



**01-Another hopeful day in Guatemala City.jpg**

*Frank Penner*

I love the texture that you are using in this image. The colors of the two dresses are what draws my eye into this image. It did take a little while to discern what the object was behind the two people. I think in the future you might want to think about moving yourself so that you can compose an image where the object is separated from the subjects. Right now, I'm not sure of the connection the two women have with the object and I think if they were separated from each other a little bit, more of that narrative would come through. But I do love the profile of the adult in the image and how her hand is reaching down to support her, and how the background texture becomes a lovely background for this scene. The light is nice and soft and complement the subjects very well. \*\*\*



**02-Antarctica.jpg**

*Dick Light*

This image is a superb example of utilizing the rule of thirds to create strong visual interest in an image. I also love the cool monochromatic feel of this image and respond quite viscerally to the textures in the image. I love that this ice structure/glacier does not span across the entirety of the picture but we see the edge of it before it hits the right side of the image. I appreciate how the image is balanced with clouds on the top and water on the bottom. This is an image that not only has visual appeal but does have an emotional appeal as well. \*\*\*\*



**03-Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi, Italy.jpg**

*Frank Penner*

This image has such striking and punchy colors! I do love the harmonic usage of color with intense blue and green. One thing that I would suggest is to straighten up the horizon line a little bit in this image. The church seems to be on a little bit of a slant, and just a little tweak in Photoshop would help you achieve this. I feel that this is something that is very small and very subtle but can throw a viewer off. One other thing that I would suggest is to move to the left a little bit

when taking this picture to eliminate the bush on the right hand side and give you more of an overall view of the church. I know that things like this can be subjective, but that intense texture of the bush draws my eye to the corner of the picture and we want the visual interest to remain in the middle of the picture. Removing this would allow the eye to go back to the middle of the photograph which is where you want the interest to stay. This is best done in camera just by moving your body a little bit more to the left. as you keep things like this in mind as you keep shooting, noticing things like this will become more instinctive. I do love the texture of the clouds and how I feel like I can look way deep into this picture seeing into the far away background. \*\*\*



**04-Black Gold (fishing) Lodge, Rivers Inlet, B.C.JPG**

*Duane Peterson*

this image is another great example of how harmonic colors can work so well together. Blues and greens together in an image always pack a pretty powerful punch. The visual impact in this image lies in the upper portion of the image with the texture of the trees and the soft wispy clouds and the reflection of both of these in the water. What I would suggest though is to really pay attention to the edges of your image. Having bright whites in an image can draw the eye in to an image but they can also be distracting. What becomes a little bit distracting in this image is the bright white of what I think is either a dock or a boat at the bottom of the image. My eye goes down to this instead of remaining in the heart of the image. Perhaps doing a crop to take this off would help or raising your body up a little bit so that that is no longer in the viewfinder when shooting could be a good strategy in the future. I do love how we see intense manifestations of nature in this image and then the horizon line coming across the image shows the impact of man on nature with structures. This is a really interesting juxtaposition.

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### **05-Bon voyage.jpg**

*Ken Jones*

this is such an interesting play with shapes and the impact of color contrasted with texture. I do love the Birds Eye view that you have achieved in this image and love that you have reduced the visual information into almost a mathematical equation of design. I also respond to the intense panoramic quality of this image. The contrast of the blue and the white are exciting to my eye and combined with the shapes of what I think might be tables in the image also piqued my curiosity. I love the beautiful texture that the water makes at the top of the image. One suggestion that I would make is that there is a little bit of a tilt in the image, and this is completely subjective but I want the tilt to either go away or become a little bit more acute. Right now this slant is in a very neutral area, and seems to want to either be straightened up or tilted more. I'm not sure if you cropped into this image from a larger image and if so you might want to play with the slant of the line that's at the bottom of the image. I think that this is a great exercise in how great elements and principles of design can really bouy the visual impact of an image. \*\*\*



### **06-Capela dos Ossos in Evora Portugal Chapel of Bones.jpg**

*Rick Thau*

Wow! This is such an interesting usage of scale. It's very hard for me too tell if these skulls are small or life-size. I love that play in this image. I also really like the monochromatic tone to this image. I'm wondering if you tried this image in black and white to see how the visual impact changes. It's not something that I think is necessary, but could be an interesting way to present this image. I do like that at first it seems to be the same texture all over but with a second look, the skulls start to emerge and become visually impactful. I think it was a great choice to have a skull in the bottom right hand corner of the image edit as it helps to anchor the image.

