

TOPG June Assignment: GEOMETRY

When I first saw the subject of June's assignment, I thought, "Uh oh. This could be just as much of a challenge to the judge as it might be to the members!" Still, it's an interesting concept and could yield some unexpected results. That said, let me give you some idea of what I will be looking for.

Geometry: the branch of mathematics dealing with the properties, measurements and relationships of points, lines, planes and solids. I got that from my dictionary.

OK. So, what does that mean in terms of a photo competition subject? What does it mean to you? To me it implies structure. That idea of structure could be the subject itself or in the way that the composition is constructed. It can be as simple as a single element or a complicated assembly of geometries.

What I'll be looking for is a visual implication of geometry, of some hint of structure in your primary subject. I can think of a million examples of geometry (I know because I counted them!) but I'm reluctant to give any ideas because I want you to exercise your fertile imaginations.

I can however give you some examples of what might not score so well:

1. Clouds. While you could argue that there is geometry at the molecular level in water vapor, it's not going to be visible in your image. Amorphous objects do not imply geometry.
2. Placing a person in front of something of a geometric nature will not work either if your primary subject is that person. I will be looking for the primary subject to imply the geometry. (That said, the person could be wearing a costume very geometric in nature and that could fulfill the assignment.)

If you are open to it and look at it right, there can be the implication of structure in both natural and man-made objects. It's all around us but it's your job to recognize that geometry and translate it into a photograph. Of course, whatever you decide to photograph, I'll still be looking for a compelling, technically proficient and well composed image.

Good luck and good photographing!

jg