

Meeting Date: November 2022 **Print Secretary** Judge: Merri-Lyn Clark **Brian Paatsch** 02 6025 2117 Subject: Still Life - An image that includes still objects. brianian@iinet.net.au These can be commonplace objects that are either natural or man-made. The still life can be found or created. EDI Colour (EDI) - (Section 'B') 175 Flash Fruit 11 Place pts A lovely sharp image with good placement of the fruit. The colour works well as does the reflection. There are a couple of areas that have been over exposed which catch the eye and I find the horizontal line just behind the fruit to be a bit distracting but overall, a good image. Bygone Era 12 pts | Place 37 A very eye catching and well-balanced composition. The vignette keeps the eye focused on the elements of the image. The colours harmonise well and the image is sharp and clear. A well put together still life. 205 Fast Life 10 The composition is good with the elements well placed. The angle of the box is good and aligns with the placement on the thirds of the red M in the top right and the cup and fries on the left. Although technically well set out the subject material lacks the WOW factor with perhaps a few too many things to look at so the eye keeps roaming from one object to the next. **206** Lamp Interesting subject material with a good use of colour. The image is a little soft and the placement of the elements with the corner on the left hand third cuts the image in two. Perhaps it would have been less noticeable if the line of the corner was behind the vase so the distinct line can not be seen. pts | Place 31 Aaah Coffeee 10 A crisp, clear, simple image. It is sharp and the lighting has been handled well with just the right amount of reflective spots. The reflection of the saucer and spoon on the side of the cup adds interest but there needs to be one element that holds the eye to stop the eye from wandering from the pattern on the saucer to the flat surface of the coffee to the subtle sheen of the spoon. A good image but needs a focal point. 1st Place Click go the Shears pts Place A lovely image with very good leading lines. I like the use of the different textures from the rustic patchiness of the paint on the shears to the roughness of the stick to the softness of the wattle. You have lost a little depth of field towards the bottom of the image making the wattle and the bottom blade a bit soft and blurry. The composition and the simplicity make up for the small amount of blur. A very good image well done. 10 Three Eggs pts Comments: Colourful and appealing subject material. The overall image is quite out of focus which makes it hard on the eye. Although three objects are generally appealing the straightness of this composition makes it lack interest. Perhaps a different angle or perhaps one different object would have given a main point of focus. EDI Monochrome (EDIM) - (Section 'B') Learning Curve 11 Place pts Interesting abstract with lots for the eye to roam over but nothing that the eye is really drawn to. The tonal range is a little flat with quite a lot of grey and the same amount of dark and light where the ideal combination in a monochrome image is a "bit", "some" and a "lot" so you have three distinct areas of light dark and mid tone. **Eggstravaganza** 10 pts Place Good tonal range but the image is a little soft and out of focus. An interesting composition but if you are going to line things up then all components need to be exact. When I look at this image the egg is crooked, the centre cups are not aligned so this gives the impression that the image is leaning or bent. Oops that's Spill not Still 12 A crisp, clear image with very good tonal range. The light has been handled well as taking light on shiny objects is never easy as there is always a small amount of over exposure. The angle of the cup makes a good contrast to the circle of the plate but I find the print in the background to be a bit distracting as it goes in too many directions. Overall a good image



4	54 Tea for Two	10 pts Place
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A simple image but it lacks depth of field and sharpness. It is difficult to tell but in the copy I have the image is on an angle which is off-putting and detracts from the overall composition.

EDI Colour (EDIA) - (Section 'A')

1 78 Sand Flowers

| **10** | pts | Place

An appealing image with a lovely range of brown hues which is quite eye-catching. The texture in the sand adds a lot of interest and creates a good texture. There is a loss of depth of field in the top left corner and across the top but overall a good image.

2 148 Incense and Memories

11 pts Place

Lovely side lighting and the smoke adds a lovely haze. The positioning of the objects makes for a good composition. I find the folds in the material of the foreground and the background to capture the eye which takes away from the intended point of focus. A good image

3 92 Study in White

13 pts Place 2nd Place

A lovely high key image that has subtle lighting and a good composition. The flower adds interest and gives a point of focus. The image is sharp and clear and my only nit-pick is that it is a little too centred but this does not really detract from the image. Well done.

4 202 Garden Delights

10 pts Place

The lighting has been handled well with only a few very small hot spots on some of the fruit. The placement of the fruit and bowl is good but the background, the crease and change of texture and colour on the left-hand side, draws the eye away from the point of focus. The different colours in the foreground, background and then the fruit make the image quite busy.

