Comments report for Advanced EDI Colour - Fantasy

Phoenix Vicki Cain - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The portrait is compelling where the eyes grab the attention being framed by heavy cloth. The tree silhouettes feature across the image and in front of her eyes and is an annoyance. The portrait fills most of the frame nut in the small areas you see these red clouds. But what do they mean? Looking at the name gives a clue! The red clouds are in fact the red of a bush fire, the trees are the burnt-out forest, and the girl is rising from the ashes. You might consider colour grading the girl possibly in a red hue, although the green may represent new growth. Viewers are simple people they want a simple narrative, if they have to study an image they often move on. This is often a problem encountered by Surrealist painters and photographers. - 11

Bubbles by Pamela Milliken - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A pleasant long shutter speed forest scene with a girl placed close to the frame edge along with her colour she is the dominant element within the image; you have created a connection with the lower bubble. You have some sunbeams coming toward her butt hey are not lighting her up, consider adding a small radial gradient to lift the light level on her. The bubbles do not look natural as there would be a slight desaturation caused by the bubble surface. - 11

Fanta Sea I by Bill Thompson - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: I love the humour! This is what photography is all about, the fun! As an image The warm palette compliments the cool palette of the sea and sky while the horizon is slightly tilted. This could be treated as a product shoot, in which case a longer lens to narrow the field of view and shoot from a lower level and add some water droplet to the bottle. - 12

The Last Guardian by Ishani Booms - Second Place



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A good Valhalla art or Assassins Creed art. The image creates a sense of danger and destruction if you attempt to cross. The face and lights in the ruins add a touch of colour to an otherwise grey image while the touches of yellow ?embers? in the lower image suggest burning and war. The blurring of the main character is a nice touch. - 15

An Ebden Evening by Win van Oosterwijck - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A surrealist image suggesting the journey from normalcy to fantasy. You have matched the lake level well connecting the two images and the colour scheme also connects the sides. Consider using the warp tool and match the mountain line for both sides and the instead of a sharp line between the sides consider adding a gradient blur morphing from one to the other. - 11

Rebecca by David Willis - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The original portrait is well posed using a feminine pose with good eye contact and well controlled lighting. The brightest part of the image is her face which is attracting all the attention. Her hair has been changed out to give the impression of electric sparking. Consider using the clone stamp tool or the blend if tool to bring some of the underlying hair texture to the border between the hair and skin to make it blend more naturally. Consider using a different background colour, such as blue, so the red sparks stand out, at the moment they are being lost in the background colour. - 11

Fanta Sea II by Greg Haysom - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The strong silhouette focuses the viewers attention on the wave and sun. The colour applied to the main scene creates a feeling that nature has been poisoned and the dark is encroaching. There are a number of spots where the silhouette mask has not been complete, and a distracting flare has occurred. Also remove the dust spots in the original image. - 11

Little Planet by Geoff Bayes - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The radial lines retain the viewer in the frame while the silhouettes create interest. The image is commenting on the smallness of our watery planet while the blue not only references the water but also the oxygen in our atmosphere. The silhouettes are the dominant feature because of the strong black and their unique shapes. By having them on the same side in a symmetrical image they unbalance the image, so consider moving one of the silhouettes to the opposite side of the planet to balance the image. - 11

Night Watchman by Michael Black - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The dark silhouettes create a strong base for this image while the two major elements have been placed around the golden ratio line creating a central centric image. The Owl and Moon are connected via the directed illumination. Consider lifting the colour and illumination of the eyes. - 14

In a Land of Myth and Magic by Deirdre Blunt - Merit



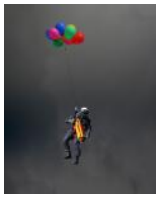
Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The fair and the oil paint effect has created a fine piece of artwork. The soft palette against the more saturated colours creates a soft gentle feel to the image. The diagonal pathway and the transition from shaded to light draws the viewer through the image. The gap between the tress and the frame edge do not form part of the image from a viewer perspective; this is a 4:3 ratio so consider shooting the original image wider or using AI to increase the image width. - 14

