

Nelson Camera Club 2023

B Grade Digital

Blues Harmonica Player - This image brought back memories of before all the instant music in the digital age when men would pull a harmonica out of their pocket and play. I like the way his hands draw me into the image and so up to his eye. The harmonica is just visible with his hands covering most of its. The imagery between the man's hands and the size of the harmonica that produces beautiful music is a great contrast. There is a lot of clear detail in this image and it tells a wonderful story. **Honours Deb Corbett**

Bow Bridge over the Icy Lake NYC - This image certainly gives me an icy feeling especially using the blue tones. The detail on the bridge is well shown and the background is more hazy so the depth of field has been well used. I know it was probably a grey day and the image shows this by the lack of contrast. If there isn't contrast in the scene then it needs to put in in post production. I like the angle the bridge is on which adds to the perspective of the scene giving it some depth.

Acceptance

Let's Dance - This is an invitation to dance and dancing for me involves a whole body - not only a torso. A title is used to direct the evaluator to the story or subject in an image and I feel this title doesn't do that. The lighting is soft and outlines the curves of the torso. Good work. I like the negative space on the left of the torso too. I'm not sure why there is emphasis on the nipples because this is meant to be dancing. There is a bit of this person's chin showing at the top so always look around the frame as it is distracting. The range of tones suits the subject. **Acceptance**

Poised in Motion - What a lovely flow along the material with the flare at the end conveying a sense of movement. There are some lovely details in this and the soft range of tones suits the subject. I feel the woman would have been better placed on the third with more room on the left as that is the direction her body. I'm not sure why her face is covered. For me it causes a disconnect so my eyes go to the beautiful material twirling in the air and stay there. **Acceptance**

Unconditional Love - By that stance of the woman's body I can see there is a connection between her and the dog. I wish I could see her face and her eyes. The depth of field is very shallow and I feel in an image like this there needs to be sharpness in the foreground as well. The background being blurred gives the separation of the subject and has been well done. **Acceptance**

Windswept - Aren't these trees wonderful the way they are shaped by the wind and still stand. The house is well placed on the third and the trees make a frame for it arching over it. I feel that quite a bit of the right side could be cropped as it doesn't add to the story of the trees. There isn't an actual white or black and I feel

there would be more depth in this image if contrast had been added. A great subject.

Acceptance

A Grade Digital

A Scratchy Voice - I love the sepia colour that has been used in this image as it fits the subject and makes the image look like an image from years ago. The lighting emphasises the record and the scratches on it tell a clear story of age. The fine line around the edge finishes the image. **Honours Barry Doig**

Andrea - I like the way Andrea is looking at me. He looks happy. I feel that his hand could have been placed in a different place as it looks slightly awkward and impedes the flow as I travel into the image. I'm not sure what has happened to the background but it appears blotchy and he has a halo around him. **Not Accepted**

At Peace - An interesting image in my view. The ageing of the plaque as well as the dates tell me how old this is. I feel a slight vignette or some sort of darkening around the edges would have eliminated those distracting light bits around the ground. I feel the author has not contributed much to this image. I would like more of a story. I think this has a good balance of tones. **Not Accepted**

Black and White Robin - I love these curious little birds. They are a delight to watch. The bird is close up so that all the details can be seen clearly. I feel that the image itself has been over processed. There are parts of the branch that are blown out on each end as well. I love the way this image shows how the bird has puffed itself up to keep it warm. **Not Accepted**

Black Fantail - This is a lovely natural image of the fantail. I would have liked more separation between the bird and the background or some darkening of the lighter areas of the bark. It is a lovely natural look at the fantail. The catch light is there in its eye and lots of detail in its feathers. Well done to capture it.

