

Whanganui Camera Club Portrait DPI Competition

Judge Mac Miller. Judging night 13 September

Title	Result	Feedback
B Grade Set Subject		
BS		
BS Artist in residence	<i>Highly Commended</i>	Works very well as an environmental portrait. We are able to see the lady sitting in her living room which reveals her strong sense of colour with artwork and 'nicknacks' on display. Her expression sends the message that you may be intruding on her private space. Lots to look at.
BS Evolving	<i>Highly Commended</i>	Three young women in a doorway. A mystery 'where are we'? Outside looking in or inside looking out? Is the environment 'EVOLVE' a dance studio, cafe or night club? Does it matter? It appears one young lady has knelt down so we can see 'EVOLVE' I can also see a chalk board on the left. It is a good sharp record and I rather enjoy the mystery of it
BS Kerryn	<i>Highly Commended</i>	A tightly cropped low angle portrait of Kerryn. It may be lucky but the people in the background help to frame this portrait. Burning around the edges is not obtrusive for me. A good study
BS Little Mischief	<i>Merit</i>	A child of 'today' well photographed, excellent sharpness and depth of field but the round framing does not suit this portrait
BS Shari	<i>Merit</i>	Attractive woman but the poorly burnt background spoils this photograph. Her eyes are wonderful so why not crop this photo REALLY tight to emphasise her face
A Grade Set Subject		
AS		
AS Antonia in Napier	<i>Merit</i>	The use of a wide angle does not spoil the fun of this photograph. Clever use of street lighting. Rather a shame that the laughing face on the left is balanced on the right by a very bold shop sign (TANK or TONK) which once noticed draws the eye. A photo which makes me laugh and that is a good thing
AS Biker Boy	<i>Acceptance</i>	I feel this is a very good family snap and lacks any mood or drama to put in a photo competition. It is sharp and has colour, tighter framing would add to this image and as a portrait would have received Honours

AS Chanteuse	<i>Merit</i>	A pretty singer photographed while performing. Spoiled by so much clutter around the lower half of the photo. I think it would benefit with cropping just under her elbow and slight crop off the left hand side (sorry to lose those lovely legs) A good sharp and well timed photograph
AS CHELSEA 1	<i>Merit</i>	The most beautiful eyes are captured here but the highlighted wrist watch is a total spoiler. I can't help wondering if there were more photos taken at this session without the arm, hands and watch. The lighting and skin tones are excellent
AS Concentration Cute Cafe kiddie	<i>Honours</i>	A well caught moment with the background of neutral tones to help. The biscuits and lollies all add to the picture of delight and concentration as the child imitates Mummy putting on nail polish. This photo will be cherished for years to come. Stands out as a very good photograph
AS Family Portrait	<i>Highly Commended</i>	It isn't easy to get a family group with different ages to all look okay, Dad is looking concerned, both boys laughing, baby crying and Mum just looks proud. With arms cropped it adds to a tight family group. Overall lighting a little flat but composition excellent
AS Farm Princesses	<i>Honours</i>	A delightful photograph which works on so many levels. Two children with amazing facial expressions wearing bright purple dresses. Could be helped by a slight crop of top and bottom (shoes?) Even as it is a superb portrait of these two girls
AS Florance	<i>Merit</i>	The highlights are burnt out and there is no detail in the shadows so the contrast is a little over the top which detracts from an otherwise striking subject.
AS Harry	<i>Highly Commended</i>	Harry looks like he could be a handful! captured here playing with an umbrella, dancing on the grass with lovely coloured flower petals which help this photograph. The framing is good
AS I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles	<i>Merit</i>	Playing with the kids bubble kit. A good sharp outdoor photo but the two half bubbles at top right are a slight distraction
AS Jacqui	<i>Accepted</i>	A very straight, sharp conservative portrait. Clumsy burning in around the model
AS JAZ 2	<i>Merit</i>	I struggle visually with the blue umbrella competing with the models tattoos and brown eyes which are looking slightly to her left and not at the camera. The framing is off centre, once again I wonder were there any more pictures taken at this session which may be better?
AS Lamb to cuddle	<i>Not Accepted</i>	A lovely family photo of a moment to remember but the indoor lighting on the girls face is poor, this is not good enough for A grade exhibition
AS Mel Cooper – Flamboyant Stylist	<i>Honours</i>	Excellent environmental portrait with all the colour of this Barber shop. The subject with her bright red hair and tattoos is cleverly shown twice as her

		face looking at us is reflected in her mirrors. This is a terrific environmental portrait
AS Murano Glassmaster	<i>Not Accepted</i>	The sharpest part of this photo is the man's pink shirted belly. His face is in shadow and the glass horse on show is out of focus. The background is cluttered, generally a very poor attempt to show the artist and his work
AS Paul Harris - Eccentric Barista	<i>Highly Commended</i>	Well captured portrait of the man at his work counter. The busy background isn't overdone but perhaps the slightest crop on the left to mask out the white cups would be an advantage
AS Rugged Challenge Competitor	<i>Honours and Trophy Winner</i>	Competitor #351 will treasure this! A well taken dramatic portrait of him wading through water. Tells its own story. I love this portrait
AS Singer not the Song	<i>Accepted</i>	Unfortunately in this portrait the eyes looking away detract from what may have been a good study, the red gloves intrude too much
AS The Woman With the Electric Parasol	<i>Accepted</i>	A photo of a lady whose profile is spoiled by a person beside her, the background is very busy. If the umbrella is indeed electric it just looks like a burnt out highlight
AS Time Travellers	<i>Accepted</i>	Now, is this a subtle sense of humour showing a couple eating with a map of the world behind them, are these all the places they have eaten at? Indoor lighting is flat which doesn't help. Not very exciting
AS Wow	<i>Honours</i>	A very sharp, well composed, tightly cropped black and white portrait. The unshaved man with no teeth seems to reflect a guy with a great sense of humour, the lighting around the eyes is in the shade but this is cancelled out by the toothless grin he gives. A well taken photograph
A Grade Open		
AO		
AO Blackmount School	<i>Accepted</i>	Too much sky. Can I suggest that if possible the photographer revisits this lovely old building at different times of the day to get better lighting and a more dramatic sky (perhaps stormy clouds) Crop the picture to show the viewer what you feel about this old school
AO Mountain torrent	<i>Not Accepted</i>	It is unfortunate the sound and sight of this waterfall that this A grade photographer came across has not been captured at all. May I suggest looking for books showing more of this subject matter?