Just A Little Magic by Wendy Stanford - First Place



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The key hole effect gives us the impression of looking into another world. A world of soft green forests with pleasant sunbeams highlighting the fairy. The three red object form a strong triangular visual shape and the spotted tea pot connects to the toadstool. Some of the masking has left small areas that could be fixed, such as her left hand or the left stone pillar. - 15

The picture that couldn't be by Jill Hancock - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: I like the fun concept of this image; the dark stormy sky and a small animal being lifted into it by a human. The minimalist nature of the image focuses out attention on the subject. The patches of green around the person are a little is distracting as is the green artifacts near the balloons. On closer inspection these are trees from another image so careful masking is required to remove these. - 11

Dark Side of the Matterhorn by Garry Pearce - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Someone is channelling Storm Thorgerson or Pink Floyd, here the triangular shape is reminiscent of the glass triangle on the albums cover. You have placed a metal sphere possibly representing the moon to create the light beam, consider using an image of the moon. The sharp edge of the mountain along the dark side is a little too sharp so consider adding a feather here to soften it. - 13

Numbers Up by Glenn Rose - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The layering of the numbered keys adds depth to this image while the grunge effect on the person speaks of crumbling and decay. The keys, while they are dirty and marked are not as decayed as the face yet there is a crack line at the top of the keys, consider adding more cracks and degradation to the keys or possibly make them pristine as so form a total contradiction to the decay. - 12

Twin Elements Fire and Water by Glenda Black - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Great concept the idea of fire and water within the human spirit. The lines on the fire side represent the embers from the flames while the white signifies the turbulent nature of water. I?m not sure of the significance of the geometric shape on the fire side. Consider using flame and water brushes and gradients to blend the colours. - 11

Sailing in to Dog Rocks by David Skinner - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The sky implies a late evening and the boat on the horizon is sailing toward harbour. You have done a good job in getting the perspective of the water and rocks reasonably coherent. The boat is a little small so consider either increasing it size or swapping it for a large boat. The black mark in the sky is confusing as I don?t know what it is, it could be a dirt mark as it is close to a lens dust spot, so consider removing it. - 11

Fairy Flowers by Jessica Wells - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Shooting into the sun has created a soft dreamy feel to this image, with the background heavily blurred and abstracted, while the foreground fairy is soft. The costume and accessories have created aa soft ambiance. You might consider adding a radial gradient to her hand and possibly her face to bring these forward a little more creating a 3D effect. - 14

Top End Dragon Mythical Beasts by Yvonne Schnelle - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A vertical down aerial image where the patterns, colour and texture help guide the imagination on a visual journey. The colour vibrancy and cool palette encourage a relaxed feeling in this image while the diagonal placement of the subject also creates a dynamic feel. - 12

Comments report for Photographer EDI Colour - Fantasy

This is G-SHOCK by Michael Klusacek - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: An image created using ICM where the red watches make a statement connecting them to the bottom of the image. The blurring is sufficient to cause the eyes to water and feel uncomfortable. - 13

Walkies by Ben Gawne - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The cloud texture creates a misty base for this image while the silhouettes creates a narrative. You have blended the base of the toadstool into the hill very well, but the rest of the toadstool has a halo, consider either reducing your mask selection of removing the halo using the clone stamp tool. There is a large negative space on the left that is adding nothing to the image so consider removing it. - 13

This is a Big Slide by Judy Hofmeyer - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A child at the top of a circular disappearing slide. The girl and slide take up maybe 30% of the image creating the impression of being small in the surrounding environment. I?m not sure of the significance of the gravel road sign. The girl being near the top risks having the viewer exit the image so consider placing her further into the image. I?m not sure why she is blindfolded but on closer inspection she is looking downward, and it is the hat while her face is in shadow. Balancing the light on all image elements is vital when creating a composite. - 11