5 119 Simply Refreshing

11 pts Place

A clear, sharp image with good lighting. I love the wooden texture of the foreground and the subtle background both of which work very well. My eye is drawn to the anomaly of the top of the teaspoon poking through the piece of lemon which appears out of place. Perhaps just putting the slice over the edge of the glass would have been enough without the spoon. My other small point about the composition is essentially you have four elements which looks a little unbalanced, I would probably remove the front lemon to adhere to the rule of odds. Overall though a good image

6 199 Ripe Citrus

10 nts Place

Good lighting with no hotspots. I like the stem on one and not on the other and the colour is good. I would have added a third element as the two is a bit bland and the eye just keeps wandering between the two as there is no point of focus. I really find that the rule of odds makes a better-balanced image.

7 201 Checkmate

10 pts Place

A busy image with lots of colour and bright lighting causing harsh shadows. In this case the shadows have become the point of focus as they are crisp and sharp against the narrow depth of field of the background. The very narrow depth of field helps to focus the eye on the centre of the board. Well done.

8 79 Eaten Out

11 pts Place

An interesting image that has been well seen and taken. I would have used a narrower depth of field to blur the background more to make the fruit stand out more as at the moment it is competing with the sharpness of some of the leaves. Good lighting maybe just a little too harsh but overall has been handled quite well.

9 81 CD Colours

10 pts Place

pts

12

An unusual image with the interplay between the shapes and colours working well. The image appears to have a small amount of movement blur and as the droplets are quite uniform there is no one specific object that is the focal point that captures and holds the eye. The colours add most of the interest and the fading from one colour to the next a good contrast to the highlights of the droplets.

10 43 Image in Balance

Place **Merit**

A good image and the light has been handled well. The sheen on the fabric gives another dimension to the lighting and adds interest to the plainer parts of the image. Clear with good depth of field and the grapes give a subtle leading line to the teapot, however, the angle of the pears leads the eye away from the pot and make the scarf the point of focus. This makes the eye divided between the two interesting subject material instead of just focusing on one. Lovely colours that harmonise well.



Blue Still Life 11 Place pts A subtle image and the lighting has been caught well especially on the sheen of the fabric. The composition works well and the colours of the lemons bring out the colour in the jug. The placement of the fabric is good although I feel that it would have been better had it extended to the left edge of the image as it tends to lead the eye to the top and out of the image and away from the main objects of interest. A good image overall though, well done. 12 179 So Sour A crisp, sharp image with good complimentary colours. The fan shape patterns in the pottery make a very good focal point and the eye is immediately drawn to this area. Looking at the image, you have four distinct elements which makes it "blocky" and diverts attention from what should have been a great triangular shape. One of either the lemon on the right or the small piece in the middle is superfluous to the balance of the composition and would have been better if omitted. Lighting is good and the objects are interesting. 14 Qld Blue pts Good autumn tones and the lighting highlights the pumpkin while just giving enough of a glow to the other elements. The different textures, the wood, the rough skin of the pomegranates and the rustic billy all complements one another. The dried leaves add just enough to not be distracting but soften the starkness of the round shape of the pumpkin and the flat black of the billy. A good image, well done. 68 Worldly Knowledge A good image that is sharp and has good depth of field. The lighting is a little harsh, especially on the side of the globe and a "warmer" light source would have helped to soften this and stop the eye from being drawn to this area. You have included four distinct elements which unbalances the image. The silver of the reflected light on the lamp is out of place with the sepia and brown of the rest of the objects and perhaps would have been more in tune if the lamp had been lit or removed altogether. pts | Place Rim-lit Aubergine 10 The lighting has been handled well so you do not have any significant blow out on the shiny surface. You have maintained good detail in the dark areas but the image is lacking in depth of field with the stalk end being just a little soft. An interesting image with the halo of light along the bottom emphasising the shape of the object. Well done. 16 198 Awaits the Masquerade Interesting subject material with a good balance of leading lines, colour and texture. The light feather captures the eye and then the subtilty of the mask brings the eye back to the centre. I like the texture of the foreground material and it breaks up the flat surface. Be careful when creating a scene like this that you fill in all the spaces as the small amount of brown in the bottom left corner needs to be cloned out. A good interesting image which keeps the point of focus in the middle of the shot. Well done. EDI Monochrome (EDIMA) - (Section 'A') 148 Mum's Recipe pts The spot lighting works to highlight important elements. The image is a little too busy as there are quite a number of objects to grab the attention with my eye being drawn to the pie dish on the left. The tonal range is well balanced with a good mixture of light dark and midtones. A good image. 11 179 Memories pts Place The sepia tone suits the theme of the image. The three elements work well together however the placement is a little too rigid. The lighting is lovely and soft but enough to highlight the parts where needed. Tonal range is good and the image has excellent depth of field. Overall a pleasing image. 198 Still Light pts An interesting subject and the light has been handled very well with the light source being well exposed so that it is not blown out. The angle adds significant interest and the texture created by the light on the mesh is subtle but effective. This is a very good lowkey image, well done. 119 Home Grown 12 Place pts Simple yet very effective. A lovely high key image. The lines in the foreground add interest without being distracting and I particularly like that the edge of the plate is parallel with one of the lines. I also like that you have followed the rule of thirds which makes for a well-balanced image. A pleasing image that suits the topic well. 201 Autumn Leaves 12 pts Place

