



**01 - A Trip to the Monterey Aquarium.jpg**

*Brian Spiegel*

To me, this image captures the awe and amazement of this particular location. I feel that a good travel photograph puts you in the location, or pulls you into the image so much you want to be there. For me, this image does that quite effectively. It also shows a great usage of an extremely wide angle lens and how they inherent distortion of that lens can really add a visual element to the image. Couple that with impactful colors and some really beautiful backlight, and you have quite an effective image. \*\*\*\*\*



**02 - Astoria-Megler Bridge, Oregon.jpg**

*Bill Brown*

Wow! Your usage of symmetrical balance in this image is so effective. I feel the massiveness and weight of this architectural structure. I feel like this image would be a great image to accompany text or an article about interesting architectural elements like bridges. I love how you used shape so effectively in this image and gave us a little bit of a break from the symmetrical balance with the addition of the two small elements over in the right-hand side of the image. I think that might be a pylon in the water. --this small element really helps to add enough of a break from the heavy usage of symmetrical balance and it gives the image a pop of humanity. I love the usage of the cool colors in this image and how quiet this image is although I'm sure this could be a very loud environment to shoot in. That's an interesting conceptual juxtaposition! \*\*\*\*\*



**03 - Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse, Maine.jpg**

*Bill Shewchuk*

This is a beautifully composed image that uses light so effectively. I also appreciate the vantage point of this image and the usage of texture. I love that you utilized waning light to cast a wonderfully beautiful glow on the textured rock structure that this architectural element is sitting on. Because of your vantage point, you have given the structure a place of power and automatically put the viewer automatically in a reverential state. Your exposure is spot on! One aspect that I really like is how the clouds in the upper left hand corner are balanced out by the textured rocks in the lower right hand corner. It's not necessarily rhyming, but it does become a visual reflection as the two play off of each other. \*\*\*\*\*



#### **04 - Bodie Island Lighthouse, North Carolina.jpg**

*Bill Shewchuk*

This is a lovely image that utilizes composition so effectively. Light is used superbly in this image as well. I love how you constructed a leading line out of the walkway and what I find very interesting about the walkway is how the light is creating such an interesting shadow. For me, this becomes almost metaphorical. The shadow could symbolize the unknown of this location and the brightness of where the shadow is not cast could symbolize knowledge of this location. I feel that this provides a nice duality to the idea of a travel photography, in that we travel somewhere because we're interested in it, but we are also excited to learn new things. I like the conceptual touch that this shadow adds to the image. \*\*\*\*\*



#### **05 - Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah.jpg**

*Andrea Madsen*

This is a beautifully composed image that utilizes a rasterize online quite effectively. I love how the salt flats become effective negative space. I also like how you utilized that negative space to create an interesting field for your subject to occupy. I love how I can see an arced trail leading to the person who is lying down and almost like a breadcrumb of artifacts that are left in the lower right-hand corner. This touch of human intervention on the scene is quite interesting. I know that you may not have been able to control the way this person was lying, but I feel as if I would love to see their head tilted to the right some to break up some of the darkness in the clothes on the body. With that said, I think it is still quite effective and packs an emotional punch of exhaustion, awe and the overwhelming vastness of the salt flats. \*\*\*\*\*



#### **06 - Burr Trail - Capitol Reef.jpg**

*Sean Crawford*

I am in awe of the expansiveness of this image. I also love the punctuation of the car in this image and feel like that is what adds just that touch of humanity to the image. The car is so small and it really puts humanity in perspective, especially in context of the vastness of nature. The expansiveness of this image is inspiring and your usage of composition is superb. The overwhelmingly warm colors that are in the image are contrasted by the cool blue sky and then put into context by the pop of color in the car. This image makes me feel like I could put myself in the car and see myself driving



down this winding, exciting road. This image just pulled me right into the location and made me want to be in this place. \*\*\*\*\*



**07 - Chattahoochie River State Park, Georgia.jpg**

*Andrea Madsen*

I am originally from Alabama and since I am the only person in my family that lives in California, the rest of them are all in the southeast in Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana. This image tugged at my heartstrings and I immediately knew that this was taken in the southern part of the United states when I looked at it. I felt like I had been here before. This shows the powerful grip that photography has with our emotional ties to places and our emotional reactions to images. I've been to places like this and know how hard they are to photograph. There's a lot of information going on in this image and I can see where you wanted to go with it. Utilizing the river to cut through the visual information and create a path for the eye is an effective strategy. What I think happens in this image is that there is so much texture in the trees in the foreground and in the background that it becomes hard for the eye to settle on a focal point. Right now, it's as if all aspects of the image have equal weight. I'm wondering if you were to convert this image to black and white and utilize some of the adjustment tools with specific colors that you could pull out some of the foliage as becoming more of a highlight and allowing other hues in the textured trees to recede. Right now, there is a lot of the same value and a lot of textures and we need something to come forward and something to recede to be able to have a focal point. With that said, I completely appreciate a sense of place that this image provides. \*\*\*



