



01 - A Koi Fish at CHOMP.jpg

Joel Gambord

Nice placement of the Koi in the water....creating a diagonal line which makes for a less static image. Degree of difficulty because they move so rapidly.



02 - Before the Storm.jpg

David Thon

I love this image. It has so much going for it. The birds are perfect and the silhouette of the foreground and the light on the water. Fantastic image.



03 - Bull Frog.jpg

Jeff Hobbs

I almost missed the frogcomical image and nicely done Placement in image is perfect.



04 - California Quail.jpg

Bill Brown

This image suffers from two things....one is that you basically have two images-the out of focus branch and on the right, the quail. And the second item is that the quail loses half it face or head because there is no detail under the beak... Also, I believe that the image is cropped too tight at the bottom.

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05 - Canada Goose (Branta canadensis) showing its pin feathers.jpg

Chris Johnson

This image is also cropped too tight at the bottom.....and a light in the eye would help it a lot. Open up that area and see what you have.



06 - Clarks Grebes, Rushing.jpg

Jeff Hobbs

Nice image and you managed to capture the grebes totally in focus doing their dance. Good photograph.



07 - Crab Spider Waiting for Prey (Misumena vaita).jpg

Mary Ann Avera

This image is a little more difficult because the spider is in focus and sharp, but, not really the thing that your eye goes to each time. The center of the flower dominates the image and it is slightly soft. Great color combination.



08 - Dettifoss, Iceland.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

This is a super capture of a dramatic scene.....the waterfall in itself is great and then the wonderful mist that is rising from the fall....and, the dramatic sky. Overall, very well done.



09 - Devil Flower Mantis (Idolomantis diabolica).jpg

John Avera

This is a terrific shot...you have filled the frame with the subject and it is spectacular.



10 - Glacial Sweep.jpg

David Thon

The crop is too tight....cutting out the peaks of the mountain hurts the image. If you didn't have them in the picture you captured, you might have tried a crop that eliminates the sky. Then, the focus would be on the path of the glacier.



11 - Increased Surf along Big Sur Coast in Late Autumn.jpg

Patricia McKean

You slowed the water down and that is effective. However, the rest of the image is not dynamic and perhaps, a little more contrast and a bit of opening of the shadows....might help.

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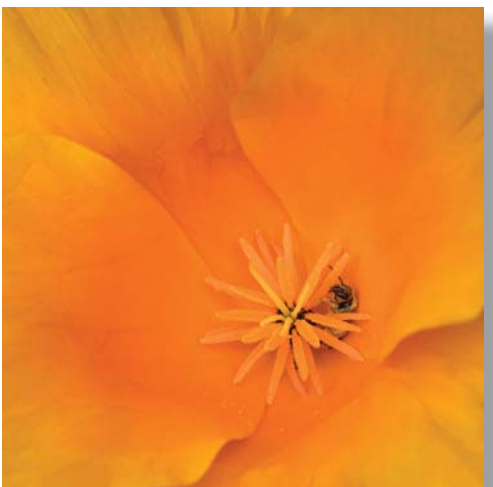


12 - Male Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) Brings Dinner to Family in Nest.jpg

Judi H Clayton

Seems to me the main subject, the male osprey, is a little soft. That hurts the image overall. Again, I'm looking at this on a computer and that may be part of the problem.

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13 - Mining Bee (Andrena spp. Apidae) Collecting Nectar on California Beach Poppy (Eschscholzia californica ssp. maritima).jpg

Mary Ann Avera

This image works and I think it is partly because you filled the frame and the placement is a bit off center and lower in the image. Then, the diagonal line of the petals under the bee adds a bit of movement to the image. Works for me.



14 - Night Heron Chicks.jpg

Jerry Loomis

These kids are not behaving very well....bickering over something....the thing that I notice a lot is how the overall image is almost the same tone. I think I'd love to see a little separation of the chicks from the stone. And, a little light in the eye if possible.



15 - Northern Elephant Seal (Mirounga angustirostris) Gives Birth as Western Gull Awaits Afterbirth.jpg

Judi H Clayton

The upper background is distracting and the subject is a little soft. The image is hard to read....

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16 - Old General - Point Lobos.jpg

Lillie Grossman

The colors and the textures made this a very successful image. The diagonal line and the triangles add interest in their placement. I like this image a lot.



17 - Olympic National Park.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

My memory reminds me that the Olympic National Park is a great place to visit and also, a tough place to photograph. I think with this image, which is a good endeavor, the one thing I'd try to change is the area right in the center—the very green leaves. The rest of the green merges together and is comfortable. I guess I may sound a little picky, but, overall, I think the image works but my eye keeps getting pulled to those leaves.



18 - Osprey Mating.jpg

Jerry Loomis

The image works..tough to find this scene and you filled the frame with the action.



19 - Point Lobos Brown Pelican.jpg

Bill Brown

I like the way you focused on the pelican and with selective focus, you blurred out the distracting background. Makes the capture of the bird in flight work better. One though that occurs to me is that I might try to crop just a little tighter and make the subject larger in the image.



20 - Purisima Creek Redwood Preserve 2019 - spiderweb.jpg

Carolyn Comings

You got the spiderweb and managed to have good lighting so it isn't blown away. Too bad the spider wasn't home, or, if he;she is, I can't spot it.



21 - Showy Milkweed Seed Pod (Asclepias speciosa).jpg

John Avera

Great shot of nature at work. Love the way you place the subject on a diagonal line....and the background is blurred out just enough to keep me focused on the milkweed pod.



22 - Six Omelettes a Day from Dena's Farm.jpg

Joel Gambord

Maybe a little more contrast and a little darkening of the corners of this image might make it pop a little bit and make it more interesting.



23 - Tansy leaf phacelia (Phacelia tanacetifolia) - Palo Corona.jpg

Carolyn Comings

Nice image....lovely colors....blurred background and good placement in the image.



24 - Western Grebe (Aechmophorus occidentalis) with two chicks and egg.jpg

Chris Johnson

Really nice. Everything is in the right position...crop is excellent...all are in sharp focus and the red eye is the perfect draw into the photo.

Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

Showy Milkweed Seed Pod

John Avera



Old General Point Lobos

Lillie Grossman



Bull Frog

Jeff Hobbs



Third Place:

**Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus
occidentalis*) with two chicks and egg**
Chris Johnson



2nd Place:

**Devil Flower Mantis (*Idolomantis
diabolica*)**
John Avera



First Place:

Before the Storm
David Thon

