



01 - A Desert Canyon.jpg

Bill Brown

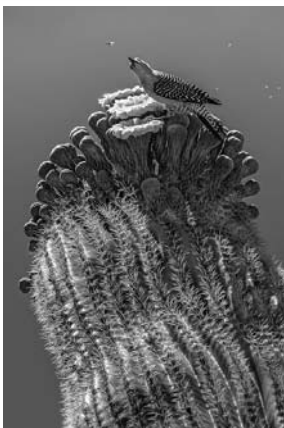
Great use of lines and textures to lead into the photograph. The eye follows the middle path and wanders down the ridges. I like the tonal quality as well.



02 - Brakes On.jpg

Steve Perkins

I like the use of framing on this one. The water, and little snaggle of rock ground the image. I also like the formation of the pelican. Quality seems a bit low - like the resolution or ISO was too high.



03 - Bugs.jpg

Steve Perkins

Great use of elements to bring the eye in on the bottom right up to the bird looking for lunch. What a great capture as it seems the bird is about to snack on a bug. Nice tones.



04 - Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) Pair, Kalahari.jpg

Julie Chen

The cheetahs seem to get a little lost in the background. Seems like more of a snapshot than an artistic expression. Depth of field is used nicely.

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05 - Contemplating Cosmos.jpg

Charlie Gibson

Depth of field is on point. I like the contrast of the open flower next to the other buds. Tone and light are used well. I think saturation should be taken down a note.



06 - Elephants (*Loxodonta africana*) Dueling at Sundown Sabie River.jpg

Julie Chen

Awesome capture of an elephant encounter. Not only that but the lighting is great and shutter speed perfect to capture the movement of the massive animals.



07 - Feather Boa (*Egredia menziesii*).jpg

Janet Azevedo

I am really enjoying the simplicity of this one. The formations of the sand contrasted on the kelp is really quite nice. Very calming.



08 - Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*).jpg

John Drum

Awesome shot of a heron getting some lunch. The silkiness of the water is mesmerizing and when you get up to the beak you are in awe!



09 - Horsetail Falls, Yosemite.jpg

Patricia McKean

Awesome light and perspective on this one. I like the dark foreground which adds that much more to the light casting down. I would remove the spot in the sky.



10 - I'm Saying Rufous Hummingbird (Selasphorus rufus).jpg

Bill Brown

I love the simplicity of this shot. The details in the feathers are so well visible. The angle of the bird works with the format as well. The blur in the wings adds as well.



11 - Last Rays Kissing the Shore of Lake Tahoe.jpg

Elke Ikeda

I like the moody feel of this one. The clouds are highlighted nice and the shadows and silhouettes really make you stop and look.



12 - Melting Frozen Rain on Ilex Opaca.jpg

Joni Zabala

I like where this one is going. Getting up close and working with the ice. I just think more focus could have been on the ice to add that abstractness factor with the red berries being more secondary.



13 - Mushroom Colony (Psilocybe allenii).jpg

Bill Shewchuk

I like the symmetry this image provides. The lighting is also great. You get lost in this one and I can't complain!



14 - Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) Delivers Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) to Family for Breakfast.jpg

Jerry Gifford

Framing and composition is there. Unfortunately the quality seems a bit under par.



15 - Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) Family Feeding.jpg

Jerry Gifford

I like the concept. I think more could have been done with the final framing.



16 - Ospreys (Pandion haliaetus), Sibling Rivalry.jpg

John Drum

Very cool capture. The tension in the wings is great. They almost create a sculpture mid-air. If you don't know what they are doing it really makes you think.



17 - Red Maple Leaf (Acer rubrum).jpg

Bill Shewchuk

Nice use of texture and color contrast. The bend in the maple leaf adds some depth.



18 - Redwood Stump Polished by Wind and Waves.jpg

Elke Ikeda

It is a nice gnarled stump and worth of a picture. I think it would be more powerful if the image was taken closer in.



19 - Resilient California Poppy (Eschscholzia californica).jpg

Andrea Madsen

Good use of texture on this one. The contrast of the wood and flower can definitely be felt. I think a vertical would make this a stronger image. Is sharpness up on this?



20 - Stormy Surf Pounds Asilomar Shoreline.jpg

Joni Zabala

Awesome shot of the raw power of the ocean. The varied tones of blue and white are great. I really like how the turquoise was captured in the center almost forming a ball with a tail that shoots up into the sky.



21 - Trentepohlia Algae at Pt. Lobos.jpg

Andrea Madsen

I really like the idea. I think there is a bit too much going on in the background. If the background was eliminated by shifting the focal point, the image would be stronger.



22 - Water Ballet.jpg

Janet Azevedo

Nice use of fast shutter to capture this one. I like all the different elements that come together to tell this story.

Resolution seems a bit low



23 - Wild Grass with Dew Drops.jpg

Patricia McKean

Good example of less is more. Very simple and elegant. Blurred background focuses your attention on the dew. I like the leading lines of the plant through the frame.



24 - Twisted Trunk - Point Lobos.jpg

Lillie Grossman

A beauty of a tree. Framing is good, however It seems it is a bit over edited and the resolution low. I would think a nice black and white would really tell this story best as you have captured the light well.



25 - Dawn At Red Rock.jpg

Lillie Grossman

Great use of the panorama on this one. You can definitely feel the strength of the earth. Tones are well balanced.

Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

A Desert Canyon

Bill Brown



**Stormy Surf Pounds Asilomar
Shoreline**
Joni Zabala



Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)
John Drum



Third Place:

Mushroom Colony (*Psilocybe allenii*)

Bill Shewchuk



2nd Place:

Feather Boa (*Egretta menziesii*)

Janet Azevedo



First Place:

Wild Grass with Dew Drops

Patricia McKean

