

PTCC: Travel Competition

Sept 19, 2018

Group AAA

30 Images from 10 members

01-Abominatrix.jpg

Great capture of a sports moment and this would be very good in Journalism. Not so strong in Travel since it isn't expressing a feeling of time and place, and the title isn't helping with that either.

02-Arctic Grandeur.jpg

Great capture of the grandeur and coldness of the place, aided by a strong composition. Title would be a bit stronger with more location info.

03-Bay Bridge span over the SF night skyline.jpg

I love the dark moodiness of the setting contrasting with the sharp brightness of the bridge and skyline. The flare-effect at each point of light adds to the drama; much further adjustment in that direction would be too much for the "appear natural" requirement of Travel, but in my opinion you didn't exceed it here.

04-Bryce Canyon Sunrise.jpg

Great sense of place and drama in the sunrise. Strong composition with placement of the tree and the Sun shining through its branches. The texture in the clouds works with the structure in the canyon walls. Despite strong back-lighting you did a good job of showing detail in the shadowed walls (HDR?). I can't decide whether you brought up color saturation a lot in the canyon walls (pushing the limit of the "appear natural" requirement of Travel), or if it may actually have looked like that. I'll guess this is close enough to natural (and thus part of the appeal of Bryce Canyon).

05-Buddist Temple Hong Kong.jpg

Good sense of the peacefulness and solemnity of the place with strong juxtaposition of the shrine with the people. Normally, presentation of people would be stronger with them facing camera rather than away. But here I think it adds to a suitable sense of "detachment" (plus I know it may have been inappropriate to move to a position where you could have photographed their faces). Composition would be a bit stronger if you had included the entire figure on the right border.

06-Carnaval Parade SF 2018.jpg

Well-composed capture of the parade participant, though his solemn expression seems at odd with his colorful dress (and if there's a story/explanation for that it would be well to have it in the title). This would be stronger in Pictorial or Journalism since it is too close-up of the individual, without a sense of the parade he is part of, for Travel.

07-Decorative US War Bombs - Laos.jpg

Very strong Travel, showing simply but effectively the enduring effects of the war! I love the way the old bombs frame the modern (but, from the signage, clearly asian) street scene. Good choice of monochrome, bringing out the classic look of the chairs and table, and the texture in the bombs. People often add to a Travel story, but here I think they would have distracted from the subtle message.

08-Dogs lunch.jpg

I love the serene look of the person juxtaposed with the not-so-serene look of anticipation of the dog on the right. This would be great in Journalism. As Travel there is not quite enough sense of the place, nor is the title giving us that clue.

09-Goldfield Ghost Town, AZ.jpg

Good sense of place with a fine monochrome treatment. I love the texture in the wood, adobe and sky. Lack of people add to the sense of abandonment (and, if they were there, would probably have been tourists).

10-Layers of Blue in Sunny Isles Beach, Florida.jpg

I see the Travel story and intent of the title, but this may be stronger as Pictorial than Travel (especially if at higher resolution; the image looks pixelated, as presented). Stronger Travel story if there were people on some of the cots. The closest cot is well-placed compositionally but takes up over a third of the image without adding much to the sense of place. The Travel story is given mainly by the top third, and most distant, part of the image.

11-Little girl in Kathmandu.jpg

Great Travel! Wonderful portrait of the little girl, juxtaposed with the other people in her life/culture, and surrounded by enough architecture to give a strong sense of place. A bit more space given under her feet would make that part less crowded, but that's a nit-pick.

12-Man Celebrates Home God Festival, Gansu Province, China, July, 2014.jpg

Great capture of this moment, supplemented by a strong Travel title. The other people are secondary but clearly engaged in the same activity, and so add to the Travel story. The other elements also give a strong sense of the place.

13-McWay Falls - Big Sur CA.jpg

A very well composed capture of the location, with just enough foreground and sky (but not too much) to frame the main area of interest, thereby giving a good sense of the place.

14-Morro Bay.jpg

A great Pictorial image and choice as monochrome. I love the texture and drama in the rock and sky, and the way the reflection of Morro Rock is framed just-so by the foreground sandy area. A strong, moody, sense of place. The title could give us a bit more, as a Travel image, since I think this is more about Morro Rock than Morro Bay.

15-Moving Day In Morocco.jpg

A very humorous but human capture of life in Morocco, with a great sense of the motion and effort of the person on the left. Though tightly composed, you've given us a good enough sense of the surrounding place for it to be a good Travel image. Highlights are bright, but add to the sense of drama and the heat of the day. On the title; I'm left unconvinced whether this is Moving "Day" in the sense that you or I would move our possessions (hopefully rarely) from one abode to another, or whether this is the daily transportation of goods to or from the marketplace. If you know, I'd expound on that more in the title. If you don't know the intent of the move, I'd focus the title more on the mode of transportation (the donkey or mule).