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## 07-Chapel of Saint Michael of the University of Coimbra Portugal.jpg

*Rick Thau*

I respond quite nicely to the impactful gold in this image. And how we have some repeating shapes in the flutes (not sure if that is what they are called) of the organ. I like that this is picked up almost as a pattern throughout the image and then echoed in the bottom portion of the image. I'm not quite sure what part of the organ that is, but it's a nice visual play. I think the muted blue and red tones in the image also helped to add visual interest to this image. I like that you set the semicircular fan of these organ flutes off to the side instead of in the middle as that becomes a more impactful place to place your subject. I feel the one thing that might help this image a little bit is to see a little bit more information on the bottom, I feel that it is a little tightly cropped and my eye is just wanting to see a little bit more on the bottom of the image. But now that I say that and take a second look at the image I think that perhaps you did crop it in the right place. I'm vacillating and going back and forth between whether or not I want more information or not. I wish I could give you a definitive answer on this but I really am going back and forth on it. But I do love how you utilized repeating shapes in this image quite nicely.

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## 08-Climbing to the Top-1.JPG

*David Eisen*

I love the spiral of this staircase and respond quite nicely to the almost Nautilus shape that the staircase creates. I also think that the pop of purple in the image is quite nice. I feel that even though I understand that you probably took this image under very low light conditions I would love to see this image "opened up" just a little bit. One thing that becomes a little distracting is the human form on the left of the image. I understand that when shooting images like this, we can't control the situation at all and sometimes have to wait quite a while to get the shot and a lot of times circumstances are out of our control. But this is one thing that does become just a tad distracting and is something that might be worth waiting for. But of course, if you wait too long you lose the person who's wearing purple! Oh the trials and tribulations of a photographer!

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### **09-Colorado River-1.JPG**

*David Eisen*

What an incredible location you found! I really wish I was with you when you took this picture as I've always wanted to be on the Colorado River. I love the meandering path that you have created with this vantage point and love that I can feel as if I am going between these structures on my journey in the river. I do have one suggestion and it involves your sky. It seems to be either manipulated a bit in Photoshop or perhaps it's overexposure, but not having any visual information in the sky takes away from the visual impact of this image. Especially since you have such a great exposure in the foreground and middle ground. You may want to try utilizing techniques like a chair when photographing scenes like this so that you were able to incorporate sky texture and exposure into the image. One tip that I tell my students is that you never really want to have white along the edges of a picture and I do see that there is some tone but no texture or discerning features in the sky. It does seem as if you were trying to fix this a little bit and I appreciate the effort that probably went into this, but making sure that the eye stays in the picture is done by not having bright tones around the edges of the image. With that said I do love the way you've captured the beauty of these massive structures and appreciate the composition quite a bit. \*\*\*



### **10-Dhonoli boat at sunrise, Maldives.jpg**

*Marcia Pnacek*

This is a lovely image with so much visual impact. I love the serene feel to this image. I also love the monochromatic usage of color in this image. Because of the beautiful backlighting in the image the boat becomes such an interesting subject where the lines and shapes are allowed to really sing. I love that you've balanced the weight of the boat with the bright sun in the upper right hand corner of the image. This image really makes me want to know this place and to visit this place and I feel has true impact in the area of travel photography.

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### 11-Garage Door Detail - Cerrillos, NM.jpg

*Brooks Leffler*

I appreciate the almost abstractness of this image and how you have used harsh midday light to accentuate the textures and the shapes of the garage door. I also love how the monochromatic orange plays against the harmonic blue and green in the background. I would almost like to see a little bit more of this garage door, but I know that this was an exercise in abstraction and in diving into the intricacies of a subject. With that said, I feel like I want to see just a little bit more or perhaps see this image as a vertically oriented image with more of the tree texture in the top of the image to balance out the orange in the bottom of the image. It's very subjective and ultimately up to you as to what to include in the image, but when shooting something like this giving yourself a few different choices of how the parts of the image play together it's always a good strategy.

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### 12-Genoa, Nevada \_\_Nevada's Oldest Saloon.jpg

*Carol Fuessench*

What an interesting structure! I love that you happened upon this when what seems like a celebration was happening with the bunting hanging on the front of this structure. I like the usage of lines in this image in the columns and how the white helps to break up some of the texture that's happening on the building. There are a couple things that I would suggest to consider when shooting an image like this that might make this image have a little bit more visual impact. I feel like I'd like to see just a little bit more information on the top of the image so perhaps backing up would be a good strategy so that you could include more. Usage of a wide angle lens might help but then you'd also get some distortion in the lines so perhaps just backing up a little bit could help you with this composure. One other thing that I find to be a little distracting is the bush that's in the right hand side of the image I know that you were going for a very balanced image with the focus being the storefront and your main concern was situating that storefront in the image which I think you did a good job with. But, that bush over in the right hand side does become a little bit distracting so perhaps finding an angle when you're shooting where that's not coming into play would be a good strategy. There is a tiny bit of keystone in this image and I'm not sure if that is something that you are allowed to play with and straighten up when you were

editing in terms of this competition. But I might think about using a bit of Photoshop to correct the keystoneing, or when shooting using a wider angle lens which would exacerbate that keystoneing a little more. \*\*