Acceptance

Boarded Up - I found this an interesting image. And I love the one little bird perched on one of the boards. It gives some life to and otherwise static image. The different patterns and the repetition work well for me. There are lots of different textures as well that keep my eyes in the image. I like the range of tones from white to black and all the ones in-between. **Merit Jon Coe**

Bob South - Bob looks a really happy chap. I like the warmth of his expression. He draws me in and I want to know more about him. He interests me especially with the hat. I do feel that this image has been over processed and I also feel that it might have been cut out of another image as there are parts around it especially in the hat that lead me to think that. There is a lot of detail to take in and to keep me interested. It's his face that tells the story for me. **Not accepted**

Covered With Snow - This is unusual lighting for something with snow and I like that it is different. Being lit like this reveals the details of the tree rather than only seeing the snow on the top of the branches. An interesting and original image to my mind. **Acceptance**

Eye on the Past - What a clever title. There is a wide range of tones which portrays the items in this image well. The story is clear too. I like the clarity of this image. What I'm not sure of its composition. I think it would feel more balanced with only one set of books - the first ones lead me into the one that is open and the eyeball itself. The other books are more like an after thought when I am looking at it. Because the wood of the background has a lot of detail it brings it forward and so makes the image feel a bit flat. **Merit Carolyn Hope**

Forth Rail Bridge - The intricacies of this bridge are amazing and there is so much to look at. The various repetitions and lines in different directions make interesting designs and keep me in the image. I feel the light is rather flat. More contrast in the image would have given the image depth. **Acceptance**

Fungi - These fungi are a good subject for black and white and they have the underside ribs that show. For me the biggest fungi here is soft and that takes away for the overall image as it is where my eye stays. The ones in the front are sharp and well defined. **Not Accepted**

Girlfriends - These women are literally larger than life which makes them quite unusual. The gesture over the top pulls the image together and gives it a cohesive look in my opinion. The look in their eyes captures my attention as it is for me, quite a dreamy look. The softness of the light adds to the feeling of cohesion. **Merit Ron Willems**

Godwit - I feel this bird is starting to pixilate and there is a slight halo around it too maybe due to a bright light. The detail isn't sharp. I like the way the image has been taken looking up and showing the underside as the godwits flies giving me details I don't usually see. **Not Accepted.**

Going Down - I love all the lines of the steps and the detail of the railing. I feel the bright light at the bottom is a bit distracting and leaves it unbalanced as it pulls my eye in to it. The flow round the rest of the steps draws me down. I like that the steps are off centre too. **Acceptance**

Heavy lift - This image reminds me of a technical drawing of the crane. I like the way there are different lines and angles that seem to me to be telling me of the effort and the strain of the heavy lifting even though the actual lifting isn't seen. The tones I feel suit the subject. Great Work. **Honours Graeme Skinner**

It's Now Or Never - I agree with the sentiments in this placard even though I'm not sure what the march is about. I feel this is a good photojournalist image with a clear message. The depth of field has been handled very well so that the one figure is shown clearly and the rest are blurred in the background. **Merit Caroline Foster**

Ka Loco at Stillwater - The engine has been well positioned in the frame and I love seeing all the steam above it. For me, my eyes keep going to the trees because of the lighter colour and the shapes of the leaves reflecting the light. The engine is showing lots of reflected light which tends to make it meld more into the trees. Less exposure on it and the foreground would have helped I feel.

Acceptance

Land Ahoy - This is a great example of taking an art work and adding something to it to create a story. The clouds and the land in the distance combined with the stature create an evocative image. The addition of the clouds has enhanced the power of the statue. I like the angle that the statue has been taken too. It stands out from the image yet is well incorporated in it. **Merit Barry Doig**

Lara - I love the look on this dog's face. Her eyes are sharp and show her intelligence. The details around her nose and eyes are well executed and the depth of field has highlighted Lara's face yet left separation with the background. I feel the cropping at the top of her head is too close as her right ear is cut off slightly and the left one is touching the top of the frame. I feel there needs to be some space there. **Acceptance**

Meg - Meg has been well placed in the image and I like the way her body is slightly sideways with her head looking at the camera. Her eyes don't look natural and I feel there has been some over processing. I like the texture over her body as I feel it connects with the colour of her hair. Having the same texture in the background doesn't work for me as it brings the background forward and adds a distracting element. Good detail in her hair. **Acceptance**

