

## **Nelson Camera Club**

### **A grade print images**

#### **Tawhai Falls**

In my opinion this is a very competent example of long shutter speed resulting in blurred water that talks of movement and flow. I appreciate the lack of sky – this compositional choice has drawn my eye into the scene and held it there. Honours

#### **Just Resting For A Moment**

I love the pop of colour in this image – enhanced by the lighting used - with the complementary blues in the back ground. To me the title fits well too and adds to the story which is obviously untrue – this is a final resting place to me. Compositionally I feel the top is a bit tight as the piece of vertical metal pierces the frame leading me out away from the subject. Merit

#### **Immersed In Time**

The visual design in this image drew me in to what I see as a quiet rendition of colour which – in turn – spoke of place. Honours.

#### **Once Were Warriors**

Appreciated the title on this image which leads me the story being told. The visual design of severely cropping yet keeping the weight on the greater reflection depth works well to signal dominance to me. I read story of rhythm, shapes, and balance enhanced I believe by the monochrome choice. Honours

#### **The Old Batch**

I think this is a great choice for monochrome and this allows concentration on the various shapes and textures of this scene. I find the various elements are competing for dominance and wonder how you may have isolated that amazing batch a little more. For example I find that the barge board intersecting the RH window is very distracting. Each window almost deserves a study of its own. I do also read the contradiction of the modern TV aerial - perhaps that is another, conflicting story. Acceptance

#### **Cheeky chappy**

I love the frank, open gaze of this child which tells me a story of connection with the photographer. To me the side light has created interesting accents emphasising the shapes of his face. I think the DOF has worked well to blur the background, focus attention, capture the moment. Technically I believe the eyes are well executed and sharp, with the whites playing a significant part. I wonder what this would look like in Monochrome? Honours

#### **Cam**

I enjoy Cam's nonchalant pose and gaze in this image. Overall I find the focus soft with a sharp point perhaps on the top right tiles. To me the bright light above him distracting even as it highlights the

haze of the scene. Whether the overall haze giving a kind of grunge look is lack of focus or a post-production filter I don't know. Not Accepted.

### **Cabbage Tree West Coast**

In terms of visual design I feel that the angle and positioning you have chosen here gives dominance to your hero the cabbage tree. It is looming and the skies have the potential to be ominous. In my opinion a B&W image works best with the inclusion of pure black and pure white. In this image I see fairly dull shades of grey and a lack of light. In A grade – Not Accepted.

### **Island Pass**

This image talks to me of shapes – layered triangles with the contrast of the sinuous river and foreground road. The limited colour palette lets me concentrate on those shapes. I wonder if it is crying out for monochrome treatment. I also suggest you look at accentuating the contrast to bring out what appear to be engaging textures in all of the landscape. The sky looks pixelated to me – with the disturbance of a round artefact also. Acceptance

### **Over-Shadowed**

I enjoyed this image for multiple reasons – it gave me a real sense of place, the clouds are threatening yet the light is gentle, the colour palette subdued. It all added up to an timeless rendition for me. Two distractions that you may wish to remove – the little bright strips of snow, top right and the partial gate and fence strainers (?) that are bright on the left hand edge, leading out of frame. Merit.

### **Red Begonia**

To me this is a prime example of how getting in close, removing all distractions and abstracting a piece of nature creates fine art. In my opinion the focus is spot on and the tones, shapes and textures add to the story. Honours

### **Surf Seeker**

I found this image intriguing in its contrast of industrial skyline versus a surfer seeking waves. I loved the tonality and the almost silhouettes – thinking it was interesting to be able to see the detail of the industrial action. To me the image has a strong story supported by thoughtful elements of visual design. Honours

### **Lake Grassmere abstract**

To me this perspective has admirably turned reality into abstract. The perspective twists with my reading of reality and the image works for me regardless of its orientation. Honours

### **Plop**

Well captured and beautifully toned in my opinion. I suggest that you review the few out of focus droplets and remove them post production. To me they detract from my concentration on the main event. Compositionally I also suggest you take care with the droplets that are almost intersecting the

LH frame - either give them a bit of room or remove them as they are leading my eye out of frame. I would probably like to read a more engaging title too.... Merit.

### **The Tear Drop**

I found this image challenging to review and I guess that may well be the intent. I don't really understand the title and am not sure what that adds to the image. Not knowing what this is doesn't bother me at all – that epitomises abstraction to me. I enjoy the colours and movement and agree that gloss paper works well. If you have space on the RH side, I suggest giving what I read as an eyebrow more room so that it doesn't intersect the frame. Merit

### **Windows**

I found this image intriguing in terms of its visual design. I did struggle somewhat to work through the story and wonder how the photographer might have accentuated that intrigue to encourage me to delve further. Compositionally the diagonal and tapering perspective of the window reflections leads me through the image effectively. Does it need such heavy weight of geometric pattern at the base? Perhaps not. I tried it as a square crop I suggest this gives more emphasis to the windows which – according to your title – are the hero subject here. Acceptance

### **Swamp Rd**

This image has a big scratch of mark through it unfortunately. Ignoring that, to me the photographer has made effective use of the curved lead-in line to draw my eye to the top third of the image. I feel the panoramic crop effectively elongates my view and accentuates the feeling of place. I do find the light quite flat and wonder if there may be drama to be found in the clouds – perhaps by drawing a ND filter over the image in post> Acceptance

### **Late summer**

Compositionally I appreciate the lead-in line that takes the eye through this scene to the steps and monument and the way you have framed that line with the opposing umbrellas. I find the light quite flat in the foreground compared to the light on the trees. To me the table and chairs don't add anything to the story, the umbrella intersecting one person is distracting to me. I would encourage you to think about how you could have made this observational image uniquely your own, perhaps with people walking through on a slow shutter speed to give the scene more than a hint of life? Acceptance

### **Winter is here**

Sometimes when you look at an image you are taken to a place right beside the photographer, feeling the space, the cold, the atmosphere. That is what happened to me here. I get a real sense of proportion and while there are three distinct elements – the vast foreground, the buildings and the looming mountains, to me they work in harmony to provide a very pleasing rhythm to this image. Honours

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## **B grade print images**

### **Spring and Autumn**

I enjoy the juxtaposition of the subject matter in this image; The whites appear clear and not overly bright to me. The only distraction to my eye is twig/stalk entering the frame top left and I suggest post production of that may remove a distraction to the story. Merit

### **Cape Reinga light**

This tells me a simple story of time, place and visitors. Compositionally I appreciate the lead in line of the pathway bringing us to the full stop of the light house. I appreciate that this is an iconic subject and would challenge the photographer to think about in camera techniques may have been used to create a unique expression of the icon. Perhaps a double exposure or a slow shutter speed that would have blurred the visitors? Acceptance.

### **Otamure Bay**

I get a real feeling of silence and peace from this image. I feel the various elements merge seamlessly with dominance shared throughout – reflections, pier, silhouettes and sunrise along with the DOF that allows clarity in the foreground. Honours