

PDI Competition No.5
Judged by Gordon Roots
 April 2020
Advanced

Title Coffee	Notes Simple, clever image... well seen and produced. Two simple elements 1) 3x curves & 2) 2 x areas of blackness- cup circular and Top RH corner, a triangle. MARK 9.5
Phoning	Well produced and the scene is very busy. Two elements here, the foreground & background. Foreground - I find to be "scuffy" and inelegant, with the bikes, waste paper bin and block walling. Background - The que ?? is not particularly significant nor interesting MARK - 8
Rush Hour	Very striking, simple, arresting and monochrome - latter part was sheer luck, but the Photographer has been fortunate with this colouring. Two part image -1) the walls and ceiling 2) the girl at the vanishing point. To see her, one needs to look very close-up to the screen, but she is very important for this image. Very well done! Mark 10
Sossusvlei Dunes	Dessert/dunes... Lovely colours, small areas of blackness; sky helps. Good place to take the photo, with the snaking ridges leading up to the pinnacle. MARK 9.5
Ice Cream Break	The man and woman have corresponding clothes colouring, which set off the picture well. Dog helpful/good- shame he was not looking up! Background and foliage is just a little too dark RHD between the man and the image edge; this is boring and could have been cropped. MARK 8.5
The Wonder of Banksy	A picture of two parts-1- LHS generally sharp & clear, 2- more jumbled/ out of focus. Nevertheless, it is challenging to the viewer and interesting. I have a "bit" of a query regarding the tigers head. Mark 9
Tactile	Monochrome - muted grey colouring- I assume this is part of a statue?? wood or metal. Well seen and excellently produced. I enjoy the curve of the arm/hand/beads bending slightly to the right. MARK- 10
Beneath the Bridge	Canal and bridge supports. What the photographer has done (well) is to place the painted supports (especially the front flowers one) in a sympathetic and pleasing way to the eye. Even the canal water (plus reflections) and the gravel path make an interesting and harmonious base. MARK 9.5
Triple Step	So simple !!!!!!!!! Minimalist superb MARK 10
Ocean Frolics	This is a quandary for the judge! Is it interesting? clever?, artistic? etc. Certainly it appears that a lot of effort (digital work) has been used. I like the bubbles! Mark 8.5