Where am I by Harrison Garro - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The complimentary colours of the grass, tree and sky while the soft dreamy feel to the image creates a no-threatening feel to the image yet there is underlying tension created by the closeness of the tree to the frame. The low perspective of the grass places the tree in a dominant position. The portrait format narrows the view point of the viewer, consider using a panoramic format to widen the view making the viewer feel even more insignificant and lost. Consider using the Pep Ventosa effect on the tree. - 12

Casting spells by Rhonda Hansen - First Place



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The dark surrounds with the candlelight create a mysterious mood while the distant lights add depth to the image. The costume and subject also create a narrative within this image. Consider adding a radial gradient to the face to bring it forward making it more dramatic. In general the lights are realistic adding to the ambiance of the image, except for the light in the bottom right hand corner as it is too sharp, consider removing it. - 15

Sunset Dragon by Cindy Garro - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Again the imagination comes into play with well seen standard image where the diagonal is important for the dynamism of the image. As a fantasy consider adding some flame to the tree. - 11

Dreaming by Donna Muir - Second Place



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Such a simple thing, take a good panorama image and turn it ninety degrees to change the whole complexity of the image. The shallow DoF ensures we focus on the subject and we have a sense oof depth in the image. Consider moving the lower spectral highlight across to the next ridge line as this will create a strong triangular shape in the image. - 15

Comments report for Advanced EDI Mono - Fantasy

Fantasea by Greg Haysom - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Softly focused portrait using a single light to highlight the sharp edges of their face and bodies. The large negative space balances the positive space while creating the mystery and curiosity contained within the image. Consider removing the bits of hair in front of the girls face. - 11

Ghostly Guardians by Glenda Black - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The mist effect creates a feeling of cold and mystery, although you might want to blur the edges of the mist. The angel and owl have been blended nicely at the bottom integrating them into the graveyard. The milky way backdrop completes the idea that is a clear cold night, however the angle looks as if she is behind the milky way, consider bringing her forward and applying a transparency so that the stars are dimmed through her. - 12

Glowing Portal by Jessica Wells - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A cosplay image where the dark areas have some detail which enhances the image which directs our eye to the brighter areas of the image. You have a glow effect that is illuminating the of the fairy but in these types of image we want to see her face, so consider adding some glow to her face. - 12

The Sasquatch Mythical Beasts by Yvonne Schnelle - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Another imaginative image that could have been called the stone giants from the Hobbit. This is a balanced image as the subject has been placed roughly on the golden ratio line with a virtual line extending to the right. You have fallen into the standard camera trap of photographing snow using an auto mode. This will zero your exposure metering, exposing for mid0grey and turning the snow grey. Consider lifting the whites and reducing the blacks, this will make the snow white and also give you greater contrast. - 11

Here There Be Dragons by Michael Black - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Great concept the dodging and burning has created interest throughout the image while the subject has good bokeh background isolating it and drawing our attention. The image however is fairly flat so consider increasing the whites and highlights and decreasing the blacks and shadows. This will increase the image contrast and spread the tonal variation creating a stronger image. - 13

Hello There by Wendy Stanford - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The trees vertical texture draws our attention the size of them commenting on the insignificance of man. The sun?s rays create leading lines into the image while it is the interaction between the two subjects that are of importance within the image. The kangaroo and girl look like they have just been stuck in the image and are not part of the image. They need to become part of the image by creating shadows for them and then add a small amount of grain to blend the image together. - 11

Discovering New Lands by Bill Thompson - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A barquentine sailing under the Sydney Harbour Bridge going out to sea and fighting pirates is probably most boys fantasy at some point. The silhouette of the ship and bridge attracts the eye but it is the very bright sun on the water that commands the viewers attention. Consider either recovering the highlights if this was shot in RAW or using AI to recover the water texture. - 11

Lago Dobbiaco by Jill Hancock - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: An Adamski effect where the vertical tree lines suit the portrait format while the house because it is sharp grabs the attention and is balanced by the swan. The Adamski effect creates a sense of mystery and there is a good tonal range across the image. Consider masking the house a bit tighter to remove the bushes each side of the house. - 13

