

STEPHEN EMERSON MEMORIAL COMPETITION 2020

Theme:	Scapes	Type	Digital
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Number of Entries Maximum; 3 (unless Committee advise otherwise) 1400 pix longest side (Temporary change of format) 20"x16" (16" * 20"). Board Mounted Image

Entry Rules; Submission to this competition means the image is only eligible for further entry into annual OPEN competitions. Repeat entries (i.e. an image which has already been submitted to an earlier internal competition) are not allowed

Places for 1st - 2nd - 3rd and Appropriate Number of Highly Commendeds

Judge	Ian Stafford	Date	20.04.20
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Image No.	Title	Comment	Place
1	2 Metres Apart	Great foresight for current times! A nice opening shot with the figures well placed. A grad to sky would help	
2	A break in the clouds	Good lighting, your eye follows the road & the stream to the hills. Potholes distract and sky could be graduated down	
3	A shelter from the cold.	Good composition with the stones leading to the cottage flanked by weather beaten trees. A peaceful feel with lovely colours	2nd
4	A Walk In The Park	Has a retro 70's feel, almost 'kodak' colouring. Unfortunately the author was unlucky with a featureless sky and my copy lacks sharpness	
5	Across The Valley	I feel a square format would have suited this picture better and removed some of the foreground ferns. The arrangement of the hay bales are lovely	
6	Bamburgh Sunrise	A soft calming picture with lovely colours. The slow shutter speed enhancing the sea	
7	Beech Grove	An excellent subject for a B+W conversion, the tentacle like branches reaching out & drawing you into the photo. Good tones throughout	HC
8	Blizzard on the Beach	Apt title reflecting a cold, bleak beach-scape. The pp has worked very well with the groynes slightly bolder and receding into the distance	HC
9	Breaking Cloud	Atmospheric lighting on this lush green hillside. The bird is well placed to hold interest	
10	Brent Rig	A very interesting industrial scene well suited to B&W. Great textures in the grasses and the figures ad interest. Lots to observe in this photo.	HC
11	Brimham Rocks	A great record shot of these fantastic rocks. Well structured with foliage and clouds reflecting the rocks. For me the figure distracts somewhat.	
12	By Derwentwater	A very dark forboding sky ads another dimension to this scene. The B+W conversion does work in this instance	
13	Castle	Thought has gone into the composition of this shot with the rocks used to lead the eye to the main focal point of the castle. They do though tend to dominate the picture. A grad to the sky would improve and balance the good greens	
14	Cauldron Falls	Always a great subject to use a slow shutter speed and it's worked well here. The picture seems (probably not in reality) to be leaning to the right. Good muted colour palate	
15	clearing skys	Lovely peaceful reflections. The grasses standing out well and giving loads of viewing interest	

16	Clearwater Marina	The setting sun reflects well in the building & I found my eye wandering around the marina inspecting the boats	
17	Durham Countryside	Poppies in full bloom have great impact here and a sensible darkening of the sky helps to balance the overall scene. But damn those telephone lines!	
18	early evening at the headland	A well composed shot. I feel the shadows need to be lifted a little which would enhance the picture. Enjoyed the criss-cross of the railings	
19	End of The Pier	Classic pier photo that works really well in B+W. The author has composed this well with lovely textures in the wooden planks.	
20	Fast Water	The shutter speed has been spot on, the water flowing over the foreground rocks has a lovely feel	
21	Flooding aftermath	Again a good flow to the water with excellent detail in the rocks & Stones. I feel the photo is spoilt a little with the saturation though	
22	From Eston Nab	Enjoyed reading the flag back to front! And like the figure, looking at the vast buildings spread out as far as the eye can see. Good natural colours	
23	Gateway to Teesdale	The gate both opens up the scene to the viewer & gives added interest in its shadows. Well caught before the snow is gone.	
24	Gathering of the flock	A well seen shot that my eye moved slowly along the birds and the one in flight just stopping me leaving the picture. Horizon not straight which distracts and easily rectified	
25	Glen Affric	This picture makes me want to visit this area and walk in those hills! Lovely composition with a well chosen crop and a great sky	HC
26	Greatham Creek 2020	The light is sublime really lifting the image and making it special. Lots of interest in the various cranes. Saturated punchy colours work well	HC
27	Here comes the Sun	A beautifully captured sunrise with composition spot on. Letter box perfect. A very peaceful image that would hang well on any wall	1st
28	Highlands Connection	I like how the bridge echoes the distant mountains. The sky holds interest as well and I'd've preferred to see more of this than the foreground rocks	
29	I can see the pub from here	Hopefully this inn is still in business! The road leads the viewer perfectly to the inn the onto those lovely hills. The low cloud holds the image and colours are natural.	
30	Islay Crag	Love how the rocks break up the sea and give interest throughout. Sky has good cloud cover. Shadows lifted could improve image as well as removing spotting	
31	Islay View	Letterbox suits image well. The picture unfortunately has (I think) some camera shake from low light hand held	
32	Kansas Skyline	Great colours with the red building lights reflecting the setting sun in the clouds. The mown grass also reflects the lines of the tall buildings. A boost to the whites and exposure would give more impact	
33	Looking South	Reminds me of a similar shot I have. I love minimalistic shots like this with strong use of lines and little colour. Simplicity at its best	3rd
34	Messing About On The River	A busy shot capturing the riverside life, nicely framed with foliage	

