

Padre Trails Camera Club

Creative Black & White - 07/17/2024

Judged by: Rachael Short



Meet our judge Rachael Short

Biography:

Ever since she picked up her father's camera at the age of twelve, photography has remained Rachael Short's passion. In 2000, this California native moved to Santa Barbara to study photography at the Brooks Institute of Photography. Over the following decade Rachael established a thriving wedding photography and portraiture business. In addition, with an artist colleague she launched Gallery EXPOSED in the heart of Carmel. Her formal shooting pursuits ended abruptly in 2010 when her neck broke in a car accident, leaving her a quadriplegic.

Rachael now divides her time between physical therapy and capturing images with her iPhone. Photographs of nature, people and places allow her to explore the relationship between light and shadow—images she transforms into platinum prints.

"I used to hate the iPhone, then I broke my neck, now it is my camera. This has changed my subject, my approach and my technique. My process has been simplified and in a way this is making my images simpler, more pure and raw. I capture what I see in my everyday life, the little things I used to walk by now draw me in. My life has slowed down, this has changed what I see and how I see it. I still love photographing nature, light, and life in simple black and white. I never would have chosen the iPhone as my camera, but I am very thankful that it allows me to continue my art." - Rachael Short

Shown here are all the images submitted for this competition in all three groups, Blue, and the combined Green and Red groups. The winning images in each group are presented beginning on page 11.

Padre Trails Camera Club

Creative Black & White - 07/17/2024 - Group BLUE

Judged by: Rachael Short



01 - Bellflowers in Camera Motion

Jared Ikeda

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: The left side of the image is more interesting than the right side. The brightness on the right side is distracting. The pattern reminds me of a flag.



02 - Blue Oak Against the Moon

Jared Ikeda

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: Dramatic image. Could be more interesting if the oak tree image was photographed early in the morning or late in the evening for better lighting, looks like it was photographed in the middle of the day.



03 - Helen

John Drum

STAR RATING: 2

COMMENT: The portrait would be more interesting lit from the side or from up higher, maybe a split or Rembrandt lighting.



04 - Loreto Bay
Jerry Loomis

STAR RATING: 2

COMMENT: I like the image and see the potential but the quality of the image looks a little bit off, almost looks like it---s a photograph of a photograph. Try taking the contrast down.



05 - My Worst Nightmare
Carol Silveira

STAR RATING: 4

COMMENT: I love the texture in this image, and the tonal range. I prefer the photo without the spider too.



06 - Reading Takes Me Away
Carol Silveira

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: Fun image. Would be stronger with person in different location maybe off center, and adjust contrast.



07 - Slipping Away
Chris Johnson

STAR RATING: 2

COMMENT: I like the portrait. Would be stronger with different effect. The left side is distracting.



08 - Supermoon Over a Merced Dairy Farm
John Drum

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: Interesting image. I like the light birds in front of the moon and the dark birds in front of the sky.



09 - The Birds Have Taken Over Fort Point
Chris Johnson

STAR RATING: 5

COMMENT: Beautiful. I love the ethereal feel. Nice texture, tones and contrast.



10 - The Sisters

Bill Brown

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: Dramatic image. I like the photograph of the three rocks a lot, the image of the person could blend in better with the natural landscape. Maybe try taking opacity down or changing location or size.



11 - Yosemite

Jerry Loomis

STAR RATING: 2

COMMENT: The border is distracting, maybe use more of a vignetting technique or change design.

Padre Trails Camera Club

Creative Black & White - 07/17/2024 - Combined Groups GREEN & RED

Judged by: Rachael Short



01-Bag of Baubles

Brooks Leffler

STAR RATING: 2

COMMENT: Interesting subject, but the quality of this image isn't great. It looks pixelated and grainy.



02-Beauty in Aging

Carol Fuessenich

STAR RATING: 4

COMMENT: Beautiful image. Nice tones, contrast and composition.



03-Casino de Monte Carlo

Rick Thau

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: Fun image. I do wish something in the photograph was in focus.



04-Cats on Hats

Brian Spiegel

STAR RATING: 2

COMMENT: Weird photo, in a good way. I wish it was taken early in the morning or late in the evening for better lighting.

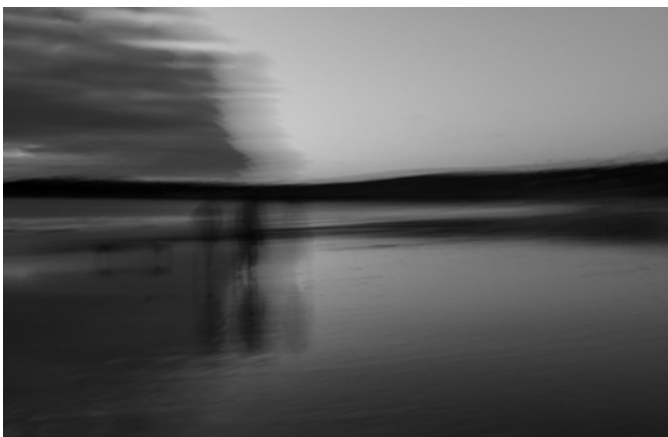


05-Faraway Morning

Ken Jones

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: I like the sci-fi feel to this image. Contrast is a little dull.



