

Padre Trails Camera Club Pictorial Competition #3 - Motion - July 17, 2019 Group AA Comments

Judged by: John Thawley



01 – Cerulean Waters Swirl in Fresh Snowmelt.jpg

Good concept and tones but camera shake is a problem for me. My preference for compelling ‘shutter drag’ shots is see bold contrast between what’s moving (blurred) and other elements in the scene that are tack sharp. Lacking sharpness everywhere reduces that contrast.



02 – Cruising in Willow Glen.jpg

This would be my pick for 3rd, but I’m told I can only choose the first two places. Nice shot.



03 – Exuberance.jpg

Great movement, decisive moment, good composition and razor sharp. I think you could push the white and highlight adjustments a bit further, but that’s picking nits. This image exemplifies the theme. Well done.



04 – Fern Springs - Yosemite.jpg

Good shot, it just speaks to me more about nature than it does motion. Also looks a little over-processed for contrast on my monitor, but I’m only looking at a small resolution file.



05 – Ferris Wheel Follies.jpg

Great color saturation and contrast between sharpness and motion. It's framed or cropped a little tighter than I'd like, but still very compelling.



06 – Meeting.jpg

An interesting shot that evokes more exploration than many... Still, it doesn't speak "motion" to me. Even the title – meeting – suggests a point of stasis rather than movement. Take this with a grain of salt and some sympathy for a viewer who is not looking for deeper meaning.



07 – Mission San Antonio Chapel.jpg

It's well done. It's just landing in front of a judge who doesn't care for zoom-blurs. Feels like it's more about using the technique for technique's sake than it is about evoking emotion for the chapel or Christianity. My rule of thumb: when viewers are more likely to ask "How'd you do that?" than comment on the subject, you're distracting them..



08 – Pedal Power.jpg

Love the composition, the color saturation and the background blur. I'd just like to see at least part of the cyclist or bike looking sharp. No amount of processing will help if it wasn't captured in camera.



09 – Running Through Wild Grasses.jpg

Among my favorites, just not at the top. Well done.



10 – Sand storm on Oceano Dunes.jpg

Great shot, it just speaks to me more about nature than it does motion.



11 – Shorebird frenzy.jpg

Feels over processed and busy from too much depth-of-field. Shallower focus would give more separation between birds and waves, though I do like the motion in the wings at this shutter speed



12 – Skater Rush .jpg

Color and contrast seem a little flat. And for me, a successful pan depends on at least part of the subject looking sharp. No amount of processing will help if it wasn't captured in camera.



12 – The dance .jpg

Good decisive moment and composition, but doesn't doesn't speak "motion" to me as much as I'd like. Processing seems flatter than I'd expect for that contrasty a scene.



14 – Walking .jpg

Among my favorites, just not at the top. Well done.

2nd Place



Ferris Wheel Follies
Charlie Gibson

First Place



Exuberance
Janet Azevedo