

focus

the newsletter of the matamata camera club

www.matamatacameraclub.org

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Critiques September 2012.

Theme Digital – Black & White Interiors

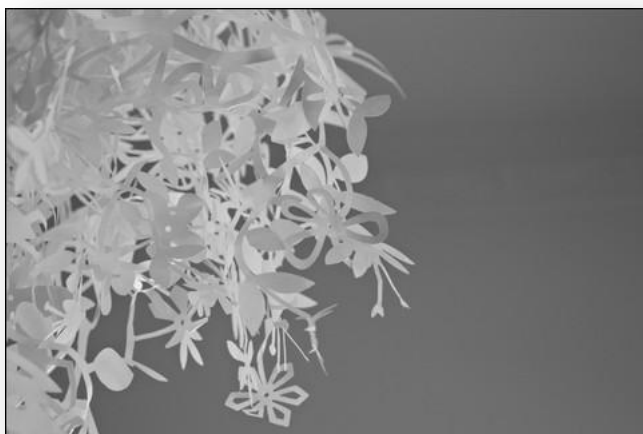


C-Grade: Books

I like the oblique lines here. They create a nice, dynamic composition.

Cropping the image (see attached) gives it more impact.

Highly Commended



C-Grade: Lightshade

Interesting subject matter with a lot of potential. I think it needs strong, directional side light to create depth and separation. Perhaps adding contrast and cropping to a square format gives this image more coherent look. (see attached)

Highly Commended



B-Grade: Barred

An interesting abstract look. Side light creates nice textures and a sense of depth. I think a sharp focus would give this image more impact.

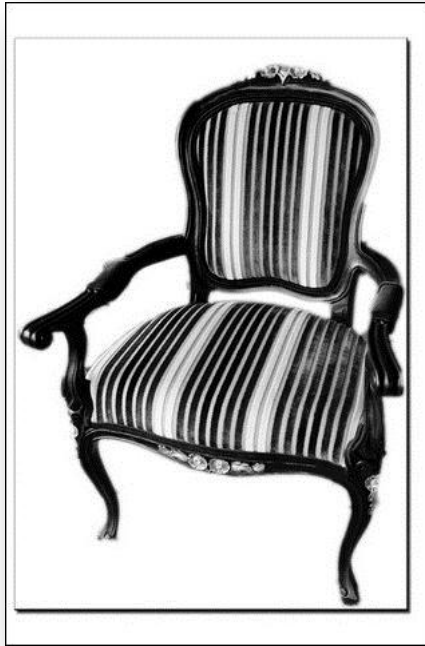
Merit



B-Grade: Bowers

Beautifully done, interesting and fun image. Well done

Honours



B-Grade: Broken Foot

I quite like this neo-baroque chair. So large, bold and embellished. This image is about all these characteristic. I wouldn't even noticed that the foot is broken. Why would you make it then a subject of this photo?

Highly Commended



B-Grade: Come Sit On Me

All elements in this image suggest that they are from a dream rather than a real life. A dream where zebra turns into a couch and rides a bicycle around New York. You realize that this is strange only when you wake up.

Highly Commended



B-Grade: Descending

Nice use of the converging lines to suggest depth. Sharp focus will give this image more impact. A slight cropping of the top perhaps? (see attached)

Merit



B-Grade: Fish Market

A scene with lots of potential. I think that available light doesn't really help showcasing all the interesting elements here.

Merit



B-Grade: Fruit On A Ledge

Quite unusual juxtaposition. I feel like 2 main elements are competing for attention and big bold beams are winning. If you want make this image about the fruit perhaps more tide crop will be better (see attached)
Merit



B-Grade: Harry Was Here

Nice image with an interesting love story. Is the person on the image Harry or is he the one who loves Niki? Or perhaps he is about to give up being a tagger and go into the light....
Highly Commended



B-Grade: Rose Bros

Lots of very interesting elements. I feel like a sharp focus throughout the image would make it stronger.
Highly Commended



B-Grade: Squares

Interesting abstract like image. Diagonal lines create a very dynamic composition. Highlights on the edges add some interest and fun.

Honours



B-Grade: Such A Choice

A scene with lots of potential. This looks more like a snapshot than an interpretation of a subject. Try to go beyond that by using unusual point of view or framing.

Merit



B-Grade: Which Is My Bed

I like this image very much. It tells a story. All these little elements give you a hint of what happened there. Nice intimate image.

Honours



B-Grade: Winery Interior

Technically quite well done.

Unfortunately I don't quite know what this image is all about. Perhaps showing the wider view would help? Or simply you just telling us that you love MERLOT?

Merit



B-Grade: Yeah Right

Nice texture and strong contrasting elements. I quite like it purely as graphics elements. I find stains on the left hand corner more stimulating than the actual message.

Merit



A-Grade: Comfortably Numb

A very interesting image. Lots of texture and interesting light, nicely composed. Looks to me as if this image was staged and it lacks a sense of mood.

Merit



A-Grade: Crossed Flags

Hips of texture here. But I feel that you included too much in this image and the message is lost. I would crop this image (see attached) to keep it coherent and simple.

