



01 - After the Rain.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

Beautiful play of light and color – the camera POV challenges the viewer’s equilibrium – I prefer the original orientation, so the ‘sand’ detail comes into play as an element and the flag is less literal – wonderful abstract



02 - Bugatti Reflections.jpg

Andrea Madsen

The abstraction is good – a bit too recognizable reflections – creating a monochrome in color is very good – more contrast is needed to get a good white and a good black – just some more punch to the image



03 - Cat & Mouse.jpg

Andrea Madsen

Excellent storytelling – pure Americana – the inner story of cat and mouse is a wonderful concept – the muted colors add to the folk-art feeling



04 - Clouds Over the Clark Fork.jpg

Don Eastman

Very good use of the clouds and the water as visual anchors – open up the detail at the horizon to draw the viewer deeper into the frame – it brings the foreground/background into balance – the viewer’s eye is focusing on the foreground opening up the water is a better balance with the sky



05 - Convict Lake at Christmas.jpg

Don Eastman

Excellent balance between foreground and the ridge – very good use of the tree and foreground rocks as visual anchors to balance visually empty spaces – slight darkening of the sky will bring out a touch more of the clouds – excellent DOF and sharpness – WB is very good



06 - Dew Drops on a Wild Onion.jpg

Patricia McKean

Beautiful balance of shapes – the droplets and stems work together as elemental contrast, not just color contrast – excellent use of DOF to direct the viewer where you want them to go – very rich color



07 - Fall Colors at Lake Sabrina.jpg

Patricia McKean

Beautiful color palette – the ‘coolness’ of the open shade accentuates the foliage – opening up the foreground/water detail creates a better visual balance – very nicely framed – water reflection softens and enlarges the horizon so it does not seem so much in the middle



08 - Hooded Merganser Pair.jpg

John Drum

Great capture – excellent framing and visual focus – the foreground water is beautiful and frames the subjects well – the background is a bit distracting and needs to be de-emphasized – the image feels over sharpened – the tonal transitions are looking ‘crunched’



09 - Hooded Merganser with Reflections in Lagunita Mirada.jpg

Bill Brown

Excellent visuals – the vertical shapes and colors perfectly highlight the subject – color is beautiful, and the contrast of softness of the water and sharpness of the subject is excellent – the water softness works as a DOF effect



10 - Huntington Gardens.jpg

Lillie Grossman

The color is very good – the exposure is a bit bright – there is too much visual interest for the viewer – many elements are competing for attention – if the foreground is darkened (or cropped a bit) the attention is directed to the bridge and structure at the back - the reflection then works in support -



11 - Joe - Davis, Ca.jpg

Sean Crawford

Excellent story telling – the image has very good gesture and intent -POV and perspective really drives the viewer’s eye to the subject – the low contrast adds to the story – reminiscent of James Dean by Dennis Stock



12 - Mating Dragonflies.jpg

John Drum

Very electric color – very good framing by leaving visual space for the subjects to ‘move’ into – there are a few elements at the top that are competing with the subjects – a bit of cropping could eliminate – very good use of DOF to control the viewer



13 - Mirror Mirror on the Wall.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

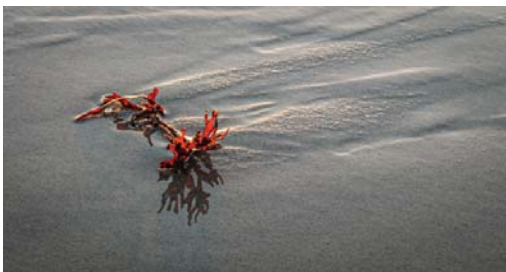
Excellent composition and balance – beautiful color palette – using the concept of ‘many’ to create the whole is an excellent use of the Bauhaus aesthetic – very nicely framed



14 - Old Rocking Chair, Bodie, CA.jpg

Julie Chen

This has the feel of a vintage technique with the surface texture – looks like an image from a time gone by -beautiful color palette and color contrast on the blue/amber axis – bringing down the blacks a bit brings out some of the finer details – even works as a monochrome – the sharpness on the chair creates the visual focus



15 - Pom Pom Gracilaria.jpg

Janet Azevedo

Excellent compositional balance – the color looks a bit processed but still very dynamic – the lighting is beautiful – it captures the slickness of the water and the subtle details in the sand – DOF also drives the eye to the subject