35	Misty waters	The slow shutter speed has captured the waterfall very well. I feel a letter box crop, losing the foreground 'pool' would help as this competes with the main focus point and would make the waterfall stronger. Be careful of colour casts with the waterfall from the foliage	
36	Moody Sunset	A good straight horizon with a nice reflection of the setting sun, the letterbox crop suits the image	
37	Newcastle Quayside	This image jumps from the screen! Unsure if print would show the red digital 'bleeding' so I've ignored it as it may have been corrupted. There's bags of detail with back to front sharpness	
38	Nice Day on the Town Wall	A picture of 'lines', the wall, railings, buildings and finally the cranes. A well observed shot with lovely exposure.	
39	No Pot Of Gold	A classic view of Skogafoss with a well captured rainbow. Figure adds interest and scale but I wished he'd been running into the picture. Shows the power of the waterfall well	
40	Northern Goldsmiths	An unusual subject for B+W but it works really well, showing the magnificent building at night. I'd have preferred it without the vehicle trail lights but that could have been difficult for the author at the time.	HC
41	On The Beach	Beautiful light, especially on the promenade, and soft colours. The image gives an old world feel, well captured	HC
42	One man and his dog	Visually very appealing on first viewing. I was slightly put off by the pp work though, I don't feel the blurred bottom and sharp branches of the trees work, sorry!	
43	Orange Rain	A great sunset shot of the Nab. The foreground rock adds interest and leads the viewer to the Nab and those beautiful colour in the sky. Well done	HC
44	Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park	The crop works well to remove any distracting elements and focuses the viewer on the two main elements of the picture with the curves echoing each building	
45	Raging Sunset	A nicely captured seascape sunset with a perfectly level horizon.	
46	Raven	Never seen a captured Raven with its Jess! Perfectly placed on the third for impact and greater dominance. Shadows lifted would show more of the bird.	
47	Rievaulx Abbey	Lovely saturated colours with an intense blue sky. The light under the bridge is lovely. I'd change the title as I couldn't see the abbey!	
48	Ring of Kerry	A very atmospheric view of this valley in West Ireland. Colours of autumn really singing. The letterbox crop suits the image and the picture makes me want to visit.	HC
49	Roaming In Glencoe	Glencoe is one of my favourite places, it's so dramatic and a magnet for photographers. Unfortunately the weather hasn't been kind to the author as the lighting is flat. Increasing contrast would help this image that is well composed	
50	Rolling in the mist	A nice capture that shows good exposure control. The water flowing over the rocks and the mist coming down the hills all give interest to this good picture	
51	Room with A View	The tones of the water balance with the mountainside and the Band of green flatland breaks the two up. More contrast is needed as the light is a little soft	

52	Saltholme	Although the Transporter bridge only occupies a small element of this nice B+W picture the river does lead the eye first left and then right to settle on it. A well composed image that is only let down by the blown highlights unfortunately	
53	Seal Sands	A different view of seal sands for me. The passing train has been captured well and the normally distracting powerlines add interest. Good contrast and tones	
54	Solitary Tree	The classic view of the Malham tree with a lovely sky. Spot on exposure with back to front sharpness	
55	Solitude	Although I like the dog and its reflection my eye is also drawn to the wind turbines on the horizon and then onto the industrial plant. This makes for a pleasant triangle of interest	
56	Spanish Countryside	I'm sure this photo brings back happy memories of a good holiday but unfortunately the light has not been dramatic enough to give it that extra lift. I would darken the sky to help balance the photo	
57	Stepping stones at Bolton Abbey	I enjoyed this image and the lovely reflections in the water. Composition has been well executed as has the exposure. Lovely true colours. Watch those sensor spots though!	HC
58	Sunshine On The Langdales	To me the main element is to the right of the photo and whilst the fence does lead the eye in, the trees do not hold the same interest as the lovely light on the distant hills. I'd try cropping to give more impact	
59	That Tree	B+W always works for this iconic tree and the limestone pavement and the author has been rewarded with lovely wispy clouds. A contrast boost would just lift this picture into another level I feel	
60	The Witching Hour	An unusual shot that intrigued me. The movement of the tree branches and nothing being in sharp focus all adds to the atmosphere. The title well reflects this, for me, haunting scene that I found both unusual and enjoyable	HC
61	Two Ruins	The author has thought about composition and placed the tree branch to lead the viewers eye to the abbey. Unfortunately the contrast is a little harsh	
62	View Over Dunoon	Some inviting snow capped hills give added interest to this scene. I'd be tempted to crop into a letterbox view and lose some of the foreground water	
63	Whitby Lobster Pots	The stack of pots lead the viewer across the water to the distant houses where there's lots of interest to hold the eye. I also like the colour palate	
64	Whitby Sidestreet	The author has done well to capture this scene without scores of tourists/people. Only one lone figure is seen if one looks carefully. Dominant lines all give impact and the clouds hold the eye in.	
65	Woolacombe Bay	The aperture used unfortunately does not give the front to back sharpness that this image needs as there's lots of interesting houses to look at	
66	Yorkshire Stream	A nicely balanced composition with a good triangle of focus. The tree, river and barn all give interest to this well handled shot	