

**PTCC-2019      PICTORIAL #1 – STILL LIFE  
GROUP A**

*56 images from 20 members*

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**01 – 1955 Lancia D50.JPG**

*Beautifully executed technically – lighting, framing & use of negative space, the slight “tilt” gives the image motion.*

**02 – A Napkin Holder.jpg**

*The repetition of line & shape create a wonderful composition & soft light creates an inviting environment. The compression of space from 3D to 2D and the kitchen table is very metaphorical in visual imagery creates a surreal place of substance.*

**03 – A Simpler Life, Musel e Louis Braille, France.jpg**

*Beautiful framing, soft lighting w/high contrast gives great detail to the items within this still life.*

**04 – A Tiney Nest.jpg**

*Simple compositionally, but very formal & balanced creating the perfect nest to nurture the fragile life w/in. The dark background really helps to isolate and celebrate the subject.*

**05 – Ant Martini.jpg**

*Increased lighting on background can help create a more isolated environment – shadow a bit distracting.*

**06 – Art glass on the Window sill.jpg**

*Light & shadow, - perception of space – all celebrate the cameras ability to micro see the world and create a stage for the subject. Love how the elongated shadows give us information of the aesthetic of the glassware.*

**07 – Bisque Boot Bouquet.jpg**

*Background & foreground material and color excellent to parallel the time period of the boot. It becomes feminine. Great placement of flower petals, that simple element adds compositional intent and excitement.*

**08 – Blue vase & pink tulips.jpg**

*Great framing, the soft light on the petals reveal the very delicate life cycle and accentuates this once a year bloom.*

**09 – Blue vase & red flower.jpg**

*Vignette helps to focus attention to center red flower. Was the lower half of the background softened post-editing? (The right side of pot)*

**10 – Bullwhip Kelp (Nereocystis).jpg**

*Found formal and beauty within nature. Black and white really aids in revealing texture.*

**11 – Chinese Snuff Bottle.jpg**

*Beautiful lighting! The bottle is perfectly crisp and clear. Lovely balance with topper, although topper not as sharply focused.*

**12 – Civil War Bags.jpg**

*What stories these bags could tell?*

**13 – Dahlias in Springtime.jpg**

*This image lacks the line of traditional pictorialist – The painteresque quality*

**14 – Delicate.jpg**

*I love the relationship of the feather and its shadow – gives it a feeling of floating.*

**15 – Doyle Lane weed pots.jpg**

*Beautiful spatial arrangement. A few reflections on left pot may be distracting.*

**16 – Echoes of Gretchen.jpg**

*I have much to say about the image. Technically beautiful and formal composition gives this “altar” the reverence the title suggests. The softness of the light aids in the “empathy” towards the subject matter. As I engage in the elements saved on the corkboard, nothing special really jumps out. The items are kind of mundane information – but that element really makes it more special in a way – these more important things (to me the viewer) photographed in this way tell me IT IS IMPORTANT. The mundane nuances of the one we love is what will and is the greatest gift of sharing with the loved one.*

**17 – Feather Afloat.jpg**

*Afloat or rather discarded – Manray tears.....(???)*

**18 – Film Noir.jpg**

*The window blind shadow – excellent compositionally but masterfully intentional– it creates the “Noir”. Love the darkness as it creates a mysterious setting – yet if it were slightly brighter it can aid in intrigue for viewer*

**19 – Frozen Bouquet.jpg**

*Lure me in there with “romantic” light*

**20 – Gears.jpg**

*The warm light help enhance the aged beauty of the machine.*

**21 – Good Egg.jpg**

*Beautiful detail – love the harsh light as a compositional divide*

**22 – Gull Feathers.jpg**

*Simple. The strong contrast makes the feathers “feel” hard & heavy instead of soft & light. Works nicely with the grittiness of the background.*

**23 – Healing Alter.jpg**

*Thoughtful composition – revealing an aspect of ones wellness journey – Leaves the door open to endless “narratives” about whom is being “healed”.*

**24 – Home grown harvest.jpg**

*An altar to effort, care, time and the practice of nurturing. The black space really reveals these rewards.*

**25 – Hydrangea & stone.jpg**

*The soft light, shallow depth of field, and cool tones create a tranquil & quiet space.*

**26 – Hydrangeas in a vase.jpg**

*The orange element create a beautiful compositional interest. Lighting is excellent! Perhaps top left flowers could be as vibrant as the right group.*

**27 – In The Deep Purple Night.jpg**

*Beautiful lighting, formality; the eye leads through all. The small elements on either side help to enclose the subject and give a sense of depth.*

**28 – Integrated Fruit.jpg**

*Ideas of manmade vs nature, organic shape vs nonorganic, feeding your body and/or feeding your imagination.*

**29 – Keys.jpg**

*Photography’s endless ability to focus on the minute and/or overlooked & found graphical elements. The colors are so important in this image and the soft light gives it just enough reverence.*

