



Competition Winners September 2020 OPEN (taken in last 18 months)



Advanced	Color Digital	
Diane Poole	Rawlings Imagined	1
Peter Dunner	Nice Parapluies	2
Karen Goldman	Refelctions at Badwater Basin	3
Peter Dunner	NYC Reflection	H
John Norvell	Venetian Colors	H
Coriolana Simon	Still Life on the Price of Folly	H
David Terao	White Nigella	H
Advanced	Monochrome Digital	
David Terao	Chicago Skyscrapers	1
Doug Wolters	Whorls	2
Stan Collyer	Arches	3
John Norvell	Gondolas at High Tide	H
Stan Collyer	Up from the Crypt	H
Diane Poole	Contemplation	H
Novice	Color Digital	
Goutam Sen	The Cannon	1
Dan Smith	Assemblage of Discarded Iron	2
Goutam Sen	Milkyway	3
Novice	Monochrome Digital	
Maureen Gardner	West Coast Post	1
Nancy Axelrod	Preparing Dinner	2
Goutam Sen	Pine Cone	3

Advanced Color



First Place: “Rawlings imagined” By Diane Poole

Rawlings Conservatory and botanical gardens is a fun place outside of Baltimore. I have always wanted to take a cool “nighttime photography” shot, but it never seems to turn out right. I get by with a little help from my iPhone app called PsCStudio and “presto..chango” I have a beautiful night sky!

Here is a link to the conservatory.
<http://www.rawlingsconservatory.org/>



Second Place: “Nice Parapluies” By Peter Dunner

Nice Parapluies means Nice: Umbrellas. I was in the south of France in the fall and came across an alley in the older section of Nice that used these umbrellas for decoration. It was really intriguing so I did several shots of it and then lightly edited it in PS and LR cropping out some of the surrounding buildings. I was most attracted by the pattern.



**Third Place: “Refelctions at Badwater Basin”
By Karen Goldman**

Badwater Basin in Death Valley National Park is the lowest point in North America, at 286 feet below sea level. Usually it is a dry salt flat, but rains turned it into a very shallow “lake,” less than two inches deep where you can see the ridges of dried salt. I shot the image with my Nikon D7200 on a tripod. I set the lens at 21 mm, f/16, with an exposure of 1 sec.



**HM: “New York City Reflection”
By Peter Dunner**

Before the pandemic we spent a lot of time in NYC and I love walking the streets shooting images, buildings, street photography. There seems to be no end to the possible subject matter and interest. This was taken before the pandemic. The last time I was in, the first time in 6 months, it was sadder, subdued, many less people and cars. I have no doubt it will bounce back.



**HM: “Venetian Colors”
By John Norvel**

During our visit to Venice, my wife and I made numerous images of canals and gondolas, especially capturing colors at sunset. I liked this scene and waited for a gondola to pass by and stir the water and then a second to enter the scene. Fuji X-T3, 18-135mm lens at 26mm, 1/100 sec, f/8, ISO320,



**HM: “Still Life on the Price of Folly”
By Coriolana Simon**

The composition here reflects the “tulip mania” that hit the Netherlands in 1636-1637. Tulips became the hottest commodity, leading to wildly inflated prices and ridiculous futures speculation on bulbs – followed by a total market crash. It wasn’t unusual for one top-quality rare bulb to bring a price that included some cash, a carriage and four horses, several fur-lined robes, a carved dining table and 12 chairs, dozens of sets of linens, multiple huge casks of beer, and some well-fed cows and pigs. In my still life, you can see some of the prized “flamed” tulips and a catalogue of available types of tulips. The pile of coins, gold rings, exotic pearls, and a silver cup would have been part of the price of a bulb. The still life was created with an old Canon 5D Mark II and a Canon 100mm macro lens; exposure 3.2 sec at f/11. Natural light is enhanced with a soft box with one compact fluorescent. Tripod: Really Right Stuff.



**HM: “White Nigella”
By David Terao**

I shot this image at Brookside Gardens in late May this year. I've been going there for the past few years trying to get a decent picture of the white or blue nigella, but always came too early or too late. This year, there was a good crop, and I came at the perfect time (late May), but the nigella can bloom earlier or later depending on the weather conditions. I used focus stacking to get all the thorny portions in focus. I shot it with a Fuji X-T30 camera and Laowa 65mm f/2.8 2x macro lens on a tripod.

