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- [Computers/Tech/Photo](http://www.letsgokings.com/bbs/f15/) (<http://www.letsgokings.com/bbs/f15/>)

- - [LGK Photography Challenge #2](#)

(http://www.letsgokings.com/bbs/f15/lgk_photography_challenge_2_a-72061.html)

rinkrat

February 10th, 2008 11:23 AM

<http://www.letsgokings.com/gallery/f.../colorcar1.jpg>

Added this weird car to my set.

tom91381

February 10th, 2008 02:54 PM

<http://i73.photobucket.com/albums/i2...rTour08621.jpg>

<http://i73.photobucket.com/albums/i2...rTour08679.jpg>

<http://i73.photobucket.com/albums/i2...rTour08439.jpg>

<http://i73.photobucket.com/albums/i2...rTour08506.jpg>

Pictures from my NY vacation , they had the colors.

Looking at the other pitures I see I'm a long ways from being good

ValleyFan

February 10th, 2008 03:51 PM

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FlyBoeingJets** (Post 1072536)

Okay. I'm back from work. I hat four-day trips with a passion! So here I am finally getting around to commenting.

ValleyFan:

You've obviously done some touching up on some of the images based upon other's critiques (which I would have mentioned as well), so I'll critique the "finished" images.

"Red Kitchen Bowl" is nicely composed and I like the color a lot, but I'm not finding anything in the image that's in focus. Even the water droplet seems blurred, though I'd have figured 1/1250th would have been a fast enough shutter speed to freeze it. I might feel differently about that if I were looking at the as-shot image instead of the shrunken-down version. Also, the first thing that catches my eye in the image is the bright-white reflections in the top right corner. It's difficult to keep my eye from wandering back to that part of the image. While it obviously gives depth to the image, it's brightness is a bit distracting to me.

"8 Second Stoplight" appeals to me. It's very HDR-like. Technically, it's obviously well-planned. Composition is appealing as well...I like the angle from which it's shot.

"5 South" also appeals to me, especially in its final form. It looks to me that you're square

enough with the yellow sign that you may have been able to get it to reflect a properly-aimed pop from your flash to illuminate it. That might have saved you some Photoshop work. The brighter that yellow sign is (so long as it doesn't overpower the white headlight streaks) the more that image is "made."

Welcome home! Yeah, with the Red Kitchen Bowl, I wasn't feeling good so I was trying to keep it simple as possible, which meant natural light. To tell you the truth, I'm not sure what I was thinking when shooting it, because I was shooting at iso 200, I could have cranked that way up and stopped down quite a bit to get more depth of field. I did want a narrow depth of field, but I could have made my life easier by stopping down. There is a little motion blur on the drop, but not much, it is mostly just out of focus (it was really hard to get the drops exactly where I wanted them, and this one was a touch behind the focal plane). If I where lighting it again, and I had a choice where the light was coming from, I would think having the light a little higher would cut down on the intensity of reflection, as well as if I diffused it a bit so there is less direct reflection and more defuse, so there is still something bouncing of the surface of the water to give it definition, but perhaps not so distracting.

As for the sign in 5 South, that is an interesting idea. I bet I could have even done it with a flashlight, less likely to blind drivers ;). It was about 150' away but I bet even a flashlight would bounce back from one of those signs pretty well. I wasn't even thinking about how that sign would expose to be honest, I liked it in the shot, and was just kind of happy you could read it, and it wasn't until after the fact when it was pointed out to me that I saw how much of a difference it would make. But thinking about your suggestion, it does make me want to want to try traditional light painting like that.

I did want to reshoot some of these with the suggestions made, but I ended having to work this weekend so reshoots aren't looking to likely.

Thanks for the comments :)

Watti

February 10th, 2008 09:25 PM

Been extremely busy lately but equally grateful for the deadline extension...

Still hoping to get more up by the deadline, but I wanted to at least put up what I have so far. Joshua Tree is *not* overflowing with primary colors nor shapes.

They Might Be (Red) Giants

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v6...dRedGiants.jpg>

30 second exposure... no tripod, just propped it up besides my tele. Not the best Orion picture by far but I'm very happy with the results because / took it, and there are blue stars and a red one : D

STOP!!!

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v6...RoundRobin.jpg>

Motorcycle tail light from the inside... upped the contrast in PS, though not as much as it looks.

Inflammable, Flammable... Is There a Difference?

