

H – Honour, M- Merit, HC – Highly Commended

LONG EXPOSURE		1-10 (ONLY IF DESIRED TO MARK)	Comment
Gladstone Marina	Acceptance		Nice place to photograph but your image has a few technical faults. I can see three or four dust spots on your sensor or filter. In the centre at the top and a couple in the water. Small dark spots which are usually dust sensor spots. Easily cloned out but they might show up in other images especially if shooting plain subjects where they have no place to hide. Your image has a big bright spot in the centre which could be cloned out as it's distracting and the whole image has a purple and blue colour cast to it. Nice smooth water action though.
Hookup Fireworks	H/C		This is pretty tricky to shoot as you have lit up the foreground and captured the fireworks at the same time however the centre area is a bit murky and not very focused but it's hard to get it all right in one image with so much going on so you've done pretty well. Could crop a little off the top too. Nice you have tried something different as well.
Keep Calm and Let the Storm Roll On	Honour		This is gorgeous. Very blue but that's how it was I imagine. Great part of the world. Love this one and the panorama one in the open section too. Sky and water is very well done.
Marina Sunset	Acceptance		A few faults going on with this one too. Dust spots on the sensor and very dark in places. Lightening the shadows in post-production might help. That leaf bottom right could be cropped or cloned out and some of the bushes on the left where they are just black and not lending anything interesting to the image, could go.
Marina	H/C		A good attempt at long exposure but I think the orange light on the right is nice but the ones on the left are too far gone in overexposure terms. Also, the yellow walkway on the bottom left could be cloned out. Looks a little murky on the image as a whole but the right-hand side is nicer than the left so it's a bit unbalanced.
Purakauni Falls	Merit		Lovely long exposure waterfall. Just to tidy it up a bit you could crop some off the front and right-hand side as it's quite dark there with rocks. Nice lighting and good long exposure technique as it's not overdone or blown out.

Sole Buoy	Merit		Another great time that has a blue moody tone to it but I like it a lot. Great framing of the scene. Little bit bright on the left behind the tree that could be cloned out or toned down but overall a pleasant image with lovely dreamy water.
Star Burst	Merit		Pleasant image. Nice rocks and good star trails. Always good to get some decent foreground for your star trail shots and you have done this here. Little bright on that white area. Not perfect but nicely done.
Star Trails	Merit		What a great place to go and a lovely effort producing this. That rock there is exceptional. Excellent work.
Story Bridge Lights	Merit		Lovely spot this one down by the 'old brown snake' as we call it here in Brisbane. I like to get to places like this when there's still some blue in the sky as the images look better than being too black but sometimes you don't get a choice if your schedule is tight. That tree on the other side of the river is a great spot too. Nice scene and good long exposure. Would just look a little better with some more blue in the sky and a bit more exposure to bring more of the lights out.
Whirling	Merit		This is interesting and something different to all the other images in this Long Exposure category. I like it. Those two guys on the left really make the shot. Plenty of people with phones in the background but I bet your shot is better with the long exposure technique show off the movement of the dancers. Nice lights in the scene and they are well handled too so they aren't too blown out. Good job on this image.
<b>OPEN</b>			
Beach Colours	Merit		I like this. It's nice to see the sand particles so close up and enjoy their textures and the pretty colours on the shell behind. I would just clone out those bright spots bottom left and top left so they aren't distracting and you can enjoy the subject without your eye being drawn away to those highlights.
Christmas Bauble	Acceptance		Nice idea but your image is a little overexposed and washed out. You could darken it in post-production quite easily and crop some off the top and right hand side too.
Double Trouble	H/C		This is pretty cool. I like how you have just included all their legs and tails but it's a little tight at the bottom on the dogs left paw. Good catch lights in the eyes which is usually the first thing you look at – a subject's eyes. The white on the right-hand side dog is a little overexposed

			<p>especially around the chest. Looks like you might have tried to recover it but it hasn't quite worked. And also with the dog on the right it's ears are disappearing into the darkness. Another light separating the subjects from the background would work or lightening the shadows in post production. Good job though and a nice portrait. Just a few technical things to watch. Love the tongue out too.</p>
Incomplete	H/C		<p>I like the bright colours in this but the lighting on the left hand side has struggled a bit as it's very bright there. Trying this again if it's local to you with diffused lighting or even in the rain with someone walking up the stairs might be worth a try.</p>
Nightfall at Wanaka	Honour		<p>Absolutely gorgeous panorama. The famous Wanaka tree is in there but I haven't seen it before done like this. Most photographers zoom in on the tree so it's nice to see a pano like this and I like the rocks on the edge of the frame bottom left. Sky is wonderful too. Excellent top notch work.</p>
Nugget Point	Merit		<p>This is pretty nice as is. Very clear and crisp. I wonder what it would look like if you cropped off all the sky and concentrated on the rocks and then maybe made a copy into black and white with really dramatic blacks and whites. Could look quite stunning. Worth a try on a copy of this image but lovely work.</p>
Shells	H/C		<p>Another nice macro image but I just find that shell at the front being dark in the centre and quite in your face a bit much. I would have moved that and shot around it. The one next to it is fine as it blends in better but the front one could be cloned and cropped out or have another go if it's possible.</p>
Shopping	Merit		<p>Pretty interesting shot. Nicely done. I like the way you've toned down the edges so the viewer is drawn into the shot where the action is. You've got just enough colour shade separation between the buildings and the sky at the top of the image so you've done well.</p>
Sundown Music	Merit		<p>Nice shot. I would crop some of the top and sides off so it brings the performers closer to the viewer. You've done well to capture the ambient sky and the lighting. Good work.</p>
Taskim Tram	Merit		<p>Good street scene. I don't mind the squarer crop although you could cut some off the right hand side so the viewer can concentrate more on the tram and the people on the left.</p>

Terraced Pools	Merit		Love this. What a spectacular place. Interesting how some of the pools are empty but the full ones have such a great colour to them. Could just cut a little off the right hand side as it gets a bit messy near the top. Also the bottom if you wanted to tidy it up there and make the pools stand out more. Very nice image.