**30 – Long forgotten.jpg**

*Beautiful composition, great element in background is blue window – it helps orientate and gives spacial awareness – the dirt and broken glass*

*enhance the feeling of forgotten. But the vase is on top of glass piece – this tells me it was placed there after window broke.*

**31 – Missing Mom.jpg**

*Love the depth of field on the penmanship. The idea is simple yet the elements place the child as also growing older and soon the cycle will begin again (from calligraphy pen to actual penmanship).*

**32 – Modern Still Life.jpg**

*The black square element really aids the composition! The placement of the banana really leads your eye through this image – Your eye begins on the orange element and then moves left.*

**33 – Monterey Pines (Pinus radiata) Surrounded In Fog, Pebble Beach.jpg**

*Placement of trees in this landscape is crucial & impeccable. The strong foreground element of the left opens up the middle path to explore.*

**34 – Octopus Vulgaris.jpg**

*My favorite element in this image is the tentacle (top right) wrapped around the stem – it gives this still life life!*

**35 – Orange Pear Tomato Reflection.jpg**

*Great study of light & compositional space*

**36 – Past Their Prime.jpg**

*An altar created to celebrate what once was! Really beautiful chosen items and great graphical choices. Technically – the vases may need to be pulled further from backdrop to use depth of field to isolate the vases and flatten out any shadows on background*

**37 – Pixar.jpg**

*This image does really capture the personification of the lamp – Its staring right at you! What else could it be doing or what else could it be with to create an ongoing dialogue? Careful with backdrop shadows/creases.*

**38 – Reflection.jpg**

*All skin shrouded except a bare leg – hints at intimacy. Timeless – visually intriguing. The shrouded face and wonderful graphical element of cloth creates a mask. The surrounding cloth darkness adds mystery regarding setting. Triangular elements are really wonderful.*

**39 – Ripe Tomato and Carrots.jpg**

*There is a loss of depth that happened by adding/reserving the color of the tomato – perhaps aided by a wide angle*

**40 – Rock Solid.jpg**

*Soft vs. hard – Soft being the quality of light and hard, of course, the subject matter. Perhaps the “hard” could feel “harder” if slight increase in contrast a delicate balance of light. Is it not? Soft vs. hard*

**41 – Rose.jpg**

*This image has a sense of loneliness. I almost feel sorry for this lil’ rose reaching toward the light. You have given it life so to speak – life being human emotion.*

**42 – Saturday Night Doggie Hoedown.jpg**

*I wish I had more information about the process behind this image.*

**43 – She Loves Me Not.jpg**

*I love the playfulness of this idea and how life and heartache was given to this man. I love the amount of petals he had to pluck only to find she is not. The dramatic lighting sets the stage!*

**44 – Some Things Change a Lot.jpg**

*Yes they do! This image an embrace in a commitment to practice, self education, and forever chasing the light!*

**45 – Still Dead Still Life.jpg**

*The side lighting element really embraces the subject matter. It creates depth with the shadows and really creates interest on the hay bales by adding highlights to individual pieces of hay.*

**46 – Still Life Arrangement.jpg**

*The dark backdrop really helps the colors of the subject take center stage (pun intended)*

**47 – Talk to Me.jpg**

*The title is wonderful – in what kind of dialogue can we embrace from oneself? This image to me makes me think of the power of language and power of the human mind and all it creates, has created or can create.*

**48 – The Five Paths of Destiny.jpg**

*The rainy day adds an underlying element. The darkness enhances the idea of destiny – it is always a mystery. In your image the only ended pathways is (1) the shortest and (2) leads to the ominous figure.*

**49 – Three Ceramic Cranes.jpg**

*Great use of lighting – it enhances the beautiful elements w/in the sculptures, and geometry.*

**50 – Tools.jpg**

*Great composition – the tall element on the left (I think) is a crucial part of the composition, perhaps if it was lit slightly more it can stand on “even” ground as the foreground tools.*

**51 – Wilder Ranch Memories.jpg**

*Timeless and romantic. A woman’s vanity holds great secrets.*

**52 – Wine Grapes.jpg**

*Excellent lighting and special arrangements (composition). Feels very nostalgic.*

**53 – Once a Year Wonder.jpg**

*Naked ladies – with prebloomed stems I can’t help but feel a charged underlying “intimacy” suggested by this photograph.*

**54 – Milk Weed Pods.jpg**

*“Explosive” composition. The black background not only isolates and gives full attention to the pod elements, it accentuates all the subtleties.*

**55 – Puff Ball.jpg**

*The clarity is fantastic*

**56 – The Rosary.jpg**

*Strong graphical elements.*

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**WINNING IMAGES**

Honorable Mention - **A Napkin Holder,  
Missing Mom,  
A Tiney Nest**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – **Monterey Pines**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – **Reflection**

1<sup>st</sup> Place – **Echoes of Gretchen**