

JUDGE Gerard Saide Toowoomba

A Grade

1085 Degrees 7 The effectiveness of this image is its simplicity. The 'burnt' (pun intended) orange conveys a sense of the extreme temperature of the molten liquid and the dark background enhances the drama. It's easy to see why there are no people in this image.

A Splash of Colour at End of Day 5 This image does satisfy the criteria for "Orange". Though it is not the strongest image in the set, it does convey an idea of the importance of colour in our lives. The orange on the boat would make it easy to spot on the sea or river. It also brings a bright aspect to the day.

A Standout in Orange 5 Again, this image indicates the importance of colour. The shop owner probably realised that the bright orange colour of the garment would be attractive to passers-by. In this case, the image needs more to the story it is telling. Perhaps a young woman looking over the dress would give it a less static feel.

My New Orange Dress! 6.5 The strength of the child's expression carries this image. Despite one or two minor distractions – the faint shadow created by the flash and the two pipes in the background – the emotion on that face is strong. We tend to feel either for the little girl or her parents. There might be a career for this little one treading the boards.

Nothing Says Orange like a Marigold. 6 Fanta probably disagrees with you there! Green and orange are opposite colours on the colour wheel so the combination of the two in this image really works well. The blurred foreground and background are effective but the flower protruding at the back is a little distracting. I would like to have seen a little more of the top of the flower.

One of the Garden's Beauties 8 The contrast of the bright orange against the grey background really accentuates the colour of the Bird of Paradise. This image is worth printing and hanging on the wall. Selective cropping has been carried out to create an art piece. Just a little bit of thought can take ordinary images to an entire new level.

Orange Flare 5.5 You have made what many might consider a very bland scene into something better simply by photographing it in good light. Had this been taken in the middle of the day, it would not be as effective. The sun's flare and orange mesh fencing are supported by the shadows they create.

Orange is My Best Colour 5.5 What a suntan! As the orange is fairly dominant, this image is accepted as "Orange". As a photo of a lizard, it is quite good, particularly as you seem to have caught him on the move. Unfortunately, the highlights in the background are too quite large and distracting. Nonetheless, there is terrific detail in the lizard's head.

Original Taste 6 The image is clean and sharp with good detail. There is the making of a good idea here, but it doesn't quite get there. What can the next step be? I think you need to do something with the half orange and the juicer. The other half is still there to keep intact. It seems there is some juice already there, but it is hard to see because of the colours.

Pensive 8.5 The contemplative aspect suggested by the title is very well-communicated in this image. The simplicity in the arrangement of the monk and the background stripped bare adds to the reflective mood. I am not sure of the purpose of the cloth, but it is effective in breaking the overall orangey cast of the image and adding an element of interest. Also, very effective is the two-triangle composition created by the diagonal. The empty space of the wall provides somewhere for thought to roam free.

Pumpkin Without the Pie 5.5 A creative interpretation of the theme. The light blue background was a good choice. Not sure if you needed as many seeds. Perhaps just a few scattered on the blue would have communicated the same idea.

Snake Man 6 This image has immediate appeal due to its cultural aspects. The orange is vivid, but I don't think you need the full-length portrait to tell the story. Cropping the gentleman to just below the waist coat will still give you plenty of orange but will enhance the story by making the snake more visible and accentuating the relationship. Both are very calm. Also, this will minimise the background which is very strong in itself and competes for attention in the image.

Steel Wool Spinning 7 This pattern reminded me of the Millennium Dome. Though it is hard to get an idea of size, the distant lights seem to make it look huge. Having seen steel wool spinning once before, it is impressive how they got this pattern. The small streaks of light bouncing off the ground add a touch of fantasy.

Sunrise 6.5 The beautiful, saturated colours really make this image. The foreground has a similar appearance to that of a metallic print. The composition is balanced on the thirds and there is a lovely serene mood to the scene.

Sunset Clouds 7 A foreboding image that has a sense of doom. First impression was that you had photographed a fire, but I am sure firefighters would have welcomed even a hint of rain. The foreground helps strengthen the image because of the profile of buildings and trees nicely silhouetted against the sky. Good composition.

That Vase 5 This scrape in as an 'orange' image. The still life is artfully designed with a good sense of balance. The vignetting helps to stop the eye from wandering to the edges.

IMAGE OF THE MONTH

Grade A Karen Grice

Image Title Pensive

Reason for Placing: I was impressed with this image because it was a portrait without really being a portrait. The story was less about the man in the picture but more about the life he is leading and the choice he has made.

AB GRADE

Bridge Light Glow 5 The colour and overall effect are ok, but sharpness could be better. The pattern is strong and it might be worthwhile eliminating the small patch of sky and cropping to just below the highest point of the bridge.

Butterfly 6 Composition is very good and the colours are vibrant. The white highlight between the butterfly's wings is a bit of a distraction. However, the fine detail is a plus and the flower helps to balance the image.

Chrysanthemum 7 It is good to see some thought going into this image. Its simplicity is its highpoint and the strong contrast between the orange and white is effective. There is good detail in the statue, but I feel the triangular blurred segment in the foreground needs to have more sharpness as it tends to bring the eye back to it no matter how you try to avoid it. The flower is just a wee bit too central, but I like the overall idea of the image and it is worth exploring further.

Colour Burst 5 There is a real burst of colour here and the eye is immediately engaged. However, there needs to be something else to sustain the viewer's gaze within the image. The background, while somewhat out of focus, is strong enough to draw our attention but it does not really add to the story. Try fewer bursts in the image and experiment with different angles.

