

JUDGES REPORT

2024 November Fungi
Hans Schmidt - Maryborough

Image Title	Comments	Score
Fungi Cluster	A very vibrant image. I like the angle you have taken the image which has good focus right across the. The colours are well saturated due to the moisture which really brings out the contrast	9
Orange Fungus	A very colour intense image where I would suggest a reduction of saturation. The depth of field seems very shallow with the focus on the inner part of the fungi and the front section are soft. Also the log at the top right is unfocussed from the fungi attachment	4
Fungus as a Plate	The square crop works quite well for this image. Quite different getting the red fungi and the collapse has made this into looking like a plate, well seen. The exposure control has given good coloration and the singular colour of the fungi separates it well from the background. It looks like you may have used a high ISO as there is considerable noise in the image both on the fungi and the background leaves. They could easily be corrected in post process	5
Fungus Dusted with Icing	I like the viewpoint and the coloration is quite inviting. Exposure has been well handled however the focus is a big issue with only the front little bit of the cap in focus. The depth of field and the point of focus needs more careful consideration.	4
Common or Garden Mushroom	I like the abstract across the top of the mushroom head, I think you could have placed the mushroom more centrally in the image. The depth of field employed though is insufficient to provide detail across the head. There is quite a rapid downturn to the sharpness and detail in the head. The top left of the mushroom head is quite blurry which detracts from the image	4
Phallus Indusiatus	An interesting angle which would be difficult to provide focus from the top down. The skirt is nicely focused and the bottom section of the cap however top of the cap is quite unfocussed and this is where the eye travels to.	4
Fungi at Arthur's Pass	Quite a vibrant image with good colour. The exposure has been well handled and the head of the fungi has some good detail, I find it surprising that photographers still leave all the extraneous matter sitting on the subject when it is perfectly legitimate to sweep the subject clean,	7

	takes only seconds and you have a different look to the image.	
Fungi at Crystal Creek	I like the different viewpoint which most photographers wouldn't take. The underside can be quite detailed as in this case and your focus is well placed to cover the subject. Depth of field covers the head and the stem	7
Magic 1	A lovely image, the aspect and composition has placed the fungi in its environment. The low angle has placed the heads against the dark background to show them to advantage. Depth of field and focus works well to show detail in the foreground leading to the fungi. Only suggestion would be a minor crop upwards to remove the small amount of out of focus litter.	8
Magic 2	Quite a well composed image although the background detracts somewhat from the subject. Exposure has been well controlled and the focus shows good detail in the fungi. I think the placement of the point of focus is actually on the green leaves at the base of the stem. In this case a slightly higher angle may have given a better background for the subject, also the brightness at the top left of the image is quite a distraction	6
Fungus Territory	Quite a clever viewpoint which makes the image look like the edge of a precipice. Good exposure and focus have been well placed to give maximum detail. Love it.	9
Stacked Fungus	This is a great nature shot where everything has to be untouched, the sticks penetrating the fungi crisply detailed as are the fungi. The angle has been well chosen to present the whole of the cluster in focus.	9
Hyphae Highways	Love it, not many would have the fruit covered by the mould fungi and take a pic. I like the control of your lighting which has only left a few small sections of that are close to overexposure. There is good detail throughout down into the shadow areas.	8
I'm Feeling Fra-Gill in This Position	I like the simple composition that displays only the mushroom in an unusual aspect. The light is good and your focus has been placed to ensure all parts of the mushroom are in focus and detailed. I like the detail in the stem which give the impression of a face looking out. Beautifully done.	9
Funky Fungus	A nice close-up view of the fungi, the colour separates it well from the background. A higher f stop would have helped to provide a greater depth of field to cover nearer parts of the fungi with focus.	6
My Mega Triple Cheeseburger After 100 Days in the Fridge	I like the different viewpoint here. which clearly defines the edge of the cluster against a dark background. Focus covers the fungi well although there a number of section where the depth of field is insufficient.	5
Lacy	Very well captured image of the stinkhorn. Lighting has been well controlled and the angle of the image has	8