Highly Commended



A-Grade: Down Under

A very nice image with an abstract qualities.

Interesting, contrasting shapes create a dynamic composition.

Highly Commended



A-Grade: Hanging On

Lots of texture and contrast. Good use of lines that create illusion of depth and leading into the image. I think this image requires sharp focus throughout for greater impact. Use of tripod and smaller aperture would help to achieve this.

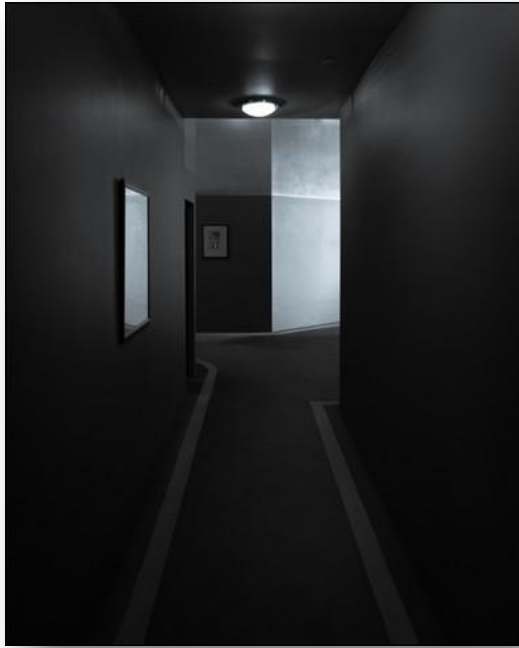
Merit



A-Grade: Hunters Lodge

Lots of interesting elements that suggest this is a very strange place. Quite dark and moody. Perhaps even too dark. A perfect set for a horror movie.

Highly Commended



A-Grade: The Le Grande

I really like the mood here. Isolation, eeriness, mystery. I'm not sure what is "le grande" here. It feels more claustrophobic than big, but perhaps it is a matter of interpretation.
Highly Commended



A-Grade: My Reading Corner

Good use of lines and texture.
Technically very well done.
Unfortunately available light was very flat and it looks like there is no space between the lamp and a bookshelf behind.
Merit



A-Grade: Old Maids

A very good image. I love the juxtaposition of all the elements of the image. All different and contrasting shapes create a dynamic composition. Perhaps greater tonal contrast (see attached) gives this image more dramatic look.

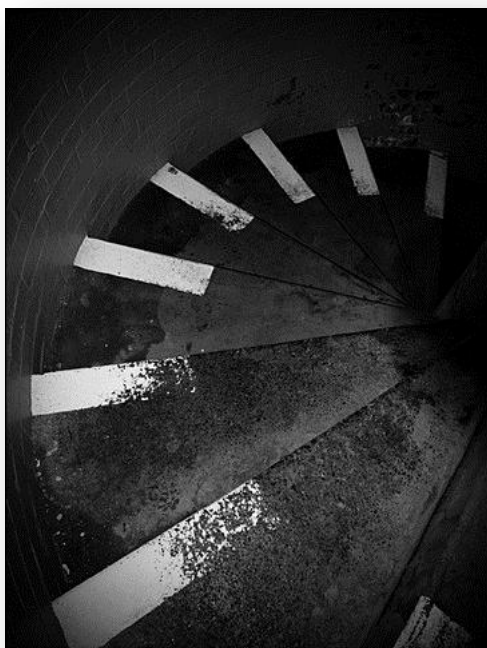
Honours



A-Grade: Otorohanga Church

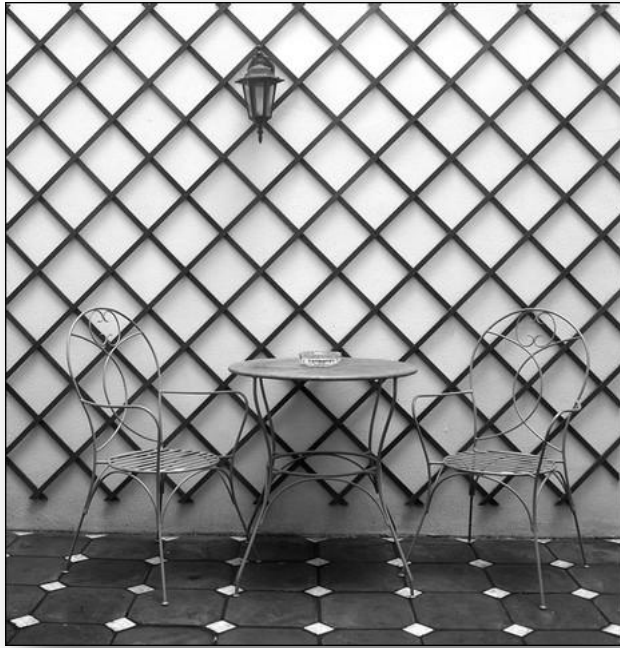
Technically very well done. A nice representation of an interior of the Otorohanga Church. Because of your choice of the subject matter I would love to feel something more spiritual. Go beyond just documenting give your own interpretation.