Off to the top by Pamela Milliken - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Himeji castle dominates this image with its superior position. The sky is dramatic if over sharpened while the god rays attract attention. The three deer have been placed in the lower left quadrant but look unnatural as the original image is visible so the masking needs to improve. I don?t mind white vignettes, unlike many judges, but they need to be used on the appropriate image, here the vignette is creating almost a fog like impression taking away from the subjects, the deer. Consider adding fog to the entire image except around the deer. - 11

Mystic Mushrooms by David Willis - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Are you sure they are not magic mushrooms? A cluster of mushrooms overlayed with electrical sparks piques our curiosity. The oval shape blending into the black background enhances the curiosity by implying that we are looking through a small hole. Or some secret spy hole. - 13

The Departure by Ishani Booms - First Place



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A well-crafted image. The two photographs of the girl have been done with this image in mind. This image has many lines and subtle iconography; the girl lying down represents sensuality via the soft curves, she also represents rest, relaxation; while the upper girl is dynamic via the diagonal lines yet spiritual by the pose. The specular highlights are a nice touch implying a journey while the haze between the two girls creates a connection. The upper girl has some transparency, so consider giving her a little more transparency. - 15

Spellbound by David Skinner - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The dynamic diagonal lines coupled with the desaturate impressions of the subject suggest movement. The large negative space is balanced by the high impact white space and the scale of the subject creates the impression that she is airborne and backlit as if by a search light. - 12

Unmasked by Win van Oosterwijck - Merit



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: The lighter part of the face immediately attracts attention with is sharp eye while the right side of the face is darker and therefore commands less attention. The flowers on her forehead are explained with references to the gap between the faces and the petal inside. Humans very rarely have sharp lines so when masking image elements we need to be careful of having lines that are too sharp; in this image, her hair is just a little too sharp and the area near her should appears to have the original illumination. This is relatively easy to correct in editing. 13

One of These Days by Garry Pearce - Second Place



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: I think we have all felt the fantasy of striking out! You have placed the subject on the Sinister diagonal with the hand holding the knife showing tension. The naked skin as a backdrop works to enhance the narrative in the image. The image is exploring a dark side of human nature so you might consider editing the image as a film noir genre by darkening the image except for some areas making the appearance more sinister. - 14

Invitation to Witch and Friend by Deirdre Blunt - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A good image for the festival that?s just past. The costumes are applicable to the spirit of the image while the large DoF has keep all of the Halloween accessories in focus. The B&W format ensures that we focus on the texture of the subjects. As a vernacular image this is perfect, if you want art then consider adding a depth blur to remove the impact of the building behind the subjects. - 11

Comments report for Photographer EDI Mono - Fantasy

Afterlife Harrison Garro - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: A good concept with the person being transparent in the moon light. The starry sky and misty background create a cold feeling to the image. You have placed the subject close to the frame creating tension in the image which I think is what you are trying to achieve. The main trees masking needs improvement to eliminate the fringing as it is a distraction. Consider adding a glow to the person. - 13

Deaming by Judy Hofmeyer - Accepted



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: Is this a dream? Only a small percentage of people dream in B&W. You have filled the frame with the person creating an unbalanced image and implying the confused nature of the dream. The iconography of the trees is a backdrop to life, but what is the iconography of the compressed world globe. Is it a comment on the smallness and interconnectedness of the planet or a statement that what is happening on the other side of the world has impact and is causing stress within our lives. You might consider bring the globe forward more to emphasis the message. - 12

Ancestors escaping by Rhonda Hansen - First Place



Judges Comment: Gary Smith: There is a good tonal range across the image. The single back light has been used to produce a light ray on the album and illuminate some of the escaping photos. Consider cropping the bottom as this negative space doesn?t help the image and by cropping you place the album and photos in a stronger position. The top area likewise does not play a role in the image so consider cropping it but I think adding another photo that is partly out of the frame would add to the narrative of the image. - 15