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v6.../Flammable.jpg>

Myris

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v6...nm80/Myris.jpg>

Had the camera pointed backwards for one shot and this was the result... Don't know if it's my camera or if I'm just a naturally grainy person : /

National Park

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v6...tionalPark.jpg>

::shrug::

Finally, A Use

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v6...elestron-1.jpg>

Telescope eyepiece filters

Cow Stitches

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v6...0/Baseball.jpg>

That is a baseball

PuckHead27

February 11th, 2008 02:23 AM

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FlyBoeingJets** (Post 1072536)

Only improvement left to make would be to go back and shoot that one off a tripod, but I know that's impossible. On the larger version of the image, there is definitely some camera shake visible. I can't tell what the exposure settings were, but I'd suggest using a faster shutter speed at that focal length to help alleviate that problem. Also, since your subject is static, good breathing and a slow shutter-release squeeze might have helped as well.

Funny you mention that, the wind was very gusty up there on Diamond Head that morning. I remember trying my best to brace myself against the railing just to get a decent shot.

Blurker

February 11th, 2008 01:19 PM

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FlyBoeingJets** (Post 1072536)

"Twilight Tracer #1" is coool. Lots of circles! Get the flash off the camera to avoid that wicked shine-mark on the ball and you've got a good image here. "Twilight Tracer #2" is too centered. Rule-of-thirds is your friend. Also, with a dark image like that it might have been better to place the ball on a surface that reflects the ball better. I'm not thinking 'mirror' here, I'm thinking more like a granite countertop or something with a smooth, somewhat reflective surface.

I've added another shot of the ball [here](#).

It could definitely use some post work, but sort of gets at what you were getting at...

OTTO VoN BLoTTo

February 11th, 2008 01:38 PM

FBJ and ValleyFan, thanks for taking the time to share your thoughts on my humble offerings. Being very much at the bottom of the learning curve I appreciate it the input.

I agree with most everything said, and hope to post more refined shots as time goes by. Eager to put images up I'm being impatient and rushing in the "test" shots, thinking that I won't have the time (or the skill) to pull off what I actually want. Like the matchbox and the masks. Those again were the tests (I actually really like the mask shots though:biggrin:). I tried different angles and looks and got

cool ideas even from the failures, but instead of waiting and re-doing it right, I just posted what I felt was passable and moved on. And that I have only household items in teh way of "studio" gear and just a halogen worklight and a cheapo clamp light thus far doesn't make it any easier. Guess I'll be adding bits and pieces here and there and studying proper techniques like probably everyone does.

Also, hopefully composition will improve as I get more familiar with the camera and don't have to think as much about just getting creatively correct exposures--which is my main goal at this point. Shooting fully manual it excites me to get good exposures--especially in challenging situations--even without perfect composition. It's a long road to put it all together.... but it sure is fun and this thread is really pushing me to think and try and progress. Thanks again for the feedback, guys! It helps. And keep up the good work, all. Really cool seeing through each of your "eyes".

Blurker

February 11th, 2008 04:17 PM

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Watti** (Post 1073207)

Myris

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v6...nm80/Myris.jpg>

Had the camera pointed backwards for one shot and this was the result... Don't know if it's my camera or if I'm just a naturally grainy person : /

Awesome shot! congrats:

My only tweak would be knocking down some of the glare/reflection on the right side. It's a bit distracting, but otherwise eye am really digging it.

Watti

February 12th, 2008 12:53 AM

Added a couple more... I'm hoping to get some feedback for everybody's photos up tomorrow.

OTTO VoN BLoTTo

February 12th, 2008 01:16 AM

Two new ones [here](#).

FlyBoeingJets

February 12th, 2008 07:44 AM

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Otto**

Losing a bit of color and vibrancy somewhere between iPhoto, hosting, and post. Not exactly sure how to get it here in the best condition. Suggestions?

I don't know iPhoto at all, but if it's anything like Lightroom, you need to watch what color space you're exporting in. For web images, choose standard RGB over Adobe RGB or ProPhoto's colorspace.

That *could* be it, but again, I don't know iPhoto so it's just a guess.

FlyBoeingJets

February 12th, 2008 08:04 AM

Watti,

Nice work! I'm glad you found some time to get some stuff in here!

"They Might Be (Red) Giants" is a great example of some of the extreme captures that point-and-shoot cameras are capable of. I'm surprised by the relatively low noise in the image! Definitely an interesting take on the theme. And I think that might be Mars, but I'm not certain. Astronomy class was forever and a day ago.

