

Monthly Results

Date: 08-Apr-25

Judge Izak van Niekerk

Overall Winner

Feetjieland	Elizma Duvenage
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Top 3 Open

1	The colors of Table Mountain	Riaan van den Berg	28
2	Old House Staircase	Fiona Nell	28
2	Kayaks in the Blaze_Gordons Bay	Carima van den Berg	28

Top 3 Set

1	Watching you watching me	Riaan van den Berg	28
2	Feetjieland	Elizma Duvenage	28
2	Broos	Hilldidge Beer	28

Top 3 Prints (Open and Set)

1	Soft Morning	Peter Dewar	28
2	Harmonica	Peter Dewar	28
2	Camel Rock	Peter Dewar	27

Open			
1	Celestial Circles	Hilldidge Beer	26
2	Final Hole	Phillip Breedt	24
3	First light	Mike Hodgson	27
4	In the garden house	Wynand Muntingh	21
5	Indlovu	Carima van den Berg	24
6	Look both ways	Ester Du Plessis	24
7	Monday Washing	Antenie Carstens	21
8	Old House Staircase	Fiona Nell	28
9	Owl	Laurette van der Merwe	27
10	Queens of the Desert	Bernard Seymour Hall	24
11	Sun Spot	Peter Dewar	25
12	The colors of Table Mountain	Riaan van den Berg	28
13	The King of Prussia	Steve Trimby	26
14	Tree at Morgenster	Neels Beyers	27
15	A Musk Moment	Hilldidge Beer	27
16	Architecture man versus Nature	Fiona Nell	23
17	Blood Moon	Bernard Seymour Hall	24
18	Chapel at Bosjes	Neels Beyers	26
19	Hier is jy	Phillip Breedt	25
20	Kayaks in the Blaze_Gordons Bay	Carima van den Berg	28
21	Long forgotten	Mike Hodgson	27
22	Misty Morning	Laurette van der Merwe	25
23	Multiple windows	Ester Du Plessis	27
24	Playing the blues	Steve Trimby	26
25	Protea in the garden	Wynand Muntingh	23
26	Shapes of The Season	Antenie Carstens	23
27	Sydney After Dark	Peter Dewar	27
28	Trans Aghulas S5 leading	Riaan van den Berg	25

Set: Macro			
1	Broos	Hilldidge Beer	28
2	Bubblebee	Carima van den Berg	26
3	Burst of Pink	Ester Du Plessis	25
4	Cape Honeysuckle	Peter Dewar	23
5	Feetjieland	Elizma Duvenage	28
6	Grannadilla flower up close	Neels Beyers	27
7	Great Escape	Laurette van der Merwe	22
8	Hover Fly	Bernard Seymour Hall	27
9	Looking to add colour to his life	Fiona Nell	20
10	Roadmap in Blood	Nigel Mudge	21
11	Sunshine	Mike Hodgson	24
12	To bee or not to bee	Steve Trimby	27
13	Velvet battle beast	Riaan van den Berg	23
14	Amberspire	Carima van den Berg	23
15	Brown and yellow	Neels Beyers	24
16	Creative cracks	Hilldidge Beer	25
17	Dahlia Delight	Fiona Nell	22
18	Dandelion	Steve Trimby	27
19	Domestic Tiger	Nigel Mudge	25
20	Get The Point	Peter Dewar	27
21	Hello	Laurette van der Merwe	20
22	Koekeloer	Elizma Duvenage	23
23	Small wonder	Mike Hodgson	25
24	Tiger Eyes	Bernard Seymour Hall	21
25	Watching you watching me	Riaan van den Berg	28

Prints Open and Set				
1	Open	Soft Morning	Peter Dewar	28
3	Open	Camel Rock	Peter Dewar	27
2	Macro	Harmonica	Peter Dewar	28
4	Macro	The Frn	Peter Dewar	25

Open HPS April 2025

1. Celestial Circles

Great composition with dam in foreground and horizon low enough to see the star trails in the sky. Love the focal point all lit up on the horizon. I am not sure if the lack of colour in the star trails would or could improve the image. **26**

2. Final Hole

Her right hand grip is far too strong and she is bending her left arm. Only joking. Good pin sharp image with amazing soft backdrop and dramatic sky. **24**

3. First light

Good composition with sun just peeping over. The more I look, the more I see. The road that snakes into the hilly landscape, gives so much perspective. The dust from the moving vehicles takes you into the picture. **27**

4. In the garden House

Light well handled. Can see some noise, especially on the roof. Image is slanting to the right. **21**

