

Congratulations to this year's finalists! Via your newsletters, I've been able to enjoy the creative and technical progression of the PTCC members and your strong sense of community. Judging this year's finals was a challenge with so many compelling images. I was drawn to both simple or elaborate images that were technically well managed that showed me something new, not previously seen or experienced, and that the image was driven by the artist decisions and not by software.

Digital photography is an accessible medium that allows unlimited altering of one's files. With this in mind, I sensed that many of the images in this year's collection could benefit from simple cropping and judicious exposure, contrast and color correction. Making simple adjustments can heighten the visual impact and can elevate the commonplace while instilling a unique creative signature.

Rick Murai



Creative Image of the Year - Green Group
“Moons at the Window”

Denice Loria Woyski

Fascinating and believable juxtaposition of sky, structure and light. Direction of light and the hint of the actual light source is well controlled.

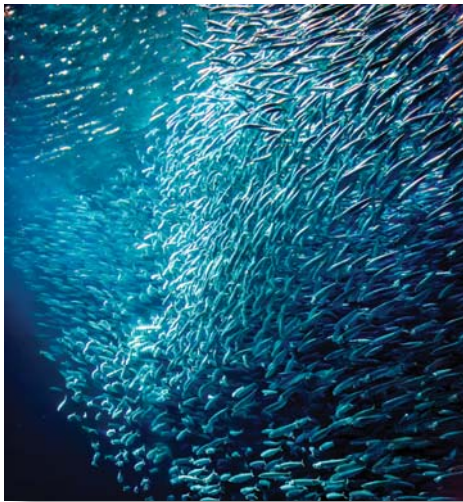


Haman Hand in Nature Image of the Year - Green Group

“Until the Next Tide”

Ken Jones

This simple image plays on negative/positive space and poses the question whether the footprints are concave or convex.



Nature Image of the Year - Green Group

“School of Sardines

Jared Ikeda

The vortex of the sardines amongst the cold light makes for a fascinating image. Two other images, Rising Mist and Wave Action could’ve been more compelling with the aforementioned cropping, exposure, contrast, and color temperature changes.



Pictorial Image of the Year - Green Group

“Tulips in the Bathroom Window”

Patricia McKean

A simple but pleasing composition of monochromatic squares and rectangles punctuated by a vase of red flowers softly illuminated by an enveloping light from the frosted glass.



Travel Image of the Year - Green Group

“Milky Way Over Bodie State Historic Park, Bodie, CA”

John Drum

Fascinating juxtaposition of space and celestial bodies and old weathered objects. Peculiar but highly successful use of fill light of the objects to balance with the night sky.