Merit



A-Grade: The Descent

Very moody and mysterious image. Nice shapes and good contrast. Highly Commended



A-Grade: Time Out

Although I really like all the contrasting textures here, I feel like it is too much and the subject matter is a bit lost. Instead having a quiet moment as the title suggest I feel agitated instead. I think this image need something strong and bold to be more calm. Merit



A-Grade: Underground

I love this image. Light and mood is great! Very well done. Honours

Open Digital



C-Grade: Clowns

Love the colour and the depth of field in the first two clown faces. Also for the first Object the mouth is situated approximately on a third intersection in this image.

The receding line of clowns takes you through and out of the image.

Honours



B-Grade: All That Remains

Love the crisp spring feel about this image.

I would drop the highlights/contrast to create more detail in the cloud and crop the building to off centre. I think this would add more interest.

The area with the little boy, which I think is a point of interest, could be lightened up.

Merit



B-Grade: Got It!

Good PJ shot.

Love the mouth guard.

I would drop the highlights and up the whites/vibrance, to add a little more zing.

Highly Commended



B-Grade: Held Captive

This appeals to me - I like the subtle toning, the object of interest being on a third (approx), the vertical lines holding the object within the picture.

The title adds another dimension.

Honours.



B-Grade: Motor X

Love the tight crop and the mud flying around.

I would sharpen a fraction and heighten the shadows.

Highly Commended



B-Grade: Tyne Street

I like this image.

You could add a little contrast and vibrance/saturation to create more of a 3 dimensional feel.

Merit.



B-Grade: Winter Scene

You have lost the detail in the whites.

I suggest you drop the highlights to get more detail back into the clouds.

There is too much water with no activity. Too big a blank space. I suggest you crop to just below the ripple in order to create more of a landscape image.

Accepted



A-Grade: Alone

I like this image – it's very moody - I feel like I am moving with the clouds, on their way out of the picture.

The diagonal line of the hill creates a bit of interest. Love the single bird/leaf in the branches.

I would adjust either clarity\contrast\sharpening (depending on the software that you use) to give a slightly more 3 dimensional look.

Honours



A-Grade: Barn

I like the abstract feel about this image.

I like everything being central.

Slight adjustments to highlights would bring more detail into the clouds - some vibrancy will lift the colour.

Without these adjustments - I consider it's too flat, with limited feeling of depth.

Merit.



A-Grade: Hello

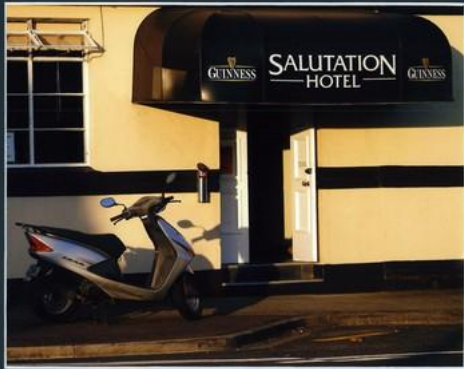
I love the little story going on here. The connection point of interest, on the third, between the paw and the hand. This is let down by the whites being blown out - and the darks with not enough detail. Highly Commended.



A-Grade: Mighty Waikato River

Love the high horizon and the river winding its way through the country side. The image is nicely framed on the top by the branch. The twig dangling down bothers me. A small step to the right or left would have corrected this. Merit.

Open Print



B-Grade: Salutation Hotel

Love the tones in this image - the open door tells the story. the concrete verge leads you right through the door and out of the picture.

The dark concrete and asphalt with the veranda, hold you in the image.

Honours

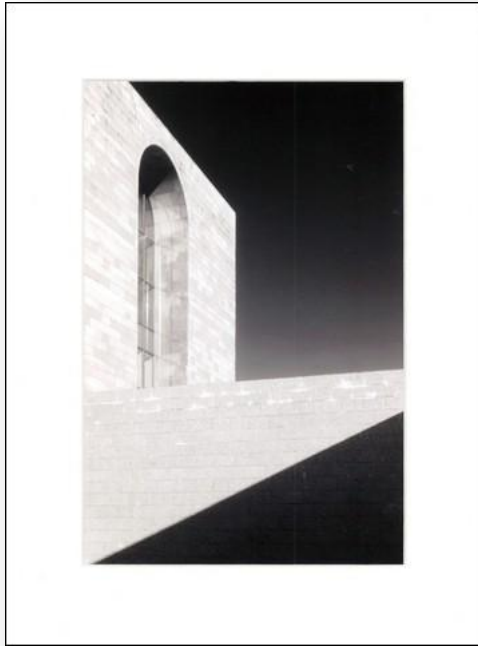


B-Grade: Daisy

Really like this image - makes me feel happy.

I find the white flowers in the background distracting.

Highly Commended



A-Grade: Facade

Love the simplicity of this image - nice triangles and lines.
Highly Commended



A-Grade: Bennydale Shack

I think that the house is way too central.
I would crop most of the foreground away and add a graduated filter to the sky to hold the house in the image.
I would also adjust the levels / vibrance to add a little more energy.
Accepted.

Quote: “Art is the right hand of Nature. The latter has only given us being, the former has made us men.”
– *Friedrich Schiller*