"STOP!!!" illustrates the theme quite well with the vibrant red and the circle pattern of the light's lens. I like the fact that you cropped it nearly square, as I think it helps translate the circles to the viewer better.

"Inflammable/Flammable" is a good illustration of color and shape. It seems just a tad fuzzy to me in most areas of the image, though. Even in your apparent focus-point, there's a touch of camera shake visible. Composition-wise, it is definitely interesting.

"Myris" - Dude. Visine is your friend! :) Another illustration of some of the interesting things that P&S cameras are capable of! I'd respectfully disagree with blurker and say that I think the reflection of your light source helps give the subject depth.

I don't exactly know what to say about "National Park." The image is very very cluttered, leaving me wondering what the real subject is. I will say that it appears that your fill-flash worked well, though!

"Finally, A Use" is your best image of the lot! A great concept (though it looks as if it was somewhat inspired by another [image](#) I've seen somewhere, which is alright by me ;)). It's a little too fuzzy in parts, so I'd suggest a tighter f-stop if you decide to try it again. A stronger light source would have made it a bit bolder and more colorful. Other than those two things, though, I think you made a great image!

"Cow Stitches" is a close second, in my opinion. I'm blown away by the composition! GREAT! The soft lighting really works to bring out the texture of the leather. I also really like your depth-of-field control. Nicely done!

OTTO VoN BLOtTO

February 12th, 2008 11:49 AM

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FlyBoeingJets** (Post 1074204)

I don't know iPhoto at all, but if it's anything like Lightroom, you need to watch what color space you're exporting in. For web images, choose standard RGB over Adobe RGB or ProPhoto's colorspace.

That could be it, but again, I don't know iPhoto so it's just a guess.

Whoa... just logged in on my work computer and they look terrible. Especially the 2nd. Hmmm. I'll have to work on this.

Watti

February 12th, 2008 06:06 PM

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FlyBoeingJets** (Post 1074215)

"They Might Be (Red) Giants" is a great example of some of the extreme captures that point-and-shoot cameras are capable of. I'm surprised by the relatively low noise in the image! Definitely an interesting take on the theme. And I think that might be Mars, but I'm not certain. Astronomy class was forever and a day ago.

Actually the red one is Betelgeuse, a red *suuuu*pergiant in Orion. I had no idea that I could leave my little Powershot lens open for as long as 30 seconds, but once I found that out this was the first subject I had in mind to test it on, and I'm thrilled with the results, though I need to get out and try it again and avoid the slightly oval look the stars have... the wind must have slightly moved my camera. I too was surprised how quickly the noise in the shot cleaned up with a slight bump in contrast.

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FlyBoeingJets**
I don't exactly know what to say about "National Park."

Hehe Me neither...

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FlyBoeingJets**
"Finally, A Use" is your best image of the lot! A great concept (though it looks as if it was somewhat inspired by another [image](#) I've seen somewhere, which is alright by me ;)). It's a little too fuzzy in parts, so I'd suggest a tighter f-stop if you decide to try it again. A stronger light source would have made it a bit bolder and more colorful. Other than those two things, though, I think you made a great image!

Hehe Wasn't intentional, but yeah, I suppose it does bear a bit of a resemblance... :ummmmm:

Quote:

Originally Posted by **FlyBoeingJets**
"Cow Stitches" is a close second, in my opinion. I'm blown away by the composition! GREAT! The soft lighting really works to bring out the texture of the leather. I also really like your depth-of-field control. Nicely done!

Thanks! :good:

And now on to the Herculean task of catching up on constructive feedback for all y'all...

Watti

February 12th, 2008 08:42 PM

FBJ - Awesome shots as usual. I didn't notice the LGK reference in the blocks picture until another poster mentioned it.... clever :)

I really like the tricycle picture. It perfectly captures a kind of nostalgic, whimsical feeling with the saturated red, glistening rain, and shallow depth of field.

I also prefer the zoomed in version of the crayon picture, mostly due to how it brings out the texture of the paper, like another poster said. It too brings out a sort of nostalgia... as does the blocks

picture...

The only criticism I can offer is in the neon sign picture... for some reason the color in the tubes doesn't seem to me to have quite the punch that it could have. I don't know if it's an issue of contrast or what, but it would be cool if you could bring out a little more brightness from the main lights without losing the rest of the image. What stands out to me in the picture for whatever reason is the reflection of the tubing on the sign itself.

What flavor were the cupcakes, exactly?

