



THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2023

THE SCPF 2023 AUDIO VISUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Our first AV Championships in nine years was held this month on 22nd October 2023 at Cliddesdon Memorial Hall, near Basingstoke.

We had a great selection of entries from 16 clubs and AV producer Martin Fry FRPS FBPE EFIAP/d2 AV-EFIAP/b APAGB had the difficult task of selecting his favourites from 36 sequences.

A Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, Martin's images have received over 500 awards in international exhibitions across 37 countries. He is a panel member on both the PAGB and RPS Distinctions panels for AVs and a recipient of the RPS Dobson Henry Medal for services to AV. Martin reviewed all the entries, he marked them out of ten, then selected a first, second, third and highly commended sequences. Unfortunately, Martin came down with something unpleasant, and was unable to be with us on the day, but provided comments on all the winning sequences which we heard following the sequences. We are planning to showing all the entries over zoom on one or maybe two evenings soon, so those who couldn't be with us can share them and maybe Martin will be able to join us then.

It is difficult in this space to be able to share the feelings and emotions of each sequence, so I do urge you to join the zoom evenings to fully appreciate the sequences, but I have listed below the winners, together with a still from each sequence and Martin's comments.

This was such a successful afternoon that the winners from the afternoon (spoiler alert) Basingstoke Camera Club have agreed to host it again next year. so put the 20th October 2024 in your diary and I look forward to seeing you there!

Individual Awards

- 1st Sabine Tillie-Davidson ARPS CPAGB, The Natural History Museum, Basingstoke CC
- 2nd Steve Kirkby CPAGB/AV, Pride in London, Basingstoke CC
- 3rd Chris Pocock, Lost, Cricklade CC
- HC Russ Foote LRPS CPAGB, Camargue White Horses, bhpc
- HC Steve Williams, Carnivale di Venezia, Viewfinders of Romsey CC
- HC Shaun Davis, The Back Streets & Canals of Venice, Basingstoke CC

Martin said,

It has been a great privilege to review your work. Each sequence was viewed at least two times and scored based on photography, audio (music/sounds/Voice) and production using a six-point scale from 5 to 10 (no half marks).

Audio-visual is about combining images and sound to create a sequence, celebrating a theme or telling a story. The production element is very important. Some sequences I felt were too long and others the story telling could have benefitted from a voice over. The best work enhanced the sequences using transitions appropriate to the music, ensured all images are of the same format and each picture adds something to the story telling. This in turn builds the suspense, intrigue and emotion that make the sequences memorable.

I am sorry I can't be with you on this occasion, I was so looking forward to being with you today and congratulating all the clubs and award winners on their success.

So the awards are ...



In 1st place - The Natural History Museum
by Sabine Tillie-Davidson ARPS CPAGB

Sabine said of her sequence: "The Natural History museum in London is one of the most popular museums in the country. Its fabulous architecture and collection of animals and dinosaurs (always a hit with

children) makes it a fantastic place for a family day out.

But think about it for a minute and you may realise that it is but a place full of skeletons and stuffed dead bodies. The stuff of nightmares, really...

Martin's comments were:



The Natural History Museum - The title suggested we were going to see a visit to this museum and the author started us in this vein with a colour image. This though was a very dramatic visual interpretation where sound and vision combined to engross the observer. The use of transitions, pans and zooms and the graphic nature of the images combined in an excellent production where the author left us uneasy and questioning the collection.

