

PADRE TRAILS CAMERA CLUB

Pictorial Competition #1 September 28, 2015

Group AA

- 01. A Touch of Brass** - The lighting is very beautiful. I might have moved my camera up a little bit higher and pointed it down so that the round back window didn't show up because that feels like a bit of a distraction to me.
- 02. Bixby Bridge by Starlight** - This is a scene that we're very familiar with around here and it takes on a new life with the Milky Way shining above it. The glow of the car's headlights on Route One are bonus.
- 03. Blue Morning Glory** – Beautiful image. I love the light coming through the petals and the shadows where they overlap. I'd open up the shadows so the stems were more pronounced.
- 04. Calla Lillies with SunBurst** - This is a place we're all familiar with as photographers that live in this area and you brought some freshness to the image by catching the sun rays as they touch the hill. I would pull a bit more contrast out of the hills and the sky so that they matched the contrast that you have in the foreground.
- 05. Castroville Mustard Field** - This is a very simple and sweet image. The yellow mustard flowers are delightful and the trees and bushes make for some visual variety. If that white building wasn't tucked in the corner it would be perfect.
- 06. Exotic Concours Hood Ornament** – What a beautiful piece of artwork. I really like the way it reflects off the car. I'd love to see the statue at different angles to see where the form plays out best and I'd brighten up the photograph a touch.
- 07. Front Row Center - Fort Ord Pool** – One of my students just did self-portrait nudes on that same bench so I'm very familiar with it. I like how you framed it and the spy can in the back is humorous. I'd bring the highlights down a tad.
- 08. Frozen Morning** – It looks like you braved the elements for this photograph. It's very striking and looks like it could be an infrared photograph. The shadows are blocked up and I'd see if I could open them up as well as get a bit more detail in the foreground snow.
- 09. Mirrored Milky Way Galaxy** – What a fun image. It's hard not to see faces in mirrored images, they're complex Rorschach tests. I wonder if you can use a flash to add some detail to the foreground?
- 10. Monument Valley Monochrome** - This is such a well photographed place that it's hard to make it your own, but drama in the clouds did just that. Very beautiful.

11. Oil Painting of Odin – This is a sweet image. Odin looks very patient. His fur looks great as an oil painting and I'm glad that his eye didn't get too painterly or you'd lose his expression.

12. Park Avenue - Arches National Park - Arches looks so stunning in the snow, it's hard to go wrong. I'd love to see some bushes or snow even closer to the camera if that were possible to give an even greater feeling of depth.

13. Point Lobos Pink and Blue - I love how the row of clouds change color from one side to the other. The panoramic frame works very well for this image.

14. Prom Night Takes a Left Turn - A very simple image with a surprise hiding in the corner. Excellent.

15. Racing Legend Sir Jackie Stewart – It's wonderful that you got a photograph of Sir John Young Stewart that is so direct, unique and personable.

16. Secret Old House - I feel like I'm just coming up on the cabin as I walk in the woods, the photograph has a very comfortable style. Try taking a bit of yellow out of the image and see if you don't get more other colors coming forward.

17. Sleeping Giant Mountain in Routt County, Colorado – The road really carries my eye through the image and the hills and clouds are gorgeous. I'd open up the shadow detail a bit.

18. Steel Wool Arches – Very beautiful. I've heard that steel wool really burns well. There are some wonderful images online of people spinning the steel wool that are just amazing.

19. Stevens Rifle – I really like the composition and the lighting on the foreground. The background is a little bit of a distraction, I like the out of focus quality but the framed artwork is pulling my eye away from the detail of the gun and hand.

20. Vase in Carmel Window – Wow, that vase became very abstract. I didn't know what it was till I read the title. I like abstract photography, but I think I'd like a little more to catch my eye and engage me. Maybe more of the edge of the vase where it interacts with the background.

21. Villa d'Este Fountain – What an amazing fountain! I love how you captured the droplets of water in the air. I'd love to see you bring the contrast down a little bit so that the shadow areas of the photograph opened up. I might also crop off the last water spout on the right side so there was more balance to the arch and the great bird.

Honorable Mention:

Bixby Bridge by Starlight

Calla Lillies with SunBurst
Castroville Mustard Field
Park Avenue - Arches National Park

Third Place:

Point Lobos Pink and Blue

Second Place:

A Touch of Brass

First Place:

Monument Valley Monochrome