

2020 Eastwood vs Victoria Camera Club Novice and Intermediate



Float My Boat by Paul Deacon

Mike Sroka: good composition (rule of thirds), black and white suits subject matter, seems a bit overprocessed (especially the sky), consider less contrast, the gap in weeds nicely connects foreground and background

score 17

Rod Wheelans: Restful composition, highlights a little bright

score 17



Bare Knuckle Fighter by Charlie Moore

Mike Sroka: strong portrait, good positioning, both knuckles and eyes draw you in, contact nice tonality, check levels (could use a touch more highlight)

score 18

Rod Wheelans: Great face, interesting pose but the expression doesn't match the pose.

Score 17



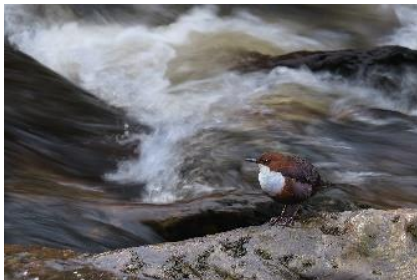
Alter Ego by Stephen Ban (VCC)

Mike Sroka: strong concept but difficult to execute, the brightest figure is fighting eye contact in the second figure, others are lost, you can't fight eye contact and the writing on her chest... that figure should be the brightest part of the photo

score 14

Rod Wheelans: Good idea and well delivered. Perhaps the lighter figures are too bright and the face looking at camera a little dominant.

Score 18



Dipper by Peter Ormsby

Mike Sroka: dipper is somewhat lost due to size and tonality, highlight levels in the chest flash and water are too close, our eye needs to get to the bird easier, the blurred bkg is more interesting, consider levels adjustment or larger bird

score 13

Rod Wheelans: Good colour but the bird is small in the frame and a little over-sharpened, so that it looks "stuck on".

Score 15



Awoken by Sunlight by Martin Lennick (VCC)

Mike Sroka: colour and lighting excellent, strong aesthetic overall, the lower left shadow adds unnecessary weight and is distracting, eliminate it and see the strong visual relationship of the flower to it's "mirror shadow"

score 14

Rod Wheelans: The flower is a little light and the background too dark. The heavy shadow on the left unbalances the shot.

Score: 16



Black Chinned Hummingbird by Donna Christy (VCC)

Mike Sroka: excellent timing on wing sweep, technically well done, too much distraction from main subject in terms of subject size, colour, amount of background (negative space), consider the bird relative to the other visual elements

score 13

Rod Wheelans: Well caught but it looks a little 2 dimensional with no depth.

Score 16



Child at Play by Susan Byrne (VCC)

Mike Sroka: a portrait but not a portrait, an activity shot but not an activity shot, what is the child doing, what is the child looking at, without eye contact or more information we don't get involved, "play" is only in the title, not sure about toning

score 13

Rod Wheelans: Love this, the expression, the colour and the unusual view.

Score 20



An Eye on Finishing Line by jim McCann

Mike Sroka:

the eyes provide a nice "implied" leading line, timing is good but the shot is actually a millisecond earlier to prevent a wheel into helmet, viewpoint keeps us in the frame, in terms of tone and density it's a bit flat, consider a levels adjustment

score 14

Rod Wheelans: Very competent sports shot

Score 18



Goma at Night by Mel Leiper

Mike Sroka: works with square(ish) format, feels a bit overprocessed (less saturation ?), if camera moved to right positions statue in center gap (moves dome too), the columns act like grid overlay, a slight perspective correction is called for, white border is a distraction

score 14

Rod Wheelans: Interesting night shot with some reflected streetlight in the sky. I found the blurred vehicle on one side unbalanced it because there was nothing similar on the right.

Score 16



Dream Landscape by Donna Robertson (VCC)

Mike Sroka: nice dreamlike feel, dark patch on right is distracting, consider less negative space on right as there is almost an even split between this area and the area with trees

score 15

Rod Wheelans: Trying for a painterly effect but I found it dull, a bit “muddy”.

Score 14



Jackson Ballet by Ian Cleaver

Mike Sroka: great pose, mono colour creates nice emotional response, the fog at top left is distracting and the extended hand needs to be blended better, overall a strong image

score 18

Rod Wheelans: The orange colour is a bit strong for the figure but the vignette holds the attention on the figure.

Score 18



Green-crowned Brilliant Couple by Karen Towne (VCC)

Mike Sroka: good timing but the birds are secondary to that bright red area and almost overwhelmed by the amount of green negative space that is similar in colour, dust spots on right

score 13

Rod Wheelans: Competent, caught in flight but not very exciting.

score 16



Into the past by Sharon Moysey (VCC)

Mike Sroka: I like the overall composition and feel, but is it about the pitchfork, the door, or that light coming into the scene. I feel it's really about the light. Could that idea be enhanced visually? Consider levels. Nice emotional response to image.

score 16

Rod Wheelans: Couldn't really get very interested.

Score 14



Eagle feeding by Alex Dorrens

Mike Sroka: a bit washed in terms of density, could be tighter to make the action more immediate and intense, banding makes it "trained" vs "wild" (not a negative, just an observation)

score 14

Rod Wheelans: The birds expression and rapt attention makes the shot.