16-Musician Outside Bull Ring in Arles, France.jpg

I get some sense of interesting activity in this town but the musician, who is facing away from the camera making him less interesting to the photo than he could be, is blocking what might otherwise be an informative view of the town. His green jacket takes up nearly half the frame but adds little to the Travel story.

17-Old Iron Wheel - Bodie CA.jpg

A very unusual and creative perspective at an often-photographed location. Strong composition and good choice as a monochrome. Framing the distant cabin within the spokes of the wagon wheel turns the usual juxtaposition around while telling us about both the old objects to be found at Bodie as well as the setting within which they are located. So good Travel as well as good Pictorial.

18-Old Veteran's Tree - Point Lobos CA.jpg

Good "portrait" of the tree, which is well placed in the frame. This is better as Pictorial than Travel since the crop around the tree is so close that we get little overall sense of the location.

19-Olives at Aix-en-Provence Market.jpg

Good separation of the space into different sections through the metal trays, with interesting differences in color and shape in each tray. So good as a Pictorial image (though the apparent low resolution is causing pixilation). But less strong as Travel since there is no sense of place given, other than the signs on the trays.

20-Pretty Flowers in a row Carnival Parade 2018.jpg

I think the effect of the very different expressions on these girls is accentuated through them wearing nearly identical costumes. So a great human interest story and Journalism value. Less strong as Travel since the crop around them is so close that we get little sense of their presence and participation in the Carnival Parade.

21-Rice Farming Viet Nam 2014.jpg

Good placement of the cattle and driver in the frame, with the lines separating the paddies coming together well to emphasize their presence. Though the background is devoid of many features, there is enough form and interest to contribute well to the Travel story.

22-Sausage Lady - Cambodia.jpg

I always enjoy the old juxtaposed with the modern in Travel. Here, a timeless image of a street merchant selling her wares while talking on her cellphone (and these days, they may all be on their cellphones). The monochrome treatment adds to the old/timeless look. The cart and wheel, which is presumed to be how she got her wares there, are well-positioned to add to the story and sense of place.

23-Shaman Piercing Man, Klulol Festival in Rebkong, Qinghai Province, China, July 2014.jpg

You've given us an intense window into this aspect of their lives, though I'm left to wonder what the significance is of the piercing activity. A few more words in the title would help. The image is cropped tightly around the activity, which is good, with just enough background to show it is taking place in a public setting; the festival indicated in the title. So, good as Travel.

24-Sundown along the Big Sur coast.jpg

A dramatic capture of the sunset, with the line of the wave helping hold the composition on the left, and leading our eye to the sea stacks. The saturation appears enhanced, beyond necessary (my personal taste), and almost (but not quite) going beyond the Travel requirement that all adjustments "must appear natural".

25-Temple of Heaven.jpg

A strong Pictorial image with compelling graphic elements and good use of negative space. Not as good in Travel since there isn't a strong sense of place, nor is the title helping inform us where the temple is located.

26-Travel to Obon - Soft Landing.jpg

Great capture of a peak action moment, so good as Journalism but I'm not getting the Travel story. The title may be clever but isn't helping give the travel info; I know Obon to

be a Buddhist event, but is it also a place as the title suggests? I can't tell. My take is that it's okay to start a Travel (or Journalism, Nature) title with a clever quip, but it should be followed up with the needed factual info.

27-Vancouver, British Columbia.jpg

Great Travel image; it makes me want to go there. The monochrome treatment helps separate the rather different patterns in the boat masts vs. the apartment buildings. You gave enough of the water to help give the sense of place, but not too much since that's not the main subject.

28-Walking in the snow Bhutan.jpg

That these people are walking away from the camera and we don't see their faces is okay here since it helps convey a sense of remoteness and isolation that I think you were going for. You've given us just enough of the dwelling and background to place these people in the context of their living environment, so good Travel.

29-Yak wool Bhutan.jpg

Strong Pictorial image with the patterns and colors in the wool. I like how the wooden cross-piece is holding the composition (not to mention the wool) in the upper right. Not as good as a Travel image since there isn't much sense given of the place.

30-ZORRO Carnaval Parade SF .jpg

Dramatic portrait of this costumed participant, so good in Pictorial or Journalism. Would be good to bring out more details in the shadowed areas. Not as strong in Travel since I don't get from this a sense of the Carnaval Parade.

WINNING IMAGES:

Honorable Mentions:

07-Decorative US War Bombs - Laos.jpg

3rd Place:

28-Walking in the snow Bhutan.jpg

2nd Place:

11-Little girl in Kathmandu.jpg

First Place:

12-Man Celebrates Home God Festival, Gansu Province, China, July, 2014.jpg