



01-A Pair of Night Herons.jpg

Jerry Loomis

Great behavior captured in this image. I wish the toe of the left heron had not been cut off though. There is also some image quality issue that may be from over cropping. Obviously you don't want to get too close to a nest but this subject could be given a bit more breathing room and that may have solved the toe as well.



02-American Whimbrel-(Numenius phaeopus).jpg

Brooks Leffler

Compositionally I like the image but from there, it suffers some major quality issues that could be from over cropping, high ISO, and/or motion blur.

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**03-Black Oyster Catchers on a Scouting Trip -
Haematopus bachmani.jpg**

Brooks. Leffler

While I like the story in the title and the shutter speed seemed correct to stop the birds' motion, the focal point actually caught the waves behind the birds meaning the birds are out of focus. There is also a lot of grain in the image leading me to suspect over cropping since the bright light should not have triggered a high ISO.

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04-Black-crowned Night-Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax).jpg

Carol Fuessenich

Great subject. However, I wish the technical aspects of the image had been stronger. There are overexposed highlights, especially on the bird's legs and rock. There is also an extreme color enhancement noticeable in the shadowing of the rock to the right of the image and background water.

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05-Blue Crown Heron chicks-2.jpg

Jerry Loomis

Great sibling behavior captured. However, the image suffers from over cropping to the point where nothing in the image is sharp and the toes at the bottom edge have been cut off.

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06-Egret (Mesophoyx intermedia) landing.jpg

Carol Fuessenich

Another good action shot. The bird's feathers have definition. However, the highlights have been overexposed and there are some image quality issues most likely from over cropping. Consider waiting until the bird is facing the camera, rather than away from it in future images.

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07-Great Blue Heron - 2.jpg

Fernando Ibanez

There are several technical issues with this image and nothing in the image is sharp. However, the artistic effort to include the entire reflection was noted

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08-Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias).jpg

Sandie McCafferty

A nice pose and composition, this image is weakened by the overexposed highlights and grain which may be from over cropping.

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09-Great Egret Lunch.jpg

Chyrl Light

This image suffers from severe technical issues and, while an interesting behavior was observed, there is a lack of artistic choices as well. The highlights have been overexposed and there is a lack of focus throughout the image. The subjects placement in the center and very bottom of the frame where the front leg is clipped is less than ideal. Consider next time metering your brightness off your subject to help eliminate overblown highlights on a white bird as well as getting a bit lower to bring the bird into the frame and more at eye level.



10-Marbled Godwit (*L. fedoa*).jpg

Frank Penner

Great image. This bird looks like it is thinking hard about something as it walks along. The details are sharp and it is properly exposed. Considering the bright light as indicated by the bird's shadow, well done. Where this image lost a point was there does seem to be some decrease in the image quality, maybe from over cropping, and the vignette is a bit heavy.



11-Marbled Godwit Breakfast Buffet.jpg

Christina Parsons

Nice grouping of three birds with sharp focus. However, it looks like focus was captured on the bird furthest from the viewer. The softness in the first bird acts as a blockage to the way a viewer moves through the image. Maybe if a different, lower, perspective had been used you could have gotten away with it, but as it is presented, it is a distraction. There is also some image quality issue, maybe from over cropping.

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12-Nonbreeding Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) digging deep for food.jpg

Ken Jones

I really appreciate the low, eye level perspective in this image. Unfortunately the severe amount of cropping done to this image has made the quality very poor where the details are no longer sharp.

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13-Oystercatcher.jpg

Dick Light

This image suffers from severe technical issues and there is a lack of artistic choices as well. The highlights have been overexposed and there is a lack of focus throughout the image from both missed focus and over cropping. The most details are on the rocks meaning the focus on the bird was missed but the distorted details throughout the image speak to heavy cropping. It is a shame as this appears to be a hybrid oystercatcher if photographed in the Monterey area.



14-Portrait of a Snowy Egret (Egretta thula).jpg

Sandie McCafferty

A nice portrait of a snowy egret. I like the wind swept look too.

This image lacks in detail however in the feathers either due to a too shallow depth of field or over cropping as well as some overexposed highlights.

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15-Sanderling Calidris alba_1.jpg

Fernando Ibanez

Really nice capture of foraging behavior with reflection. There is good detail in the feathers and sharpness in the bird. The image does read a bit cock-eyed due to the position of the bird so straightening the bird so it doesn't look like it is tipping backwards would help this image. Additionally there is a lot of grain in the image that may be from over cropping.



16-Sanderling Nabs a Sand Crab.jpg

Christina Parsons

Good foraging behavior captured and I like the almost eye level perspective. However, there are some image quality issues where the bird is not quite sharp which may be due to missed focus and/or over cropping.

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17-Sandpiper dusk.JPG

David Eisen

I like the use of color and the silhouettes in this image. However, it lacks sharpness and has been severely cropped leading to image quality issues.

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18-Surfbird (C. virgata).jpg

Frank Penner

I like the pose and composition here. There are just a few small highlights that have been blown out in the stray feathers on the rocks. The biggest issue with this image is that the depth of field was not deep enough and the focus point seems to be on the rump, leaving the head and eye soft and out of focus.

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19-Western willett (Tringa semipalmata inornata) stepping out.jpg

Ken Jones

Nicely exposed image with a subject that shows details and has a good composition with the eye level perspective. However, the details lose their sharpness due to image quality issues, most likely from over cropping.

Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

Surfbird (*C. virgata*)
Frank Penner



A Pair of Night Herons
Jerry Loomis



**Nonbreeding marbled
godwit (*Limosa fedoa*)
digging deep for food**
Ken Jones



Third Place:

Sanderling *Calidris alba*
Fernando Ibanez



2nd Place:

**Western willett (*Tringa
semipalmata inornata*)**
stepping out
Ken Jones



First Place:

Marbled Godwit (*L. fedoa*)
Frank Penner

