





Results Forms in Nature – 23.13

	<p><u>1 Clyde Clouds</u></p> <p>As I look at this image I see genies and hints of Mordor, mischief is afoot! This is an amazing cloud formation and well worth capturing.</p> <p>The silhouetted horizon and trees are great and the towering cloud needs the portrait orientation.</p> <p>There is a lot of noise in the blue-sky areas and the composition has my eye divided between the top of the cloud and the bright area right lower corner. If there has been a little more above the top of the cloud or if the bright area was toned down, I think the image might appear better balanced.</p> <p>I am so glad you had your camera to hand so we can enjoy this image.</p> <p>Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>2 twisted</u></p> <p>I look at this and marvel at how nature repairs or mends itself when damaged.</p> <p>The photographer has captured a sharp image and blurred the background well.</p> <p>In my opinion the vertical format is a factual record. I might suggest slightly rotating the stem even to the corner of the frame and I am sure you will see a more dynamic and interesting image appear.</p> <p>These trunks or stems are fascinating, just like the lucky bamboo plants that must take the growers ages to twist round!</p> <p>Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>3 Stalactites and Stalagmites</u></p> <p>In the UK I visited Cheddar Caves and Wookey hole to wonder at the amazing rock formations underground. This took me back to those days.</p> <p>The focus and depth of field are good and the brown colouring fits the subject I believe.</p> <p>As I look at this image my eye is jumping between the bright Stalactites at the top left of the image and the rock face at the lower right image so the interesting striations and reflections are overlooked. I might suggest the photographer look at cropping into the stalactite area more tightly to give a more balanced and interesting image.</p> <p>I can't help wondering where these limestone caves are and admire these magnificent formations that have formed over the eons.</p> <p>Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>4 Sandy-look</u></p> <p>The detail that sand can take on with wind and water effects can be amazing and I can enjoy looking at this image.</p> <p>The exposure is competent and shows what the photographer wanted to share with us.</p> <p>My feeling is that the image is a little top heavy and the creator might try cropping down a bit from the top edge to give a more balanced and stronger image.</p> <p>So often I see these sand formations in bright sunlight when the shadows ruin the final image, this image is good.</p> <p>Merit</p>



5 Kiekie

Forms in nature indeed, triangles, radiating leaves and the stamens I believe with the one on the left nestled within a petal cocoon.

The positioning of the plant makes this image in my opinion, if it had been square on it might not attract attention.

This image might, in my view, benefit from a slight vignette.

This is an interesting camera angle and the photographer has made something from an average bloom

Highly Commended



6 Driftwood

This image has an mystical appearance and makes me think of the recent debris along the beaches after the cyclone.

The camera angle appears to be low down that makes a more interesting composition in my opinion.

Closer inspection shows some areas are not well defined, the bottom left corner being one area and the image is very busy with no focus point. The branch at the top of the images tends to lead my eye out of the frame.

Acceptance



7 SnakeEye

This is inventive and I enjoyed looking for the snake's head on the right-hand trunk. I think these trunks are amazing with their twists and turns.

The focus on the subject is sharp and the choice of Monochrome works well in my opinion showing texture of the bark beautifully.

I find the first thing I am attracted to in this image is the bright top sky then the sky on the left so I might suggest the photographer tries toning these areas down. Another possibility is a tight crop around the snake's head and neck when less is more.

Do try these adjustments and see how the image can become a stronger composition.

Merit.



8 Bubble Jets

I can imagine the sound of the little waterfall as it trickles over the rocks, it can be a very soothing sound.

This image has been taken as a close up and given me so much to see. The focus is sharp with a slow shutter speed resulting in the motion blur in the moving water.

As I look at this image I might suggest there are too many bubbles making the image bottom heavy and wonder if a crop up from the bottom and slightly in from the left results in a better balanced image.

I do hope the bubbles weren't from the creative use of washing up liquid!

Highly Commended








9 Underground






So much to enjoy! The patterns, reflections and a peep into the deep recess of the cave are all amazing. It makes me wonder where these caves are and how easy it was to access them.

The Monochrome rendering suits the textures so well and the exposure is well chosen.

