

Selecting and Judging Images

A Judge's Perspective

NEMPF Judging Criteria

- MESSAGE (50%)
- MEDIUM (30%)
- TECHNICAL (20%)

MESSAGE

- Mood
- Emotions
- Story
- Idea
- Inventiveness
- Interpretation

MEDIUM

- Lighting
- What's included/excluded
- Background/setting
- Movement
- Tones & Colours
- The moment
- Composition

TECHNICAL

- Handling tonal range
- Exposure
- Processing
- Presentation

INTERNATIONAL JUDGING & SCORING

THE 10 CATEGORY SYSTEM

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THE 10 CATEGORIES

- POWER ELEMENTS (3 = 30%)
- COMBINATION ELEMENTS (3 = 40%)
- TECHNICAL ELEMENTS (4 = 40%)

P: POWER ELEMENTS

- P1 IMPACT
- P2 COMPOSITION
- P3 LIGHTING

C: COMBINATION ELEMENTS

- C1 CREATIVITY AND STYLE
- C2 CENTRE OF INTEREST
- C3 STORY TELLING AND SUBJECT

T: TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

- T1 TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE
- T2 PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUE
- T3 COLOUR BALANCE
- T4 PRESENTATION

P1 - IMPACT

- Shock
- Horror
- Intrigue
- Wow!
- Beauty
- Narrative
- Tranquillity
- Humour
- Reflection

P2 - COMPOSITION

- Lines
- Direction
- Surfaces
- Solids
- Proportion
- Numbers
- Balance
- (A)symmetry
- Space
- Positioning

P3 - LIGHTING

- Quantity
- Direction
- Quality
- Shadows
- Highlights
- Chiaroscuro
- Modelling

C1 - CREATIVITY & STYLE

- Originality
- Emulation
- Light
- Composition
- Processing

C2 - CENTRE OF INTEREST

- Clear
- Securing undivided attention
- Use of Composition for direction
- Message

C3 - STORY TELLING AND SUBJECT

- A picture's worth a thousand words
- Placing the viewer within the image
- Clear narrative
- Meaning (to a judge)

T1 - TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

- Noise
- White Balance
- Sharpness
- Tonal Range
- Shadows and Highlights
- Software Effects

T2 - PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUE

- Shutter Speed
- Aperture
- ISO
- Exposure
- Depth of Field

T3 - COLOUR BALANCE

- Harmonious
- Complementary
- Warms and Cools
- Toning
- Colour Temperature

T4 - PRESENTATION

- Texture
- Paper type
- Backing
- Print frame
- PDI border
- PDI contrast
- PDI Dynamic range
- Framing Background

SUMMARY QUESTIONS

1. Does the image have impact and provoke an emotional response?
 2. How well is the image composed?
 3. How well is the subject lit?
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4. Does the image display originality?
 5. Is there a clear and appropriate centre of interest?
 6. What story does the image convey?
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7. Does the image display technical excellence?
 8. Are the photographic techniques used appropriate to the subject?
 9. Is the use of colour appropriate to the image?
 10. How well is the image presented?
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