn more about his journey, inspirations, and approach to photography.

Gurcharan's path to photography began as a hobby in the UK, but it blossomed after he returned to Kenya, where he balanced his family business with photography. While his main work involves selling Hitachi machinery, photography became a creative outlet, offering him a chance to relax and enjoy nature.

One of his standout projects is his "ant's eye view" photos, captured using a custom-built metal frame, or "box," that encloses the camera. He leaves the setup on the ground, allowing wildlife to interact with it, capturing close and playful moments with animals like elephants and rhinos. This method, which uses his engineering skills, offers unique, non-invasive perspectives.

Though not a direct conservationist, Gurcharan's photography contributes to conservation by telling the stories of wildlife and their habitats, creating visual records that reflect the current state of nature. Gurcharan's inspiration comes from wildlife, landscapes, and innovative photography techniques. His experimentation with different styles—like capturing a lion with a motorsport photography technique—reflects his passion for constant learning.

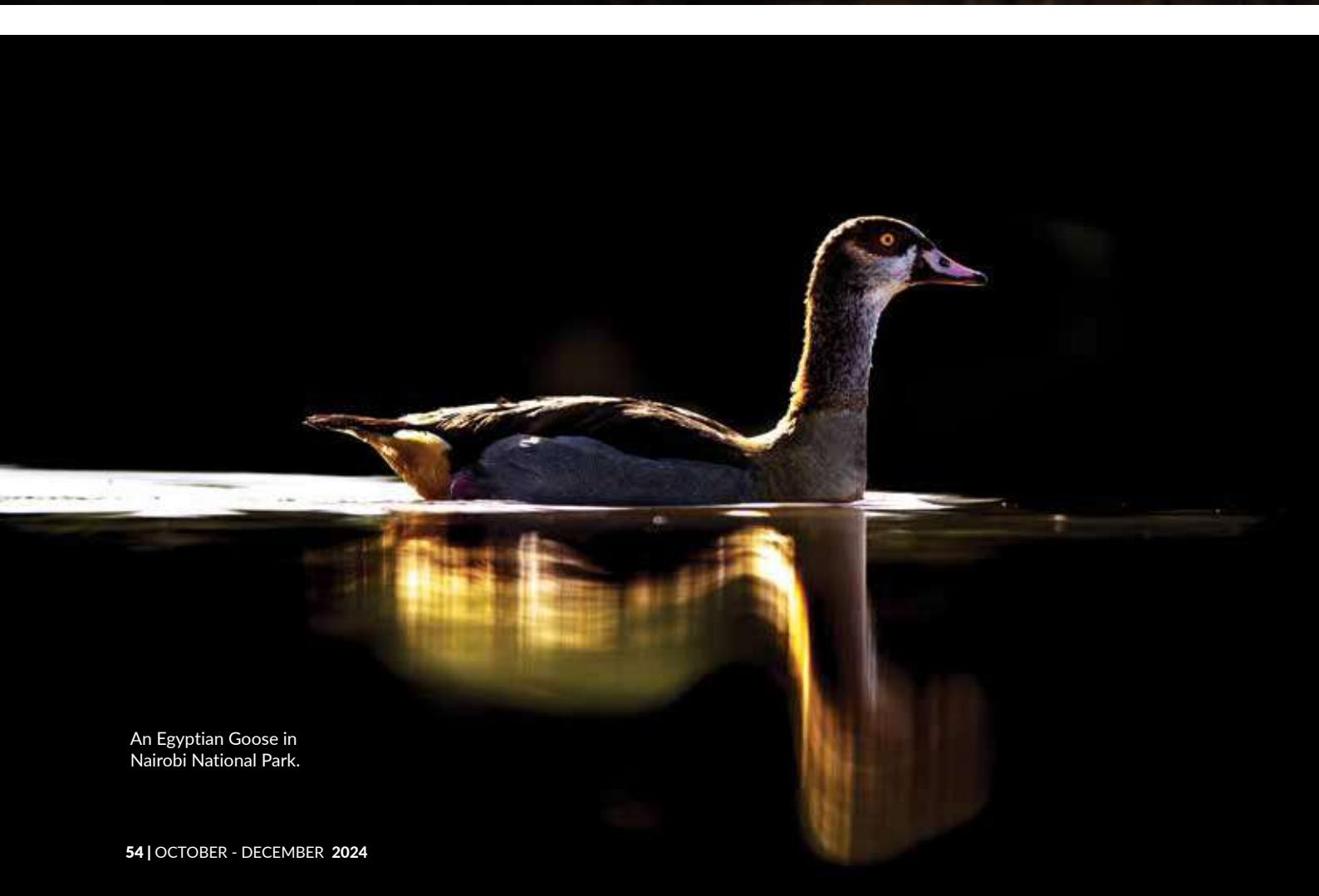
A brand ambassador for Solio Game Reserve and creative for Nikon, Gurcharan was named Africa's Best Male Photographer by the Global Focus Project, solidifying his impact on wildlife photography. ●



