



01 - Atlantis.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

Not quite sure what this is, or what it's attempting to be. However, it's quite painterly and it definitely evokes a beautiful, dreamy mood.

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02 - Best Friends.jpg

Joel Gambord

Very nice job of cutting out and "framing," although I'd revisit the masking on the top of the man's head.



03 - Carmel Bay On a Clear Day.jpg

Joel Gambord

Spectacular panoramic, but I don't think the sky and the foreground colors match up. Desaturate the reds, shift the whole color balance a tiny bit towards cyan, maybe add a hot spot for the sun to justify the bright green grass in the foreground. and I think it would be significantly improved. Or try a new, sunnier sky.



04 - Found 10 Doppelgangers at the Louvre.jpg

Chris Johnson

A hugely ambitious project, partially successful. If you're trying to make it look realistic, that would take the most skilled retoucher many, many hours to do, to balance the color, saturation and lighting of each face individually.

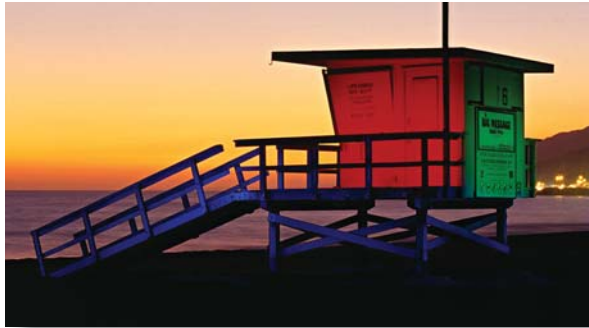
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05 - It Was A Dark and Stormy Night...jpg

Chris Johnson

Powerful picture, but some technical weaknesses that detract: the cutout edges on the eagle are too sharp and the tree is confusing. Is the eagle supposed to be sit-in on it or just taking off from it? Moving it in either direction might help.



06 - Lifeguard.jpg

Lillie Grossman

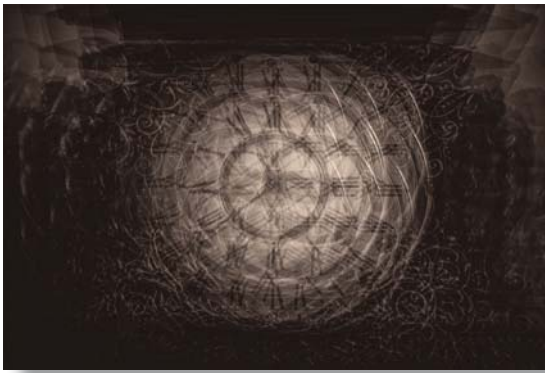
Red, green, blue — nice. The red and green are borderline believable; the blue is way out there. You'd have a better chance at realism, if that's what you're after, with those intense colors if it were a bright, sunny day.



07 - Mirage.jpg

John Avera

Very nice handling of the color, but making that fish look realistic is an almost impossible task. I'd start by making it much bigger. And it needs more of a (distorted) reflection. You've got your work cut out for you.



08 - Multi Exposure Antique Clock.jpg

Mary Ann Avera

It looks exactly like what the title says it is. Having said that, I'm not sure what the point of the picture is. I'm afraid it mostly just looks confusing.

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09 - Orton Effect Flowers.jpg

Mary Ann Avera

This would be so nice if just parts of the blooms of some of the flowers were in focus! If your blur image is on a separate layer and the sharp version is underneath, try masking out some of the blurred flowers with a soft brush to see the difference.



10 - Peeking Parrot.jpg

David Thon

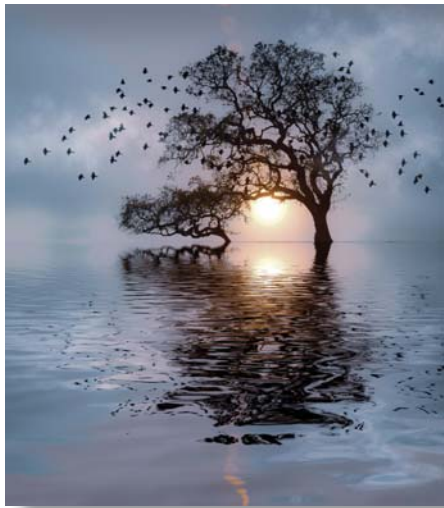
Really can't critique this. If you like this kind of extreme painterly effect — and I do — this is great. If you don't because it's no longer photography, well, everybody has their own tastes...



11 - Reflected Glory.jpg

David Thon

Wow. A lot, maybe too much visual information in one picture. Not quite sure what it is, and I find the unvarying parallel lines a little annoying, but the technique is impressive.



**12 - San Benancio, the day it rained just a little too much.
jpg**

Patricia McKean

This is just gorgeous, and flawlessly done, at least from what I can see at this low resolution. Hope the original is hi res enough to make the big print it deserves. If it were me, I'd retouch out some of the small black reflections on the left and right — they detract from the simple majesty of the piece as a whole.



13 - Shaman Dream.jpg

John Avera

What IS this??? Completely off-the-charts strange and weird — what is the bird doing in there? — but wonderful. Love it!



14 - The Lone Pine.jpg

Bill Brown

Is this composited? If it is, congratulations. It looks totally real, and very beautiful.



15 - The Premonition.jpg

Bill Brown

Excellently done. The “bridge” between the two figures looks ever-so-slightly fishy; a little cloning should fix that. And as long as you's so good at compositing, how about a more interesting background?



16 - Whirlpool.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

It takes some time to figure out what this is (looking down at a tree that's in the middle of a twister?) and I think more time than most viewers would be willing to give it. Technically well done but somewhat lacking in interest. Maybe it needs some bigger, recognizable details.

Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

The Premonition

William Brown



Peeking Parrot
David Thon



Best Friends
Joel Gambord



Third Place:

It Was A Dark and Stormy Night...
Chris Johnson



2nd Place:

Shaman Dream
John Avera



First Place:

**San Benancio, the day it rained
just a little too much**
Patricia McKean

