Jurying from New Zealand for AB Fotoklubb - Nov 2014

by Kristin Hatland (BAA) and Chris Schreuder (BAA)

First and foremost, the New Zealand jury would like to congratulate everyone who have submitted photographs and taken part in the competition. Without you - there wouldn't be anything to see nor judge. Thank you.



1st Place - B/W

This image communicates a strong concept in a well composed frame. The tumultuous clouds enhance the overall feeling of turbulence and unease. The four trees on a bed of delicate flowers could be either menacing or dancing, providing a contrast and uncertainly that strengthens the overall composition. Their limbs and trunks are arranged awkwardly yet strangely pleasingly on either side of the figure in the foreground. The figure's stance provides further unease and enhances the overall concept. Add to this the strong tonal contrasts and the result is a well thought out image carrying endless visual interest. Superb, congratulations.



2nd Place - B/W

This image creates a sense of mystery and drama. This is enhanced by the low key shadows on the wall and the deeper tones of the "reality" of the objects in the foreground. It raises many questions and as such successfully captures the viewer in a world of imagination. Excellent, congratulations.



3rd Place - B/W

The graphic elements in this photograph are clear and strong. The viewer is directed to cycle off the edge of the image and into the unknown. Will the cyclist follow the grid lines and ride within the boundaries? The grid lines may speak of the rigidity that exist in the modern world or the many, often conflicting and sometimes unexpectedly terminating, paths that we are faced with on our journey. Great, congratulations.











Honourable Mentions - B/W

These 5 photographs contain elements and composition that create a strong photograph. The complexity that exists in creating/making a good photograph (rather than a snapshot) is always unique to the individual. Well done and many congratulations to all of you.

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1st Place - Colour

It is the simplicity of both colour palette and content which makes this strikingly bold photograph a memorable one. The variable tonal range of greens on a base of crèmes and golds provides a luscious rich quality which contrasts playfully with the subject matter. Superb, congratulations.



2nd Place - Colour

This image is tantalising in its rigid geometry. This rigidity is softened by the presence of the curve above the door and the lack of solid blocks of colour. The variation in colour and tone in both the bricks and other areas contrasts appealingly with the formal lines along which the eye travels. The bold horizontally bisecting line adds strength, and it is pleasing to see that the vertical movement does not completely bisect the image, providing tension in its asymmetry. Excellent, congratulations.



3rd Place - Colour

This photograph presents us with a strong dichotomy between reality and fantasy creating a feeling of danger for the little girl and her teddy bear, to which she is obviously oblivious. We detect unanswered questions for the viewer to ponder. Great, congratulations.



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