

## **PTCC Pictorial #1 – October 18, 2017**

### **Group AAA**

9 images from 3 members

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#### **01-Buddha's Head Surrounded by Tree – Thailand.jpg**

*I like the way the tree branches surround the stone head. You could have taken steps to make the head appear very different from the branches and thereby stand out more but, in making the tones and texture very similar, I think you may be making a philosophical statement that is strong. The asymmetry in the branches keeps the composition interesting, but the head nevertheless seems a bit centered and might be stronger if you shifted it, possibly toward the lower left. The image is almost monochrome and might benefit from going all the way to monochrome. The little bits of brown and green that remain, mainly in the lower left, are a little distracting.*

#### **02-Doorways - Cambodia.jpg**

*Though the doorways within doorways are centered in the image, the asymmetry in the structure surrounding the nearest doorways serves to keep the composition from being static. I also like the relation between the primarily green tones on the left against the brownish ones on the right and bottom. Good texture in the mid-tones, but the highlights are a bit washed out. If you shot this in raw you may be able to bring more texture into the brighter areas. Generally well framed, though the stones at the bottom are almost crowding the bottom border too closely. There is a lighter area along the lower right border which, if it were toned down a little, would be less distracting.*

#### **03-Foundry.jpg**

*I like the relation between the 3 gears/wheels on the right and the vertical, thin objects on the left, and am glad you didn't center the division between them more. I like that you've kept good detail in both the lighter and darker areas, but the image seems a little flat in its tonality and, I think, would benefit from more local contrast in the mid-tones. Especially since these are heavy metal objects and thus could be portrayed more strongly. The wheel in the upper right is primary to the composition, so it's a little distracting that you've brought its top and right side right to the border. Less distracting are the objects to the bottom, left of center, that could also use a little more room around them.*

#### **04-Graffiti.jpg**

*Good placement of the man within the pattern of the graffiti and, since he's looking away from it in this moment, you've given us a little mystery whether he has created the graffiti or is just observing it. I'm glad you managed to place his face, with the darker skin tones, against a lighter part of the wall for good separation. Adding a touch of humor is the camouflage pattern in his pants which is similar to the graffiti pattern. I also like that his white tee shirt doesn't compete in color with the wall, but still has a lot of wrinkly texture for interest.*

#### **05-Heading Home Before the Rain.- Cambodia.jpg**

*With the theme of impending rain, I can see why you made the image fairly dark overall. Though the silhouette of the cows and human do convey a dark moodiness, bringing a little more detail into them could add some interest without breaking that mood. The rainy sky is well presented, but I think you could have cropped away about half of the ground on the bottom, and cropped*

*the left side closer to the palm tree. That tree then would hold the composition on the left, we'd see enough of the ground to get a good sense of the place, and that would allow us to get a little closer to the primary subjects, the cattle and the person.*

**06-Memory Garden Dahlia.jpg**

*Wonderful presentation with the colorful and strongly-structured central part transitioning smoothly to the flatter and more subdued lighting around the edges. It seems a little too centered, and may benefit from shifting the central part a bit to the left, though the top-bottom placement, though also centered, seems okay. Nice and sharp in the central part, and it's okay that some of leaves at the periphery have softer focus. A leaf or blossom on the left side has its edge touching the border and would benefit from either giving it a little more space on the left, or else cropping it a bit (which would also shift the central part toward the left, as I suggested. The top blossoms also have their edges right on the border, but that doesn't seem as bothersome.*

**07-Point Pinos Peace.jpg**

*Though there is not much going on in the sky I'm glad you showed as much of it as you do. It provides a negative space that offsets the greater detail in the foreground, and adds to the peaceful quality you suggest in the title. The main subject is, for me, the rock formation on the right with seals on it that bisects the horizon. You've placed it with just enough separation from the other rock formations that it holds its own as the main subject despite being no bigger than most of the other formations. I also like that you've apparently taken a several second exposure which makes the water motion milky and also adds to the peaceful feeling.*

**08-Rattlesnake Ballroom.jpg**

*This is a fun human interest photo, with the dog looking a bit precarious on the back of the ATV. I like the way you caught the ATV rider just under the motorcycle in the Ballroom display, and going opposite ways. I'm glad the Ballroom sign includes the town name and state since this photo gives a good sense of place and could be successful in Travel.*

**09-Salinas River State Beach Sandpipers.jpg...**

*I like the simplicity of this composition, with one sandpiper holding down the left side of the image and the other two doing the same for the right side. The birds are nice and sharp as are their shadows and the sand next to them. Nothing needs to be added or taken away, including the negative space at the top. You might experiment with turning this image fully to monochrome since color plays little role here.*

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**Winning images:**

*Only First and Second due to limited number of submittals*

**Second Place:**

**Point Pinos Peace**

**First Place:**

**Memory Garden Dahlia**