

# JUDGES REPORT

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**2023 – May – Theme Low Key**

**Judge - Margaret O'Grady - Brisbane**

Grade	ID	Image Title	Comments	Score
A		Candlelight	Great idea! Could consider lighting the whole image very slightly for more impact.	6
A		Light on a Rose	Good diagonal composition though a little could be cropped from the bottom of the frame. Would have been worth selecting camera settings to gives crisp detail throughout the flower for a more impactful image.	4.5
A		Photographer's Joy	Great subject matter and effective crop. Would have been good to use camera settings to bring out a little detail in the very dark areas.	6
A		Ssh!	Great sense of peace and light source has been well positioned. The image could be darkened a little to reduce the brightness on the face and the LHS could be cropped for a more balanced image.	7
A		Deep Thinker	Great expression. The harsh lighting has caused a deep shadow behind the head and loss of detail throughout the black T-shirt. Could consider moving the model further from the wall and using a little less flash power.	5
A		Frangipani	Interesting idea for low key and good mono treatment. Could work to bring out more of the textures and detail in the petals for more impact.	5
A		Dried Protea Flower	Good textures and detail in the central areas of the flower. For a more powerful interpretation it may be worth cropping heavily and developing an image predominately of the shapes and textures of the petals rather than the whole flower.	5
A		Old Film Camera	Interest subject and good interpretation of the set subject. The lighting has caused some very heavy shadows on the RHS...could have considered repositioning the light source of using an extra one.	6
A		Clothes Pegs	Simple interpretation of the set subject. Would have been worth using an extra light source to illuminate the shadowed areas for a more complete story.	5
A		Old Laundry Cart	Interesting subject and good crisp detail throughout. Could have considered zooming out to show hints of the surrounding environment for a more complete story.	5
A		Waiting For My Master	Great interpretation of the loyalty of a dog and the lighting shows just enough detail. Could have considered including a little of the wall beyond the opening so the bright slit is not on the edge of the image.	8
A		Who's There	Powerful story and the low-key process works to increase the sense of drama. Light source has been well	9

			positioned to show the essential elements of the image and no more.	
A		Double of Nothing....	Nice moody interpretation of the set subject and reflective areas have been well handled. Could lighten the whole image a little for more impact.	5
A		Glowing	This one has me guessing as to what it is? ...and I really don't know. Good technical details and perhaps zooming in on one of the blue spots/holes may help develop a stronger narrative.	4.5
A		A Walk in the Twilight Zone	The choice of low key is appropriate for this subject. The darkness and the posture of the figure promote a powerful story. Good technical details.	8
A		One of Nature's Beauties	Good diagonal composition and interesting lighting. This one would most likely be more impactful in colour to show the vibrant natural colour.	5
A		Early Morning, Bournda National Park Lagoon NSW	Strong interpretation of the set and effective mono conversion. The diagonal cloud structure and reflection draw the eye to the main subject and give a sense of depth.	6
A		Green Turtle, Turquoise Bay Western Australia	Good rich mono treatment and crisp detail throughout. Effective interpretation of the set subject.	8
A		That's Odd	Fabulous expression and a great subject choice for Low Key. Good technical details.	8
A		The Old Master	Great idea for low key and good even lighting. Could lighten the whole image a little to reveal a hint of the background for a sense of place.	7
A		Over My Shoulder	Interesting pose and good interpretation of the set subject. Could consider lightening the whole image to show more detail.	4.5
A		Possum Fence Sitting	Great sense of mystery and the rich mono treatment works to enhance the narrative.	7
A		A Beautiful Rose	Very good interpretation of the set subject and the Lighting creates a sense of mystery.	7
A		Ford Classic Car	Uncluttered story and the fading lighting give a sense of power. Would have been worth considering a lower camera angle to avoid the heavy shadow.	5
A		Highland Cow	Great textures and detail throughout and good rich mono treatment. Could consider cropping the LHS as the dark area there doesn't add to the story.	6
A		Lurking	Good rich mono treatment and crisp fur detail. The blurred area below the back eye is a little distracting. Effective crop.	6
A		Pensive	Great sense of being lost in thought. Could consider lightening the image to show more detail especially around the eyes.	5
A		Still Life	Unusual subject matter. Would be worth revisiting the project and choosing a perfect plant specimen with just a few leaves trailing around the glass.	5
A		Lotus Succulent	Good even lighting and graduation of colour is very effective. Good interpretation of the set subject.	7
A		Red Rose	Wonderful crisp detail throughout the flower and good	8

			even lighting. Just enough of the leaf detail is shown to give a sense of place.	
A		Buddha	The use of light and shadow gives a good sense of depth. Could consider cropping the RHS a little to reduce the large area of negative space	5
A		Lily Bud	Beautiful texture and crisp detail throughout and the water droplets are a bonus. For a more complete narrative it would have been good to have included another element such as a small frog or insect on the bud.	6
A		Deep in Thought	Very intense expression and effective crop. Could consider lighting the dark side of the face slightly to show a little more detail for a more powerful story.	6
A		Innocent	Wonderful pensive expression. Would have been good to use camera settings to show a hint of detail in the dark areas of the image to give a sense of place.	5

**IMAGE OF THE MONTH**  
(ONE only for each Grade please)

Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
A		Who's There	A powerful story told through a simple well composed image. <b>(Sharryl Whiting)</b>

Grade	ID	Image Title	Comments	Score
AB		Gong..But Not Forgotten	Good crisp detail throughout and effective interpretation of the set subject. There are some very bright areas that lack detail which could be reduced by using a little less light (perhaps a lower flash setting)	8
AB		Yoyos Because YOLO	Interesting collection and good interpretation of the set subject. The OOF string at bottom of the frame is a little distracting...could use a higher DOF to achieve sharp focus right through the image. Would have been interesting to see this one in colour.	7
AB		Passionflower	Interesting interpretation of the set subject. The flash has caused some very bright areas with lack of detail in the whites. Would be worth considering making the image in better lighting with no flash to capture the fine detail and textures throughout the flower.	7
AB		Seed Pods	Great interpretation of the set subject and good simple composition. The image is a little soft...would be worth trying a faster shutter speed and perhaps a light source.	6

**IMAGE OF THE MONTH**  
(ONE only for each Grade please)

Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
AB		Gong..But Not Forgotten	Strong simple story with good crisp detail throughout the image. <b>(Ina Pryor)</b>