**08 - Creek Fire Remains; Sierra Foothills.jpg**

*Janet Azevedo*

this image is a great example of how a title can give so much context to an image. This image immediately caught my attention, and I appreciated the conversion to black and white with this image. If it didn't start out as color in a digital form and was taken with film, then I applaud the usage of black and white film! I suspect that it was probably a digital image though and there's nothing wrong with that! I love the strong backlight of this image that creates such interesting silhouettes of the trees. It helps to add an emotional weight to this image and highlight the death and rebirth that happens with such massive fires. There is only one thing that I think I want to point out, and I hope you don't mind me doing this, but there is a tree that has fallen in the foreground

of the image and the massive root system of the tree is cut off at the bottom of the photograph. I'm not sure if you cropped into this or if you have another shot where that isn't cropped off, but it's almost as if when you think about taking a picture of someone and their toes accidentally get cut off. There's just a little bit of me wanting that visual image to be completed in that space. This is just my opinion, and others may disagree with this, but I think that it could be something to explore if you have a version of this image that does include the bottom part of that root ball. \*\*\*\*



### **09 - Danube Blue Light in Budeapest.jpg**

*Don Eastman*

This is a beautifully composed image that uses balance quite nicely. I love the usage of the cool evening sky contrasted with the warmth of the lights coming to life. What also makes this image quite interesting is the boats that are moving in the river. That adds life to the image and create some movement in the image. It becomes less static with the addition of those boats. I appreciate how the river becomes a nice visual respite from the bundle of lights on the left hand side of the image and the lights that appear on the right hand side of the image. The lit bridge that spans the river adds an important visual punctuation to the composition.

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### **10 - Garrapata State Park, Gate 17 Including Photobomber.jpg**

*Patricia McKean*

This is a lovely image that utilizes time of day so effectively. You are utilizing texture in this image in a massively effective way. At first this image seems to be a pure landscape, but I love how I found the lone person in this image and the fact that they are wearing red is an excellent way to use a complementary color to create effective visual impact. Placing the person down in the lower right-hand corner of the image is also extremely smart and effective. My eye latches on to him, moves up to the upper left-hand corner of the image around the top of the image and back again. This visual movement is so important to an effective composition and I love that the person in the image is the starting point for my visual path. It helps to show how small we really are in contrasted with our environment.

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### 11 - Golden at Sunset-.jpg

*Lillie Grossman*

This is a beautifully composed and exposed image. The time of day that you utilize to take the image helps in allowing the bridge to almost glow. I love that I can see a boat moving under the bridge. I also like that there is movement in the water as that adds a nice textural contrast to the sky.

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### 12 - Goth Gathering in Rome, Italy.jpg

*Charlie Gibson*

the narrative you have created in this image is so effective! It's almost as if I can hear that gloved man talking. And the fact that the person he's talking to is slightly engaged in a phone is equally interesting period it's a sure sign of our times. Another thing that I really appreciate about this image is that you have divided the image up with the strong architectural element in the background serving as a lovely backdrop and the people create kind of like a horizon line in the foreground. The three people in the lower right-hand corner become the focal point and I love that they are situated in the lower right hand corner and not placed in the middle of the photograph. The one thing that I would point out is that the bottom of the person who is talking, their foot is cropped off. I feel that if you had backed up a little bit or tilted the camera down a little bit or if you had the capability of a zoom to zoom out a little bit and incorporate that information, that would take this image to the next level. I know that this seems like a very small element, but it is something to keep in mind with future images. \*\*\*



### 13 - Local Butcher Shop, Kilkenny, Ireland.jpg

*John Drum*

I have to say I am a sucker for storefront images, especially those from other countries. I think it comes from my love of the photographer Atget and his work with Parisian storefronts. I think I am always trying to replicate images like that when I travel. I do appreciate the strong composition in this image and love that you have offset the window of the shop on the right-hand side with the inclusion of the bike on the left-hand side. I love a storefront with a bike! One comment that I would make is that I feel like I want to see a little bit more visual information on the top and the bottom of this image. I feel like it is a tight crop and the sign at the top of the image and the wheels of the bike need a little bit more room to move. When I'm talking to my



students, I like to say kind of think of it as if your subject is the couch in your living room. You want to be able to move around the couch a little bit and not feel like the couch is cramped. I think in this case adding a little bit more visual information on the top and the bottom of the image could be a great way to give those two elements a little bit more room to breathe.