A very crisp, sharp image with excellent depth of field. The lighting is good and makes some lovely shadowed areas without being too harsh. I feel there are a few too many elements making a very busy image but in saying that the large autumn leaf is still the

main point of interest. An eye-catching image with good tonal range and interest. Well done.

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6 68 Mixing Cocktails

11 pts Place

The subject material is interesting and the reflected light adds another dimension of interest. The image relies heavily on shape and light and these elements have been brought together well to make a well executed image. The texture in the background gives a subtle sheen that works much better than a flat black, well done.

7 78 Have You Got Mail?

11 pts Place

Good subject material with interesting shapes and textures. Crisp and sharp with good depth of field to blur the background to eliminate distractions. The tonal range is a tiny bit flat and just needs a little more highlights. Overall, a good image and pleased that the subject material is completely different. Well done seeing something outside the usual still life.

8 1 A Lovely Drop

10 pts Place

A good image that suits the topic well. The highlights accentuating the shape of the bottle work very well but the reflections and smudge on the wine glass detract from the clean lines of the shape of the glass. It needs a third element to balance the image. Perhaps as there is wine in the glass, leaving the cork from the bottle in the foreground would have been enough, just something simple. A good image but it lacks the WOW factor.

9 81 Butter Lamps

10 pts Place

Interesting subject material but just a few too many things so the eye tends to wander. The very narrow depth of field works to eliminate some of the distraction but does not really make one element stand out more than the rest to give a main point of focus. Tonal range is quite good but it is spread all over the image which also does not create a point of focus. It fits the topic of still life, well done.

10 14 The Remains of the day

10 pts Place

The lighting has been handled well and the subject material has plenty of interest. I particularly like the way the light hits and accentuates the wood grain in the foreground. The composition is a little too stilted with such a straight alignment which makes the image appear flat and contrived. A little less depth of field would have blurred the background and removed the texture which is not really needed for the overall composition.

11 202 Three More Roses

13 pts Place 2nd Place

A lovely image with fantastic depth of field to accentuate the middle rose and make it the main point of focus. The background is an ideal choice as the lighter roses blend in and this also helps the focus on the darker rose. The image is sharp where it needs to be and the angled line of the blooms makes for a good composition. An excellent image, well done.

12 43 Two Of A Kind

14 pts Place 1st

An excellent composition with alignment spot on. The enhanced texture in the egg adds interest and the angle of the shot shows the reflections off perfectly. Tonal range is excellent with a good balance of light, dark and midtone. A very well thought out and executed image. Although this particular arrangement has been used many times in the past and some originality would have been great to see it has been very well handled. Well done.

13 **79** Morning Choices

11 pts Place

The lighting is good making some lovely highlights on the teapot. You have chosen an interesting angle so all of the elements are seen without being overlapping. The image is sharp with good depth of field. Tonal range is well balanced with good areas of light, dark and midtones. I like the composition but feel that a sugar bowl, milk jug or plate of toast might have added more interest than the mug of tea. A good image.

14 199 Water Pump

10 pts Place

Interesting piece of machinery which has lots of curves and nooks and crannies. The object is a little too well lit as you have eliminated nearly all of the shadows which makes the image appear flat and two dimensional. Perhaps experimenting with placing the lighting on different angles might give some interesting shadow effects.