
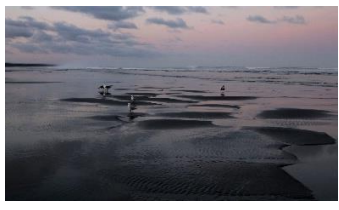




















## 21.02 February Open Projected

	<p>1. <b>Path to the Bush</b> – <i>Salon</i> – The boardwalk certainly leads the viewers’ eye to the bush, but perhaps this could have been taken at a different angle or from lower down so that the walkway fills more of the image. As it is, the reeds take up an unnecessary amount of room. The lovely cloud formation does lead the eye nicely to the bush and to the dramatic dead trees on the right. <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>2. <b>Early Morning on the Beach</b> – <i>Salon</i> – At this time of the morning, nature is at its best – lovely muted light, interesting sand patterns and undulations, and the birds take it to the next level. An idea though, with the birds, might be to consider removing either the single or the group to simplify, yet give more impact to the image. <i>H/C</i></p>
	<p>3. <b>On Look-out</b> – <i>Intermediate</i> – A beautiful clear shot of this Heron. It is not particularly sharp, but there are some lovely feather details and angles in the image, and the light background certainly highlights the bird. <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>4. <b>Akitio Beach</b> – <i>Intermediate</i> – The panoramic treatment suits this image, with good lines going from left to right and an interesting foreground. The clouds help give this a moody feel, but it does appear a bit flat which a tweak in the levels would help. - <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>5. <b>Orb of Gondor</b> – <i>Salon</i> - The smoky background and very old-world, spooky feel gives this image atmosphere. The lighting is well done and effective and all is sharp where it needs to be. Perhaps consider a slightly closer crop. - <i>H/C</i></p>
	<p>6. <b>Still Life</b> – <i>Salon</i> – The background is well done, and the lighting and shadows are perfect. The judges felt, however, that the white of the cheese stands out too much, and suggested that the front cheese could be turned around, or the white could either be toned down - - or eaten. - <i>H/C</i></p>

	<p>7. <b>Just a Weed</b> – <i>Salon</i> – Brides love it, farmers hate it, but carrot weed <u>is</u> photogenic. Although the main focus is on the left portion, the judges felt that the right actually looks more interesting. - <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>8. <b>Crow Crowing</b> – <i>Salon</i> – A very black bird with a nice bokeh background. There is some nice feather detail but it would have been nice to see more in the pure black areas. The eye is not sharp, and this could have been improved in post processing. <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>9. <b>Going</b> – <i>Salon</i> – This image certainly shows off how big the Pukeko's feet are. The bird is sharp and this would have shown up more effectively with a closer crop. The highlights on the legs are a bit strong, and perhaps cloning out the top wire could be considered. Well caught. - <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>10. <b>Nice Crop</b> – <i>Salon</i> – The repeating rows in the corn and the dramatic clouds really make this image interesting. The fence does create a barrier, so cropping this out and making a panorama could have been an option. Well spotted. - <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>11. <b>Fjord and Jetty</b> – <i>Intermediate</i> – Nice leading lines heading into the misty, moody distance but with plenty of foreground interest. The colour treatment really works well. - <i>Honours</i></p>
	<p>12. <b>Lanarch Staircase</b> – <i>Intermediate</i> – A good capture of this spiral staircase, with good colour and texture to admire. Great DoF throughout which could leave the viewer a bit giddy. - <i>H/C</i></p>
	<p>13. <b>A Nice Little Moment</b> – <i>Intermediate</i> – A well-timed snapshot with lovely detail in the trunk and a delightful look on the keeper's face. Using a different f-stop could have blurred the background, which is a bit distracting. Nicely caught. - <i>Acceptance</i></p>

	<p>14. <b>Snoozing in the Sun</b> – <i>Intermediate</i> – A good capture of this delightful animal looking relaxed and happy in the sunlight. The lighter foreground is not in focus and unfortunately that is where the eye lands first. Perhaps lightening the face area and/or darkening that foreground would have helped make the face the first focal point. Nice blurred background and what lovely coloured ‘hair’.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>15. <b>Headed for Disaster</b> – <i>Intermediate</i> – A well-titled, colourful shot with good DoF where nobody appears to be looking where they are heading.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- <i>H/C</i></p>
	<p>16. <b>Sweet pea</b> – <i>Salon</i> – Lovely pastel colours with almost graphic qualities. The background and DoF are really well handled, and would look great on canvas – if the lower leaf were complete. Because of that it is -</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- <i>H/C</i></p>
	<p>17. <b>East Coast Old House</b> – <i>Salon</i> – The panoramic treatment of this image is spot-on, with the Autumnal colours giving it a lovely pop.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- <i>Honours</i></p>
	<p>18. <b>A New Beginning</b> - <i>Intermediate</i> – A lovely image of a newly-hatched butterfly with vibrant colours and good DoF. A catchlight in the eyes would have been nice.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>19. <b>Barge at Sunset</b> – <i>Salon</i> – Industry and nature are not always in harmony, but this image conveys calm and peace. The lovely sunset colours, the sharpness of the image and the reflection providing foreground interest make this a shot worth taking.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- <i>Merit</i></p>
	<p>20. <b>Golden Age</b> – <i>Salon</i> – It is quite difficult to tell what this is, but that adds to the interest. The golden glow showing through the fretwork has been well handled, and a possible crop off the bottom would, perhaps, have improved the composition without altering the story. Well spotted.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- <i>Merit</i></p>