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#### **14 - Peterhof Palace, St. Petersburg, Russia.jpg**

*Don Eastman*

I respond quite effectively to the heaviness of the sky and the ominous weather that you seem to have caught. I go back and forth on whether I want this image to be “opened up” a little bit or not. I’m not quite sure, but I do wish that I had a little bit of an easier time being able to see the people in the foreground. They seem to be an interesting part of this image, but because they are dark and a little hard to see, it’s hard to understand if you wanted to use the people in the image as a focal point or if they just happen to be there. That’s something I would keep in mind when photographing architectural elements. We cannot control who or what happens to be there when we are there, but keeping in mind how you would like to utilize the people that are there and how much of a role they play in your image is something to keep in mind.

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#### **15 - Point Arena Lighthouse.jpg**

*Janet Azevedo*

I can feel the intensity in this image. I think it comes from the time of day that you took it, and also the energy from the active water in the image. Both of these come together to create a very interesting and visually stimulating image. I love how you placed the lighthouse off to the side on the right hand side of the image as that helps to anchor the composition quite nicely. The play of the warm gold tones on the right hand side contrasted against the cooler sky and water is a beautiful touch also. What I think is interesting is that the shapes that are created by the water crashing ashore echo the shapes that the Cliff like shore also exhibits. This is a nice visual period.

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**16 - Power Boating at the Base of Foz Iguazu, Brazil.  
jpg**

*Julie Chen*

At first when I looked at this image, I thought to myself wow, I wish they had used a slower shutter speed to calm this water down. I took a second look at the image and spent more time with it and then I saw the boat! That boat in the image gives the image entirely new contextual information and makes your decision to use a faster shutter speed the right one. I get the feeling that the boat is so small and its struggle against the water is almost futile, and this helps to show how massive these waterfalls are and how powerful they are. All of this makes me love the choices you made and how you constructed this image. This is a lesson and slowing down and making sure to look at all visual information in an image before making a quick decision. I'm glad I spent some time looking at it and loved the little gift of the boat in the picture. \*\*\*\*



**17 - Sheepdog Trials, Walter Peak Station, New Zealand.jpg**

*John Drum*

This is an exciting image with so much intensity and movement to this image. This is a lovely use of fast shutter speed and how using a fast shutter speed can help you capture really interesting movement. It seems as if you got just the right moment here. Kind of like a Carrier-Breson moment, but in color! I can feel the intensity and the emotion on each animals face, and that is something that is very hard to do. I like that you titled this as it gives me much more context into what's going on. \*\*\*\*



**18 - Taking a Break along the Seine, Paris.jpg**

*Julie Chen*

I responded so positively to the order in this image. This is truly a wonderful exercise in design elements and principles. I love how this image is punctuated with the people that are quietly reading. In my mind they are reading and daydreaming and I love the fact that this image has brought me in and allowed my own imagination to come up with a narrative in the image. The pattern of the bricks on the image, contrasted with the lovely texture of what looks like probably years of dripping water coming down the bricks, and the white stones that are dividing these swaths of pattern are extremely interesting to the eye. The usage of

that diagonal line with the white stones is critically important to anchoring this image. \*\*\*\*



### 19 - Trillium Lake, Oregon.jpg

*Patricia McKean*

This image almost looks like a painting! I love the calmness in the image and the emotional place this takes me to. You utilized some excellent landscape guidelines in this image. The rock in the lower right-hand corner allows me access into the image and my eye is guided to the birds in the water and the rocks that pull my eye into the middle ground of the image and then open up to the background of the image. This Vista is truly majestic and you did a wonderful job capturing it. \*\*\*\*



