



01 - A Rare Pear.jpg

Charlie Gibson

The photographer demonstrated some creativity and imagination but the final image lacks impact and visual presence. The colors are muted and the out of focus red flower is distracting. Are those flowers? I would suggest creating a little more separation between the main subject (pear) and the red flower and play with lighting to draw more attention to it. Darken the whole image and let the main subject shine. Also you can try applying a vignette to help isolate the pear and hide the out-of-focus areas in the background. **



02 - Bad Day in Toronto.pg

Ken Jones

Haha. Very funny, fresh, creative, imaginative, and artistic. Good composition although that plane above the “monster’s” head is too close. Also, Toronto’s skyline needs a better selection. It would help make an imperfect cutout and make it look more like a collage. Colors are OK, just a little underwhelming..



03 - Clustered Butterflies.jpg

Brooks Leffler

This image has impact due to its vibrant colors and contrast with the background. In terms of aesthetic design it is little bit unbalanced and “heavy” on the left side. You could add some wings to the lower right side too. In terms of attention to detail, there is a bright spot at the top right border that needs to be cloned. But overall is it a very beautiful image.



04 - Dad's and Granpas' Watches.jpg

Don Eastman

Watches are very interesting as subjects but the composition is messy and not too captivating. Also, one of the watches (lower left) is too close to the border. The lighting is flat. You could experiment with a flashlight and light the composition from the side for example..

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05 - Eucalyptus 3.jpg

Brooks Leffler

I like the colors and the contrast against the bright background but this image could benefit from a better composition. You could try to center the leaves so that the amount of background is mostly the same on the left and right.

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06 - Illusion of Water.jpg

Carol Fuessenich

Artistic composition using light reflecting from the water as the subject. It is a nice abstract with pleasant colors. The lower reflection cutting the image horizontally extends beyond the left and right borders. I think it would look better to leave some room around it. Also, you might want to darken the image to emphasize the reflections' geometric shapes.



07 - Impressionist Dreams.jpg

Sandie McCafferty

I like the impressionistic look and applaud the photographer for experimenting with moving the camera while shooting long exposures. Keep trying, you will get more interesting abstracts. This image is not particularly interesting or impactful. Here is an idea. Duplicate the left half, flip it, and align it with the right border. Now you get an arc which makes it much more interesting. Try and let me know.

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08 - Liger of the Zoo.jpg

Lillie Grossman

Beautiful animal, you get points for subject matter. However, the image itself is not very interesting. The background is way too busy, those green leaves behind the lion are totally distracting. Here you could use focus and bokeh to draw attention to the lion's face, or you could focus on the beautiful stripes on the body and make amazing abstracts. If you have a chance to reshoot the animal, try to get its face alone and reveal its personality through the eyes.

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09 - Light Strom.jpg

Brian Spiegel

The image has a lot of impact and you get points for experimenting with light painting. My suggestion is to keep trying until you get a more interesting composition. Maybe go for a more minimalist approach?



10 - Nature's Christmas.jpg

Carol Fuessenich

I like your approach and creativity here. The effect however is a little underwhelming. I would suggest you increase the size of the decorations or use more of them and change the color of those gray stars. Also, one top those stars is way too close to the border.



11 - Open Mic Night.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

I like the subject matter, the colors, and the painterly look of the image. Compositionally, the lower right corner bothers me. You could burn it a bit. Also I suggest you darken the image and shine some light on the singer to highlight him a little bit better.

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12 - Penny Whistle Man.jpg

Sandie McCafferty

This image has great potential because the subject matter is so good. However, the grunge effect is not working for me. I would rather see a pure black and white or maybe a sepia tone but with better lighting. The face is completely hidden in darkness while his hat is too bright. I would prefer to have more light on his face and his hat and background darker.

