

	A	B	D	E	F
1			Image #1 Title	Grade	Comments
2			AO COPPER BUTTERFLY	Merit	Nice wildlife shot with great depth of field to isolate the butterflies. The one flying off is slightly soft and out of focus though which is a bit distracting - difficult to get sharp with a shallow depth of field which is the hard pay off. I feel it could be improved with a tighter crop of the top and bottom. Lovely shot of the butterflies in their environment.
3			AO Forgotten Childhood	Merit	Good still life set up with interesting lighting. I am distracted by the blown out candle but I appreciate how difficult it is and I would like to see a little more space on the left side. I like how both toys are looking into the image which keeps our eyes focused inward.
4			AO Gravid Female Springbok Mantis	Honours	stunning wildlife image. Excellent detail all over the mantis with lovely shallow depth of field in the background to isolate it. I like the composition that shows the bark of the tree - his environment, and the classic pose of the mantis who is looking into the camera as well.
5			AO Lake Hayes	Acceptance	Beautiful scene. I like the lighting and reflection in the calm water. I find the sharp cut off of the bottom of the scene distracting and think it could be improved with more of the land and less of the sky. I like the composition of a tree either side and the balance from left to right and bottom to top of those trees.
6			AO Parked Up	Merit	Well seen artistic reflection - love some distortion. It feels a little overdone with the detail processing to my eye. Great crop and composition with lots to look at and good lines.
7			AO Rusting in the rain	Merit	lovely scene of dilapidation - another favourite of mine. Good composition although a bit too much chopped off at the bottom with the bumper just touching the edge of the frame. Great detail throughout.
8			AO Victorian Evening	Merit	another nice still life set up which is pleasing to the eye in its composition. Again I find the blown out candle distracting and I find myself straining to look at the flowers next to the candle which would be nice to see a bit clearer. Lovely lighting on the necklace which takes centre stage.

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9			<b>A Grade Set</b>		
10			AS Aydie	Highly Commended	a lovely portrait of I'm guessing a singer? Beautiful soft background behind her to isolate her and I think it is a saxophone behind her which helps me work out she is in a band. I'm distracted by the tight crop on the right where her elbow doesn't have much room and I would have preferred to see her with her mouth open actually singing. I love the black and white processing which really works for this image.
11			AS Barista Aurora on Manners	Merit	a wonderful example of an environmental portait. The subject is engaging with the viewer while also about his job, and the perfect amount of his environment. I am really distracted by the blown out light in the window which I can see the photographer has attempted to process with darkening the image and a vignette that look obvious to me. Otherwise everything about this image is excellently done.
12			AS CE at Te Papa	Honours	fantastic environmental portait. The subject is engaing directly with the viewer with an intense expression. Love the composition with the reflection and his clothes and camera tell us what he is all about. The vignette works well to direct our eye to the main subject as well. Great work.
13			AS Don't Look Now	Merit	another great example of an environmental portrait. I love that you can see a lot of their environment, including the guy behind them getting his cash out. I am distracted by the guys foot directly on the edge of the image which might have worked better with a deliberate crop to below his knee. Great street shot, keep it up!
14			AS Farrier	Honours	lovely portrait of this farrier. Great composition showing his environment and excellent exposure of the subject and the flames. I love the hint of flame in his glasses as well. Beautiful lighting that shows him and the flames to their best. Excellent work
15			AS Fishmonger	Highly Commended	fantastic environmental portait. Great compostion showing where he works and I can see he is busy listening to a customers request. I would have loved to see him handling some merchandise which would have raised it another level. Lovely clear image with no distractions and great colours

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16			AS Focused	Acceptance	good portrait of a lady that looks like she is running, but a bit tricky without seeing her legs completely. Good composition with plenty of room for her to move into and a focused expression from the subject
17			AS Jenny Patrick	Merit	Nice portrait of this clarinet player, I can tell what she is doing and there are no major distractions. I'm not sure how I feel about the other lady in the image. She is clipped off on the edge and I don't know if she has her eyes closed listening to the music or she is mid-blink. Overall nice and sharp clearly showing the main subject engaging in their activity.
18			AS John Carrol Blues	Honours	Excellent capture of this chap playing his music that he also has for sale. I like his hands that show he is playing and his foot up on the amplifier pedal or whatever it is called. Maybe looking directly at the viewer could improve it but that is being nicky picky. I love all the texture in his enviroment that is well brought our with the processing and a nice use of black and white
19			AS Let's sing	Merit	lovely image of this guitarist and singer. Great that you have captured her with her mouth open and hands playing the guitar. It might be improved with a tighter crop to remove some of the distractions, especially the microphone on the left. Nice to see the environment of what looks like a sound shell and the drums there as well.
20			AS LOVELY LADIES	Merit	great portrait of both these ladies in their lovely colourful finery. My eye keeps being drawn to the bottom of the image and I wonder if it might have been better if they had stepped over the wall onto the beach which would have been a nicer bottom. How big are their smiles, just makes me smile - beautiful.
21			AS Lucy and Festus	Honours	fantastic capture of these street entertainers in action. Have seen this guy myself. I love the ladies expression and direct engagement with the viewer along with the movement in her fan. Fantastic "in action" capture of the man playing the harmonica complete with puckered lips and excellent processing with awesome texture.

