

Results_for_March_2024_TC_Rust_and_Decay - Heidi

Firstname	Lastname	Club Star Rating	Title	Score	Award	Comment
Jean	Lens	1S	Graveyard of Dreams	9	Silver	Interesting interpretation of the topic. Please be careful of taking photos in the middle of the day - as they are several bright spots in this image - such as the stone in front of this ship. Perhaps look at applying the so-called sunny-16 rule for bright days.
Dylan	Evans	1S	Rusty Gears	11	Gold	Very interesting image - and it works quite well as an abstract - I can definitely see it hanging on a boardroom wall. I like the colours, the textures and your close-up composition.
Dylan	Evans	1S	Rusty Hub	12	Gold	This is good - a nice example of rust - and again - it works quite well as an abstract. I like the colours, the textures and your composition.
wynand	lens	2S	Broken Blue	11	Gold	You have found a grate example of rust on this 'machine', and the blue is very complementary to the rust. However, I do think you should have cropped off more from the right hand side - there is a large space that I do not think adds to your image, the focus is on the bottome left-hand side.
wynand	lens	2S	Going Places	13	Merit	This is an excellent example of rust and decay - it took me quite a while to find all the rusty spots. It works well, as this image has a story-telling aspect to it, and the very different examples of textures add to this. I would have cropped it much closer to the actual suitcase's top - as that window behind it is skew, and it distracts from the actual main subject. (this would have earned you a higher mark from me as well. Also focus on your camera marks - they detract a bit as well, on the yellow wall on the right-hand side).
wynand	lens	2S	Kalk Bay	10	Gold	You have used a very shallow depth of field here, as only the middle part of the image with the writing is sharp. I think this is taken from a suitcase, but it is not sure, and that for me is a bit distracting. The decay is very clear, but the object on which the writing is stuck on, is not as clear. This would work well as an image in one of those modern grunge-journals.
Mags	Vosloo	3S	Forgotten	11	Gold	I love these old trains, they are such a controversial image of decay and old-worlde luxury, from days gone by. I find your crop is very tight - but knowing where these trains are usually stationed, I can understand that, as there is often so much other stuff stored around there. I cannot make up my mind whether the monochromatic is better for this image, or should it have stayed in colour?
Mags	Vosloo	3S	Running no more	12	Gold	Definitely running no more! I think the colours here complement each other very well, and give the viewer an interesting example of rust and decay. Well done.
Joan	Lindegger	3S	Rusty arm	10	Gold	intersting example of rust, in an almost minimalistic presentation. Even though you can see the outline of the image, I would have pit a very fine grey border around it, so that the rust bit does not bleed out and by doing so lead your eyes out of the image.
Joan	Lindegger	3S	Rusty legs	10	Gold	Intriguing image of rust and decay, and I like your composition, as well as the fact that you have kept 3 pipes in the image - it looks more balanced that way. However, I think you Depth of Field is too shallow, for this image it should have been sharper - as you could then see and compare the different levels of rust.