Unruely - To me your first image captures perfectly the strength of a point and shoot camera... It's an excellent snapshot. There's a certain grittiness and realness (if that's a word) to the lighting, the dirt on the ball, etc. It's almost as if that photo tells more of a story than if you were to take the same picture with a higher end camera... When I can eventually afford to upgrade to a DSLR, I'm still going to make sure to carry my P&S around as well for these very reasons. I hope that made sense.

Your second picture reminds me of high school and the third one makes me want jelly beans. :)

Big Joe - I'm confused as to why your radio glows bluish purple... Perfect for the theme :)

I really like the picture of the bricks. It seems such a simple concept, but there's something about it that's different... the only way I can describe it is that they look cold to the touch. You mentioned that it took 15 minutes to render, what do you mean by that? I want my pictures to look cool to the touch too :)

Of course your dog picture counts. It does look like there's a little camera shake, but I like the depth of field. Just a little sharper focus and maybe a notch or two up in contrast and that's an awesome shot.

Otto - I really like your entries, especially the tack attack series. Brilliant interpretation of the theme! I think the 3rd is my favorite (tacks3-1.jpg), because the colors are really saturated and stand out.

As far as the elephant matchbox, I prefer the one that shows the matches... What if you were to tilt it to something like a 30-45° angle and include a little bit more of the matches? Great colors, regardless.

I really like the traffic light with the washed-out white background.

You're trying to win this competition, aren't you? ;) Awesome job!

Monsta - Great idea for this topic. I need to look into that lomo style, I love the colors in your shot.

Deuce - Reminds me of my successes at the past couple Frozen Furies... :) Perfect use of a lightbox. If you had tried to include a background it may have looked too cluttered... the scheme of the chips have enough going on as it is. Great job! :good:

ValleyFan - Wow! I really like the contact sheet idea... Reminds me of a Van Halen video ;) And I'm always trying to take decent pictures of food and can never get anything close to what you're offering...

I really don't feel like I have nothing constructive to add... maybe the tree in the background of the traffic light shot makes it a little busy? Not really, though, because the colors (thanks to your technique) really force the focus back on themselves... if this were a competition you'd be right up there in the running.

(more to come)

Added a few to my set. [Link](#)

You all have out done yourselves again. Sorry for the lack of critic.

PuckMonkey

February 16th, 2008 01:30 AM

OK, the party is over. Thanks to all who indulged my concept. Again, a lot of really good stuff, and again, I personally learned some things along the way. Hopefully everyone else did as well.

So it is on me to pass the torch from this challenge, and although the decision was not made easy for me, I did conclude that **FlyBoeingJets** had the best overall collection of the theme. When I selected the colors and shapes theme, it was images like Glenn's that I was hoping to see. Colors and shapes, without the implication that we were seeing a study of colors and shapes. Great images all around, but Glenn stayed on theme even as the challenge evolved/devolved. Nice stuff Glenn.

Thanks again to everyone who participated. And to those who have been just lurking, please, I would encourage you to jump right in. This is some fun stuff here.

PuckMonkey

FlyBoeingJets

February 16th, 2008 08:30 AM

Quote:

Originally Posted by **PuckMonkey** (Post 1077538)

OK, the party is over. Thanks to all who indulged my concept. Again, a lot of really good stuff, and again, I personally learned some things along the way. Hopefully everyone else did as well.

*So it is on me to pass the torch from this challenge, and although the decision was not made easy for me, I did conclude that **FlyBoeingJets** had the best overall collection of the theme. When I selected the colors and shapes theme, it was images like Glenn's that I was hoping to see. Colors and shapes, without the implication that we were seeing a study of colors and shapes. Great images all around, but Glenn stayed on theme even as the challenge evolved/devolved. Nice stuff Glenn.*

Thanks again to everyone who participated. And to those who have been just lurking, please, I would encourage you to jump right in. This is some fun stuff here.

PuckMonkey

Thanks, PM.

This was the harder of the two Challenges so far, for me. I wish I'd had the ideas some others in here had. Everyone had interesting things to contribute, and everyone else's images gave me ideas of things to shoot in the future. So in essence, everyone else may just have acted as my muse for future photographic ideas. For that, I have to say **THANKS!**

I'll get the next Photography Challenge up by the end of the day today, hopefully. It won't be any later than tomorrow. In the mean time, I'm going to pare this thread down, create .pdf files of it for archive purposes, and unstickify it.

All times are GMT -8. The time now is 09:36 AM.

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