Reticulated giraffes in Solio Game Reserve.



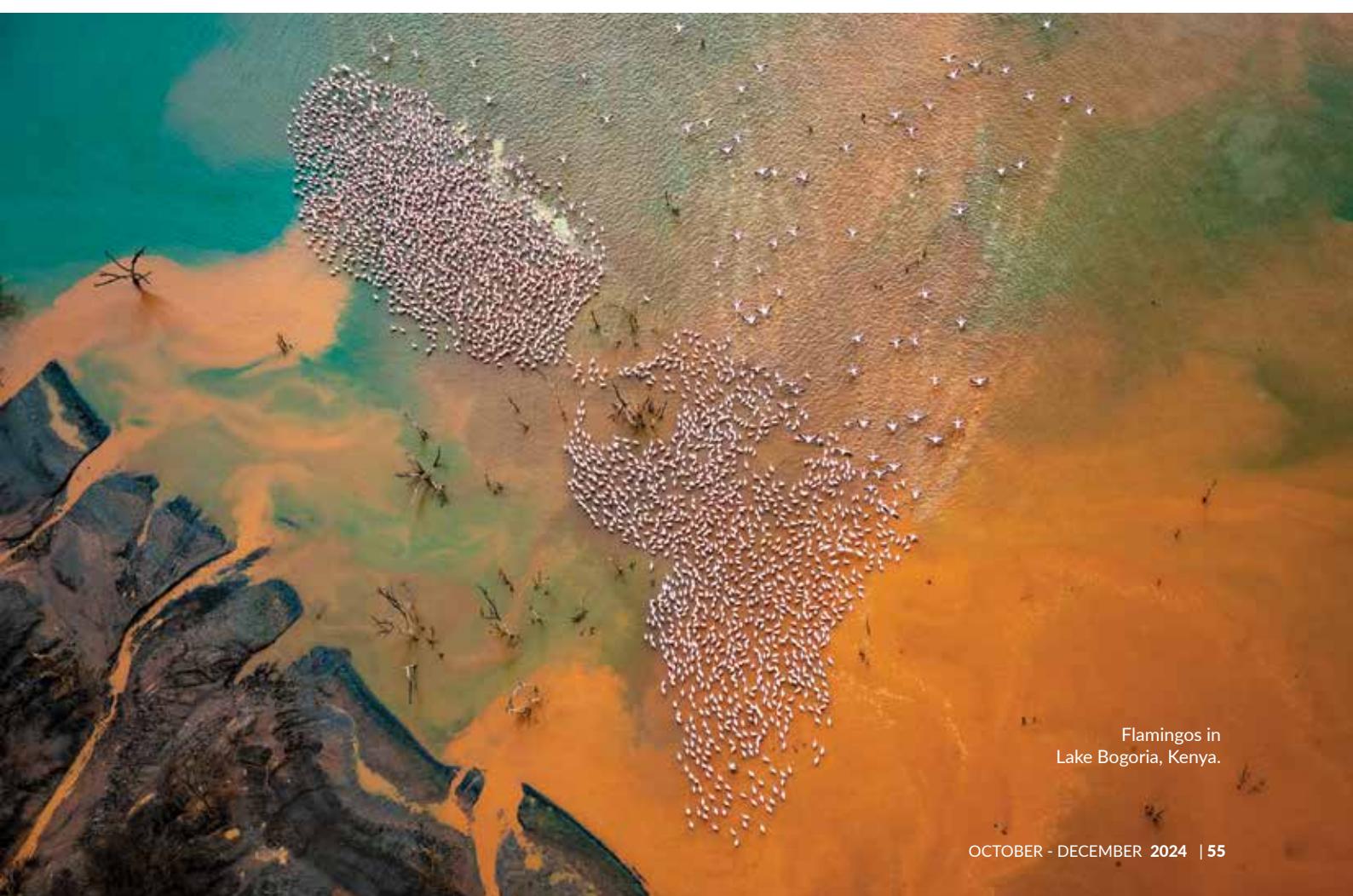
A Leopard in Shompole
Wilderness, Kenya.