Junior Winner

Mags	Vosloo	3S	Stationed Forever	13	Merit	Another grand old dame from the steamtrain era! I like the monochromatic conversion (although to be nitpicky - I do think you have more shades of grey, than true black and white), and that you have taken the image from the front. The plants growing out of the wheels and all over the tracks point to the decay of this once lovely machine, as well as the rust spots running all over her.
Meleney	Naik	4S	Abandoned	12	Gold	This is a lovely display of rust and decay, although the green aloes and plants look unrusty and very healthy. In fact, this is an excellent example of life, growth, and then decay and rust. I like the angle you took this at, making this old - or is it vintage car - look more majestic than she does now.
Liesl	Couperthwaite	4S	anybody at home	9	Silver	Fascinating example of a front (or is that 'vrot') door, based on your title. It is definitely portraying decay, and the wood is even turning green at the bottom, probably due to algae or plant growth and water. However, your light pockets on the door are too bright, and your exposure thus brings this image down.
Liesl	Couperthwaite	4S	beauty decays	10	Gold	Very intriguing interpretation of decay with this image - but I think (although I have not seen the entire vase and flowers) that you should have focused either on one dead rose, or the entire vase filled with decayed roses. Your composition feels awkward to me, as a result. However, I do commend you on the creativity of this image, as well as the colour and sharpness found in the two dead roses.
Doug	Couperthwaite	4S	Derelict House 7140	8	Silver	This is indeed a derelict house, with the walls missing paint and overall maintenance desperately needed. In that, this image portrays decay. However, I found your composition a bit awkward, as you should have focussed on the chimney and the decay around it, and cropped away a lot of the wall. It makes my eyes wander around too much, and not focus on the main subject.
Doug	Couperthwaite	4S	Driftwood 3576	14	Merit	Even though this branch is a good representation of decay, as is the stone with its algae all over it - it is a beautiful image. The clear water, the lighting, your composition and the different hues of brown make this an awesome image, and actually portray decay in a very nice light.
Doug	Couperthwaite	4S	Fire and Rainbow 4540	9	Silver	As an interpretation of rust and decay - this image does show rust in the car. I am not sure this is a good example of decay though, as the main focus of this image is the fire, and then the water and rainbow. If the topics were elements, or something else, it might have worked. I can also not make out exactly what is lying behind the car, and that does not help me interpret this image.
Meleney	Naik	4S	Fixer Upper	13	Merit	Wow, this is going to take quite a bit of work to fix up! I think this is a lovely representation of rust and decay, and I enjoy the image, from the lighting, to the composition to the contrast of all the rust with the greenery around it. Nice!
Liesl	Couperthwaite	4S	natures way	8	Silver	I can see the decay in this wooden shed, I think it is, but the composition has failed you, as has the lighting. There is a very bright pocket of light on the door and the side of the window, which keeps on dragging my eyes all over the image. Be careful when shooting subjects in dappled light, as the contrast is sometimes too big, and very distracting. I would also like to suggest that you either take the windows straight in front of you, or move much further back from the house/shed, and take it in its entirety - there is enough decay and lack of maintenance to support your image.

JOAN	JUNG	4S	old door handle	12	Gold	Lovely image, sharp, great example of rust and decay, and the angle you have photographed it at works very well, as does your composition. There is a bit of a light pocket on the actual handle, but I think for this set subject, it does not detract too much.
JOAN	JUNG	4S	rusted steam locomotive	9	Silver	This image has been over-sharpened, unfortunately, as can be seen by the halo around the train. I do like the colours of the rust, as they pop nicely, but I also think that the sky is slightly oversaturated. Try taking this image from the side, or straight from the front - I think that would have more impact.
Meleney	Naik	4S	Still Got A Little Gas Left in Me	12	Gold	I am immediately reminded of the 60s when I look at this image, and this poor old, decayed and rusty Kombi. I think it is well taken - with the old yellow popping out against the dark background - but I would have put in a border to show where the image starts and ends.
JOAN	JUNG	4S	the boat that was	10	Gold	This old wreck is a true depiction of rust and decay, and I think it is well taken! You can see it is in the harbour, probably somewhere in Cape Town. I like the fact that you can see a 'proper' ship behind it - which highlights the wreck this one is. There is a halo of oversharpening though. Thanks for putting in a border, but try and use the grey colour, then it does not clash with your main subject.
Paul	Naude	5S0	A Holy Barrow	9	Silver	Interesting way of taking the wheelbarrow - not the usual shot from above. However, try not to cut off parts that are relevant, such as the pipes in the top part of the image. It detracts from the main subject. They are also not sharp, and quite over-bright, so your eye is immediately drawn to them (DoF is too shallow here). I would have cropped off the image about halfway through, as that is where the rust and decay lies.
Heidi	Taylor	5S0	Decaying aloe	12	Gold	This is a fascinating image, giving the viewer an interplay between textures, colours and light and darkness. I like the angle you used, as it draws your eye straight into the image. I do think you are missing a fine, grey border, and perhaps you could have removed the light thin branch on the right hand side.
Heidi	Taylor	5S0	Dying seedpods	12	Gold	Another fascinating image - that almost looks as if it is drawn in oil. I think this is a beautiful example of decay, and very well seen. Even though this is quite a bright and colourful image, I would have put a border around it. I also think that if you went in much closer - you would have another great image!
Tracey	Rhodes	5S0	Hanging in there	10	Gold	Quite an interesting example of decay - and I am quite amazed by the way in which that bright beautiful pink-purple leaf is being overtaken by monochromatic white decay. This has a story-telling aspect to it, in that the bright, colourful plant is slowly dying and becoming colourless. MY only critique to this image is that it contains too much, and I think if you had focused only on the front part of the brown leaf - together with the half pink-purple leaf - you would have had a very strong image.
Tracey	Rhodes	5S0	Nou gaan ons braai	10	Gold	That is exactly where I would have gone to take an image on this topic - the braai. There is often quite a lot of rust, and your image shows this. However, you are missing a border, especially as your image is very dark.

