CAMBRIDGE CAMERA CLUB PRINT SECTION 20/06/2019 BOTH SUBJECTS

GRADE	open	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
A	COCO GOES UNDERCOVER	I think the eye level aspect at which you have made this image draws the viewer in to the eyes which are nice and sharp. I feel that images of pets can often mean far more to the owner than a random viewer such as myself and I do not get an emotive reaction from this image.		
А	MY MATES NOT WELL	There is an ambiguity to this title and this image that I find interesting. That is, we don't really know who is not well though we make assumptions. I appreciate the grittiness of the texture that has been added and the quiet capture of this moment.	Н	

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CAMBRIDGE CAMERA CLUB OPEN 20/06/2019

GRADE	OPEN>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
А	A WING AND A PRAYER	I found this an interesting rendition with the certainty of photographer input stamped upon the image. The colours are vibrant - almost surreal to me - which further objectifies the outcome in my opinion. I question the plane of focus just a little and would have liked to have seen a bit more depth to enable the eyes to be more involved.	Merit	
А	FLORAL	This image presents me with a soft, painterly rendition of simplicity of shape. I particularly enjoy the way that the photographer has kept the stamens sharp, even amongst the texture and softness.	Н	
А	HONEYBEE - APIS MELIFERA	To me this is an unusual and a slightly confronting way to portray a bee. It makes me feel a bit dislocated (I hope that makes sense). As a specimen image I feel that technically the high key background has resulted in loss of some detail.	А	Many
А	I AM WATCHING YOU	The eyes certainly have it here. I find the gaze to be clear and direct and focussed on the viewer. I appreciate the softer light and the way that has spotlighted the face of this big cat. I also feel the DOF chosen works really well to isolate your subject.	Н	
А	SHADES OF AUTUMN	I find that the two strong compositional and subject elements in this image are competing for my attention. The dog comes across to me as alert, focussed (and in focus). Then my eye is drawn to the lovely autumn colours and leave the hero of the image alone. Perhaps bringing out some more highlights in the dog's face and chest would combat this and allow him/her rightful centre stage.	Merit	
А	THE PIER	I think you have captured a decisive moment to which the two audits appear to be oblivious. To me there is a lot going on in this image and I find my eye wandering without settling.	А	

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CAMBRIDGE CAMERA CLUB OPEN 20/06/2019

GRADE	OPEN>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
В	BABOON AT THE WATERHOLE	I make no claims to be a nature judge. That said, I really enjoy nature as it shown to me in this image. Compositionally I feel the low vantage point, bringing me to eye level, adds a sense of proximity and involvement. I feel your chosen DOF adds to this story. As an aside, I found it weird how the hunched shoulders and haunches of the baboon look almost spider like (definitely NOT a nature judge!).	н	
В	BANISHED	I appreciate the gaze and the composition you have applied here, leaving plenty of room for this somewhat bedraggled and beaten up horse to escape in to. I find myself wishing there was no green on the top edge as I feel the tussock and colouring of your subject meld well. To me the light is very bright especially on the horse's blaze and hind quarters. I wonder if it is possible to drop those highlights a little to remove that distraction and perhaps also give more to concentrate on in the texture of the coat and the mane.	Merit	
В	FISH EAGLE ON THE BANKS OF THE CHOBE RIVER	I find it interesting that your title refers to a river unseen. Was that necessary to include I wonder? Does it add to the story? I feel your DOF works well to isolate your subject and that exposure has been handled in a manner that has not blown out highlights in the white feathers. Compositionally I question whether you need all of that dark, looming sky? A closer crop concentrates the viewer far more on your subject in my opinion.	Merit	
В	NEW YORK SUBWAY	You have given me a snapshot of life framed fortuitously with strong vertical elements. Each frames a vignette of life. I think B&W is an important choice to remove distractions and allow these vignettes to come to life. For me, the strongest elements are the woman on the right (under the arrow) and the central square. Did you need so much foreground to tell your story? Yes I think you did. I really enjoyed this image.	Н	
В	OUTA HERE	For me this is a real action shot that I wonder may have missed the decisive moment due to the way that so much of the LH dog and the main cattle element are obscured by the water. I know - easy for me to say with hindsight. I do applaud the choice of shutter speed to freeze the action and the water, as well as the choice of crop to focus into the action without distraction.	Merit	