### **13-Geothermal Basin.jpg**

*Jerry Loomis*

This is a very visually impactful landscape. I respond quite intensely to the usage of complementary colors of blue and yellow in this image. Great landscape images have an interesting object or point of interest in the foreground of the image and then your eye is drawn to the middle ground which opens into the expanse of the background. This image utilizes that strategy quite effectively. I am drawn into the image because of the gold and yellow textures and shapes in the foreground, my eye moves from the foreground to the middle ground and then flows into the background. The fact that you have two colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel helps to pack a powerful colorful punch. It's like eye candy! One other thing that I think is quite effective in this image is how the texture of the clouds are really echoed in the foreground of the image with these bulbous shapes and textures. It's a good punctuation mark to this image. \*\*\*\*



### **14-Guests Arriving at Black Gold Lodge.JPG**

*Duane Peterson*

This is a good example of where a title can give good context to an image. When I first looked at this image I was a bit frustrated because I couldn't see anyone's faces and was wondering why the people were lined up looking away from me, the viewer. I read the title, I understood the context a little more and feel a bit more comfortable in your decision on how to construct this image. Not only do I struggle a little bit with trying to find the focal point of the image. I'm not sure if you were intending the focal point to be the plane or to be the people standing waiting for the guests or perhaps some other object. I think this is because most of the objects in the foreground and middle ground are all about the same size or the same color and they all have the same visual "weight." Since this is about guests arriving, you may want to think about framing or composing or changing

your vantage point so that you are able to bring one of the subjects into a position of power in the image and one that is a clear focal point of the image. \*\*



### **15-Haleakala Summit.jpg**

*Sandi McCafferty*

I applaud the risk taking in this image! I also respond quite positively to the monochromatic color and the backlighting in the image. I love the impactful rim light that you achieved around your subjects. One thing that I think becomes distracting is the bright roundness of your light source which I am assuming is the sun. You also have some flare in the image which is a result of shooting straight into a light source. This practice of including flares in images has become much more acceptable in photographs, especially in travel photography. But when using flares you want to make sure that you are using them effectively and they don't become distractions. These flares have a little bit of a distracting feel to them. I'm not sure if when you shot this image if you took more images where you moved your body a little bit to position the sun just a little more behind your subjects. I might suggest playing around with that in the future and shooting a few shots where you have perhaps the sun completely hidden behind the subjects or partially hidden behind the subjects playing around with that. You can also play around with the quality of your flare by placing your hand over the top of the lens when you're shooting. When I was in school, flares were unacceptable in images, but I do love how aesthetics and rules change and incorporating flare can become very interesting period I applaud the risk you took with this! \*\*\*



### **16-Lincoln Memorial at night.jpg**

*Jared Ikeda*

I tell my students that there are two ways to respond to images. You can respond visually to an image and you can respond emotionally to an image. This image pulls both emotional and visual reactions. You happened upon an amazing moment and photographed it in such an incredible way. The light that is coming down this memorial is absolutely beautiful and what makes this extremely impactful is the juxtaposition of the monument and how big it is in comparison with the shapes and profiles of the smaller people who are viewing the monument. I feel the connection between the Lincoln statue's gaze and the people looking up at this statue in reverence. I feel that this image pulls the viewer in and holds the viewer's attention and does a great job of summarizing what a trip to this monument



would feel like. Very well done and an image that I can come back and look at over and over again, appreciating more nuanced things about it each time I see it.