5. Indlovu

The post processing of this indlovu on the black background is well done. I think it can and should be used on the cover of a book. **24**

6. Look both ways.

Not just the rule of the road, but also the rule at the waterhole. These three juvenile Bateleurs are extremely sharp with little but lovely reflections. The blacking out of the entire background, does not do it for me. The background also helps with the narrative. **24**

7. Monday Washing

The use of filters do not always improve images. In this case, I think it is a "find edges" filter, did not improve the image. The image itself looks full of character with the door, cracked and worn wall, washing, etc. **21**

8. Old house staircase

Visual design. Lines, shapes, textures and tones. Extremely well seen, captured and processed. **28**

9. Owl

Spotted eagle owl. Perfect focal point. So clear and sharp. Good to see the different feathers around the bill and eyes. **27**

10. Queens of the desert

Great shot of these two ladies of the desert in subdued light. Good to see them amongst the driedoring plus a colourful sky. It is so much part of the narrative. **24**

11. Sun Spot

Great landscape. The sun spot provided this special scene with all the beautiful colours.

25

12. The colours of table mountain

I think that "The colours surrounding Table Mountain" would be more appropriate. This is a special image, The slow shutter speed was handled very well - enough movement in the water, but not milky. I can really appreciate the detail in the rocks in the foreground. The deep focus is phenomenal - tankers very visible and not just a blur. The lights of CT on the horizon and even the cable car station op top and the Tampax Towers are visible. **28**

13 The King of Prussia

So much to see and take in in this image. I would like to know more about this Princess of Prussia building that is wedged in between two other buildings. Very well photographed - no distortion and perfectly straight. Light superbly handled. **26**

14. Tree at Morgenster

Do you want me to believe that this is an image of a tree? Superb multiple exposure. Love the focus in the focal point and softer towards the edges. The dark lines that star out, work well as well as the blue specs. **27**

15. A Musk Moment

Is that Elon? Another great composition. Lots and lots of detail in the rocks. The shutter must have been open for just long enough for the stars to keep their shape and to show the light clouds in the sky. The placing of the person with the headlight, makes the composition great. **27**

16. Architecture Man vs Nature

I think I know who will win in the end. Again some lines, shapes and textures that makes this image interesting. **23**

17. Blood Moon

Lovely image of the blood moon over the ocean. Having it slap dash in the centre does not really work for me. I would have it either more left or right. The ocean part of the image, can stand on its own. Most beautiful. **24**

18. Chapel at Bosjes

Apart from the very creative architecture - building, glass, water, etc this image was very well captured. The full frontal view gives the effect of a mirror image, where the left and right halves are mirrored. The very fine border finishes this image off. **26**

19. Hier is jy

Great use of depth of field with soft background showing the narrative. Beautifully sharp, showing the feathers and colours. You can only see this via a lens or binocs. **25**

20. Kayaks in the blaze - GB

Such a well balanced image. The fact that the horizon line almost runs through the middle of then image, works very well here - because the colour of the sky is reflected in the ocean. The three kayaks are placed in the correct spot for me. The whole image has a minimalistic feel. **28**

21. Long forgotten

Superb. I see rectangles, squares and organic shapes. Together with the lines and texture, these shapes against the dramatic sky, tell the story of "Long Forgotten". **27**

22. Misty Morning

No better place to be than on Strand beach when there is mist. Lots of detail, even in the mist. Lovely composition and balance. Amazing how the two figures on the right, balances with the buildings on the left for me. **25**

23. Multiple Windows

The shapes within shapes balances this composition. Then, together with the textures and colour, makes this a beautiful semi-abstract for me. **27**

24. Playing the Blues

Great angle with guitar showing, probably strobe lights on the body and hat, but plenty detail in the face. Pleased to see some movement of the fingers on the neck of the guitar. **26**

25. Protea in the garden

Good image of protea in focus. I love the side-on view, in stead of the usual top view. **23**

26. Shapes of the season

I appreciate the creativity here. Perhaps more members should experiment with this. I can see the shape of the cut-out, replicated from the autumn leaves. Perhaps the cut-out could be an image of a tree trunk, other than the black. **23**

27. Sydney after dark

Thank heavens Eskom is not there - imaging load shedding there when you want to photograph. Very well captured and processed. So much detail - beautiful colours through the trees and on the water. Buildings sharp and not distorted. Great to see the fluffy clouds in the sky. **27**

28. Trans Agulhas landing

So sharp - I can see that these guys are sponsored by Six Gun Grill. Captured at the correct moment. The fact that another boat is blurred in the background, makes for a pleasing composition. **25**

Set Subject

Macro Photography

Macro Photography is extreme close-up photography, usually of very small subjects and living organisms like insects, in which the size of the object in the photograph is greater than life size. A macro lens is classically a lens capable of reproduction ratios of at least 1:1.

