



Competition Winners February 2023: Topic: Patterns in Nature



Advanced Digital

Doug Wolters	<i>Bark Study No 2</i>	1
Gosia Klosek	<i>White Sand Dune</i>	2
Nancy Axelrod	<i>Seedhead of Goatsbeard</i>	3
Karen Goldman	<i>Cryptic Crystals</i>	H
Goutam Sen	<i>Star Trail</i>	H
Coriolana Simon	<i>Fractal Romanesco</i>	H

Novice Monochrome

Rhina Cabezas	<i>A Giant Succulent</i>	1
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Advanced Monochrome

Michael Tran	<i>White Peacock</i>	1
Michael Tran	<i>Last Standings</i>	2
Nancy Axelrod	<i>Tree and Wheat Field</i>	3
Karen Goldman	<i>Ammonite Symmetry</i>	H

Advanced Color



First Place: “Bark Study No 2”

By Doug Wolters

For a long time, I have been fascinated by the variety of textures & patterns visible in tree bark. I often walk in Sligo Creek Park, which is near my house. Even along the path, it offers many trees that I have photographed. This image is one of my favorites, even though I took it quite some time ago. Taken on a tripod with my old Rebel T2i, Canon 2.8L 100mm macro lens, 0.4sec at f/ 22, ISO 400.



Second Place: “White Sand Dune”

By Gosia Klosek

This image was captured at the White Sands National Park. The shape of the ripple lines created by the wind was special for me. Increasing the contrast made the lines more pronounced. I also tried transforming the image to monochrome. But in color, the image is much more interesting due to some barely perceived reds and the many shades of blue. Nikon ISO 250 135mm f/10 1/800sec.

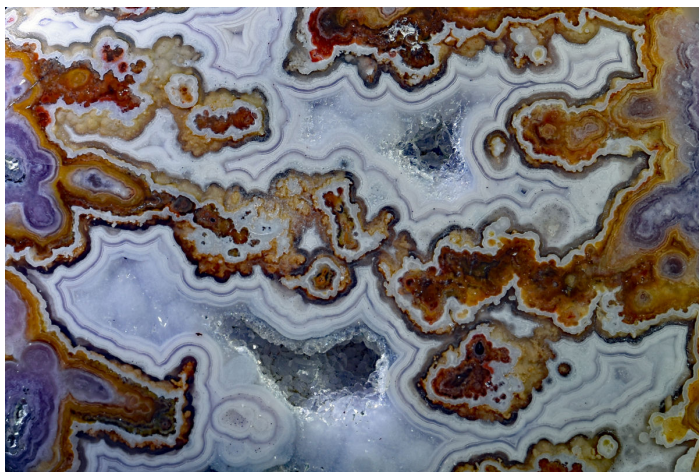


Third Place: “Seedhead of Goatsbeard”

By Nancy Axelrod

This image was made in Provence, France. I was informed that this is a seedhead of Goatsbeard (whatever that is!). As I remember, we sprayed it lightly with water. It was placed inside of a vehicle in order to get a dark background and the blacks and contrast were enhanced in Lightroom.

Sony a6400 camera with a Sony 18-105mm lens at 86mm (129mm equivalent), 1/250”, f/22, ISO 400.



**Third Place:
“Cryptic Crystals”
By Karen Goldman**

This image is of a small cabochon of crazy lace agate from Mexico. Nikon D7200, 55 mm, 1 sec., f/16, ISO 100.



**HM: “Star Trail”
By Goutam Sen**

**HM: “Fractal Romanesco”
By Coriolana Simon**

A vegetable related to broccoli and cauliflower – is an extraordinary example of geometry in nature. Its entire surface is made up of intricate spiral-formation cones, and sub-cones, and sub-sub-cones. Each one, from the largest down to the tiniest, has exactly the same logarithmic spiral formation. The spirals form the pattern known in mathematics as the Fibonacci series – a pattern that occurs very often in nature. And because every spiral is proportionally identical, the pattern is described as fractal.

When I bought this Romanesco at Whole Foods, at first glance it looked interesting. But, when I began exploring it with a macro lens, I found its repeating geometry far more fascinating. To represent it photographically, I thought the entire vegetable should be shown, and not just one small section enlarged. To complement the Romanesco’s shape, I set it in a ceramic Japanese ikebana container that picked up the same kind of points and angles.

Photographed with a Canon 5D Mark II DSLR and a Canon 100mm macro lens. Exposure: 3.2 sec at f/29. Really Right Stuff tripod and ball head.



Novice Monochrome



HM: “A Giant Succulent”
By Rhina Cabezas

This image was taken at my family's home in El Salvador. I was walking through the garden when I saw a pot full of succulents. The greenish-gray leaves seem to create compact rosettes with a beautiful repeating pattern. It had rained the day before and a few drops of water remained in the center of the plant, giving a nice little touch to the image.

Advanced Monochrome



First Place: “White Peacock”
By Michael Tran

White Peacock is rarely seen around here in our nation, I was so lucky enough to capture this picture, in Florida on my photography trip. The Peacock was dancing, showed-off his beautiful and tried to get attention of the female Peacock.



Second Place: “Last Standings”

By Michael Tran

was taken on my Autumn photography trip in West Virginia, on my way back in the afternoon was cold and windy. I spotted a section of beautiful TEASEL along the country road. Tripod was using for this image on that windy day.

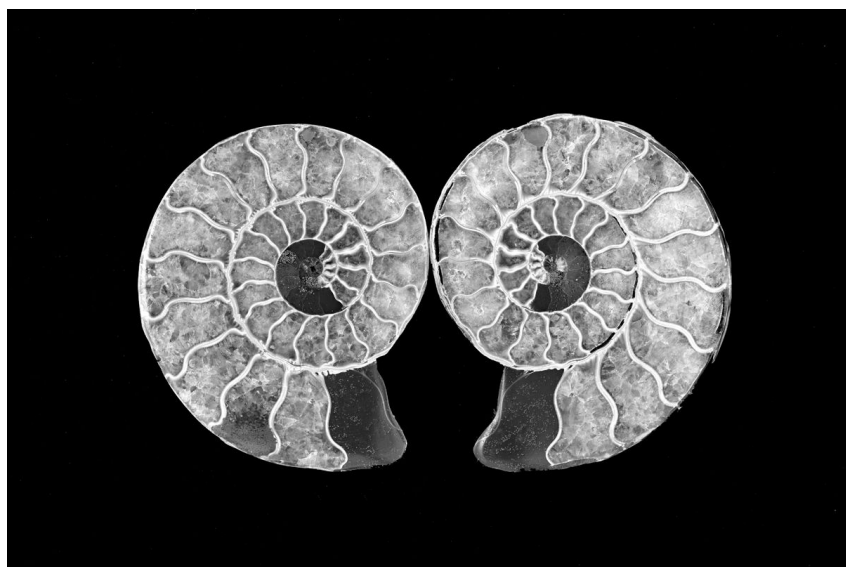


Third Place: “Tree and Wheat Field”

By Nancy Axelrod

This image was made in Provence, France. I thought the undulating pattern of the wheat field was particularly well suited to black and white.

Sony a6400 camera with a Sony 55-210mm lens at 202mm (303mm equivalent), 1/60", f/16, ISO 400. It was converted to B&W in Lightroom.



HM: “Ammonite Symmetry”

By Karen Goldman

This image is of the two polished halves of an ammonite fossil. Nikon D7200, 55 mm, 6 sec., f/8, ISO 1m