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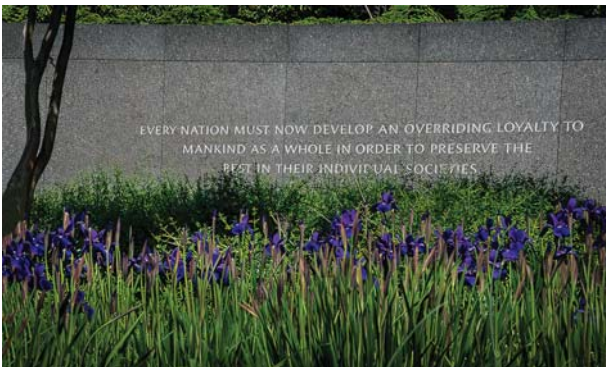


### **17-Lonely Penguin.jpg**

*Dick Light*

Oh, this lonely Penguin! This is such an incredibly interesting image. It's so lonely also (great title, BTW). This image tugs not only at my heartstrings but has quite a bit of visual impact. I love how the image is broken up into sections by the breakage of the ice. It is great that you were able to situate the Penguin against the com texture of the water. That allows the I to settle on the Penguin. I also like how you placed the Penguin in a very strong compositional place in the image. The breakage of the ice and the shape that the water makes helps to add to the visual impact of this image. I loved that it took me a moment to see the Penguin. I almost wish that this image was an image that was printed so big that the Penguin becomes life-size. Big, like 4 feet by 5 feet big! I'm not one to usually say bigger is better, but this could be a really great image printed big. In terms of travel photography, I feel that this image pulls me in and makes me want to visit.

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### **18-MLK Memorial.jpg**

*Jared Ikeda*

This image is so beautifully composed and has such an impactful composition. Your usage of texture is quite nice also. I respond positively to the usage of color in this image. I feel that this image could be an image that accompanies copy in a magazine and would complement a story about this monument quite nicely. This is an image that I'd like to show my students that demonstrates how placing visual information in an image can really help to balance an image and create unity in the image. Your choice to utilize the tree in the left-hand side of the image is a nice foil to the heaviness of the texture that happens in the bottom portion of the image. The balance in this image is quite lovely.

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### 19-Panificio, Bologna, Italia.jpg

*Cath Tendler*

I love the emotional impact this image has. I feel the busyness of this bakery and feel like I'm pulled into the moment. This is an interesting candid moment that I feel has great visual impact period. I would like to make a suggestion though and this is something that would have to be taken care of in the moment when you were shooting the image. I love how the image is framed by the people and especially that guy in the lower right hand corner using his hands. But the persons head that is right next to him becomes distracting. I'm not sure if showing more of that person shoulders could help too keep them less distracting but the round shape with no shoulders does become a bit distracting. What helps balance this image and provide movement to it is how the eye goes from the man in the lower right hand side and then moves over to the person on the left hand side and up to the woman speaking and running the show. This creates a really beautiful triangle of visual movement. I think that's why the woman's head becomes a little distracting is that while my eye is on this triangular journey there's a bit of a speed bump with her head. I hope my commentary isn't confusing and makes sense—I had a bit of a hard time trying to describe why this person's head was a bit distracting. One thing that becomes so interesting in this image is your use of a repeating shape. The repeating shape I see are the labels that are on various bakery items. That's a nice juxtaposition against the chaos of what's happening with the people speaking to each other and the movement in the foreground of the image.

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### 20-Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia.jpg

*Sandi McCafferty*

I mentioned in an earlier image that strong landscape images have objects in the foreground which lead your eye into the middle ground and then into the expanse of the background. This image also has that aspect with this trap in the foreground of the image. My eye goes to the middle ground over to the land that's on the right-hand side of the image and then back to the left hand side of the image with the architectural structure. What happens with this image is that my eye then go straight up to the top

of the image and out of the frame. I believe this is happening because of the brightness at the top of this image. I know that contrast can sometimes be hard to control in landscape images, especially when you were dealing with lower lit foregrounds and brighter backgrounds. Perhaps this image could stand to have been under exposed just a little bit to capture some detail in the sky and then brightened up a little bit to allow the foreground to have a proper exposure. It's a toss up sometimes as to what to utilize to create your exposure. But in this instance, I do feel that the brightness of the sky does become a little distracting and you have such lovely colors and interesting objects in this image and you wanted to do as much as you can to keep the eye in those areas. This does make me want to visit this part of Nova Scotia and that is something I truly appreciate about this image. \*\*\*



### **21-Seceda, Dolomiti, Italia.jpg**

*Cath Tandler*

You happened upon such a lovely vista with this image! I love the usage of harmonic colors with the blue sky and the lush green of the foreground. I love how these two colors are punctuated with the mountainous structure that pierces the horizon line of this image. Your usage of texture is quite superb. I feel the expansiveness of this image and love how it pulls me in. This also feels as if it could accompany copy or text from an article about this location. One happy detail that I really love is the ability to see the rows of tilled soil in the middle ground of this picture. That helps to give the image some visual structure as well.

