

JULY 2024 TECHNICAL CHALLENGE RESULTS - HENRY OPPEL

Star	First	Last	Title	Score	Award	Comment
1S	Nyasha	Godoka	Hyatt	13	Merit	Great presentation from 1 star lines shape and form makes for great composition, beautiful soft lighting on the building itself, suggest dropping the highlights in post proc to tone down the whites on the pots and the lspotlights. In LR there is a perspective control to get the verticals 100% which is a must in most architecture ima
1S	Sandra	Comrie	Pearls of Umhlanga	12	Gold	good exposure no blown out highlights I like the repetition of shapes and curves not quite sure what whats happening bottom right but it does spoil an otherwise well presented image
1S	Nyasha	Godoka	St Johns	11	Gold	lgood exposure throughout, love repetition of shapes and arches which then leads to the red drape and then leeds the eye to the statues which unfortunately lacks sharpness. Suggest dropping the highlights just to tone down the overall brightness and then apply selective sharpning on the statues
1S	Nyasha	Godoka	Valleta nights	10	Gold	compliments to the Author for getting allthe verticals right. I like the composition and the lighting on the main building which draws one attention . Well done on achieving the important issues focus composition and exposure. Suggest doing some border patrol and crop out the 3 little catchlights on the right vertical the 2 bright areas on the main wall has a spotlight lighting up a statue on the left and the one on the right looks like a processing error or could be smoke but it does jar

3S	Joan	Lindegger	Arches	12	Gold	Love the repetition of the arches good focus and good exposure with lots of detail and texture all around in a Open category I would remove the walking man and the 2 people in the back and keep the lady with blue hat beautifully lit and placed
3S	Joan	Lindegger	Bell tower	10	Gold	I like the composition with the diagonal and vertical lines exposure well handled unfortunately the image lack focus . Suggest sharpning Lr bring out some texture and hopefully bring the gull into focus
3S	wynand	lens	If you build it	12	Gold	Very interesting image which initially comes up as a very busy and messy image with lots of vertical and diagonal lines, compositionally the 2 almost silhouette workers creates a forced perspective where the white architecture pops out
3S	wynand	lens	Intersected Triangles	12	Gold	good use of repeating line shapes and form exposure well handled
3S	wynand	lens	Negative One	10	Gold	I like the diagonal and vertical lines the repetition of the steps. and the placement of the focal point -1 in a 100% vertical adds to the composition I find the detail very soft on the handrails Suggest selective sharpning and lifting shadows in the bottom 3rd to bring out detail and colour. Suggest cropping out the yellow top left and possibly the bit of light trap bottom left
3S	Joan	Lindegger	Squashed together	11	Gold	Tells a story of cramped spaces and different architectural style. Nice exposure focus. I find the leaning verticals uncomfortable but can be corrected in LR transform menu .Suggest also cropping out the bit of chimney and window frames on the right vertical

4S	Meleney	Naik	Arc de Triomphe	13	Merit	Very impressive structure well positioned in the frame. What makes this image pop is the soft lighting inside the structure and beautifully balanced great cloud formation Well done
4S	Doug	Couperthwaite	Beverly Hills 7518	12	Gold	immediate impact with the contrasting colors orange structure against the blue sky. All the different lines and shapes helps with the composition
4S	Liesl	Couperthwaite	colourful bridge	10	Gold	A very colorful image with interesting murials in the back which unfortunately holds one attention more than the structure and architectural aspect
4S	Meleney	Naik	Duomo di Milano Spires	11	Gold	I like the composition and the exposure of the structure against the sky the golden statue helps. Lack of focus lets this image down which can easely be corrected in LR sharpen and bring out texture and detail
4S	Jan	Lens	Gallow entrance	10	Gold	Interesting repittition of Shapes and arches drawing ones attention to the wooden door, it does show architural style. I think the tight crop spoils the image . The door is the central focal point but lacks sharpness thus leaves the viiewer looking for some thing to lock onto.Iforiginal allows suggest including more of the brick paving to lead to the door,apply selective sharpning in LR and bring out texture and detail on the door
4S	Mags	Vosloo	Hope at Dawn	11	Gold	Love the soft pastel colors at dawn Good exposure on the structure and the people on the pier adds to scale and composition,Suggest cropping out the light trap bottom left which will also crop out the 2 amputated ribs top left. If original has thew complete ship on the original then include it as the pier then points to the horison, if not crop out the ship.

4S	Jan	Lens	How many are staying here	9	Silver	Exposure, focus and detail well handled, nice repetition of lines and shapes< unfortunately the crop and processing lets this image down. Suggest using the transform tool in Lr to address the vertical lines
4S	Jan	Lens	Jail break	10	Gold	Lots of lines drawing ones attention to the rear wall with all the bars, well done in getting the vertical lines right,unfortunately nothing to hold ones attention, the area with the most focal weight is the light through a window lighting up the wall on the left. consider a vertical crop which will exclude most of the left hand wall and part of the right hand wall but include the light on the remainder of the right hand wall also will improve composition
4S	Liesl	Couperthwaite	morning light in church	11	Gold	Well composed interior of the church exposure well handled but for the blown highlights on the left I like the lead in lines of the floor ,the chairs and tables forcing ones attention to the altar and the beautiful windows. Suggest correcting and dropping the highlight the very bright areas on the left using LR
4S	Doug	Couperthwaite	Mysterious Window 7098	9	Silver	I like the green foliage framing the window and the overall exposure well handled unfortunately there is no strong focal point to hold ones attention and has no real indication of architecture
4S	Mags	Vosloo	Out of the Blue	13	Merit	I like the very strong composition applying the" Dutch Tilt" technique which has a strong tilt on the X axis (vertical) but not the y axis (horizontal) as can be seen with the signage angle being correct, exposure well handled against a complimentary sky Congrats to the Author
4S	Mags	Vosloo	Reach for the Sky	12	Gold	Beautiful dawn colors I like the composition with the 3 ships on the horizon and the person walking into the frame which gives the image scale