Tracey	Rhodes	5S0	Past expiry date	12	Gold	This is a lovely, moody image of dead flowers in a vase - but my hopefully constructive criticism again points to a missing border - you cannot see where the image starts and ends, and I find it disconcerting. I am also not sure you should have cropped off the pot. What I do like is your lighting, the mood, and the fact that you have used the uneven number of three flowers - it works well.
Heidi	Taylor	5S0	Unlocked	13	Merit	This is a good representation of rust and decay, and I like the shiny lock as comparison. There is quite a lot to view in this image, from the textures, to the rust, to the colours, and I think you have handled the lighting well enough - even though there is a light rim around the lock - but I like this contrast. I also think it is small enough for you to get away with it. Please remember a border with a dark image.
Maxi	Holder	5S1	Going Nowhere Fast	12	Gold	This image evokes such a feeling of desolation and decay, I almost feel sorry for the car. Now what fascinates me are the tools attached to the car - why? It makes me think, and I love this! I also think you should try this image in black and white, and see how it works out. I would have also put in just a bit more space to the right hand side of the car, so that it is not slap-bang in the middle, I think this would have improved your composition.
Stephen	Pryke	5S1	Lost my Steam	14	Merit	Wow! The rust on this train is amazing, and pops out nicely in colour. The plants growing out of the wheels and all over the tracks highlight the decay of this once lovely train. I think this image ticks all the boxes, and really stands out for me!
Stephen	Pryke	5S1	Off the rails	9	Silver	Another example of a once-grand steam train that has been allowed to go to rack and ruin, unfortunately! But it does look as if nature is reclaiming her spot here. There is a lot being portrayed in this image, and although it is a great example of rust and decay - the amount of subject matter is too much - my eyes are not sure where to rest. I also think that despite this being in the middle of the day, you have handled the lighting fairly well, but there are some very bright spots that further draw your eye around this image.
Maxi	Holder	5S1	Old Fordson Put Out To Pasture	9	Silver	This image puts one straight on a farm somewhere on the way to the Cape or Freestate. That entire tractor is rusted, and slowly but surely decaying away. This is a good example of rust and decay, however, your post-processing has gone wrong. You have over-saturated the sky, but you have forgotten to saturate between the tyres and also the middle part of the machine. It is quite obvious, and something you need to focus on when post-processing any image.
Stephen	Pryke	5S1	Rusty Widget	9	Silver	So this rusty widget is an amazing example of rust and decay, but your exposure has let you down here. This is sad, as there are bright light pockets everywhere, and this detracts from this awesome, rusty widget.

Maxi	Holder	5S1	Shipwreck On The Skeleton Coast	10	Gold	This is a lovely example of a rusty wreck, slowly but surely disappearing into the sea. Your composition is good - your eye is immediately drawn past the two parts of the wreck to the lovely ocean in between. The lighting conditions you were photographing in was quite tough - very bright in the middle of the day type of situation, so you have lost detail in the white of the waves. I would have also given you a much higher award had you not lightened the right hand side of the wreck so much - as it is quite obvious, and you even have some posterisation coming up as a result. With post-processing - the trick is to do a little bit, then perhaps a little bit more, but then stop.
Terry	Burne	5S1	Temple of Augustus - Leptis Magna F	13	Merit	These old temples are so fascinating, and so rich with heritage and history - and this is a nice example of one. The decay is very obvious, and I think this image has a good composition, lighting and I love your border. I wonder though, what happened at the bottom of this image - as bits of it seem to be in black-and-white, no colour. Was there a fire?
Terry	Burne	5S1	The old grain silos - 2174-3	13	Merit	Now that is rust if I have ever seen it and I sure as heck would refuse to climb up to that rickety old rusty building! I think you spotted this very well, and the large graffiti at the side of the silo add to the decayed look. I also like the stark contrast between the silos and the old building.
Terry	Burne	5S1	The old grain silos with pink penthouse	14	Merit	I think your title should be 'Safety', as this very bright pink penthouse, lol, does not appear safe to me on top of these silos! However, I think it is very fascinating how people live in the weirdest places. This is a great example of the set subject, and I must commend you on leaving in all of the buildings, as it gives the viewer a great perspective of what is going on here. This ticks all the boxes for me, exceptional image!
Des	van Tonder	5S3	Colourful decay	14	Merit	Absolutely lovely image! It portrays rust and decay very well, and makes me wonder why we always photograph fresh flowers, when half delapidated ones work as well! The fact that you cut off half of the vase works well, and the colours pop the image. Your composition, lighting, and the colour scheme portrayed here work very well.
Des	van Tonder	5S3	Dying Dahlia	12	Gold	Good example of decay, and a lovely image of a dahlia. Now, as viewer, you focus on the textures, the difference colours, the decay versus the fading beauty of the flower. This is definitely missing a border. Your depth of field also works, as your eyes are constantly drawn to the inner part of the dahlia! Very nice!
Ronelle	van den Heever	5S3	Forgotten times	12	Gold	Not to sound like a broken record, but a border would finish off this image nicely. It is a grungy, great image of dirt and decay. I think the fact that you made it a black and white image works very well, as graffiti is extremely colourful, and might not let your eyes rest on the main subject - this delapidated building.