06-Ghosts of Carmel Beach

Janet Azevedo

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: I like the composition but I would've liked to see something in focus in this image.



07-Let's Make a Movie!

Sandie McCafferty

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: Nice composition. I like the playfulness in this photo.



08-Lights and the Night

Carol Fuessenich

STAR RATING: 4

COMMENT: Beautiful photo. I like the contrast and composition.

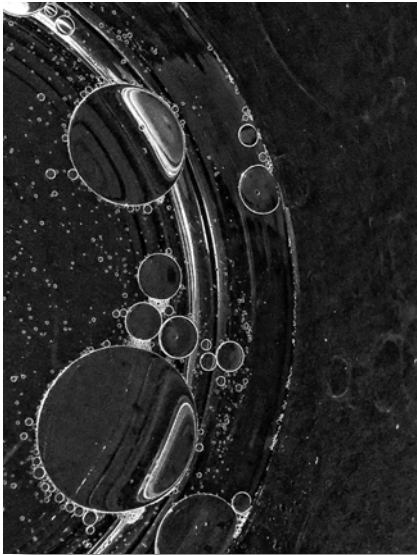


09-Old Ranch Hands

Sandie McCafferty

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: I like the storytelling in this photo. Good texture and tones. Try burning in the top part of this photo to draw the viewer's eye down the photo.



10-Outer Limits

Bill Shewchuk

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: I like the texture and shapes in this photo, good contrast and tones.



11-Picked Up Sticks

Brooks Leffler

STAR RATING: 2

COMMENT: I like the composition of this photo but the contrast is so high it makes it look pixelated.



12-The Sky's the Limit

Charlie Gibson

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: I like how the lines draw you into the photo. Good composition.



13-Underwood

Bill Shewchuk

STAR RATING: 2

COMMENT: I like the composition and subject matter but the contrast is so high it takes away from the quality of the photo.



14-Waiting

Ken Jones

STAR RATING: 4

COMMENT: Interesting and whimsical photo, very dreamlike. I like how the sky blends in with the building.



15-Whirling Dervishes

Rick Thau

STAR RATING: 3

COMMENT: I like the movement in this photo and the composition. It looks a little dark to me, try lightening it up and playing with the contrast.

Top Three Winners - Blue Group



First Place - The Birds Have Taken Over Fort Point
Chris Johnson



Second Place - My Worst Nightmare
Carol Silveira



**Third Place - Supermoon Over a
Merced Dairy Farm**
John Drum

Winning Images Group Blue

Honorable Mention



The Sisters
Bill Brown

Top Three Winners - Combined Red & Green Groups



First Place - Beauty in Aging
Carol Fuessenich



Second Place - Lights and the Night
Carol Fuessenich



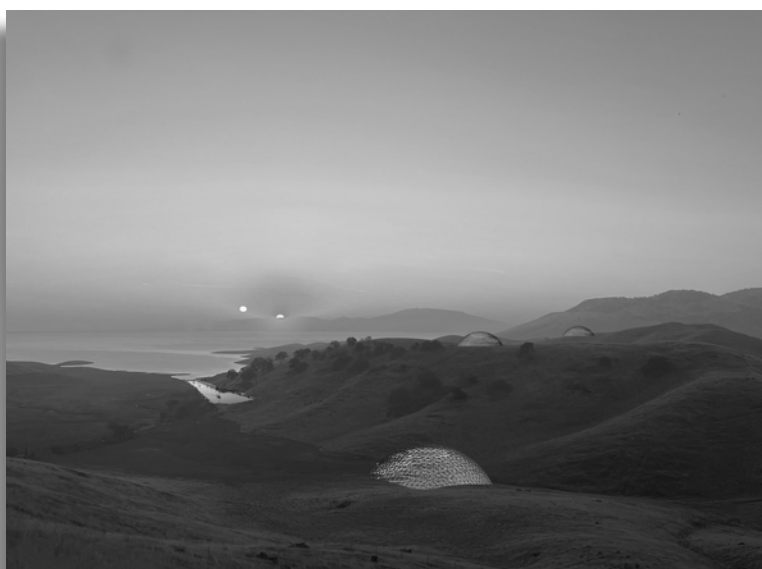
Third Place - Waiting
Ken Jones

Winning Images Combined Groups Green & Red

Honorable Mentions



Old Ranch Hands
Sandie McCafferty



Faraway Morning
Ken Jones