4S	Liesl	Couperthwaite	romanesque structure	10	Gold	Certainly shows of the architectural style of the roman influence with lovely line,shape and form, great exposure and dtail on the structure I like the contrasing green on the dome and the roof areas unfortunately the very dark shadow line in the bottom line does detract and spoils the visual impact,
4S	Meleney	Naik	St Marks	11	Gold	Lots of interesting lines and shapes, exposure well handled with no blown out areas other than the 2 spot light on the lower right, however lacks a strong focal point
4S	JOAN	JUNG	the silos building	11	Gold	Very strong horizontal and vertical lines, lots of detail and tecture Exposure well handled all around, I find the crop very tight on the right and the tubular item bottom right does spoil
4S	Doug	Couperthwaite	Towering above the palms 7625	11	Gold	I like the lead in with the pathway and row of palmtrees on the left to the modern architectural style building in the background good composition witht the palms on the left and the bold sign on the right, the reflections on the building and the class at the bottom also adds additional intrest. I find the lighting a bit flat and suggest lifting the shadows and a adjust contrast in LR
5S0	Heidi	Taylor	Downtown Durban	9	Silver	I like the repitition of lines and shapes and the tecture in the concrete columns, however I find the lighting or exposure and composition lets this image down the focal point in the image is the section with the 2 red windows
5S0	Heidi	Taylor	The Barrel Room	12	Gold	the contrasting colors create immediate impact and even thought e door is in the middle the plant boxes on either side creates a triangular balanced composition, architecturally it shows modern make over on old buildings

5S0	Heidi	Taylor	Worq	8	Silver	I like the diagonals lines and repeating shapes so well done on seeing this unfortunately lack of focus lets this image down .Suggest try and sharpen and lift shadows in post processing
5S1	Maxi	Holder	Auchterlonie Homestead	11	Gold	Nice capture of this piece of history in the ghalaghadi park. It dipicts the building style of the era.I like the placement of the structure, eventhought the stucture placed almost in the centre of the frame the chimney is on a 3rd. Exposure well handled in what appears to be mid day with lots of detail and texture in the shadow areas. Consider changing crop to 19x9 keeping the sky but removing some of the very green and bushy forground that does compete with the structure.
5S1	Stephen	Pryke	New Life for an Old Railway Bridge	9	Silver	This image has a lot going for it Love the murials and graffity on the bridge, good exposure and focus.Good focus and composition helped by leading lines Unfortunaly the image appears to be tilted to the left , the vertical lines in any structure plays an important part in 1st impressions. Suggest correcting this in LR in the Transform panel which will present a far more rewarding result
5S1	Stephen	Pryke	The Rainbow Tunnel	8	Silver	Aptly named structure with the beautiful color pallette compositionally the tunnel entrance is well place and being able to see right through adds value.Post processing lets this image down. Where the structure should be sharp and crispy it is soft and out of focus, some areas in the surrounding green areas sharp and the soft and fussy where it should not be. Camera shake or too slow a shutter speed could be the issue

5S1	Maxi	Holder	Welcome Sight	8	Silver	Love the highlights In the eye ,good exposure on the building, so nice image of someone else's art. Nothing in the image makes this the author's work if there was some one walking to the rest rrom looking desperate them this could work
5S3	Ronelle	van den Heever	Clutched	9	Silver	interesting repittition of Shapes lines and reflections , it does show off the architectural style. All backed with a complimentary sky so well done on capturing that. Suggest correcting the verticals in Lr using the Transform panel und applying a full horizontal and vertical perspectives, unfortunately the crane visable in the lower left and does spoil , in an Open category that could be removed quite easily in LR
5S3	Ronelle	van den Heever	Tiered	11	Gold	I like the exposure and the triangular composition. Lots of repeating lines and shapes.
5S4	Rob	Hart	Sail covered pay station	8	Silver	compliments to the author for seeing the potential in this scene, the curves in the framework the angle support beams and the awning streched across the frame almost like a gaint mechanical butterfly with open wings all in focus and well exposed. Unfortunately post proccesing lets the image down, ones eye is automatically drawn to the pay station units in the back needs to be straightened then drawn back to the leaning structure on the bottom right suggest correcting in LR which make this a far more pleasing image

5S4	Rob	Hart	Rail track repurposed wier brace	8	Silver	head on image of a weir depicting the smooth water rushing down untill it reaches resistance which culminates into rough water so a good contrast was acheived, unfortunately there is no strong focal point . Perhaps there is more of a story on the left of the weir where the water seems to be flowing over the wall, maybe consider using a slower shuter speed if visiting this site again and at a more diagonal viewing angle
6S1	Leon	Heyes	Maritzburgs Shame	11	Gold	this image tells a sad story repeated all over our country. I like the low angle that was used which also includes the omniuous sky that adds to the story, good exposure and detail the red door holds ones attention.
6S1	Leon	Heyes	One Thirty in Maritzburg	12	Gold	Beautifull colonial architecture with al the lines and shapes good detail and exposure the clock provides the focal point
6S1	Leon	Heyes	Stairs up the Outside	12	Gold	I love the simplicity of this image interesting lines, shapes and form with the staircase and the contrasting shadows of the steps. Great use of sidelight, Well done