

December 2018 Theme: Monochrome

Judges Definition

- This is a CAPA theme and definition.
- The entry must be in one of the following categories: Street Photography, human/individual groups, Landscape/Cityscape/Seascape, Architecture (Inside and Outside), Flowers/Plants (Wild or Cultivated).
- A black and white work fitting from the very dark grey (black) to the very clear grey (white is a monochrome work with the various shades of grey.
- A black and white work toned entirely in a single color will remain a monochrome work able to stand in the black and white category.
- On the other hand, a black and white work modified by a partial toning or by the addition of one color becomes a color work (polychrome) and would thus stand in the color category.

Now in English...

"Simply put, monochrome (mono means single or one, chrome refers to color) is an image comprised of various values (lightness or darkness) of only one color. A black and white image is considered a monochrome image but not all monochrome images are black and white." Club member Marv Pelkey

In looking for Monochrome concepts on the web, the first thing that I wanted to introduce was an easy, understandable and workable definition for Monochrome. Something not found in a Lawyer's Office or a Medical Dictionary. The following article out of Expert Photography (author Peter Dam) does a great job explaining Monochrome, it's uses, history in photography and interesting ways to work it into your portfolio. Check out the reference to split toning in Lightroom.

https://expertphotography.com/monochrome-vs-black-and-white-photography/

As mentioned in both our description and any other discussion on Monochrome, Black and White photography is always Monochrome but Monochrome does not necessarily have to be black and white. Interesting, when you search the web for examples of monochrome outside of black and white, the search is not that easy. There is a great site called Monochrome Awards with many fine examples of great monochrome photography, but all in black and white, not one example of sepia or blue tones.

https://monoawards.com/

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One exception to this is an article in Popular Photography penned by authors Darwin Wiggett and Samantha Chrysanthou. All examples are shot in Canada, most BC and Alberta. The first shot "cheats" a little on the term monochrome but the following pictures are wonderful.

https://www.popphoto.com/how-to/2010/10/how-to-make-your-photos-monochrome#page-3

There are some stunning examples of monochrome work in the last suggested web article. I found, though, that here again there were variations in color which a judge may question. This article is from the Digital Photography School and posted by Darlene Hildebrant.

https://digital-photography-school.com/25-magnificent-monochrome-images/

Creativity in Monochrome really stands out. Have fun and good shooting!