

## SLF Finals Day 2020 – Edwin Appleton Rose Bowl

### Judge's Comments

Image No.	Title	Comments
2	Ironing Out Differences	I enjoyed the simplicity of this image, further amplified by the mono treatment. The mystery of not knowing the lady's reaction to the picture before her. The almost confrontational composition face to face adds power to the message. For me the image would have been even more potent with just a bit more contrast. A well seen transitional moment.
6	Tulips Fading into Art	Everything is in the photographer's control here and has been well handled. I liked the forlorn tulips cascading over the edge of the vase, with almost a sense of the last bit of energy being used to maintain a dignified end. The lighting has been well controlled and the minimalistic use of colour adds to the quality of this image. The only change I would make is to have had slightly less space around the subject. Well thought out and executed.
8	Silver Birches	Full of dynamism and power, with a great quality of light. The silver birches almost pop out of the screen. The realistic front row backed up by the ethereal background trees works well to give the impression that the trees go on for ever. The blue tone gives a feeling of winter pervading through the composition. I felt that the dark area to the right middle took away the rhythm slightly. The darker base really gives a sense of depth.
12	Water Music	A well thought out and interpreted image. The flow of water into the sheet music works well. The natural setting gives a tranquil feel as befits the choice of music. The shutter speed adds a gentle movement contrasting with the stability of the river banks. For me the point of connection between the cascading water and the music could have been toned down a bit to provide a seamless transition. Excellent technique is demonstrated here.

Image No.	Title	Comments
14	Shard in Blue	The long exposure technique has been used to great effect here, simplifying what could have been a very busy subject. The gently radiating clouds emphasise the linear nature of the scene. The smoothing of the river adds to the simplicity of the composition. A slight crop off the bottom of the image would help for me. There is also a lot of subtle tone in the sky, which adds a hint of reality.
17	Storm Erik Batters Newhaven  <b>Winner</b>	Full of drama with beautiful timing has enabled the power of the storm and waves to be depicted brilliantly. The gentle after treatment has added further to the mood of this image. The slightly elevated viewpoint allows the curve of the harbour wall to act as a counterpoint to the randomness of the breaking waves – superb !!
18	Geometric	So well seen and taken, the timing is everything here. The mystery pervading from this image is absolute. The fact that you don't see the whole of anything leaves you guessing about the location and the components of the scene. The high contrast mono treatment adds to the mystery. I would have cropped a little off the bottom, this would allow the diagonal line to exit the base of the image, giving balance to the continuation of the concrete at the left hand side. A powerful image that asks more questions than it answers.
19	Empty Seed Pod	The painterly effect adds a sense of gentleness to this image. The realistic tones have been retained but softened by the overlaying texture. The feeling of the beginning of decay has been well conveyed. The background is in complete harmony. I would have had a slightly less central composition, to add a gentle dynamic. A well thought out post processing treatment has been used here.

Andy Smith, LRPS CPAGB, Judge

May 2020