

WANGANUI CAMERA CLUB MONTHLY COMPETITION JUNE : “WABI SABI”

Assessment Anne Johnston LPSNZ

A GRADE OPEN

1 “Sneaker Boy meets Ted Baker”

Exquisitely mounted and framed triptych! Good colour balance and contrast. Use of circles and square adds to the story telling.

HONOURS

2 “Waipipi Cliffs”

Beautiful light in the stormy sky and sea. The lone bird sharply in contrast.. Could have done with more light, contrast and detail in cliffs.

MERIT

A GRADE SUBJECT : WABI SABI

3 “A Moment in Time”

Impermanence, fleeting, both good examples of Wabi Sabi. Lovely background colour and soft focus lighting this delicate structure. It would be interesting to isolate just part of the dandelion to emphasize the structure.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

4 “Autumn Last”

Beautiful patina and curved lines of the vase. Could have been subject of wabi sabi. However, the age of the vase and the age of the plants complimentary. Lovely light on the centre berries.

MERIT

5 “Bad Hair Day”

Interesting concept and title. Details in the moss would have been more dramatic if enlarged by cropping. This would eliminate the distraction of the stones in the background. With the post off centre, the grasses on the right would have added to the story.

MERIT

6 “Dead and Alive”

Perfect design and detail. Almost too perfect for Wabi Sabi? Always a feature in the bush, the bedraggled brown dead palms contrasting with the green of the new fronds. However, compliment the techniques used in this presentation

HIGHLY COMMENDED

7 “Derelict Wharf”

I love this picture, the wharf so decrepit in a soft sea of calm. I like the way it's moving toward the land in the distance.. My only criticism is the depth of colour. A softer blue would have been more calming.

HONOURS

8 “Drowned Moth”

Perfect in death, almost looks about to fly off. A well balanced composition but water not evident when first viewing, therefore the title was misleading.

ACCEPTANCE

9 “Frosted”

Beautiful soft colours in the base of the picture but the top is blown out. Not sure what is frosted? The base of the picture isolated would have been sufficient and title “Frost” would have worked.

ACCEPTANCE

10 “Gothic Hinge”

Technically, extremely well done, but again almost too perfect for Wabi Sabi. However, the colour balance and contrasting shapes of this old hinge make it an appealing subject.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

11 "Green Peace"

Well designed and titled. A work of art. The pot is very Wabi Sabi, aged and roughened a good choice. Lovely contrast with the green. These simple objects tell the story, with the addition of the small rock on roughened sand would have been enough. **HIGHLY COMMENDED**

12 "Leaf Lace

Exquisite detail in the fragility of this leaf. The imperfection shows beauty in death.. The out of focus foreground spoils the effect, but I don't know how this could have been avoided.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

13 "Natures Grand Design"

Beautiful soft autumn colours. The lesser branch very Wabi Sabi when isolated from the detail on the left and away from the main branch. Would be worth experimenting with. **MERIT**

14 "No Longer Together"

The vase is itself an ideal subject for Wabi Sabi. The form, colour and light on it stunning. Not sure about the hydrangeas though. There is beauty in their imperfection. **MERIT**

15 "Old Iron Gate"

Interesting old gate. There are at least 3 potential photos in this one. The cobweb on the left, the coil top right and the triangular structure on the left. Try and avoid distracting, white, out of focus items in the background **ACCEPTANCE**

16 "Old Western Saddle"

Technically this item is well photographed, with sharp detail emphasizing the craftsmanship. However, the choice of background colour and method of display leave it flat. There is little molding. I would have liked to see it straddling something to demonstrate its contours. **MERIT**

17 "Orchids on Sand"

A beautiful, well executed and framed, black and white triptych. I would have liked to have seen it in the "Open" category where it would have deserved an Honours. Unfortunately it's too perfect and detailed for Wabi Sabi **HIGHLY COMMENDED**

18 "Reflected in a Muddy Puddle"