Advanced Monochrome



**First Place: “Chicago Skyscrapers”
By David Terao**

These impressive, new skyscrapers sit on the south end of Grant Park in downtown Chicago in a rather non-descript neighborhood except for these buildings. I shot the image with a Canon EOS R camera and a 24mm tilt-shift lens on a tripod. In order to get the streaking clouds, I used a neutral-density filter and a long, shutter speed of 90 seconds.



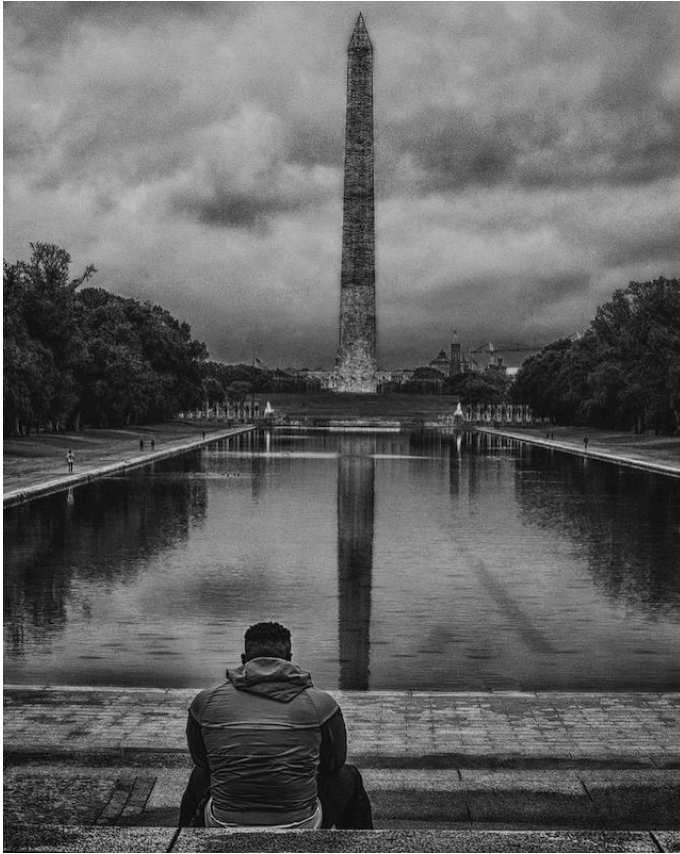
**Second Place: “Whorls”
By Doug Wolters**

During lockdown, our house has seldom been without cut flowers, either from Trader Joe’s or Whole Foods. The weekly bouquets give me endless photographic opportunities. This is a shot of one of a dozen cream-colored roses with a pink blush that I bought at Whole Foods. It looks much more vivid converted to black and white. I still have these roses; they look great dried. Shot with a Sigma 50mm f/ 1.4 FF lens on a Canon 5D Mark III, 1.0 sec at f/ 8.0, focus stacked in Helicon from 63 images (done by turning the lens).



**Third Place : “Arches”
By Stan Collyer**

Wandering around downtown Honolulu, we came across this archway outside an office building near the Aloha Tower. I was drawn to the vivid streaks created by the late afternoon sun, and had to stop for a few photographs. As always, my long-suffering wife waited patiently. This was handheld with a Canon Powershot G1 X, at 1/500 sec., 15mm, f/5.6, ISO 5000. After cropping and tonal adjustments, I used Lightroom’s Warm Shadows preset.



**HM: “Contemplation”
By Diane Poole**

Last month on a rainy and uncrowded Sunday we went to DC. This guy sat here for such a long time, to me he was truly contemplating. I LOVE this shot and feel so honored that the judge picked my image.

Taken with my iPhone 11 and enhanced using photoshop HDR filter.



**HM: “Gondolas at High Tide”
By John Norvell**

On a cruise trip to the Adriatic, we spent several days in Venice. This scene on the Grand Canal was near our hotel and I photographed it several times.

One day was windy with a high tide, making the water more interesting.