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22			AS Marketday stall, keeping a sly eye on the young fella	Highly Commended	lovely capture of this wee chap enjoying a treat purchased at what looks to be a market by the environment around him. I enjoy the people behind him about their business and just really enjoy his look of delight. Nice work
23			AS Mayor Chas Poynter	Highly Commended	nice portrait of this business man at his workplace desk. It looks slightly set up but not in a bad way. Great composition and detail with no distractions.
24			AS Mudlarking	Highly Commended	an excellent portrait of young people in their natural environment!. Great expressions on each of their faces that tells the story of having fun in the mud. A difficult situation photographing them looking into the light which distracts somewhat. Composition is fantastic with lots of space around them and I love the background all of mud.
25			AS Night Tales	Honours	Beautiful light in this image. Great composition and choice of depth of field to isolate the main subject who I can tell is playing an instrument. Nice catchlights in her eyes and lovely space around her - nice use of a vignette to further bring attention to the main subject.
26			AS Old Timer	Merit	What a fantastic smile from this guy! I find it a bit overexposed and would love to see it with some detail extraction in the processing or in black and white. I do like the tight crop, if it had only been his face, but find it distracting with only a hint of the scissors and a bit of his other hand, so in this instance a wider crop might suit it better in my opinion. Just love the cheekiness in his expression, keep it up.
27			AS Poured not shaken	Honours	An Excellent example of an environmental portrait. Fantastic composition with lots to look at and just love the light and shadows. I can spot the shadow of the photographer and would love to see their eyes more open, but it is difficult in the bright sun. Beautiful processing in black and white. The main subject is focused on doing their job with a lovely smile, which tells us everything we need to know. Well done.

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28			AS Rose	Merit	Good close up portrait of this lady. I like the tight crop in on her face and I can see a bit of her environment which looks like a charity shop. It feels a little overexposed to me which could be toned down a little and it would be nice if you could see her eyes a little more, which may have happened if shot in a shaded area. Great composition and engagement with the viewer.
29			AS Step to the rhythm	Acceptance	Technically excellently captured with lighting and sharpness. Great that we can see their faces and we know exactly what they are doing. I can't get away from the arms cut off right on the edge as I find it disturbing to my eye which then leaves the frame and struggles to come back in to the action. A bit more room to include their arms and hands and the bottom line of the ladies dress would raise this to top level and I am very impressed with the clarity throughout.
30			AS Street Musician	Merit	I get the story of a guitarist at rest and really like the toning on her skin which is just right and her pose is interesting to look at. I'm struggling with the tilt of the image which would be an easy fix to rotate slightly to the left to make it straighter. Great composition with just the right amount of space around her and nice detail throughout.
31			AS This my best side !	Highly Commended	A little boys joy. A great image of this chap about his job. I love that you have captured the complete machine and the man engaging with the viewer. It would have been super to see the Digger in a digging situation. The composition and detail is excellent.
32			AS Trusted Friends	Merit	This wee chap looks well puckered out. Looks like Polo? I wish I could see to the bottom of his hands, showing the pole and the horse lead and I'm not sure about the closed eyes. I've decided that they add to the feeling of being well spent after a good game. Great depth of field that blurs out the background beautifully.
33			AS Yoga on the rocks	Highly Commended	Fantastic portrait of this lady doing yoga on the beach. Great classic pose with her face towards the camera I am really distracted by her hand cut off by the rock and blending into the sky. I enjoy the black and white processing and the depth of field which helps to isolate the main subject which still showing the environment she is in.