With so much to see I might suggest the dark areas on the left are distracting from the main image that is the reflection and the underground river flowing into the distance. Perhaps look at a crop in from the left and slightly up from the bottom edge and see the result.

Can you imagine what this cave looks like after a flash flood or cyclone? I can imagine the horror of getting trapped in rising water with no escape.

	Highly Commended
	<p><u>10 NaturesCrystals</u></p> <p>I am pretty certain this is a frosty morning with the ice crystals visible on the leaves while those fascinating water droplets are on the leaf edges. The side lighting shows the plants well without the shadows being too heavy. The focus is sharp and the depth of field good in my opinion. This image is rather busy as my eye wanders, is the focus the ice crystals, the droplets or the illuminated floret? The noise in the background does not distract or detract in my opinion. This was well seen and makes me wonder how those droplets formed. Merit</p>
	<p><u>11 Cactus</u></p> <p>Forms in nature indeed! These tight triangular scales are amazing with their white spots. The focus on main scale is sharp and the chosen depth of field is a little shallow so the background and middle scales are out of focus. I wonder if the creator of this image might look at a tight crop around the central scale to include the adjacent scales but lose the background. The resultant image I believe is the one hidden in the original. Well done for seeing the potential in such a simple subject. Merit</p>
	<p><u>12 Animal in the Sand</u></p> <p>It always amazes me how some people spot shapes and forms in clouds and beaches. I can see and understand what the photographer has captured in this image. I can imagine a cat with the ears back so it is an angry cat, I wonder what you see. There is a golden tinge to the bright light and the focus on the wood is sharp. The patterns in the sand add interest. This image satisfies the set subject in my opinion but unfortunately is only a record shot with no creative input and I am not sure there is any helpful guidance I can offer. The main thing is you were prepared with your camera and ready to take the image, how often have I seen interesting shapes but not had my camera? Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>13 Monster Emerges</u></p> <p>I can imagine this monster roaring with frustration as it is trapped within the cliff. The erosions and textures are quite amazing. The focus is sharp and captures the detail. I feel this image is overexposed in the bright sunlight and appears a bit washed out. I did wonder how close you were to this formation as it may have been across the bay. Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>14 Bottlebrush</u></p> <p>I don't often look deep into these blossoms but the detail and structures are wonderful. Macro shots can reveal the secrets. The water droplet is the bonus and this area is in sharp focus with an emerging flower caught in detail. There are some issues, The white area on the left edge is distracting, the horizontal stalk on the right leads me out of the image and my eye is jumping between these components. Remember, positioning a plant on a diagonal usually improves the composition, avoid vertical or horizontal in most cases.</p>

	<p>I think you have a great image hiding within if you try a square crop around the water droplet as that is where the story and sharp focus are in my opinion.</p> <p>Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>15 Driftwood</u></p> <p>This sun-bleached tree trunk is slowly decaying and getting washed away. The lines and curves are all interesting and the focus works.</p> <p>This is one of those images that I really think the photographer might try Monochrome or sepia toning as it removes the distractions of the coloured areas in the fore and background. The textures then pop out, even those of the stones behind and the rather bright wood is less overpowering.</p> <p>I suppose this is just a piece of driftwood but well seen for the artistic possibilities.</p> <p>Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>16 FallenCamelia</u></p> <p>This is sad as the beautiful flower lies on the ground the petals and stamens starting to break down and decay.</p> <p>The flower is well focused with a shallow depth of field that gives blur to both the fore and background. Colours are good and detail well captured.</p> <p>I feel there are several distractions away from the flower. The green stem on the left, the dark area above, the grass to the right and the dominant foreground all take my eye away from the flower. I suggest you have a look at a crop round the flower to exclude those factors and with a little clean-up of green stalks I believe the image will be well balanced and champion the fallen flower.</p> <p>Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>17 Thrombolites</u></p> <p>My research tells me the name is derived from the Greek meaning a clot as they have a jumbled inside rather than laminated and I further discovered these are evidence of very early creatures that burrowed and lived in these structures.</p> <p>The structures are in focus and the aperture chosen is good.</p> <p>My thought is there are too many thrombolites and I honestly think that cutting down the number will be rewarding as I feel my eye is constantly moving around the image to find a focal point.</p> <p>It may have been an overcast day but I feel the lighting is well handled.</p> <p>Acceptance</p>
	<p><u>18 Coastal Erosion</u></p> <p>This looks like a major slip exposing the rock face. I find myself wondering what is above, towering sand dunes possibly.</p> <p>The patterns in the sand with striations in the rocks all add interest.</p> <p>This image is weighted to the lower left corner in my view, possibly due to the bright foreground and the yellow rocks. I might suggest cropping some of the foreground with a little from the left edge to focus on the area of erosion. The green plants look slightly artificial in colour though the other colours are good.</p> <p>There is a lot going on in this image including the water run off that shows the devastation so well.</p> <p>Merit</p>
	<p><u>19 Agapanthus SeedPod</u></p> <p>A simple idea to show this head with the seed pods, most of which have dispersed.</p> <p>The position at an angle fills the frame well and the bokeh light spots add interest.</p> <p>I feel there is a lot of noise in this image that may have been used to create a dreamy feel though the light spots are a bit bright, overshadowing the subject.</p> <p>The detail even shows the web that looks like the nursery for hatched spiders.</p> <p>Merit</p>



