

Manukau Photographic Society

Month: July 2026

Category: Set Digital – Monochrome

Judge: Eric Johnston

Please tick one box ✓

	H	HC	M	A	NA
Newcomer Grade					
After the Hail PHOTOGRAPHER HAS WORKED TO CONVEY THE FEELING OF THE SCENE. LOW, WIDE ANGLE, LIMITED COOL TONES, DYNAMISM OF THE LIGHT.	✓				
WELL CHOSEN POSITION, LEAD-IN TO BRIGHT PATCH OF SKY. FEELS COLD!		✓			
Eye of the Tiger VERY NICELY HANDLED LOW-KEY IMAGE. DARKER TONES CONVEY MOOD (THREAT?), MAJESTY + MYSTERY OF THE ANIMAL.					
FOCUS IS A LITTLE SOFT IN CRITICAL AREA AROUND THE EYE.					
Patience NICE EXPLOITATION OF TONAL CONTRAST WITH SHADOWS + HIGHLIGHTS WELL CONTROLLED. WORKS WELL WITH TITLE - PATIENCE OF BOTH THE FISHERMAN + GULLS.		✓			
Vertical Silence GREAT USE OF B+W TO EMPHASISE SHAPE AND FORM	✓				
EXCELLENT CLOSE-UP WORK, GOOD FOCUS AND DOF CONTROL. WELL CHOSEN AND MANAGED BACKGROUND.					
Open Grade					
Adults need Saving GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW B+W "DE-CLUTTERS" A SCENE.			✓		
NICE CONTRAST + RANGE OF TONES. CLASSIC TRAVEL IMAGE. COULD DO WITH MORE ENGAGEMENT WITH THE VIEWER.					
Against the Wind GOOD COMBINATION OF MONOCHROME AND ABSTRACT. LIKE USE OF NEGATIVE SPACE WITHIN AND AROUND IMAGE. IT READS WELL AND HAS AN ELEMENT OF INTRIGUE		✓			
Autumn Colour GREAT MOOD AND EMOTION PORTRAYED THROUGH LIMITED COLOUR PALETTE - IDEA OF AGE AND DECAY EMPHASISED BY BLACK BACKGROUND. NICELY CONTROLLED EXPOSURE.		✓			
Cotton NICELY SEEN PATTERN IMAGE + GOOD MONOCHROME CHOICE. DYNAMIC DIAGONAL. NEEDS SOME ELEMENT TO HOLD YOUR EYE IN THE IMAGE.			✓		
YOU HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL HERE, TAKE CHARGE OF THE COMPOSITION.					
Georgia VERY COMPETENT MONOCHROME ABSTRACT. TIGHT CROP AND EYES ON PRODUCE INTIMATE ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN SUBJECT + VIEWER. EXCELLENT CHOICE OF APERTURE TO CONTROL DOF	✓				
Halftime GOOD COLOUR MONOCHROME WORK. LIKE GRADUATION OF LIGHT ACROSS IMAGE. CLOCK HANDS LEAD OUT OF IMAGE. TRY HANDS AT 2:30 POSITION TO HOLD EYE IN AND TIE IN WITH "HALFTIME" TITLE.		✓			
Holy Smoke REALLY LIKE THE IDEA HERE. THE SOLIDITY OF THE VASE CONTRASTED WITH ETHERAL SMOKE - THE GEMIE OUT OF THE BOTTLE. CROP FEELS A LITTLE TIGHT, IMAGE NEEDS SOME ROOM TO BREATHE			✓		
Karekare NICELY TIMED SHOT - LEFT FEET JUST LIFTING GIVE A SENSE OF MOVEMENT. GOOD TONAL RANGE. EXPANSIVE COMPOSITION GIVES CONTEXT. HIGHLIGHTS AT TOP OF FRAME BURNT OUT - PULL THEM BACK FOR BALANCE.			✓		
Lily Pink EXCELLENT INTERPRETATION OF THE SUBJECT. SIMPLICITY - LESS IS MORE! NICE GRADUATION OF COLOUR AND TONE. COMPOSITION BRINGS YOU INTO THE IMAGE AND HOLDS YOU THERE. GOOD USE OF DIFFERENTIAL FOCUS	✓				