### 20 - Vatican View from Via della Conciliazione.jpg

*Charlie Gibson*

This is a nicely balanced image that gives me a good sense of place. I have to say I haven't seen this vantage point before, so that was a nice surprise. I know that the focal point in this image is the Vatican, but it has about the same visual weight as the information on the left hand side of the image and the information on the right hand side of the image. In my mind I was trying to think of a way that you might be able to utilize to give the Vatican a little more emphasis. Perhaps instead of a horizontal image, the image could be vertical which might give more weight to the Vatican. I'm not quite sure, and my opinion is only subjective, but thinking about the focal point of an image and how much weight it carries in an image is a really good strategy to keep in mind when shooting things like this. I do love that pop of green on the right hand side of the image. Sometimes when information is on the sides of an image, especially dense information like foliage, it can become distracting but this green holds my interest. Maybe to me it's more of a focal point than the Vatican itself. It might have been interesting to move yourself over to the right a little bit so that the Vatican could be almost hugged by this green tree that could wrap around the Vatican in the image. With that being said, I know feedback like this is hard because you can't go back to that place and you can't go back to that time, but it is something to keep in mind for the next time you are traveling. \*\*\*





**21 - Vietnamese Woman Taking her Hot Pot to Cai Rang Floating Market, Mekong Delta, Vietnam.jpg**

*Joni Zabala*

I love the pops of warm yellow and orange/red colors in this image. It pulls my eye into the background of the image. I do like that you used a little bit more shallow depth of field to help the woman become more of the focal point of this image. The visual information of the boat became a little unclear, but after reading the title I understood what you were doing when organizing the objects in this image. I think this image gives a good sense of place. \*\*\*\*



**22 - Visitors Enjoy Spring Blossoms in Huntington Gardens, Pasadena, CA.jpg**

*Joni Zabala*

Pictorialism is something that remained a stronghold in Japanese photography well after it died here in the United States. This image feels as if it could find its way straight back into history and if it were black and white, would seem like it was taken in the 1930s in Japan. I love the play of the colors in this image and the pop of white. I'm wondering how this would work as a black and white image, but I do love it as color. I think for me the reason I'm going to black and white, is that I'm making a connection to Japanese pictorial photography which is a genre of photography I have always enjoyed. I can feel the awe and the wonder that the two people in the image are feeling. Or at least if they're not feeling it, this image has allowed me to insert myself into the image and create a narrative. Photographing monochromatic foliage can be extremely hard, but the composition in this image and the lovely way that you have handled the greens and the browns in this image help calm all the textures that could become visually overwhelming in the image. It becomes a little bit like a symphony of color.

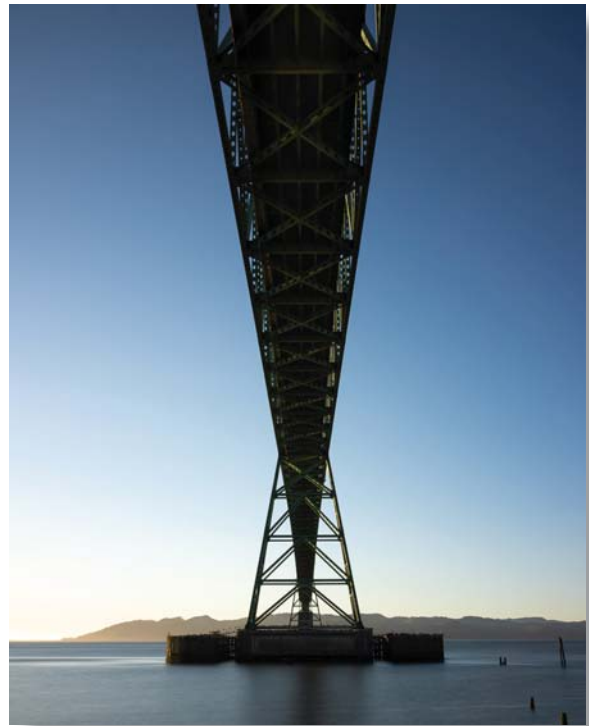
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Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

**Astoria-Megler Bridge, Oregon**  
*Bill Brown*



**Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse, Maine**  
*Bill Shewchuk*



**Bodie Island Lighthouse, North  
Carolina**  
*Bill Shewchuk*



**Taking a Break along the Seine,  
Paris**  
*Julie Chen*





Third Place:

**Burr Trail - Capitol Reef.**  
*Sean Crawford*



2nd Place:

**Visitors Enjoy Spring Blossoms in  
Huntington Gardens, Pasadena, CA**  
*Joni Zabala*



First Place:

**A Trip to the Monterey  
Aquarium**  
*Brian Spiegel*