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CAMBRIDGE CAMERA CLUB OPEN 20/06/2019

GRADE	OPEN>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
В	TA MOULTAN BARN MK2	I enjoy the harmonious and complimentary colour pallete in this image, I also enjoy the way the shapes compositionally reflect one another - the barn profile and the hills behind. There is some enjoyable lower light bringing up some definition in texture - I find myself wishing for more. Perhaps this could be achieved through a greater PP contrast. I also suggest a quiet vignette might concentrate the viewers' eye.	Merit	
В	TWO NZ ICONS	I particularly enjoyed the quietude of this image. I looked closely at the heron - not knowing its habitat and will take this at face value. My only suggestion is a compositional one - think about cropping the sky - which to my mind does not influence the image. This would also shift the horizon further away from the middle ground.	НС	
С	BACK TO MY ROOTS	Your title leads me to the story here so is integral to my interpretation of the image. That said I wonder how you could have added a higher degree of photographer input to this image to enhance the story and make it your own. Perhaps a different perspective, a closer view, a crop, a conversion to monochrome?	А	
С	LENTICULAR CLOUD	I get a real sense of place courtesy of the low perspective you have presented here. Your title focuses me on the cloud; to me it is overshadowed by the foreground tussock and background mountain, shifting it (the cloud) from centre stage. I feel the image may benefit from lifting the highlights in the foreground which comes across as a bit dull to me and perhaps a change of title.	А	
С	OUT OF THE BLUE	A great cloud scape in my opinion. Well seen. Do you need as much foreground I wonder? Does this compete with your hero element? I enjoy the congruence in the hill triangles leading me in to the dominant cloud triangle. I wonder too - try this in a monochrome version, with the contrasts ramped up a bit. This may work well to emphasise the cloud shapes and fluidity which are the key element to your story here I believe.	Merit	
С	WAIKATO HOSPITAL	I enjoyed this interpretation of a symbol of medical care taken to another almost poetic level. Compositionally, do you need the four bright orange lights on the RH side? To me they compete for dominance with the story of the reflections of the hospital which transform the building in to another realm for me. You might like to try even a harsh square crop?	НС	

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GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
A	A COLD NIGHT AHEAD	Thinking about Atmospherics here To me the potential for cold, the clear skies, the low rays, all contribute to a simple, straightforward and well told story. I feel that the composition has contributed order and clarity to support your story. I am thinking about what might lift this - perhaps a little more light in the foreground to make it feel a little less two dimensional? A human or farm animal element?	Merit	
А	BEFORE THE DAWN	A stark capture of a statue being lit from many directions, this image confused me. It feels like a composite or double exposure. I am really not sure what I am looking at here. I agree that there is atmosphere in the anguish on the face and pose (that has been created by another artist), and in the cloud or mist. Monochrome accentuates that. Yet I am left feeling like an observer. It does not create any degree of emotive reaction in me.	А	
Α	BEFORE THE STORM	The story of this landscape, for me, is not one of an impending storm. It is one of low cloud, bare landscape, harsh country. I like the way the compositional triangles lead me in between the hills and beyond. I also like the way the clouds keep me within the frame. I feel the monochrome conversion might benefit from greater contrasts as the overall effect I am seeing is grey. Perhaps a ND filter (in PP) to emphasise the atmospheric nature of the clouds? And/or a vignette to draw the viewer in even more tightly?	А	
А	CLIMATIC CLOAK	To me this image is a carefully seen and processed construct ionof various building blocks - shapes, textural contrast and shadings. This works well to create an image of numerous layers which draws me in to the stories of this atmospheric landscape.	Н	
Α	DUSK	Simplicity comes immediately to mind. Closely followed by triangles, silhouette and limited colour palette. I am struggling to find a rendition of the set subject in this image and feel it may benefit from detail in the foreground as I find that silhouette becomes very heavy and dominant.	А	

GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
А	DUSK 1	I appreciate how the building blocks of light, shape, line and texture have been brought together to create a quiet landscape rendition. I feel this is enhanced by your choice of a panoramic presentation. In terms of the set subject, I feel I am looking for something with a more definitive story - more oomph. I wonder too if a crop of a good portion of the water might bring the action of the cloud action more to the fore?	А	
A	END OF THE DAY	In my view this image captures atmospheric very well. I find the composition of three people pleasing and their positioning in the light tells a story of journey to me. I do find the bright patch of sky distracting and am undecided whether it is integral to the story of the image or not.	НС	
A	GOAT HERDERS	A story of life not as we know it. I enjoy the colours and the composition. I think lifting the exposure on the herd and the herders may communicate a stronger story of place and activity and support the set subject with more authority.	Merit	in a little of the second
A	MIRANDA SUNSET	Strong, vibrant colours tell the story here with the peak in the cloud formation echoing the rise and fall in the silhouetted land. In my opinion the flight of birds is important to add a moving visual element. I find the image to be quite grainy and this distracts from my enjoyment.	Merit	
А	NIMBOSTRATUS OVER Mt PIRONGIA	Atmospheric in its purest natural sense. I appreciate the way the clouds boil up out of the base of this image, threatening to block our view.	Н	arma franchischer
A	OHINEMUTU	I see this image as a pictorial representation of a well known building, enhanced by the steam on the water. I am looking for more photographer input in to the set subject this Grade. Perhaps a different perspective, a different time of day to let the light contribute more, monochrome, double exposure?	А	

GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
А	SHEPHERDS WARNING	Fire in the sky. I appreciate the simplicity here and agree that the tree in the foreground is essential to ground the image. In feel that the colours may be over saturated particularly the edging in yellow. Due to that element, N/A	N/A	
A	STORMING	More simplicity which I applaud. In my view the composition of this image depends on the tonal contrasts which allow the silhouettes to shine. I wonder if you need all of the dark hill - to my eye it detracts from the bruised skies and I think you may achieve a less weighted result with less dense blackness at the base of your image.	НС	
А	SUNSET IN THE FOG	I get a real sense of impending darkness from this image. I feel you have captured the rays of the sun without over blowing brightness and that this allows the green of the grass to show through (rather than a dense silhouette).	нс	
A	`SUPERMOON	Simplicity created by three elements - moon, tree and mist. This feels surreal and makes my mind turn to a possible composite. To me the mist or cloud which overlays the tree is patchy and incomplete. If I haveread this wrong I apologise.	А	
А	TAIHAPE SUNRISE	I enjoy the story of depth conveyed by this image on many levels and certainly feel it fits your set subject. The fortuitous sunlight in the foreground invites me in to explore the layers of landscape that lead me to the distant hills. I appreciate the soft colours and the contrast between light and shade. Very appealing to me.	Н	
Α	WINTER OASIS	To me this image is a story of simplicity. It represents smoothness and order but hints at a hidden potential for chaos under the fog. The pines create the bow of a ship headed in to the unknown. That may sound fanciful but it is what I see here. To enhance that interpretation I suggest you consider cropping from the base to eliminate the hill on the LH side and possibly consider a ND filter in PP to bring out drama and details in the sky.	нс	

GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
Α	YORSHIRE IN LATE SUMMER	I enjoy the light on the landscape and in the sky. I also enjoy the complimentary blue and gold colour palette which I find to be harmonious. In terms of composition, I question whether you need the line of green grasses at the base (as its elimination would add to the colour harmony in my opinion) and I wish I could loose the distraction of the tree on the LH border. A step to the right perhaps?	Merit	
В	A GOLDEN MORNING	Restful and full of promise; an intriguing story of the day yet to come. In my opinion you have handled the capture of the light carefully and recognised layers of compositional elements to invite the viewer in to the image. I find my eye keeps going to the light catching the top of the roof line and find that quite distracting. You may want to try dulling that almost neon light down in PP.	НС	
В	A NEW DAY AWAKENS	The first reaction I had to this image was to crop out the foreground and concentrate on the fluidity of land shape, fog and cloud in the top two thirds of the image. It became abstracted. To me that is where the story is here. I would also suggest trying new techniques when faced with this type of landscape. Perhaps some camera movement to enhance the fluidity or a multiple exposure to trick the eye of the viewer. Think about how the photographer can influence the story.	Merit	
В	ATMOS FEAR	Great play on words for your title. This conveys a distinct story - on my screen it looks overly dark and I find myself wishing for just a little more light. Wouldn't it be great to have a person in there somewhere - to create more of the feeling of fear? Perhaps with a long exposure so that person became a ghostly figure.	Merit	
В	BLOWN AWAY	To me, red is such a polarising colour - as such it becomes the key element in this image. I feel this fits atmospheric quite well and presents a clear representation of the scene. I ask the photographer - how could you have made this more your own, less observational? In PP is it possible to draw out a more ominous set of clouds for example?	Merit	
В	CANOPIES ABOVE THE FOG	I enjoy the colours in this sky. I find my eye and mind concentrates on the big tree in the foreground and find that detracts from the story of fog and light which are the stronger elements in this image to me.	А	

GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
В	CASINO LIGHTS	The more I viewed this image the more I changed my initial reaction to it. Google atmosphere - as I am sure you have - and how overused that term is in marketing speak. This image conveys bright lights and concentrated punters. I find the bright facade on the LH side over bearing and I also wish there were more people filling those empty seats to tell a more significant story.	Merit	
В	DAWN ON THE MOUNT TEAROHA	The power lines lead me in to the image effectively an then I am faced with a solid back of cloud that - to meis over pixelated, as is the sky. This detracts a lot from the story for me. I do not feel any moodiness conveyed.	N/A	
В	EARTH WIND AND FIRE	Nicely composed of various triangular shapes, the deep blue layers at the base of this image draw to your very vivid sky. Is a sunset atmospheric? I think it can be; this image does evoke a feeling of the elements. I am looking for photographer's input to add a wow factor here.	Merit	ty Y , T Y Y
В	FIGHTING THE ELEMENTS	I get a feeling of dislocation from this image. I think it is because we all know the kite is there, and the leads to it show distinct connection. I agree that the person is disconnected from the waves To me this is a case of take care with how your title can lead the viewer in a direction you may not anticipate. Compositionally I feel the separation of the board from the horizon is critical to your story. Again, I am searching for a more vivid, perhaps personalised interpretation of atmospheric.	А	
В	FOGGY WAIKATO SUNRISE	I think we all agree that lighting always plays a huge role in your image. In my opinion this image has captured the atmosphere of the moment by emphasizing the lighting of the foggy sunrise. I wonder if such an expanse of shadowed hill detracts from your story, especially as the fog isn't evident until a few metres in to the hills. I suggest you experiment with a crop to accentuate the story of the light here.	Merit	
В	HERE COMES THE SUN	I enjoy the use of the flares of the sun to create atmosphere in this image. I feel the light has been handled competently so as to not blow out and the path leads me compositionally on a journey to the source of the light.	Н	

GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
В	KING COUNTRY SUNRISE	I am seeking the story here, and looking for photographer input to lift this sunrise from observational to a personal statement and to portray atmospheric. Compositionally I think the amount of foreground allows the viewer to concentrate on the clouds and sky.	N/A	
В	MAUNGATAUTARI MIST	Purely as a landscape I can appreciate the play of shape, form and light here. To me the connection between this image and your set subject is tenuous with the ephemeral mist being more than subtle. Due to that, this is NA and I encourage you to enter the image again in a different category.	N/A	
В	MYSTICAL MORNING	The element in this image that jumps out at me is the foreground of in focus green grass. The intriguing mist in the middle and background plays second fiddle to my mind, whereas I would suggest it should be the hero creating atmosphere. I suggest you experiment with a serious crop here to accentuate how you convey the ultimate story of the image.	А	
В	NATURES BEAUTY	My immediate reaction to this image was mood. The rays of the sun, the foreboding clouds, the sheen on the water - all contributed to transport me to where you were standing. The B&W conversion has made this feeling far stronger for me. I suggest you take care with the highlights in the water - they look overblown to me and if you can reduce those you might regain some texture and reduce distraction.	НС	
В	PAVE THE WAY	I agree that the mist and fog has given this image a shrouded atmosphere; it looks cold, damp and sort of disappointing. The weather on the day has given you only dull lighting to work with and I feel the result of the lack of light has dulled the image down. I wonder if compositionally you might have been able to accentuate the atmosphere by a lower shooting angle an thus add more of your input to the story being told.	А	

GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
В	QUIET CONTEMPLATION	I got a distinct story of contemplation and moodiness and atmosphere from this image. Framing a person into this image has created the illusion of being a participant in the event. This draws me more securely into the emotion of the story. So to me we have mood from contemplation, being solitary, sea spray, clouds, complementary colours and triangular shapes of the land providing stability and leading us in a comfortably repetitive manner to the instability of the ocean.	H	
В	RAINBOW VILLAGE	To me the this rainbow is an arch of care over the buildings below and it creates a distinct feeling of atmosphere on numerous levels. Whether it is caught in camera and/or accentuated by PP techniques is not relevant. The image makes me want to explore the houses and inhabitants. I find the small bright window on the RH side distracts me - you may want to think about cloning that out.	НС	
В	REEDS IN THE FOG	In my opinion this image shouts atmospheric. It takes me lake side. That said, please think about whether you need so much foreground to tell your story. Perhaps a crop would make it more powerful? Compositionally I am not convinced that the horizon is straight but I can't really see it so will go with that flow.	НС	
В	SUNRISE 2	I think it is wise to take care with titles for images that we see often. Sunrise 2 created no excitement or anticipation. To me the bright of the sun is well handled as it doesn't overpower the scene. I accept that the clouds and the lighting have created an archetypal and somewjay atmospheric sunset image.	Merit	
В	SUNSET SILHOUETTE	An image with fire in the sky. Having watched the Auckland sunrise this morning - in disbelief at the colours - I can see this sunset to+C460. I can feel your wonder at the visual aspects of this scene - awe I guess. At the same time I find the heavy silhouette dragging my eye from the fire in the sky and I wonder too how you might have made this scene more intimate, more your own.	Merit	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
В	TEKAPO STORM APPROACHING	I know we have seen plenty of cloud images in this set subject. This image stands out for me by virtue of the play of light. So ephemeral. I am finding the green tinge to the sky above the hills on the RH side a bit weird even if it is what was there, I suggest toning it down so that it doesn't distract from that hero cloud.	НС	

GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
С	THE MISTS OF LAKE TE KO UTU	This works much better story wise wise in my opinion. I find the over saturated colours contribute to a feeling of surreal other worldliness though I wonder if they might be a tad overdone? Often less is more. You might like to try dialling that back a bit. I wondered if this was a composite becasue the feet of the deer do not look like they are really on the ground.	А	THE PARTY
С	FADE AWAY	Definitely an atmospheric location and the mist and fog has added to a feeling of desolation and vanishing point type mystery for me. I keep thinking about how you might have evoked this feeling further - perhaps a vignette to hold the viewer's eye, a ghostly person walking through the scene (using a slow shutter speed of around 1/10th) maybe a multiple exposure? I encourage you to be lateral with technique to add depth to your stories.	А	
С	MILKY WAY OVER RAGLAN	I am not an astro photographer; I don't understand the techniques though I can certainly appreciate the outcomes aesthetically. In terms of composition, I think the combination of sky and landscape has the potential to result in an image with character. In this case I think the a point of interest is the way the Milky Way hangs low over the horizon of hills.	НС	
С	MOOLOO MIST	Certainly atmospheric. Compositionally I enjoy the fact of three elements, especially with the larger of the three not being dominant due to the fog. The subtle vignette holds me into the image. Two spots to the right of the middle flag are distracting me. Whatever caused them, a simple clone out would lift this in my opinion.	НС	
С	THE PYLON	In my opinion, this image would be suited to a subject about architecture or patterns or vanishing point. I am struggling to see it fit in to atmospheric. I think the B&W treatment allows me to concentrate on the repetitive structure and the viewpoint abstracts the pylon. Consider a vignette to hold the eye towards the vanishing point as this may strengthen your story.	А	
В	VICTORIA BRIDGE AT DAWN	I enjoyed this image very much. It gave me a sense of presence - of being there. To me this is achieved by the light on the toitoi and the ephemeral shape of that natural object contrasted against the leading line of the bridge and the car - which I am assuming was waited for, not fortuitous. I feel this captures atmospheric on many levels.	Н	

GRADE	SET>TITLE	COMMENTS	Award	IMAGE
С	THE COLOURS OF AUTUMN	If your title is the leading line in this image, in my opinion a portion of the colours of autumn deserve to be the point of focus in this image. I see two points of focus - both in the reeds - which to me do not support the story of the title. You might like to consider cropping up to the beginning of the trees - to me this gives a far stronger story. I applaud the photographer input and the self expression. I simply suggest refinement and practice would benefit the outcome.	Α	