Mist Abstraction - I love this image. At first glance it is a shot of numerous ridge lines overlapping with the mistiness over it. The hill sloping in from the right stops the flow of the hills taking my eyes out of the image. At second glance there is so much detail in this image of traffic, sheep and trees. The way it has been overlaid has added so much detail to a beautiful image. **Honours Irene Callaghan**

Mystery Box - I feel there are two images overlapping slightly here. The first one is the mystery box and I feel it needs to be cropped in from the right to just in front

of the door. Then the subject is clear without the ping pong effect of the seat in the other room. I love the texture on the walls and the distressed look on the chest. The patches that have flaked off the wall add to the sense of age. There is character on the floor too. The second image starts after the box and incorporates the doorway and the things inside which is also an interesting image. **Not Accepted**

Pagan Princess - I love the imagination that has gone into this image. The contrast of the mainly dark image with her startling white face takes me straight in to the image. The dark around the eyes makes them very prominent and the uneven edging of it gives it that something extra. Love the headgear too and the way it is lit. **Honours Irene Callaghan**

Storm bird - I think there was good thinking behind this image and it is certainly different for usual images of the white heron. I find the cloud is too dominant and heavy for the bird. If the bird had had more light on its head and neck it could have held its own with the clouds. As it is it disappears into them. **Not Accepted**

That Wanaka tree - The lacy look of the leaves against the dark of the trunk and main branches creates a great contrast. I like the way the tree is filling the frame too. I realise that the cut off of the tree and the branch are because of the water but it looks as if it is floating the air. I feel a bit of texture would have helped that although I do like the simplicity of the image. **Merit John Miles**

The Home Straight - The shutter speed has captured the horse in motion with all the details clear. I like that all the feet are off the ground too and the clod of dirt helps show the speed. I feel cropping in from the left side so that the those two spectator are out of the picture brings my eye to more where the horse is rather than veering off to those spectators. The depth of field has been used well to blur the background. **Acceptance**

A Quiet time - I see that these bathing sheds start at 42 so I'm imagining what it looks like from the start of them and how many there are. The image has lovely crisp blacks and whites. The repetition of the sheds and the chairs gives a flow to the image. I feel some cropping from the left side so that the building in the distance was eliminated would have concentrated more on the chairs and the sheds. As it is my eye tends to follow down the line and out of the image. The story is told at the beginning. Great lines showing perspective and depth. **Acceptance.**

The Rubycon Factory - This is an interesting image. There is a lot going on in the factory with all the bits and pieces to look at. The image is very sharp too. I like the lighting on the factory. I also like the moon in the sky above the mountains. Both on their own are interesting but I feel there is conflict when the two are in the same image. Because there is so much going on in the factory my eyes go to the moon

for a rest. I feel there is a lack of cohesion between the elements. Great idea though.

Acceptance

The upward Way - I can see the cross and I understand the title. The textures are interesting yet I feel it is all about the texture and there isn't enough of the story for me. **Not Accepted**

The Walk - This image intrigues me. I find myself looking at it more and more to try and work it all out. The lines frame the main area and yet there are side lines going out in on each side the says the this image goes further. The different texture from the shiny flooring to the splotchy one all combine to create a pleasing whole. Well seen. **Merit Dianna Hambleton**

Urban Pyramid - The black and white tones show cleanly. Because of the way the pyramid has been taken it almost disappears into the background. If a more shallow depth of field has been used to blur the background then I feel it would have been more visible. The building behind it is what my eye goes to. **Not Accepted**

Waimakariri Braided River - I think I know where this has been taken as I stopped there after it had been snowing like this too. It is fascinating to see all the different shapes the snow and the river makes. I feel there isn't a true white or black in the image and I feel that it needs the contrast pushed more. I would also like to see a focal point of some sort as my eye goes round the image and if it stops it is on the snow in the foreground. It does show the braids better with the snow on them. **Not Accepted**