	H	HC	M	A	NA
Look Good TRAVEL IMAGE - SIMPLIFICATION BY USING B&W. SOME ENGAGEMENT WITH THE VIEWER. IS THERE MORE THAN ONE IMAGE HERE? CROP TO ONE GROUP OR OTHER?		✓			
Mangrove Monoculture A VERY DEMOCRATIC IMAGE, NO ONE SECTION DOMINATES BUT HAS AN OVERALL RECTANGULARITY TO IT. VERY EVENLY LIT AND EXPOSED, FULL RANGE OF TONES		✓			
Radiator WELL CONCEPTED AND EXECUTED INTERPRETATION OF THE SET SUBJECT AUTHOR HAS THOUGHT WELL ABOUT WHAT THEY WANT TO CONVEY. YOU CAN FEEL THE WARMTH! BOLD GRAPHIC DIAGONAL COMPOSITION.	✓				
Taking a Break NICE ENVIRONMENTAL PORTRAIT, GOOD TONAL RANGE. LIGHT AREA OF POLE DRAWS ATTENTION AWAY FROM FACE. UNFORTUNATE THAT SMOKE OBSCURES ONE EYE + CONFUSES SILHOUETTE. MORE LIGHT ON FACE?			✓		
Unleashed CONSIDERED COMPOSITION, SUBTLE HIGHLIGHT BELOW MOUND. CRISP FOCUS. ENOUGH CONTRAST TO KNOW WHAT IT'S ABOUT. BOLD GRAPHIC LINES		✓			
Village Home GOOD EXPLOITATION OF GRAPHIC LINES IN THE SCENE. TEXTURES EXPRESSED NICELY. POSSIBLY A LITTLE OVER-SHARPENED - HOLD ON DOG. MAKE CROP ON LEFT TO EMPHASISE WALL TEXTURE + REMOVE CLUTTER ELEMENTS?		✓			
Vitamins GREAT USE OF MONOCHROME TO EMPHASISE SHAPE, TEXTURE AND TONE. NICE ZIG-ZAG THROUGH THE FRAME GIVE PATH FOR THE EYE AROUND THE IMAGE		✓			
Set Image of the Night RADIATOR					

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Newcomer Grade					
Gold Digger GOOD NATURAL HISTORY ATTEMPT. LIKE THE ASYMMETRIC COMPOSITION + CONTRAST OF DARK SUBJECT ON LIGHT BACKGROUND. FOCUS IS CRITICAL FOR THESE STUDIES - NOT QUITE THERE. CONSIDER CROPPING LEFT.		✓			
Star Ocean GOOD EFFORT AT DIFFICULT EXPOSURE SUBJECT. LIKE THE COMPOSITION + INCLUSION OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT. MAYBE WORK ON POST-PROCESSING TO BRING OUT DETAIL AND DRAMA IN MILKY WAY WHILE MAINTAINING AMBIENCE.		✓			
Open Grade					
I'm Waiting PLEASING BIRD PORTRAIT. NICE EVEN LIGHTING. COMPOSITION A LITTLE CENTRAL AND STATIC. FOCUS NOT QUITE ON THE DOMINANT EYE. DID YOU TAKE OTHERS? WAIT FOR A MORE DYNAMIC POSE.				✓	
Life in Khari Boali, Old Delhi YOU'VE TAKEN US ON A JOURNEY WITH THIS IMAGE. - BOTH PLACE + TIME. FRAMING + COMPOSITION SUPERB. DIGITAL TREATMENT IS SYMPATHETIC + APPROPRIATE. PAINTERLY INTERPRETATION	✓				
Pollenia rudis SUPERB NATURAL HISTORY STUDY. GOOD MACRO WORK - FOCUS SPOT ON. SHOWS ENVIRONMENT. GREAT CHOICE WITH DOF. BACKGROUND WELL CONTROLLED.	✓				
Proud Plumage NICE NATURAL HISTORY STUDY. SHOWS A BEHAVIOURAL ASPECT. FOCUS NOT QUITE SPOT ON. GOOD DIFFERENTIATION FROM BACKGROUND WHILE STILL GIVING CONTEXT.			✓		
Puzzle Piece WHY NOT IN MONOCHROME? NICE ABSTRACTION. WELL SEEN SET OF SHAPES. RADIAL BLUR ADDS TO OVERALL EFFECT. CONSIDER COMPOSITION - CROP TOO CLOSE AT TOP OF FRAME?			✓		
Open Image of the Night - LIFE IN KHARI BOALI, OLD DELHI					