1. Broos

This image was not taken - it was made. I noticed the focus area, from the left to right on the ground, that gave the insect a base. So much detail shown - especially in the wing, the body and the tail - even the detail in the shadow of the tail. No disturbances in the background. **28**

2. Bumblebee

True Macro Photography. These guys never sit still for long enough to capture them. Very slight movement in the leg. Great detail - can see the yellow through the wing. The contrast in the colours makes this a great shot. Slight bit of grey in the bee attracts attention. **26**

3. Burst of Pink

A beautiful burst of pink indeed. Apart from the detail in the centre, I can see so much detail and sharpness the rest of the image. If I have to nit-pick - not such a wide and white border. **25**

4. Cape Honeysuckle

Lovely composite and post processing. Very well chosen background that makes the subject stand out. **23**

5. Feetjieland

Absolute "feetjieland" for me. I looked and stared at this image for minutes - just seeing more and more beauty. Composition great. Such soft colours with tips of focus standing out. Although not entirely to the definition of Macro Photography, I want to score this a **28**

6. Granadilla flower up close

So much passion in this passionfruit flower. Excellent post processing of a very well photographed image. I especially like the detail in the textured background. **27**

7. Great Escape

Super idea to depict the narrative into a diptych - although the thick white borders do not add to your image. I did turn the Image 90° clockwise and found it easier to view. Your single image is only partly sharp. **22**

8. Hover Fly

Wow! Such detail. Great mono post processing. Especially like the angle of the twig/stick entering the frame. **27**

9. Looking to add colour to his life

Lovely soft colours that he is finding himself on, but lacks sharpness. **20**

10. Roadmap in blood

An abstract to me. Beautiful though, but pixelated. **21**

11. Sunshine

Very well captured - a bee in flight. Good composition and sharp. You are showing what you want us to see. **24**

12. To bee or not to bee

Apt linguistic creativity in the title from Hamlet. Here I see Macro Photography on a beautiful soft background of hues. My eyes instinctively go to the bee, that is sharp and well placed in the frame. I will score this down, only because of the definition of Macro Photography. This is one of my favourites. **27**

13. Velvet Battle Beast

What a name. Good macro photography to show the colours, shapes and textures that we don't see with the naked eye. I would have loved to have seen more of the beast. **23**

14. Amberspire

To me the focus is on the beautiful element in the image - also the contrasting colours. If I could nit-pick - I would have liked to have seen the stamens on the yellow leaf background. **23**

15. Brown and Yellow

Another great abstract to me that does not fit into the Macro Photography genre. Score under **abstract 24**

16. Creative cracks

Great abstract with lines, shapes, etc - but does not fall into the Macro Photography category. I don't think that the border adds to the image. I will score this **25 under abstract**.

17. Dahlia Delight

Good placement of dahlia in the frame with lovely soft colour. Lacks sharpness. **22**

18. Dandelion

Very difficult subject to photograph - especially if you want it to be entirely sharp. This dissected dandelion shows all the detail that we do not always see. Great post processing on black background. **27**

19. Domestic Tiger

True Macro Photography - the size of the subject is life-size or greater. Such beautiful detail. Not sure if the reflection in the eye adds to the image. **25**

20. Get the Point

Not the usual subject for Macro Photography - but so well seen and shot. Such a great composition with all the elements of visual design - shapes, lines, textures, perspective, hues and tones. **27**

21. Hello

The focus is on the areas you really wanted to show, with a clean background to assist. Seeing the entire mantis, would improve the image. **20**

22. Koekeloer

Apt title - koekeloer with one eye. Light handled very well - no whites burnt out in this contrasty image. Vignetting works well with antenna kept inside the picture frame. **23**.

Small Wonder

Very sharp - showing colours and textures. Soft moving flowers in juxtaposition to very sharp frog. Beautiful. I find the soft area on right distracting. **25**

24. Tiger Eyes

Lovely colours and soft background. Focus point rather pixelated. **21**

25. Watching you Watching me

Mysterious. Scary. Very well captured. Great composition with sharp edge on the righthand side to give balance. The crop adds to the beauty of the image, making it two images in one. **28**