16 - Quiet - Lost Coast, Ca.jpg

Sean Crawford

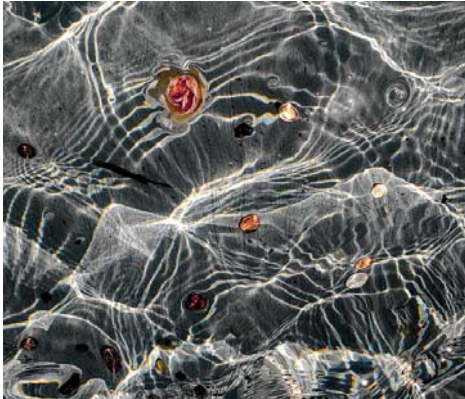
Beautiful light and the color is very seductive – the visual weight of all the elements work exceptionally well together – excellent balance - this evokes a feeling of serenity – excellent framing



17 - Snowy Egret Reflected in Laguna Grande.jpg

Bill Brown

Excellent visual balance – the plant balances the egret beautifully – capturing the water movement prevents the reflection from competing with the subject – nicely done



18 - Wishing.jpg

Janet Azevedo

Excellent visual balance – the plant balances the egret beautifully – capturing the water movement prevents the reflection from competing with the subject – nicely done



19 - Yosemite Meadow Reflection.jpg

Julie Chen

The color and detail are excellent – the reflected part of the image actually is too good – reflections in water work because they interpret the subject that is reflected – the reflection is so accurate it looks less natural and throws the visual equilibrium out of balance – it could possibly be successful if viewed as an abstract re-interpretation of the traditional landscape



20 - Youthful Reflection.jpg

Charlie Gibson

Excellent energy in the subject – truly a decisive moment – framing is very well done without compromising the subject or the splash – the color is looking a bit over-processed – enhancing the splash selectively without ‘crunching’ the color over all can work

Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

Snowy Egret Reflected in Laguna Grande

Bill Brown

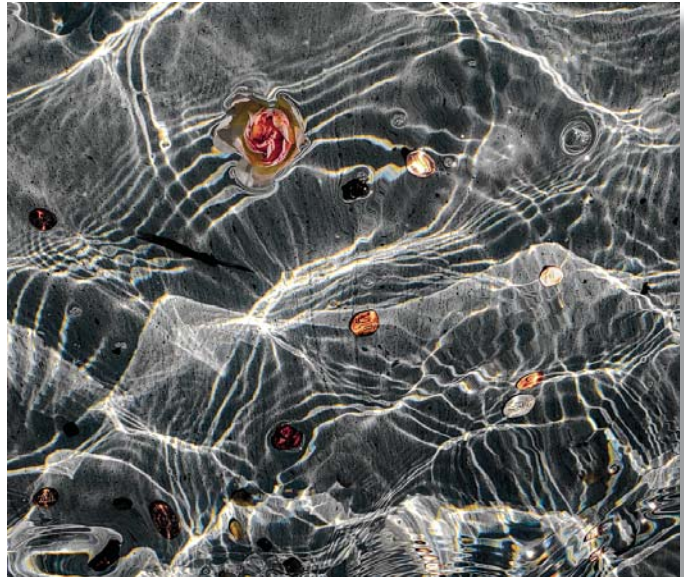
“Excellent visual balance in the frame”



Wishing

Janet Azevedo

“Beautiful abstract”



Dew Drops on a Wild Onion

Patricia McKean

“Wonderful visual energy”



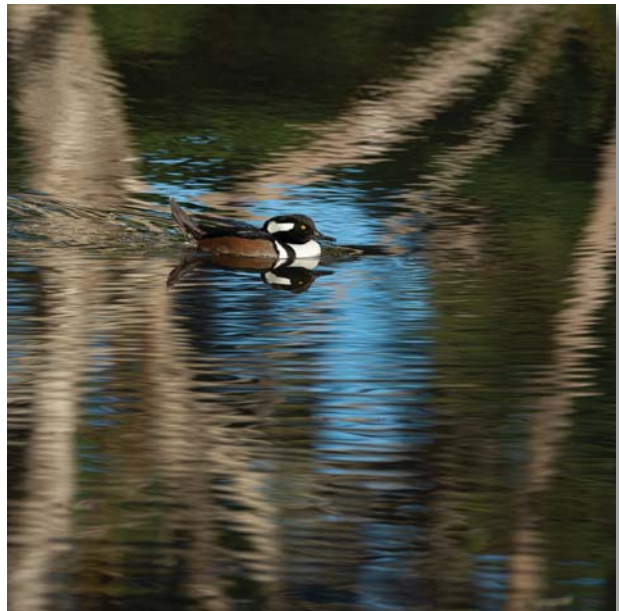
Cat & Mouse
Andrea Madsen
“Beautiful story telling”



Third Place:

**Hooded Merganser with Reflections in
Lagunita Mirada**
Bill Brown

“A beautiful capture of softness and sharpness”



2nd Place:

Mirror Mirror on the Wall

Bill Shewchuk

“Exceptional color intensity, balance and use of the frame”



First Place:

Quiet - Lost Coast, Ca

Sean Crawford

“Beautiful Color, exceptional balance and emotion”

