

JUDGES REPORT

2021 – November - Open

Judge: Wendy Geddes

Sunshine Coast

Grade	ID	Image Title	Comments	Score
AB		Into the Mist	Composition works well with person at end of path – helps story and supports title. Mist is most obvious over foliage, so cropping down some of the sky will emphasize the mist and concentrate the eye more on the story.	6
AB		Jewels of the Forest	Lovely colour, foreground subject is sharp, detailed and beautifully lit. Composition retains viewer's attention. Lovely exercise in Bokeh light. Really well done.	9
AB		Light Painting	A really good effort at Light Pointing – well done you! Suggestions are crop down one third of image – this will concentrate the viewer's attention not only on the light pattern, but the reflection will gain a legitimate proportion of the frame.	8
AB		Pretty Petals	The fortnight lily can make a pleasant subject and the maker has concentrated on a single bloom - which suspends the lily above a soft background. Good detail.	5
AB		Marigold	Such an attractive study. Central area is a little soft, remember if creating an extreme close up, tripod is our best option. I particularly enjoyed the darkest spot being central in the frame.	7
AB		Ravenswood Post Office	Occasionally, architecture requires an 'extra' point of interest, here, the lovely old phone box might have been better utilized in the frame for that 'added interest' by standing back a little more. Liked your idea.	5
AB		Red Fire Engine	Full of interesting things to look at but the eye still comes back to the fire engine. Good management of settings with plenty of detail.	6
AB		Airborne	Good effort to catch the action. Check your settings, including white balance and iso, before the capture of any sports action and choose one of the higher speeds in shutter priority to capture detail.	5
AB		Rory the Brown Falcon	Good image that holds the viewer's attention. Focal point falls squarely on the Falcon – leaving a pleasantly blurred background. Just enough light to provide detail in darker areas. I might suggest for this type of very fast subject, shooting 'shutter priority' and compensating the fast shutter speed with your ISO for extra light.	7.5
AB		River Reflections	Attractive subject - has a lot to offer. Just a little brightening up of the darker areas – possibly with the	6

			dodge tool rather than risk over brightening the water. Also needs a little straightening. Good effort.	
AB		Slightly Ruffled	Good title and attractive pose on the fence post with the inclusion of the barbed wire giving pleasing comparisons of wood, wire and feather textures. Cocky could be a little brighter and not all the top background is needed – possibly crop down a little. Well spotted.	8.5
AB		Orchid Conga Dance	Good Composition and title. A pleasant study. I feel a reflector may have introduced more light across the fronts of the orchids, emphasizing detail and holding viewer’s interest longer.	7.5
AB		Single - Looking for Companion	A lovely study. While lit from behind/underneath, I found I wanted a little more light as the subject flower looked a little flat. Possibly try taking a soft brush and using the dodge tool set for ‘highlights’, choose around 20 and work around the soft yellow stamen area.	8
AB		Afternoon by the Water	Colour and texture of tree offers an interesting focal point that has been nicely placed on a third to create balance and lead the viewer across the image to the right. Suggest just a little processing to make the most of the colour variations and add some punch.	8.5
AB		On the Edge	Clever perspective, a little like a row of plates standing up. Image is a little dark. There is so much colour, texture and pattern in the fungi, possibly lighten by ‘curves’ or ‘dodging’ individually to give the image more overall impact. Lastly, check sharpness. Image may do well in nature subjects.	6
AB		Eastern Yellow Robin	Yellow Robins make such lovely subjects. You’ve captured good detail in eye, whiskers and feathers and a good blur in the background. Watch the brightness. Sometimes pays to take a quick test shot.	8
AB		I Can See You	Point of focus falls nicely on the eye and surround scales. This area might benefit from a lift in the sharpness. Enjoyed the soft detail in the rest of the body. Overall, well handled.	8
AB		Thirsty	Lots of ‘feather detail’ and a nice bright light in the eye. Take care when capturing images between 10am and 4pm, shadows indicate around mid-day – the harshest time - you may have overcompensated – so the image would benefit from a lift in the brightness. As you’ve cropped out the water, the title doesn’t quite fit the image.	6
AB		Watching and Waiting	A good effort, just keep an eye on your contrast and brightness. Always ask yourself whether trying to control burned out areas in post-production will be noticeable.	5
AB		Red Seed Pods	An interesting close-up study – just a little too close to the top and bottom parametres. Take care with brightness and contrast. Sharp, showing good detail.	7
AB		White Flower	A good flower study with lots of detail. Focal point is spot on with detail falling away nicely. Flower study fills	8

			the frame making a balanced composition. Could take a lift in brightness – possibly try ‘curves’ first.	
AB		Low Tide	This image ‘composition’ displays pattern/repetition, texture, and leading line and could be entered into a variety of competitions. Although the maker has converted to mono, the over bright areas are still quite bright and are contrasted by the very dark area on the right where detail becomes lost.	5
AB		Morning at Sea	The minimalism in the composition is nicely supported by the minimal colour palette. I enjoyed the frosty silver sea and the position of the boat. I’m tempted to suggest that you crop on the left just a little to reduce the very bright area of sea.	8