In 2nd Place - London Pride
by Steve Kirkby CPAGB/AV



Martin said:

Pride in London

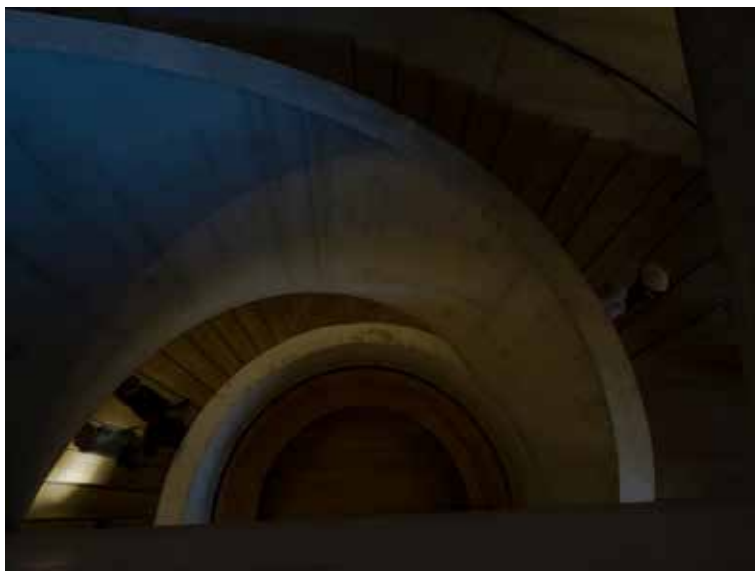
A super interpretation of the Pet Shop Boys song, It's a Sin. The song has excellent variation of pace and the author has used cuts to fades, pans to zooms very effectively to maintain interest throughout. Excellent quality visuals making it more than just a record of an event, rather telling a very powerful story.

3rd place - Lost by Chris Pocock FRPS

Martin said:

Lost

A creative sequence that totally engages the observer – the soft colours, use of light all add to the feeling visually and all integrated with a super piece of music that builds tension and suspense. Lots of clever ideas and thoughts here – possibly the pendulum at the start could also move closer to keep interest but I was hypnotised!



Highly Commended - Russ Foote LRPS
CPAGB - Camargue White Horses

Martin said:

Camargue White Horses

We see a lot of these images in judging still image competitions, so it is great to see them being used in a sequence. A most enjoyable sequence with good individual images and an excellent choice of music that carried the viewer through the sequence using good variation in transitions.



The sequence would benefit from all images being the same format. On a couple of occasions similar images were shown when one would suffice. The horse standing on its hind legs would be better as the final image. The monochrome image did not fit in with the flow of the sequence.

Highly Commended - Steve Williams,
Carnivale di Venezia

Martin said:

Carnivale di Venezia

High quality individual images throughout with classical music that said 'Venice'.

The author had thought through the relationship of main subject to the following image ensuring the blends worked well and

there was effective use of snap changes. The photos were in harmony with the music.

I did feel it became rather predictable as it went on – cutting the music at an appropriate point would have tightened the sequence. Adding a voice and your personal feelings would have raised it to the next level.





Highly Commended - Shaun Davis, The Back Streets & Canals of Venice

Martin said:

The Back Streets & Canals of Venice

A good photo harmony sequence of just the right length. Images covered many aspects of life in Venice and were well paced to the traditional piece of music, so appropriate for theme.

We normally visualise Venice full of colour so putting it all in Monochrome made it different and I think and gave us more time to appreciate the intricacies of the place. The music could have been edited to give us a clear ending rather than the cut off at the end.

And the overall results are – for the Oak Leaf Salver

Pos	Club	Total			
1	Basingstoke CC	29	10	10	9
2	Cricklade CC	22	9	8	5
3	bhpc	22	9	7	6
4=	Fareham & Port. CC	20	8	7	5
	Gibraltar PS	20	8	7	5
	Wokingham PC	20	8	7	5
7=	Oakley CC	20	7	7	6
	Wareham CC	20	7	7	6
9	Horndean CC	18	8	5	5



Congratulations to everyone who took part and of course the award winners.

Finally, a date for your diary - Come back on Sunday 20th October 2024 to Cliddesden Millennium Village Hall RG25 2JQ, for an afternoon of the selected sequences which this year's winners Basingstoke CC is hosting. The event starts at 2pm. The pre-judged sequences will be shown together with a presentation by the judge, as well as the presentation of awards.