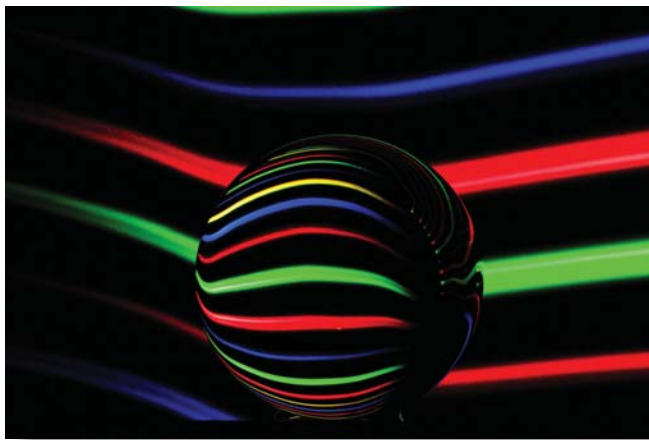
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13 - Red Sails in the Mists.jpg

Ken Jones

Beautiful image where the background and subjects colors complement themselves. It is a dreamy composition. My only suggestion is to integrate the boat with the water a little better. You might try a subtle drop shadow. The bottom of the boat is too perfect. You could also try to add some smoke to cover parts of the sail. Other than that, bravo!



14 - Sphere Light Lines.jpg

Brian Spiegel

WOW, talking about impact and visual presence! I only have praises for this image. The colors, composition, aesthetic design, subject matter, everything works in harmony here. Bravo!



15 - Sunflower World.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

Impactful image with nice colors. Very creative. I would suggest centering it better and avoid that flower to the right to get too close to the border. This image calls for being centered.



16 - Upside Down Reflections at Stockholm Refinery.jpg,

Don Eastman

So you flipped the image upside down. Hmm.... No, still not very interesting.

I suggest you use light to highlight only a few areas. It is too busy. The crane looks interesting, so maybe you could focus on that. You could blur the reflection to separate it from the main image. You might want to try a shape blur to make it less busy but keep the outlines.

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Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

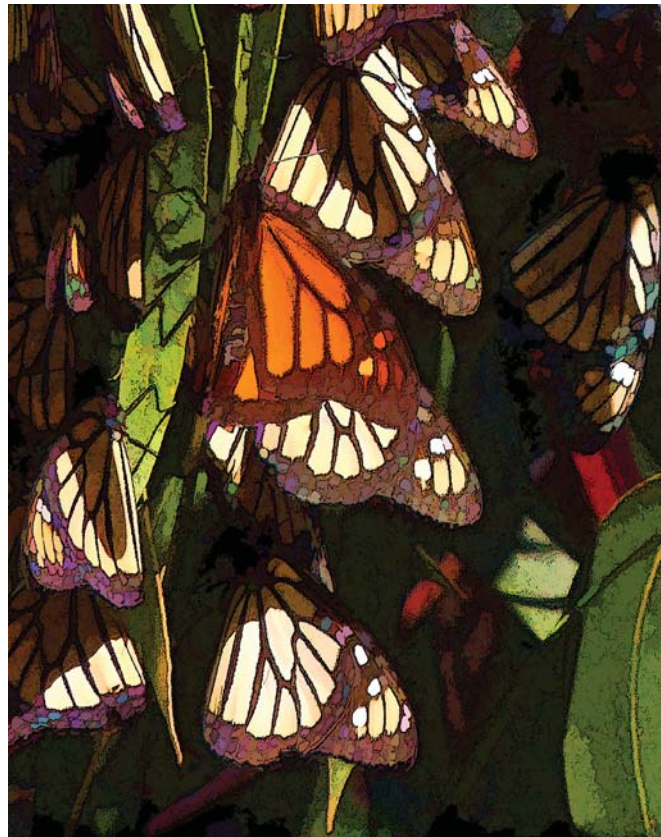
Sunflower World
Bill Shewchuk



Illusion of Water
Carol Fuessenich



Clustered Butterflies
Brooks Leffler



Third Place

Bad Day in Toronto
Ken Jones



2nd Place:



Red Sails in the Mists
Ken Jones

First Place:

Sphere Light Lines
Brian Spiegel