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34			BO King Country Hawk	Honours	A wonderfully detailed capture of this King Country Hawk. Great use of a narrow depth of field to isolate the subject, and the eyes are sharp which is the most important aspect. I feel like it is a bit tightly cropped and could do with some space around the edges, but overall a beautiful portrait of this Hawk.
35			BO Red Hoodie	Acceptance	Good attempt at some street photography, but the main subject is very soft and under normal circumstances would be unaccepted. I have this problem every day with my street photography so I get it. You need to adjust your settings to allow for a higher shutter speed, especially for moving subjects. The composition is good with the main subject riding into the middle of the shot with plenty of room to ride into. Keep at it
36			BO The Boudoir	Highly Commended	great composition, sharp throughout and lovely straight lines to boot. My eye is distracted by the top right corner which feels a bit cut off. I am impressed with the exposure of the image allowing us to see both inside and out which is usually acheived by bracketing the exposures, so very well done.
37			BS All in a day's work.	Honours	Just lovely. Great composition, beautiful expression of the main subject who looks to be enjoying her work, perfect use of depth of field - slightly out of focus to help isolate the subject but not enough that we can't get the impression of her work environment. I wish her face was a bit lighter in the image, but saying that I love that you have captured her doing her work and I think this an excellent example of an environmental portrait.
38			BS Captain Baldy	Highly Commended	I think this is another great example of an environmental portrait. Pently of space around the main subject with lots to see and inform us of his job. Great focus on the main subject who looks to be enjoying his work. I find something a bit off with the composition and in my opinion think it might work a bit better with some of the left cropped off to put the main subject on a third line, but overall just what the genre asks for, great work.

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39			BS Fruit Seller Hoi An	Merit	A good capture of this fruit seller about her business. I feel it is the right amount of her environment in the composition with lots of detail. I do find the background somewhat distracting, especially the two trees and wonder if it might work better with a narrower depth of field. Great engagement from the main subject and really appreciate all the space around her.
40			BS High Flyer	Honours	excellent capture of this guy about his passion. Sharp throughout as well as the all important eyes. Great point of view, I like how he looks airborne but feel that it might be improved with a little bit more of the environment in the image such as a bit of the ground he has come off in the bottom on the image and some more space on the right to ride into. I love the detail and the processing - great work.
41			BS Holiday vibe photographing around St Andrew's	Merit	nice sharp detailed image that tells the story of a tourist or photographer on holiday. The composition feels right and shows a good amount of his environment. I like his engagement and smile but think it work better if he was holding his camera up like he was about to shoot, as currently it looks a bit like a holiday shot. Great point of view and use of depth of field and love the use of the frame within a frame compositional element.
42			BS In Her Happy Place	Highly Commended	This image really tells the story of a photographer out in the field. Good focus on the main subject with some blur of the environment. It doesn't bother me that I don't see her eyes as she is engaged with photographing. I feel that the composition could be somewhat improved with a smaller crop as all the sky doesn't really add anything to the story. I am in love with the lighting on the main subject - looks like it was created in a studio and great processing with no blowouts.
43			BS Market Musician	Merit	another great example of an environmental portrait. I like the composition that shows his environment. I can see it was shot on a nice day which makes it feel a bit overexposed in the background but he is well exposed. I like his engagement and that he is playing the guitar. His eyes are sharp and there is a bit of movement in his right hand which shows he is strumming.

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44			BS Our Whanganui Parking Warden	Merit	Love that you have engaged with this guy going about his job. Great composition with just the right amount of environment. I am struggling with the lighting as it looks to be in the middle of the day and there is a lot of shadow on him. This would be improved with use of fill in flash or use of a diffuser (but who has those out and about!) or standing him under a tree with shade but may be away from cars - tough! Keep up the engagement - you have captured his genuine smile so well.
45			BS Remembering St Paddy	Merit	lovely portrait of this woman on St Paddy's day. She looks a little bit posed for my liking, would be great if she had one arm up on the bar holding her drink maybe and not so much posing for her school photo. I would love to see a little bit more of her environment as well, feels a little bit cropped in. Good engagement with the subject and perfect lighting and sharpness.
46			BS Stoker	Highly Commended	Great capture of this guy doing his work. I love the dirty overalls and the cigarette in his mouth which show he spends a lot of time doing this and is his usual occupation. I would love to see more of his face and wonder if it could work better if you stood a bit more to the right to try and get a profile of his face as well as the opening of the boiler. Great work with exposing for low light, white overalls and flames!
47			BS The Dancer	Honours	Just beautiful. Lovely lighting and looks great in black and white. The composition, background and pose are great. It feels a little bit dark but I understand it is a difficult exposure to get right in the situation. Maybe a barre on the wall would have been great too. I love that she looks to be in a natural "at ease" dance state and is doing up her ballet shoes while engaging with us and smiling beautifully.
48			BS The Drummer	Highly Commended	Good street shot. I like that you have caught him drumming, and I get feel of his environment. I feel it could be improved with some of the tiles at the bottom cropped off. I appreciate all the detail of the drums, the boom box around his neck and his outfit. Nicely done.
49				No Award	
50				Acceptance	
51				Merit	
52				Highly Commended	
53				Honours	