



Competition Winners September 2022: Topic: Open



Novice Digital

Rhina Cabezas	<i>Soft Petals</i>	1
---------------	--------------------	---

Advanced Digital

Nicolas Raymond	<i>Autumn Dutchman Swirl Falls</i>	1
Goutam Sen	<i>My Lunch</i>	2
Gosia Klosek	<i>Wave Inspired By Monet</i>	3
Quentin Fisher	<i>Hungry Egret Chicks</i>	H
Goutam Sen	<i>Catch Me</i>	H
Coriolana Simon	<i>Still Life Of Time And Place</i>	H

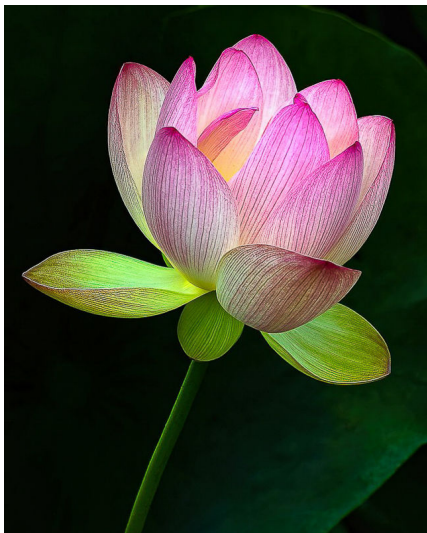
Novice Monochrome

Sammy Katta	<i>In The Attic</i>	1
-------------	---------------------	---

Advanced Monochrome

Quentin Fisher	<i>Reddish Egret White Morph</i>	1
Coriolana Simon	<i>Leafy Dragon</i>	2
Quentin Fisher	<i>Snow Geese On The Move</i>	3
Dale Lewis	<i>Talking Seagull</i>	H
Doug Wolters	<i>Tubes</i>	H

Novice Color



First Place: “Soft Petals”

By Rhina Cabezas

This was taken in Washington D.C. at the Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Garden, during the peak bloom of the Lotus flowers. Among the numerous flowers, this one stood alone and was beginning to open, offering a different perspective than the traditional lotus flower.

Advanced Color



First Place:

“Autumn Dutchman Swirl Falls”

By Nicolas Raymond

Long exposure photo of Dutchman Falls with swirling autumn leaves. Located in Loyalsock State Forest, Pennsylvania. Shutter Speeds (from multiple exposures captured in-camera to create an HDR composite): 2, 4, 8, 15 and 30 seconds
Aperture: F/16, Focal Length: 24 mm, ISO: 100



Second Place: “My Lunch”

By Goutam Sen

Watching and photographing Bald eagles fishing at Conowingo Dam, MD is one of my favorite places to go in early winter and spring- when they rest here for a week or two before migrating. I always shoot in continuous mode (AF-C) and pick the one I like. I picked this picture just to show the majestic bald eagle's eye- as if it is telling that “I got it”, as well the curve of the wings- along with the fish. This picture was taken at f/6.3, ISO 640, shutter speed 1/2000.



Third Place:
“Wave Inspired By Monet”
 By Gosia Klosek

The image was taken this summer on the Atlantic coast, in the afternoon of a June overcast day. I decided on a truly long exposure to capture the dynamics of breaking waves and back and forth surf.
 Nikon ISO100 f/36 3 sec 300mm (with 6 ND)



HM: “Hungry Egret Chicks”
 By Quentin Fisher

One of the hottest birding spots during Spring migration is High Island on the Texas coast, near Galveston. High island gets its name from the fact that it is slightly higher than all the surrounding wetlands and thus hosts a forest that invites respite for the small birds after their 800+ mile across the Gulf. But in addition to small birds, the Smith Oaks Sanctuary on the Island is the site of nesting and breeding grounds for Great Egrets, Cormorants, Roseate Spoonbills and other shorebirds. The Sanctuary is one of several properties in the region managed by the Houston Ornithological Society, whose members we found to be warmly welcoming and eager to share their knowledge. Photo taken April 2022.
 Nikon Z6, Sigma 150-600 at 600mm, F9 1/640 sec, ISO 1600



HM: “Catch Me”
 By Goutam Sen

Bull Rodeo show is a great place to be to enjoy the amazing capability of bull riders to stay on top of the ~2000 lbs bull for eight seconds to score the highest point, with very few successes. This summer, I went to Gordonsville, VA to enjoy the show. I picked up this picture to show a different flavor of the show. After the bull rider fell off the bull, the bull is still in fighting mode and chasing the clown- who are really great at navigating/ managing these mighty bulls. The picture was taken at f/ 5.0, ISO 3200, shutter speed 1/800.



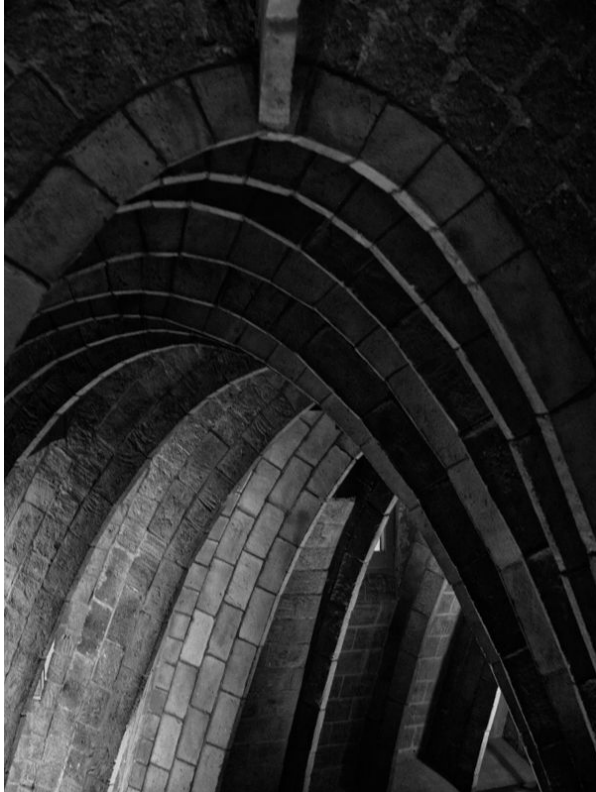
HM: “Still Life Of Time And Place”