Fuji X-T3, 18-135mm lens at 18mm, 1/200 sec, f/8, ISO320



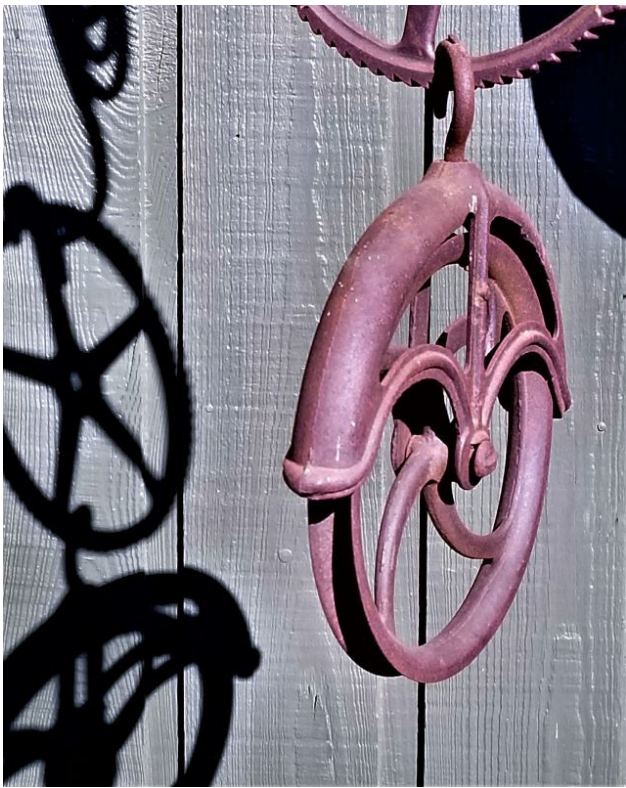
**HM: “Up from the Crypt ”
By Stan Collyer**

After a recent field trip to the Washington National Cathedral, I went downstairs to the crypt area. While not as spectacular as the main floor, there are plenty of interesting architectural details, artifacts, etc., to photograph. The area is quite dim, so a tripod is helpful. This was a 3.2 sec. exposure with a 24-70 zoom lens set at 62mm, f/16, ISO 1600. After tonal adjustments, I applied Lightroom's Aged Photo preset.

Novice Color



**First Place: “The Cannon ”
By Goutam Sen**



**Second Place: “Assemblage of Discarded Iron”
By Dan Smith**

Some years back, I collected interesting pieces of rusted iron at “antique and junk” stores we would pass by when in the countryside, as a sort of hobby. Eventually, I assembled collected items into two hanging “creations” which hang left and right of the steps to our front door. One day last January, I pulled out my cell phone when the shadows against the adjacent wall caught my eye. Unfortunately, just a day or two before, I’d submitted my entries to the January competition (“Shadows and Silhouettes”). If the timeline had been different, the Club would have seen this back then!



**Third Place: “Milkyway”
By Goutam Sen**

Novice Monochrome



First Place: “West Coast Post”

By Maureen Gardner

This view is from the Pirate's Cove Trail in Marin County, California, taken last Thanksgiving. I framed it with those wonderful old fence posts marching down, but credit for the exposure and sharpness goes to my smartphone, a Samsung Galaxy s8, which reports settings of f/1.7, 1/2200, ISO50. I was inspired to convert it from color to b&w by a recent MPA webinar by Cole Thompson. After following the simple conversion process he outlined, I thought, wow, this image was *meant* to be monochrome. So thank you, Cole & Samsung!



Second Place: “Preparing Dinner”

By Nancy Axelrod

This photo was taken in a remote area of the Omo Valley, Ethiopia. The woman was a member of the Aari tribe, one of the few (only?) tribes there that no longer adhere to their traditional dress and body ornamentation. However, they still cook their meals outdoors over an open fire. I converted this image to black and white to emphasize the steam/smoke. Sony a6000 camera at 18mm (27mm equivalent), 1/100", f/4.0, ISO400



**Third Place: “Pinecone”
By Goutam Sen**

Congratulations to Nancy Axelrod

Nancy’s image “Manhattan Crosswalk” received a Merit Award in the online art show “City” in the Grey Cube Gallery in August.



Grey Cube Gallery proudly presents the first City online art show for the month of August 2020. The show encompassed a range of artistic styles and mediums (photography, digital, mixed media, collage, oil on canvas, acrylics, watercolor, pastel concrete , recycled wood, etching and gouache). Each submission has been judged based on the following elements of artistic expression: originality and quality of art, overall design, creativity, interpretation of the theme, demonstration of artistic ability and usage of medium. Out of all entries, 111 artworks were shortlisted for inclusion in the show. The competition attracted entries from many countries across the world: USA, Brazil, Uruguay, Canada, Japan, Italy, Spain, Georgia, Australia, Malaysia, South Korea, Poland, Austria, Israel, Russia, Germany, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

The winning entries are displayed here: <https://greycubegallery.com/current-show/index.html>. Mine is the final thumbnail in the section of Merit Awards.

The photo will continue to be archived on the Grey Cube Gallery web site: www.greycubegallery.com