Simple concept, if a little flat, but very Wabi Sabi. Would benefit with another smaller stone strategically placed to the lower left. A little more contrast would make it more dynamic, well done.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

19 "As Revealed in the Spring Thaw"

I'm sure there is an interesting story behind this photograph. The sign is rather lost in the background detail. More contrast is needed. **ACCEPTANCE**

20 "Sandblasted"

The soft tones on the bottle are pleasing, but appear to be out of focus compared to the sand pattern which is detailed. Not a lot to the story. **ACCEPTANCE**

21 "Shattered Glass"

A well constructed and photographed work of art. It is not old but depicts fragility and impermanence. Is it too well placed to be shattered? **HIGHLY COMMENDED**

22 "Surreptitiously Hidden"

Glorious texture in the trunk of this tree. Not sure about the focal point. The R trunk cropped would have made the photo on its own. **ACCEPTANCE**

23 "Tall Trees"

Well Photographed , with a lovely glossy finish which suits the subject. A simple balanced design and colour. Maybe a broken line or flaw would have 'perfected' the concept? HONOURS

24 "Undefeated"

I found this an intriguing photograph. So much to it and interesting texture. I love the light on the left and feel this could have been the picture in portrait shape. The light on the wood, the out of focus stone and the pebble the highlight. HIGHLY COMMENDED

25 "Unfinished"

A very unusual building. Well photographed with attention to detail. Perhaps too much for the simplicity implied by Wabi Sabi. The use of Black and white well suited to this structure.

MERIT

26 "Whisp"

There is a delicate beauty and simplicity to this photograph. The subtle tones are soft and pleasing, as is the out of focus background. Unfortunately the tip of the plant is lost in the light.. A good attempt HIGHLY COMMENDED

27 "Withered Blooms"

The death of a flower is always sad. These blooms are sad. Well photoraphed, but there is no soft subtle beauty in their death, just harsh reality. The strong black mount does not help.

ACCEPTANCE

B GRADE OPEN

28 "Chip of the old"

Well seen and well titled. This is an excellent example of Wabi Sabi, which could have been entered in the Subject category. It's simplicity, age, impermanence all required features. Good focal point and well balanced tones. HIGHLY COMMENDED

B GRADE SUBJECT : WABI SABI

29 "Bell"

I love the patina and light on the bell. I would have like to have seen more of the scroll which could have been a subject of the Wabi Sabi itself. The curves. Another suggestion would be to crop the tail of the rooster. Lovely lines, curves and colours. MERIT

30 "David Brown"

You have captured the age and rust beautifully, what a great old workhorse. Keeping simplicity in mind, the back panel with the bars could be an interesting design. MERIT

31 "Gulls Owhiro Bay"

Dramatic capture of birds in flight, great action, not easy to do. A bit too busy for Wabi Sabi but nice colour contrast ACCEPTANCE

32 "Inky toadstool"

What an amazing structure. Beautiful detail with good sharp focus. Difficult to isolate an area, but maybe the top 3 or 4 would simplify? Well done HIGHLY COMMENDED

33 “The Beauty of Impermanence”

Well titled. You have demonstrated by contrast the brevity of life. There is fleeting beauty in death, Wabi Sabi. Well done
HIGHLY COMMENDED

34 “Urban Waterfall”

Interesting concept, is it a plastic bag? Was it found or was it placed? No matter it works. The light and shade adds drama to the story of pollution.
HONOURS

35 “Wabi Sabi dog”

What a scrop of a dog, I want to call him scruff. Well caught, old, bedraggled and wet. How about just cropping the tail and see what you come up with.
MERIT

36 “Wabi Sabi Rose”

Very dramatic the sharp white rose on black back ground. I'm not sure if this rose has been eaten or tampered with. Whatever. The holes are so evenly dispersed. The placement facing right, would have been better sited to the left of the space. (But then I don't know what would intrude if you do}
MERIT

37 “Wafting Away”

Fleeting, a moment in time, impermanence, balance and colour harmony. Definitely Wabi Sabi, congratulations.
HONOURS