20 Talking Heads

I believe this Macro captures the delicate sporophytes growing from a moss plant and shows the water droplets attached to them. At this magnification there is a very shallow depth of field with blurry fore and background where the colours blend well. I can't help wondering if the better image is the right side two-thirds as the wide presentation encourages my eye to keep looking around the image. The lighting is well handled and the image is interesting in my view. Highly Commended



21 Layers of Leaves

These are fascinating leaves with their curves, veins and edges interwoven to make a pattern. The focus is pin sharp and I like the light on the two tips. The Monochrome presentation shows the textures and takes away the colour distractions very well. This is simple and creative and the narrow border finishes the image nicely. Honours



22 Frozen

This image gets me thinking, is this the view through a window with ice on the glass or has the photographer held up some ice and taken the image through it? The background may be leaves or the true landscape leading down to the sky. I am interested in the orientation choice as so often the light areas look better at the top of the image although the horizontal striations at the bottom edge do balance the frame. It might be worth looking at rotating through 180 degrees to see if the image composition is stronger. Even with the suggestions I have made I think this is a creative and interesting image showing forms in nature beautifully. Honours



23 KauriSnailShell

The delicate shell with the inhabitant long gone shows the spiral so well being the Fibonacci spiral. The positioning within the gap in the rock forms its own frame. The lit-up shell is great and the detailed markings show well as the focus is pin sharp. Unfortunately, there are blown out highlights that distract my eye away from the subject. It is very difficult to tone down overblown highlights as they go grey usually. This was a great idea, very creative potential made by the back lighting. Acceptance



24 Philodendron forms

These are pleasing leaves with their curves and veins showing interesting patterns. The overlapping leaves fill the frame comfortably. The side lighting is well chosen and the focus and aperture sharp on the two hind leaves. The foreground leaf does appear a little bright, almost blown highlights so my eye is attracted to this leaf on first appraisal. The narrow border is a nice touch and very sensible when you have a black background in case the projector uses a black surround. Merit



25 Frilled Beauty

Look at those delicate petal edges and the raspberries and cream colouring. The focus is OK and lighting well handled.

There is a lot of noise or Gaussian blur possibly that may have been chosen by the photographer, almost giving the feel of a painting. I feel the vertical green line partners with the vertical stalks on the right to become distractions from the blossom that ought to be the centre of focus.

The main flower being on an angle is good composition.

Acceptance



26 Wind with me to the sea

This appears to be low tide I can follow the river as it meanders to the sea where the crashing waves of a turbulent sea swallows it up. The river bed curves making leading lines and the colours add interest.

The lining up of the distant mountain with the mouth of the river works well and the cloudy sky makes it feel moody.

Everything does appear in soft focus but it may be the photographer was going for this look.

This seems a lovely bay but that river must be a raging torrent in the rain. I like the composition.

Merit