Finished Work 8 In my fit of generosity, I have given this an honour (8). It is a thoroughly engaging and quirky image and I applaud the idea and its simplicity. Basically, you have two colours and a little masterpiece. I haven't decided if the chair is too small or the footwear too big. Either way, it works. As I mentioned previously, orange and green are opposite colours and thus work well together. One comment, again. Perfect central placement would have made this even better. Try some cropping and see what you think.

Fiery Sunrise 5 It is interesting to revisit the image "Sunset Clouds" for a quick comparison. To me, this image doesn't have the same impact despite there are no technical flaws. Colours are similar as is the light. Work on getting the right balance between the background and foreground. The silhouetted trees tend to dominate over the sky when the reverse would work a bit better.

For Display 5 This looks like a plant from my "garden" and that's not necessarily good! However, I am not here to judge the quality of the plant. The background material seems to be 'hiding' things which are not needed so that keeps our focus on the plant. Your biggest problem here is the very bright light which is

washing out detail on the leaves etc. Try using early morning light and be selective in composition. The whole plant is not flattering but it is orange.

Garden Bug 7 This image is effective and shows how even a small patch of orange can dominate the scene because it is balanced with green. The image is sharp and the texture on the leaf is almost tangible. I thought a lot about the large empty space and decided that it works really well and shouldn't be changed. It would be interesting to see what your members think.

Jump On 5 The attraction of the orange is probably a deliberate attempt by the park designers to attract children. How could they miss this? Yet ironically, the invitation to 'jump on' goes unheeded. Where are the kids? The background is very busy, but this is not surprising in an urban scene.

Left to Rust 6 Lots of old trucks and cars litter the Australian landscape. Many beg to be restored and I think these two are not beyond redemption. They still seem to be serving a purpose judging by all the gear on the trays. I like the fact you have photographed them together when there are many good images to be had within the scene. The togetherness suggests an elderly couple in retirement who still have purpose. In a sense, you have humanised the cars or, if you prefer, personified them.

Morning Glow 7 I am not much of a sea person, but this scene makes me want to go there. The photographer has created a sense of tranquillity and solitude while at the same time hinting a sense of community amongst the boat owners. You have made a good use of space by including the foreshore. The clever inclusion is the string of buoys that seem to connect everything across the space.

Orange Beauty 7 Our orange and green friends meet again. This image is crisp and clean with just the right depth-of-field. Oh, if only a bit more could have been made of the small insect on the left petal. It is a little bonus but just a bit understated.

Orange Day Lily 6 Again we see similar techniques employed in other images. Nonetheless, this is a good image and has appeal. I probably would have aimed for sharpness for the entire flower while still keeping the background blurred.

Pumpkins for Carving 5 On first view, this image gets you in and you are immediately attracted to the scene. Closer inspection reveals a couple of subtle flaws that can be easily fixed. Firstly, a couple of intrusions on the right side of the image can be cropped out – the small, white highlight, stick and green? with a black strap. The small white stickers on the pumpkins could be faced away from the camera or cloned out. Sharpness and depth-of field both serve the scene well.

Sunburst 7 You can probably guess what I could say about this image. All is good with one added positive. The symmetry really enhances this flower because it is so round. You have rightly chosen the square format to achieve this.

The Colour and the Fruit 6 A bit of fun and why not. This is a good image to close this section of the comp. The solid black background works well. (Glad you didn't use green! Lol.)

IMAGE OF THE MONTH

Grade AB Trevor Dunstan

Image Title Finished Work

Reason for Placing: Mostly explained in my comment. Many of the images in the set topic are traditional but this one showed a bit of daring by the photographer to think outside the circle. I was wondering if I would see something like –“orange is the new black”. Topics like ORANGE can be very easy to capture which means it's harder because it's the makers who sit and plan something different have the advantage.

B GRADE

Bird of Paradise 4 We have seen a few versions of this flower tonight. Look at what other members have done and think about how you can make this image sing. The background is too full on and has too much space that is bright. These are easy things to fix by considering your angle of view and composition. Keep looking for new ways of seeing.

Only a Rose 6 A rose by any other name...A healthy looking rose but overcome by light which is too bright. Try a more subtle approach by using softer light, a less-direct angle and perhaps even just some of the rose.

Orange Burst 5.5 This flowering bush is a bit of a gift for a photographer. While you have obviously seen the beauty in it, you can easily find techniques to enhance it. Firstly, do you need all that background? The sharpest section should be on the flower bursts. Did you need a tripod? Try for a time during the day when the light is more flattering and better for modelling shapes. Finally, just include a couple of unopened pods. They still tell the story.

Orange Dawn at Clairview 5 This image has enough orange to dominate the scene. However, be careful as sometimes other colours, though less of them in the scene can still be pretty strong. The blue in this image is an example. Your composition is very good.

Roaring Flames 6.5 A simple image with, essentially, one element. The flame is potent and seems to have a life of its own. The title is very apt as the large, black circle looks like a person's mouth roaring at someone. The author was making an attempt to see outside the circle. They chose the right moment to click that shutter. A second or two either side would have given a different image and perhaps not as good.

Western Australian Wildflower 5 A beautiful flower with vivid colours. The yellow tips just stop it from being lost in the background. Because of the busy background, it would be worth using a wider aperture to create a narrower depth-of-field. This would make the flower float more in the foreground as you may have seen in other images tonight.

IMAGE OF THE MONTH

GRADE B Kaye Hinds

Image Title Roaring Flames

Reason for placing: I chose this image because the author seems to have shown a visual personification of the flame with the large black circle looking like a mouth roaring. It was also different from other images in the ORANGE theme. A second or two either side of taking this image, the author may not have been so lucky to get that overall sense of a "roar" coming from the fire.