Standard

Title Brutalist steps	Notes Good use of B&W. Very dark foreboding steps, in this case person/people would not improve this image. Some may say the light grey wall (RHS), would improve this image... I would not agree. Good image - street Photog MARK 8.5
St Govans Hermitage	Good use of sympathetic colours for the rocks/church and base/steps. Strong tight selection of this location. Difficult viewpoint, access ? for the photographer? (church slightly leaning over). MARK 9
Colourful window, Capo Verde	This is an opportunity for the photographer to show the vibrant multi- colours. Simple arrangement, Window slightly off centre. Top section losing definition, too bright. MARK 8
Giraffe	Difficult to discern if the Giraffe is located in a zoo, wildlife area or in the wild. Sharp, good definition. Enjoy the angle of the neck and the "cutsey" look of the face. I feel the background is far too confusing - better use of a wide aperture Mark 8
Wells Cathedral - Communion Table	An interior view of a church or cathedral. Correctly framed. Lighting good. Hard to know what the centre yellow fabric /design... but interesting. Three items , better if cloned out. MARK 8.5
Eastbourne Front	Low light seaside buildings/sea and sky. There are a few faults here- Single and sea too dark. The main buildings are Traditional. The RHS Hotel is not, suggest picture stronger without it. magnificent sky, but again too dark... lightening parts of the image would have made this a much better image. MARK 7.5
Camel train	Is it real or not?? I assume you were there to take this image? A narrow base would help; The yellow dune? is band and flat. Again I cant tell if the camels are real. Mark 7,5
Crazy Crossing	The viewpoint may make the image stand out; This is more of a close-up.. just caught the RHS guy just caught, but the other corner guy is sadly cropped and does not match the other guy. I dont find the crossing detail interesting enough. Mark 7.5
Kings Cross after L S Lowry	I should not really compare one image against another... but this image (except the lampstand) has lots of interesting cameos and detail. Lovely clean image. I agree with the title Mark 9
Glass and Steel meets Bricks and Mortar	Well seen image shot during evening. The georgian building is a foyle to the gigantic office block. Exposure and lighting held well. Interesting image well worth photographing. Mark 8.5
Magnolia and red shed	Abstract and nature. Simple, clever, charming image. Well seen and produced. MARK 9
Coloured Bird Boxes	Sadly, I find this picture somewhat "jumbly. Mark 7.5
2 Grange Park - Mini Waterfall	Fairly difficult image due to the lighting. But you have pulled it off. Background/top, interesting waterfall. Lovely foaming water; LHS held in and supports the image well. The green leaves, central, green leaves are a great point. Mark 8.5
Norwegian grandeur	Great view- into Sun. Foreground/Background (plus four trees etc are good.). On the RHS the river details is sadly burnt out. That might have been able to darken this hi-light. Mark 8.5
Electric Taxi	Good that B/Ground is OOFocus, but the blue detail is very distracting. The cab is sharp, good position in frame.. maybe better to move to LHS Mark 7.5
Subway St. Pancras Station	tunnel vision interesting - work well. Would a wider aperture make the RHS colours stand-out more. Mark 8.5
Gone Fishing	Very simplest image, cropping the RHS will give a better image structure. Otherwise just a straightforward image MARK 7.5
Mother and Her kids Madagascar	A well composed and seen image. Good oblique side lighting, mother strong central position with excellent accompanying children. Maybe a tad off the RHS MARK 10
Arthur Jones, Royal Artillery	Maybe a copy of an old photo or a re-enactment situation. I think that the strong " brown" areas of his clothes and woodwork is too "heavy" and a different toning method would be more normal. Otherwise, a good portrait. MARK 9
Crocus Orton Effect	A great "splash" of purple and yellow. Love the diagonal major part of the picture. Great to have the LHS more muted stone or wood, great foil. Mark 9.5
2 Chocks Away!	Lovely colours on the fuselage, great background sky. I will ignore the blue stripe; side- on wing is good. I enjoy the "upright" ramrod position of the Pilot and the second passenger is interesting too Mark 10
Blackfriars Station platform	Lovely interesting, innovative wideangle view of the London Thames. Great in B/W. I am not at all bothered by the reflections and pipes? here and there. Excellent! Mark 10
Flying High	A shot looking back to the Aircraft's wing and engines. Basically OK, sharpness with this sort of image is required. Sadly, the sky is bland and I dont think the coloured engines can pull this image up. Mark 7.5

1 Umbrellas Required

A wet evening with a backdrop of a very colourful "umbrella" shop, well seen! The OoF people takes over from the wet pavement So its not the best but still has a lot going for it. Mark 9

Preliminary

Title

Notes

1 Colour Play

Certainly an interesting and dynamic set of colours. Well spotted or computer generated Mark 8

Steaming Mud Pool

Very good choice of this location by the photograprer. Foreground/mid-range/background all have lots of interest, plus the colours and shpaes work well. Mark 9

Edinburgh Waverley Waiting Hall, Light and Shade

This type of photo can generate interesting, complex shapes which can work together OR not! The weakest part are the three central panels, which are bland. Ignoring the clipped top of the circular window, this light and the two brownish panels work well. A good attempt with this d interior design. Some large dark areas. Could they be high lighted more?? MARK 8

Golden Avenue

A lovely touch of Autumn Good separation (3 layers) of road base,tree trunks and leaf canopy. Excellent positioning (diag) of the road leading to the people, with child - red jacet (good) & dog. Just enough highlights in the right trees (lesser so on left, but this gives a good "stop" Mark 10

Nelson Staircase, Somerset House, the Dark Side

Interesting, powerful dynamic, with distortion included, created by W Angle lens?? Good strong light, particularly bright on the spiral stairs. Bottom left area fills this corner excellently, plus its interesting. Top left could whit dots etc could be cloned away. MARK 9

2 Misty Morning

The mist really needed to be much denser, to make the background image stand out much stronger, creating interest. In many cases forgreat misty pictures, an early start is required There is no main focal point in the image. A lady with a red coat and dog (say) walking towards the photographer, properly placed, would lift this image. I would have checked to see if the trees could be made darker/much darker MARK 7.5