5th Competition: Movement & Open

B Grade Set: Movement

Judge: Paul Robinson

1. Summer Vibes – Score 14 points (2nd place)

In photography circles, for obvious reasons, this is called a Toyota Photo. The high-speed shutter has stopped the motion mid-air and the young lass has admirably performed for the camera. The horizon line indicates a lack of control as it is about two degrees off the horizontal, this is easily fixed by most post-production programs. There are no background distractions and the blue water looks inviting. The distance between the lass and the beach increases the sense of motion.

2. **Sundown** – Score 12 points (HC)

Taking on the appearance of an abstract approach, possibly with water, is subtle and features a pastel cold/warm contrast. The flowing, organic and diagonal lines features a form of composition called rhythm where our eyes flow around the image. For inspiration see the work of the Australian, Ray Collins.

3. Go Faster Dad – Score 9 points

The short panned slow shutter speed gives the impression of movement. The challenge here is that there is not enough breathing space; it inadequately represents what activity is involved. Whatever is happening it is a fun time where all participants are enjoying themselves.

4. Over the Westgate Bridge – Score – 11 points

The long time exposure has produced a strong "S" bend composition to hold the image together. The time of day hides detail some of which are necessary, such as the bridge pylons. Interestingly we can see some vehicles changing lanes helping the visual vibrancy of the image. See the work of the American, Stephen Wilkes.

5. Stoke up the boiler – Score – 9 points

Evidence of movement is subtle, the hands of the driver and less with the stoker handle, but the overhead slightly angled viewpoint contributes to the sense of minimal motion. It is a good illustration of the locomotive cab, layout and instrumentation. The image should do well in an open competition.

6. At the Skate Park – Score – 9 points

The closed scene (no sky) allows the viewer to concentrate upon the range of movement enacted by the three skate boarders. A close-in wide angle image similar to this would enhance the sense of movement, having many images with different lenses gives a range of options for competition. The observer contemplating the difficulties of manoeuvres contributes to the sense of movement in their opposite stillness.

7. It's Mine – Score – 13 points (3rd place)

Sports photography is a good choice for this competition and you have admirably captured the dynamics of the action. The background is quite distracting, for future photography take great care about them, or open up your lens to f2, or thereabouts, to put it out of focus. All eyes are on the football, this would be a good training image for young footballers. For inspiration see the work of the Australian, Michael Wilson.

8. Oh No – Score – 10 points

Opposites, of a very long term static colonial structure against the fleeting motion of a vehicle and trailer, imparts a great sense of movement. The challenge of the image is that the vehicle is truncated at its front, indicating that more breathing space was needed. The cold/warm contrast between the vehicle and the warm coloured stone building enhances the visibility of the moving vehicle.

9. Hill Climber – Score – 11 points

Panning is a very useful technique to indicate movement which you have achieved reasonably well here. The image needs sharpening (after re-sizing) as it is soft as shown. The red helmet and racing number encourages the viewer to look directly at the car, the key point of interest. For inspiration see the Englishwoman, Lou Johnson.

10. Moving through the mall – Score – 12 points (HC)

The in-your-face movement of the tram leaves no doubt about what is happening. The white areas above the tram could be solarised to make them darker (then layer the original and the solarised images together) to resolve the image. It is a good example of cramped, changing city lifestyle living in a street photography style. Although from a past era see the work of the Frenchman, Robert Doisneau.

11. Rhododendron Christmas Cheer – Score 10 points

The radial linear perspective gives a sense of movement in a static manner. The blooms are well photographed and may do well in an open or flora competition. For floral photography see the work of the American, Harold Feinstein.

12. Dawn Cyclists - Score - 11 points

Abstract approaches demand a refined balance when taking into account the title of the image. Titles are important in photography, for example this could be called 'Study in Movement" and therefore overcomes the challenge of attempting to identify cyclists. The dawn lighting is gorgeously handled and together with the red top of one of the cyclists hones in on the key point of interest even though he/she is unrecognizable. For inspiration see the work of the Pole, Adam Kokot.

13. Higher! - Score - 10 points

Appearing to be a composite capturing the idea of movement of a child on a swing has been made with a unique approach. Unfortunately, most of the images of the child are just out of focus and it perhaps would look better as a vertical rather than horizontal format. Having the young girl dressed in plain coloured clothes was the correct thing to do. As an inspiration about photographing children see the work of Pole, Magdalena Berny.

14. Breaking Waves – Score - 12 points (HC)

Phillip Island, just off the coast of Norfolk Island, where rollers regularly and dramatically crash over the nearby reef; you have clearly captured here. The movement of the waves complement the scene rather than be the key point of interest to illustrate the sense of movement. The location is great for making hundreds of wave photos most days of the week and I trust you have a large series of these. See the work of the Australian, Ray Collins.

15. AO Mario Martinez – Score – 15 points (1st place)

Capturing the Spanish tennis player in high quality motion or movement shows effort, facial expression and movement at its best. There are no background distractions, satisfactory breathing space and blurred movement of the tennis ball and racquet makes this a memorable image and could be a winning image at National or International Salons.