An Egyptian Goose in
Nairobi National Park.



Flamingos in
Amboseli National Park.



Flamingos in
Lake Bogoria, Kenya.



Southern White Rhino in
Solio Game Reserve.



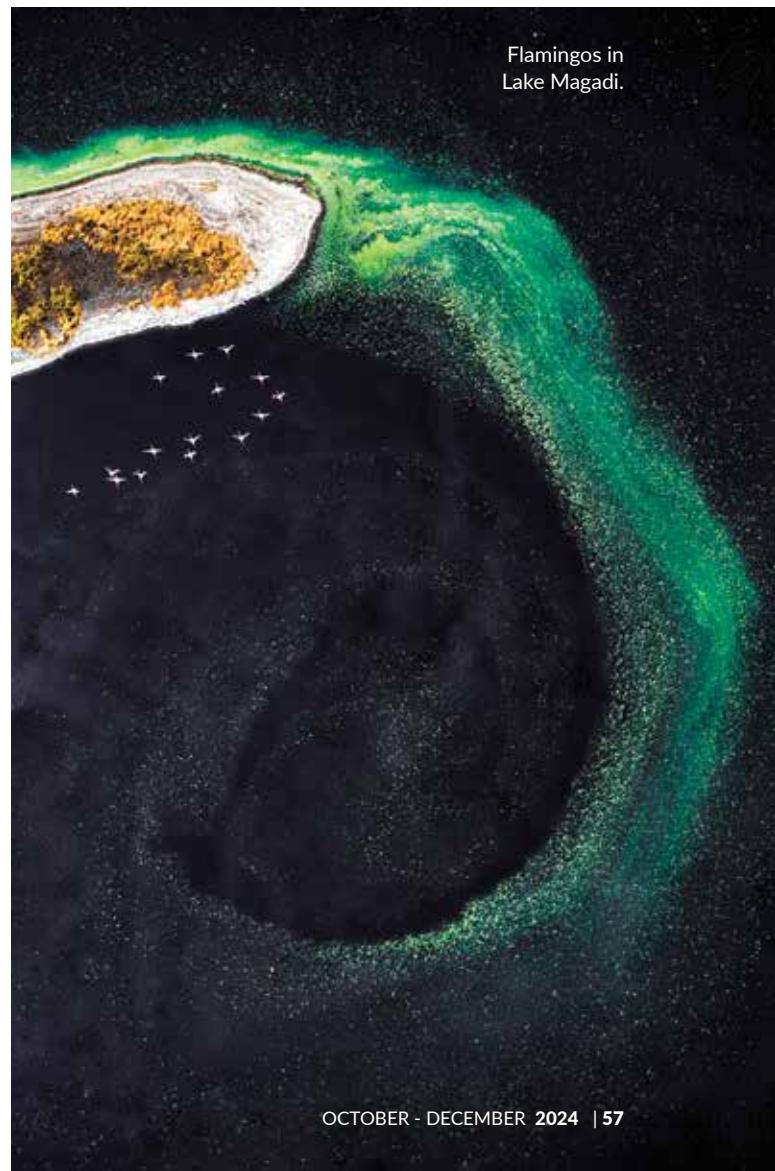
Flamingos and Hyena in
Amboseli National Park.



A Hippo in Lake Naivasha.



An Elephant in
Amboseli National Park.



Flamingos in
Lake Magadi.