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## 22-Shaman-Museum of Indian Art, Santa Fe.jpg

*Brooks Leffler*

Wow! What a great vantage point to use for this sculpture. It makes this sculpture seem so grand. Utilizing the clouded sky as a background is quite an effective feature of this image. I appreciate how this image is allowing this sculpture to become quite anthropomorphic and animated--almost as if they were human. The clouds that emanate from the top of the sculpture also help to tell more of a visual story and create a narrative. I think this is a great image that shows sense of place quite nicely. \*\*\*\*



## 23-Storm Clouds Over a Beaver Pond in Swanzey, New Hampshire.jpg

*Carol Fuessench*

I respond so positively to the calmness of this image. After reading the title, I see that the clouds are storm clouds and the calmness is the calm right before the storm. This image echoes that saying quite effectively. I also respond quite positively to the panoramic nature of this image and appreciate the journey that my eye goes on from left to right and then back again. One thing that I wish this image had a little bit more of is detail in the brighter areas of the sky. This could be an issue with my monitor, and in your original file there might be more detail there, but there seems to be a bit of a harsh break between the clouds and the sky. But I do love the rich yet muted tones in the foreground of green and rust red. I love how this texture is punctuated with the trees whose leaves have left.

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## 24-The Arch.jpg

*Jerry Loomis*

I have seen images that seem to be from the same place, but I don't think I have seen this particular vantage point or composition. I respond so positively to the strong position of this image and to the lovely usage of texture and undulating lines in the image I feel that this image becomes almost abstract and that

the hard rock seems soft like fabric or even fluid like the waves of the ocean. The grating color also helps to pull in visual interest. I do feel like I want to be in this place and I want to experience this place through this image. Your usage of light helps to complement all of these aspects of this image.

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## 25-The invasion of Haines Alaska.jpg

*Ken Jones*

I do love the “busy-ness” in this image and the juxtaposition of the architectural structure with the cruise ship. I just watched an interesting documentary on cruise ships and what goes on behind the scenes—wow, it’s a lot. I’ve never been on a cruise ship and had no idea how massive they are. This image helps to accentuate the massiveness of this cruise ship and how cruise ships can really be an invasion into an area. As much as we love the opportunity that they give us to explore a place, you can’t help but notice how a massive structure like this changes the landscape. I love how you used juxtaposition so effectively in this image. This would be a great image to accompany a story about this destination. What I also appreciate in this image is that you really used great rules of landscape photography to create the image. Although I would not categorize this as a landscape, we have interest in the foreground which leads us to the middle ground and opens into really lovely expansive landscape in the background. That juxtaposition of man-made versus nature is great.

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## Winning Images:

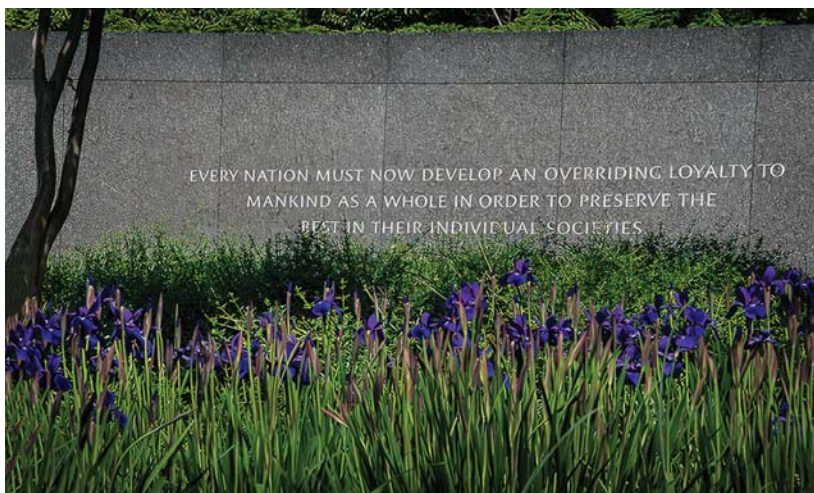
### Honorable Mentions:



**Storm Clouds Over a Beaver Pond in Swanzey, New Hampshire**  
*Carol Fuessenich*

### **Seceda, Dolomiti, Italia**

*Cath Tandler*



### **MLK Memorial**

*Jared Ikeda*

**Shaman-Museum of Indian Art, Santa Fe**  
*Brooks Leffler*



**The Invasion of Haines Alaska**  
*Ken Jones*



Third Place:

**The Arch**  
*Jerry Loomis*



2nd Place:

**Lonely Penguin**  
*Dick Light*



First Place:

**Lincoln Memorial at night**  
*Jared Ikeda*