	ensured that all of the fungus is in focus. My only criticism is the closeness of the fungus to the edges particularly the top of the image.	
Pretty Fungi	Quite a striking colour. Exposure has been well controlled and shows the fungi well against the green background. The focus is a bit on the soft side and I would expect for a closely cropped image like this all the detailed should be crisply defined. I think your depth of field is also a bit on the shallow side.	5
All Alone	An interesting composition. The grass background is well exposed and even in detail right across the image and the head of the fungi does not exhibit the same degree of sharpness. Looking at the edges of the fungi there is a clear halo right around it. It looks like the image has been composited and I would suggest that more care be taken when cutting objects out particularly pay attention to the edges. It helps to feather the edges so that nothing from the original background gets transferred to the new image	4
Fungi Friends in the Forest	A lovely grouping of the cups, I have always seen these with some water in the bottom of the cup as in these. The exposure has been well handled although the focus is a little soft	6
Anderson Garden Fungi	This looks like it was taken in harsh sunlight which is best to be avoided if you can. The exposure has been well controlled to avoid over exposure in the whites. Focus is quite good in the orange mass which looks like your where your point of focus was placed. Unfortunately I think your choice of Fstop was insufficient to provide an adequate depth of field with the front and back of the fungi quite soft and lacking detail.	5
Ganoderma Fungi	An interesting globular fungi with the centre exhibiting quite a different look. The focus has really provided sharp detail on the central part but the front sections of the creamy sections are soft. Increasing your depth of field to cover this section would have elevated the image.	7
Stinkhorn Fungi	A well composed image with the bonus of the flies on the head. Well focused and the detail covers the whole of the fungus. Good colour makes the subject pop from the drab background. Only issue for me is the angle of the image probably contributes to the slight softness on the flies which I would expect to be crisply detailed as well.	7
Veiled Fungi	Well exposed image and the subject stands out well from the background. Depth of field is a bit shallow with noticeable drop off of focus at the left of the veil and the cap.	6
After the Rain	An interesting image, the BW treatments works well to highlight the white fungi against the darker background. Exposure works well and the focus on the front of the fungi shows good detail. Overall though the image is rather dark and there is a lack of detail in the rock at the	6

	left bottom. Also looking at the underside of the head there is a lack of detail at the left which also carries down the stems. I would consider this to be a result of insufficient depth of field	
Fungi Fun in the Park	I really like the point of view, getting down low gives some very different viewpoints and provides detail not visible from above. The low angle has provided good separation from the background which has some interesting bokeh. The stem of the left fungi has some beautiful detail and is obviously where the focus is placed. The depth of field is a bit on the shallow side and the leading fungi is quite unfocused. A greater depth of field could have made this outstanding	7
Wood-decaying Fungi	Nice cluster of fungi on the branch of the tree. Well controlled exposure tending to the high side. The orange is very vibrant and could probably be toned down a fraction. The focus is a bit soft and drops off noticeable away from the central cluster, a higher fstop would be advantageous.	5
Yellow Patches Mushroom	Nicely taken with a low angle to cover both the stem and the cap. Placement of the focal point has shown all the detail in the stem and the central part of the cap. The near side of the cap is unfocused due to the shallow depth of field. Suggest increasing the stop and carefully place the focus	5
Nature's Fans	A nice nature shot, and the placement of the subject present a nicely balanced image. Focus has been placed with good detail in the branch and fungi. The background is sufficiently out of focus not to intrude on the subject; however I would suggest some reduction in the background brightness specifically the green leaves.	7
Standing Out on the Ground	I have to say I have never seen a fungus this colour before. I think they present very well and the composition shows them off nicely. There is good detail in all areas and the stem shows nice detail with the striations breaking open. Probably for me I would have taken the time before the shot to remove small bits that don't need to be in the image like the broken leaves under the head at the right. A bit of time cleaning the debris can really pay off.	7

Image of the Month

ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
22	Stacked Fungus	An outstanding image (Elsbeth Twyman)