Score 17



It takes a village by Leigh Lennick

Mike Sroka: very nice "moment", this is a great shot, lots to see here, consider a bit more density/contrast to create subtle separation and more texture in the animals, second from the left looking towards baby makes the shot

score 19

Rod Wheelans: Very interesting scene but could have been a tighter crop. Too bright and less interesting on the left.

Score17



Winskill tree by Alan Robertson

Mike Sroka: b&w works for the subject, good use of leading line taking us to tree, inconsistent sky above tree has a "dodged" look as does highlight line on horizon rock far left

score 17

Rod Wheelans: I find the burnt in sky to be just too much, dominating the picture.

Score 16



Looking back by Kevin Keliher (VCC)

Mike Sroka: the amount of work that went into this piece is obvious, a great effort, area around butterfly on line needs work, dark butterfly is a distraction and not necessary (notice nice implied line without it), moon should be more a bit more obvious

score 17

Rod Wheelans: Sorry, didn't get the point. Lots of elements signifying little. In particular the "halo" around the butterfly.

Score 14



Tree Fella by David Taylor

Mike Sroka: good use of colour to get to the subject, that said it feels a bit safe in terms of distance and composition (tough call as I assume you like the shape of the tree), could use a slight colour correction (would like to see the clouds whiter and sky bluer)

score 15

Rod Wheelans: Health and safety!

Score 16



On the pink by Ed Beveridge

Mike Sroka: hard to get past the foreground objects both in terms of mass and brightness, what could be done to make it more about the butterfly?

score 13

Rod Wheelans: The out of focus flower dominates and the butterfly seems a little over-sharpened.

Score 16



Misty winter woods by Lindsey Millar (VCC)

Mike Sroka: seems to have a slight colour shift(yellow-green), too general, make it more about something (a gap in the woods down the path, someone on the path, etc.) *there does seem to be a vehicle or trailer but it's obscured by tree branches and a bush

score 12

Rod Wheelans: Nice feeling of cold but we seem to be waiting for something to happen. No point to focus on.

Score 14



Little Grebe by Malcolm Martin

Mike Sroka: the bird need to turn in order to get less attention on the white feathers on backside and more on the face (can't fight the eye going to the brightest part of the picture), reflections really add to the scene

score 14

Rod Wheelans: Pleasing colour harmony, good reflection but some burnt out highlights.

Score 16



In the footsteps of giants by Janet Jamieson

Mike Sroka: I like how the climbers are a subtle addition, I feel there is a bit too much sky making the peaks less imposing, would like to see a bit more tonality

score 17

Rod Wheelans: I see that you wanted to keep the distant peaks but there is too much sky and the figures are very small. Probably that was your point but ...

Score 16



Snow day by Lorna Shaw (VCC)

Mike Sroka: if the camera was a bit left the person in the gap would be visually stronger and easier to get to visually, the large gap on right commands too much attention, nice graphic appeal

score 16

Rod Wheelans: The figure helps but I would have liked it in the large right hand gap

Score 16



Super Blood Moon Lunar Eclipse Sequence 2019-01-20 by Alec Lee (VCC)

Mike Sroka: a well executed sequence, technically well done, without additional context it becomes more of a scientific study than an artistic endeavour (not a negative, just an observation, as many shooters could not achieve what you have here)

score 18

Rod Wheelans: Interesting technical exercise but no more than that.

Score 15



Highlander John by Mary Robertson

Mike Sroka: a very nice portrait, strong pose and great tonality on the subject, but the large shadow on the left is distracting and doesn't correspond with the light also coming from the left, if you burn a shadow make sure it corresponds with the light source

score 18

Rod Wheelans: Clean and tidy shot but lacks any drama.

Score 16



The essence of luminescence by Jill Turyk (VCC)

Mike Sroka: nice design, I like the composition, but the image is overprocessed to the point it's more about the process and less about the actual subject, don't have to eliminate the process just scale it back a bit

score 13

Rod Wheelans: Difficult to spend much time on, lacks a point of interest.

Score 14



The Tower House by Paul Millar

Mike Sroka: interesting but confusing, what are you trying to say about the subject, for me the blur/motion effect is more interesting than the actual structure and that limits their interaction, spend too much time trying to figure it out and you lose interest

score 15

Rod Wheelans: The effect dominates the subject.

Score 16



Threads of gold by Kim Smith (VCC)

Mike Sroka: it just works, a very strong image that is a result of simple design and a limited colour palette, no distractions, nothing overdone, and excellent example of less is more

score 20

Rod Wheelans: Good colours but no compositional flow to hold your interest.

Score 16



Twisted by Alison Poole (VCC)

Mike Sroka: I've seen many of these wind swept building photos, what I've not seen is clouds patterned to match the building, it would have been even stronger with the building more into the cloud gap, but as it is, it's a strong shot, snow works with clouds

score 19

Rod Wheelans: Like this a lot but it's a pity about the white line around the roof of the hut.

Score 19



The Radisson by Susan Spence

Mike Sroka: nicely executed architectural shot, hard to find fault in both the capture and process, good perspective correction in a scene with major shape distortion on the main subject (but parallel lines on both sides), good job

score 20

Rod Wheelans: Competent record shot, not much more.

Score 17

Victoria Camera Club vs Eastwood

Novice/Intermediate Scores:

Eastwood: 483

VCC: 471