By Coriolana Simon

This composition represents my interpretation of the Netherlands in the opening stages of the Enlightenment. Global exploration was long underway, and map-making had become a true art. Geography, botany, optics, and other sciences were flourishing, and it wasn't just scholars who had a high level of literacy.

After several weeks of fine-tuning the composition, I photographed it with my trusty Canon 5D Mark II and a Zeiss Milvus-2 100mm macro lens, all mounted on a Really Right Stuff tripod. The light is primarily natural light from the left, supplemented by one compact fluorescent in a narrow soft box. Exposure: 3.2 sec at f/11.

Novice Monochrome



First Place: “In The Attic”

By Sammy Katta

While visiting Casa Milà in Barcelona, I found myself intrigued by not just the elaborate, organic architecture and art in the main areas of the house, but also the less decorated attic, where plain brick was turned into something magical by this winding pathway of catenary arches. (Olympus E-M10 Mark II, 40mm, f/6.3, 1/6s, ISO 1600).

Advanced Monochrome



First Place: “ Reddish Egret White Morph” By Quentin Fisher

This was also taken in a class on eye-level photography of shorebirds in Bolivar Flats near Galveston at low tide. The birds are completely undisturbed by the photographers (in their chest-high waders) who are lying on their bellies. The Reddish Egrets are recognizable by their energetic style of fishing, craning their necks and sprawling their legs side to side. Photo taken April 2022. Nikon Z6, Sigma 150-600 at 480mm, F9 1/8000 sec ISO 1600. Benro Ballhead mounted on a Naturescapes Skimmer Ground Pod



Second Place: “Leafy Dragon” By Coriolana Simon

I have an ongoing project that I call “Edibles,” which consists of fruits and vegetables in arrangements inspired by my studies of Ikebana (Japanese flower arranging). Here, I was trying various compositions using the flaky skinned tomatillos and chard, cabbage, or other leafy greens. For a long time, I found this image vaguely disturbing, and I only recently discovered why: it revealed a scary face of what could be a dragon. Photographed with my faithful Canon 5D Mark II and a Canon EF 100mm macro lens. Exposure: 8 sec at f/29.



Third Place: “Snow Geese on the Move” By Quentin Fisher

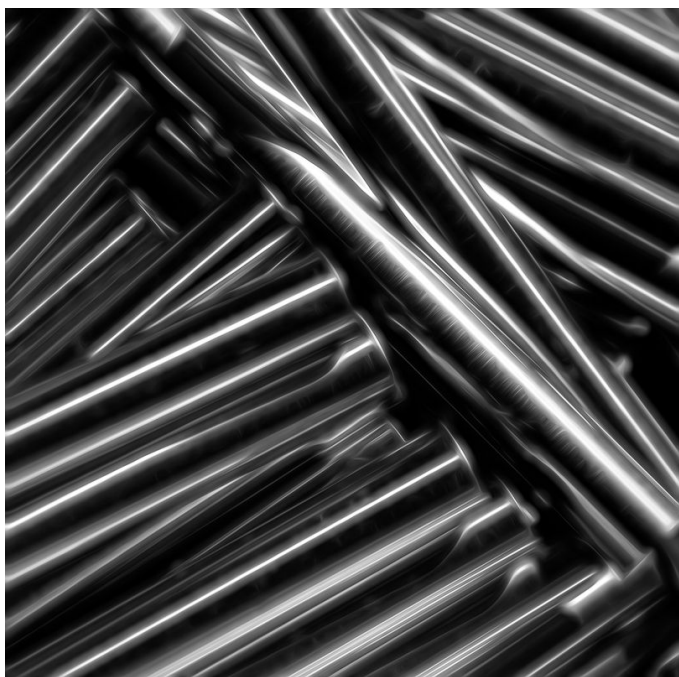
We were at Prime Hook NWR on the Delaware coast when another birdwatcher told us they had seen a flock of Snowgeese on one of the farms a few miles inland. Why they pick one field over another is puzzling, but we were amazed at the seeming chaos and cacophony as thousands of them descended to forage in a fallow cornfield. The Cornell Lab aptly describes this like "standing inside a snow globe." Photo taken January 22, 2022 Nikon Z6, Sigma 150-600 with extender at 850mm, F20 1/5000 sec, ISO 1600.



HM: “Talking Seagull”

By Dale Lewis

The photo of the seagull was taken on 8/13/22 at Ocean City, MD, on the boardwalk. The seagulls were flying around for food, and they were not afraid of visitors. This seagull was sitting on the rail making calls to the others. It was taken with a Canon 6D Mark II at the following settings: 1/250 sec at f/16, ISO 400, 200 mm (EF70-200 mm f/2.8 L IS II USM). It was processed in lightroom and Topaz Denoise AI. It was converted to monochrome in lightroom.



HM: “Tubes”

By Doug Wolters

This was taken during a construction project for our house. With the help of Silver Efex Pro, this is the result. Taken with a Canon EOS 5D Mark III, Canon 24 -105mm f/4L lens, 1/2000 sec at f/8.0, ISO 200