

# FORUM PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2023/24

SPS MEMBERS' FORUMS



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## 1.0 The Forum Photographic Competition

### 1.1 Introduction

From September 2023 to March 2024, Sheffield Photographic Society will be running an online photography competition that is open to all SPS Members. The images will be posted on the SPS Members' Forums, where SPS members will judge the competition by casting their votes for their favourite photographs.

The competition will run over six rounds, with each round being based upon a photographic 'theme'. The themes, submission and voting dates are in sections 2 and 3 below.

### 1.2 Submission of Entries

Each SPS member may submit one image for each round of the competition. Images should be saved as a jpeg (.jpg) file with maximum quality. They must be in SRGB colour space and not exceed 1600 pixels wide or 1200 pixels high.

Images should be emailed as an attachment to:

[forum@sheffieldphotosociety.org.uk](mailto:forum@sheffieldphotosociety.org.uk)

between the submission start and end dates for each round. A reminder email will be sent to SPS members before the submission start date for each round.

The image file name should be the title of the image. For example, the jpeg image file for the image 'Pigeon Perspective' would be 'Pigeon Perspective.jpg'.

Please remember to provide your full name in your covering email.

### 1.3 Voting

The images will be placed on the SPS Members Forum on each round's 'start of voting' date. An email will then be sent to the SPS Members inviting them to cast their votes. Voting may be carried out at any time after receiving the email, up to midnight on the date given for 'end of voting'.

SPS members may vote for their favourite four images. I would recommend that one of your votes is for your own image if you have submitted one. Once you have cast your votes, you will not be able to change them, so please vote carefully.

When voting, you should consider how well each image responds to the theme as well as the artistic merit and technical competence of the photograph.

## 1.4 Notes on Voting

Whilst the entries will be anonymous when posted on the Forum, it is likely that most SPS members will be able to identify the photographer from the photographic style or simply from having seen the image before. The competition relies on our integrity to vote for those images we regard as 'the best' rather than to tactically vote for the images submitted by our friends.

Which images you have voted for will not be disclosed.

The competition is a bit of fun to help us all improve our photography by setting us themed challenges to respond to. Please vote honestly and fairly.

## 1.5 Scoring

Once voting is complete, the images will be ranked by the number of votes and given a score as follows:

- The image(s) with the most votes = 7 points
- The image(s) with the 2<sup>nd</sup> most votes = 6 points
- The image(s) with the 3<sup>rd</sup> most votes = 5 points
- The image(s) with the 4<sup>th</sup> most votes = 4 points
- The image(s) with the 5<sup>th</sup> most votes = 3 points
- The image(s) with the 6<sup>th</sup> most votes = 2 points
- The remaining images that have at least 1 vote = 1 point

The round results and leader board will be published on the Forum once the scores have been calculated.

## 1.6 Comment and Critique

SPS Members are encouraged to comment on the images once the results of the round have been posted. This will enable valuable feedback and help us all improve the quality of our photography.

## 1.7 The Rewards

This is one of the regular society competitions, and a trophy will be presented to the overall winner at the 2024 AGM.

## 1.8 Any Questions

If you have any questions about any aspect of this competition, please email them to Mike Newman at [forum@sheffieldphotosociety.org.uk](mailto:forum@sheffieldphotosociety.org.uk) or speak to Mike at one of the Society Evenings.

## 2.0 The 2023/24 Competition Themes

### 2.1 The Themes

Each round of the competition will require SPS members to submit photographs that respond to a specific theme. For the 2023/24 competition, the themes are as follows:

Round 1 – Wide-angle

Round 2 – Looking to the past

Round 3 – Trees

Round 4 – Winter

Round 5 – Triptych

Round 6 – Shadow

### 2.2 Notes on the Themes

The themes for the competition have been selected to allow entries from all genres of photography and to focus our attention on the visual and emotional impact of our choice of subject and photographic composition.

Your interpretation of the theme is only limited by your own imagination, but please remember that your image will be judged on its relevance to the theme as well as its artistic and technical merit. If your interpretation of the theme is too obscure, then your image may not score well, no matter how artistically and technically excellent it is.

Images entered into previous SPS competitions or exhibitions are acceptable for submission in the Forum Photographic Competition and vice versa. However, you should remember that it is the SPS members who will be voting on the images and an image that has been shown before may not do as well as one that has not.

There are no post-processing restrictions to the competition, so be creative with Photoshop if you feel your image will be improved by doing so.

### 3.0 2023/24 Competition Key Dates

Round	Theme	Submission Start Date	Submission End Date	Voting Start Date	Voting End Date
<b>1</b> (September)	Wide-angle	Friday 08/09/23	Saturday 16/09/23	Sunday 17/09/23	Sunday 24/09/23
<b>2</b> (October)	Looking to the past	Friday 13/10/23	Saturday 21/10/23	Sunday 22/10/23	Sunday 29/10/23
<b>3</b> (November)	Trees	Friday 10/11/23	Saturday 18/11/23	Sunday 19/11/23	Sunday 26/11/23
<b>4</b> (January)	Winter	Friday 12/01/24	Saturday 20/01/24	Sunday 21/01/24	Sunday 28/01/24
<b>5</b> (February)	Triptych	Friday 09/02/24	Saturday 17/02/24	Sunday 18/02/24	Sunday 25/02/24
<b>6</b> (March)	Shadow	Friday 08/03/24	Saturday 16/03/24	Sunday 17/03/24	Sunday 24/03/24