IMAGE OF THE MONTH (ONE only for each Grade please)			
Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
AB		Jewels of the Forest	So much in this image is as it should be – plus the beautiful spangled bokeh adds a certain enchantment. (Bob Hinds)

Grade	ID	Image Title	Comments	Score
A		Collecting Ingredients	Imaginative. Well thought through and executed. Tonal qualities are quite surreal and carry the ‘other worldliness’ of the image. Range of Textures are an added bonus. Image really engaged the viewer.	9
A		Watchful Eyes of Oreiades	Another very nice ethereal offering. A smidge more room in front of the toe would balance the composition. Possibly dodge some of the darker areas on the horns to reveal a little more detail.	8
A		Cormorant Admiring His Gorge	A beautiful backdrop for your Cormorant. Good depth of field and detail help the viewer survey all areas of the frame. The eye does move back and forward between the Cormorant to the cliffs as if they are competing for attention. Getting down a little lower so the Cliffs are behind Cormorant’s head may have stopped this.	8
A		Windows in the Sun	Very nicely presented. Good detail in a presentation that challenges the viewer to explore the angles of the image. While the composition is good, a little more room on the right might have been beneficial to the composition.	8.5
A		Ghostly	Such an interesting idea. Clock face offers sharp detail while – with the twist of a lens the rest of the image falls away. High key and yet not, as the shadows give way to depth. Idea may be worth pursuing as a series, with the clock on different back grounds that emphasize the lens action.	8

A		Seems Lonely	Viewing this image makes the observer want more, either of the blank area that supports the title or detail on the head stone that offers interest. The image has been quite well handled and shows detail throughout. Compositionally, the headstone position in the frame seems to Block the viewer from leaving.	7
A		Junior Bull Riding	Rodeo & Camp drafting offer such exciting action. I find the viewer's attention is caught and held if the photographer can get down to the level of the action. While the background story has a place, it shouldn't dominate. Choose your beast by colour so that they stand out from the sand. The beast and rider are a little washed out. Have your shutter speed totally ramped up so that you can catch all the movement and the emotion on the rider's face. Don't be afraid to crop – in this case, the left up to the column.	6
A		Roping	Similar to comments of previous rodeo image, benefits can be gained by finding a spot down closer to the action. Good control of the lighting conditions. This is not an easy accomplishment. Your crop has cut off the folk on the fences and the lasso, all a legitimate part of the story and worth including if you can. Good detail and lights in the horse's eyes.	7
A		Racing at Ewan	Lots of action, shutter speed has caught plenty of detail – lights in eyes – faces of jockeys. This sky offers little interest and could be cropped to half the size. A little of the grass could be cropped, presenting the image in the typical racing format of a panorama – your image will cope with this as it has the detail. Play with the light and contrast slider in photoshop to create a dynamic presentation.	7.5
A		Waiting for a Bite	Oh My! I hope there are no Crocs around this area! Compositionally - prefer a little more room above the fisherman. Good contrast textures between smooth water and rushing water. Reflections add an attractive element to the image.	7.5
A		Anson Bay Waves	A good capture of Wave detail, light and motion. Interesting layers lay beyond the wave. If the maker enhanced the differing light/detail in first layers of background rock, the viewer's eye would travel into the image along the wave, follow the curl up to the rock and follow it out of the image.	6
A		Frangipanni	Shallow depth of field makes franji's pop and background bokeh. Strong complimentary colours speak of the 'tropics'. Composition could have been better balanced with three blooms or if the maker had waited for 'a bug' to land for that little added extra.	6
A		Autumn Colours in Spring	Good strength in this composition. Tree Trunk gives point of interest. Image captured in very strong light producing lots of shade and bright patches. A good	6

			position to visit in the golden hours.	
A		Hold Still	Wow, such concentration! Good quality capture with subjects doing something interesting. Contrasting light and shade areas have been well controlled and colour is believable and not over-done. Could also be a solid Nature entry.	8.5

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(ONE only for each Grade please)

Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
A		Collecting Ingredients	An image that has been well planned and constructed, where the photographer is responsible on all levels. (Cassie McMahon)