Ronelle	van den Heever	5S3	From time gone by	9	Silver	Another example of decay and rust with the forefront of this house. And again, Mother Nature is trying to reclaim what used to belong to her. I think the concept is good, but I would like to comment on your post-processing: there is a halo around the building, so it has been oversharpened. I also want to point out the over-saturation of the sky - as the sky seen through the window on the right hand side of the image is much, much lighter. Be aware of these things when processing your image. Also - this image does need a border, as both sides are very dark, and the start and end of the image is not too clear.
Ronelle	van den Heever	5S3	Twist of time	12	Gold	Veru unusual subject, and I commend you on your border! Yay! I am clueless as to what this is, but it is a great example of rust and decay. I like the sharpness in the image, as well as the composition, and the colours complement each other very nicely. In post-processing, I would slightly burn the white spots on the right hand side - they are competing with your main subject. In fact, you could have cropped even closer to the green ball in the middle, I believe it would make this image stronger.
Des	van Tonder	5S3	Weighing the decay	12	Gold	Not too sure why you are weighing the decay - I actually think you have two images in one here. My eyes constantly move from the scale to the flowers, and I honestly don't think the scale should be in this image - it would make it so much stronger. I do understand that you are showing both rust and decay, but one would have been enough. It does not make sense to put flowers on a scale? Your B/w conversion is well done and the textures in this image come to the fore nicely - hence your award.
Rob	Hart	5S4	Abandoned tractor	11	Gold	And here is another poor tractor, left abandoned to decay and rust away. I often wonder why farmers do not remove them from their land - they are often an eyesore. The image is nice and sharp, and the rust and decay is very prevalent. From the composition-side I would have left some space for the tractor to move into (even though it can no longer move), it would have made your image stronger. Try this in black and white - it might work quite well.
Rob	Hart	5S4	Detached horse shoe	10	Gold	Another good example of rust - and I like the angle this was shot at - seeing the horse shoe from another side, nice. The colours are complementary in this image, and the rust is obvious. However, I think this image would have been stronger if you had a deeper depth of field, and the entire horse show would be sharp.
Rob	Hart	5S4	Rusty barn roof	14	Merit	For a second - as soon as this image came up - I thought I was looking at rows and rows of different fields! This is a very interesting image, and I like the angle it was taken at. The rust and decay of the barn roofs are very apparent, and very well spotted too! I commend you on leaving in the red field at the top of this image, as it is reflected in the rust. I also quite enjoy your border - both the photoshopped one, as well as the two trees. It gives this image a mood in my opinion - that focusses nicely on the concept of farming, of rust, of colours and of nature. Very well taken!
Leon	Heyes	6S1	Abandoned Free State Farmhouse	14	Merit	This is lovely - almost a South African landscape-type of image. The decay of this lovely building has just begun, sadly, as everything still looks to be in very good nick, but the longer you look, the more you notice the decay. From the roof, to the windows, this is a great example of rust and decay.

Leon	Heyes	6S1	Maritzburg Icon	15	Merit	So what you have done here is highlight a section of this delapidated, decaying building, and kept the rest in black and white. I think this is called selective colouring, and I am a fan of this. The impact of this image is great, and even though your eyes move across all the buildings in this street, that are all decaying horribly, the colour forces your eyes to return to this one, and I think that this has been done exceptionally well! The half-half colouring gives this entire image a grimy, grainy feel, and it works 100%	Senior Winner
Leon	Heyes	6S1	Where there is Life there is Hope	12	Gold	I like your title, and the little green plant reinforces it. I just wish you had included the entire window in this image, as it feels as if something is missing. The decay is very obvious, and I must say, I enjoy the different colours in the rotting wood and paint, I presume it is. A thin grey border would have helped this image.	