

## SEPTEMBER RAIN

Just like that, the monthly competitions for 2018 have drawn to a close. Before we hang up our gloves and take a break from photography, at least for the next three months, September demands a review. September was made to accommodate three contests: the last monthly competition where the theme was 'Rain' and two On-the-Spot competitions, one for Bali and the other for the 90<sup>th</sup> year anniversary celebration.



**Fred del Rosario: First Place**

'Rain' as a theme did not prove as daunting as the two other themes of the third conference, i.e., 'Ambition' and 'Asymmetry.' Fred Del Rosario bested all others and won the First Place Top Photograph Award with a photo of the Shin-en Garden inside the Heian-Jungu Shrine in Kyoto, Japan. He took it in 2015 during a holiday trip with former office associates. It was raining at the time, which disappointed Fred as he wanted to shoot the garden's cherry blossoms under better light. He took a couple of photos anyway despite the cloudy and drizzly weather, out of which he chose the rained-on pond across the Shobikan guesthouse. "The entry photo jumped out to me as it depicted a very subtle, even poignant, image of the early stage of rain—drizzle droplets on the lake, black clouds hovering above, a lone duck paddling across the lake with flowery shrubs on the side as foreground, and the wooden buildings in the background." Fred used a Leica D-Lux (Type 109) to shoot the image.



**Tony Lilles: Second Place**

The Second Place Top Photograph Award went to Tony Lilles who submitted a photo of a rainbow above Washington State's Olympic



**Evan Grabador: Third Place**

Peninsula National Park. As he was approaching the park, he chanced upon approaching storm clouds and decided to take photos. As luck would have it, it was already raining in other parts of the park while the sun was still out, thus creating what Tony calls "meteorological optics," or when rain acts as a prism to break down light and create a rainbow.

Recurrent winner Evan Grabador grabbed Third Place Top Photograph with a photo taken in June this year in Istanbul, Turkey of a boy running across railway tracks with a plastic bag over his head. Evan snapped the photo because of the colorful background and the isolation of the subject. He suspects that the photo fared well as it reminded judges of their time spent playing in the rain in their childhood.



# SEPTEMBER RAIN

In the Top Photographer category, Javi Flores secured first place with his photographs of a gas-masked traveller under a rain of fire and a photo of two boys using gabi leaves as umbrellas. The win is significant for Javi as he used the same technique – that of spinning burning steel wool to create streaks of light – when he won his very first Top Photographer award in the club over four years ago. As he will be taking a sabbatical from photography next year, his win using the same technique symbolizes the closing of a loop. The photographer's other significance for Javi is that it represents his consistent effort to come up with a different take on a theme, in this case, he did not wish to be hemmed

## CONTEST RAIN COLOR PRINT

RANK	PHOTOGRAPHER	ENTRY 1	ENTRY 2	TOTAL
1	Flores, Javi	3.9125	3.8125	7.7250
2	Lilles, Tony	2.8625	4.0000	6.8625
3	San Pedro, Paul	3.5125	3.1250	6.6375
4	Reyno, King	2.9375	3.4375	6.3750
5	Roxas, Manolo	3.3125	3.0625	6.3750
6	Del Rosario, Fred	4.0750	2.2500	6.3250
7	Grabador, Evan	3.9875	2.3125	6.3000
8	Riingen, Leo	3.8750	2.3875	6.2625
9	Bautista, Emir	3.2000	2.9750	6.1750
10	Cancio, Tony	3.0125	3.0125	6.0250
11	Alliling, Jan	2.8375	3.1250	5.9625
12	Lagonera, Jake	3.0750	2.8125	5.8875
13	De Guzman, Jijo	3.4375	2.3250	5.7625
14	Viñas, Chito	3.1375	2.5750	5.7125
15	Mondoñedo, Billy	2.8125	2.8750	5.6875
16	Apuya, Armand	3.1625	2.5000	5.6625
17	Chavez, Annabelle	3.2625	2.3125	5.5750
18	Balagtas Kiko	2.9125	2.5750	5.4875
19	Serrano, TG	2.8250	2.6375	5.4625
20	Villarica, Udsie	2.6250	2.8250	5.4500
21	Antonio, Joey	3.1250	2.3250	5.4500
22	Santos, Raffy	2.6000	2.7875	5.3875
23	Cumagun, Jaime	2.7625	2.6250	5.3875
24	Lagrimas, EJ	2.5625	2.7625	5.3250
25	Uy, Patrick	2.2625	3.0625	5.3250
26	Yu, Philip	2.8125	2.5000	5.3125
27	Yuson, Fred	2.6500	2.6000	5.2500
28	Ortiz, Rey	2.9500	2.2500	5.2000
29	Garbanzos, Gino	2.1875	3.0000	5.1875
30	Guingona, Jojo	2.5625	2.6125	5.1750
31	Valmonte, Cha	2.4375	2.5625	5.0000
32	Bautista, Bien	2.2500	2.7500	5.0000
33	Bueneventura, Jorge	2.6250	2.3250	4.9500
34	Jaucian, Jay	2.7187	2.1875	4.9062
35	Mesuga, Boyet	2.4750	2.3875	4.8625
36	Castillo, Quincy	2.5625	2.2000	4.7625
37	Santos, Tito	2.3875	2.3750	4.7625
38	Gaite, Manny	2.2500	2.5000	4.7500
39	Sison, Bob	1.8625	2.8125	4.6750
40	Benitez, Manette	2.5000	2.1250	4.6250
41	Valera, Stephen	2.3750	2.2500	4.6250
42	Quimel, Lito	2.4375	2.0000	4.4375
43	Gutierrez, Gutch	2.3125	2.1250	4.4375
44	De Leon, Rudy	1.9125	2.3125	4.2250
45	Montalban, Joey	2.1875	2.0000	4.1875
46	Cabrera, Ben	3.4500	0.0010	3.4510
47	Baynosa, Robert	2.7500	0.0010	2.7510

in by the idea that rain ought to be falling water; it could very well be falling fire.

Tony Lilles obtained good scores on his other entry, enough to win him the Second Top Photographer award for the month. His other photo is that of people walking through a drenched forest.

Professing that the theme was difficult, President Paul San

## CONTEST BALI OTS DIGITAL FILE

RANK	PHOTOGRAPHER	ENTRY 1	ENTRY 2	TOTAL
1	CHAVEZ, ANNABELLE	4.6622	4.4427	9.1049
2	SANTOS, RAFFY	4.3287	4.4750	8.8037
3	UY, PATRICK	4.2747	4.4677	8.7424
4	ANTONIO, JOEY	4.5750	4.1505	8.7255
5	YUSON, FRED	4.3755	4.3497	8.7252
6	TAN, TEEJAY	4.1747	4.3250	8.4997
7	JAUCIAN, JAY	4.4152	4.0402	8.4554
8	ORTIZ, REY	4.0872	4.3252	8.4124
9	VELASCO, JR	4.2622	4.0877	8.3499
10	VILLARICA, UDSIE	4.3747	3.8797	8.2544
11	LILLES, TONY	3.9905	4.2275	8.2180
12	BURGOS, MARK	4.0030	4.1527	8.1557
13	DE LEON, RUDY	3.9777	4.1372	8.1149
14	FLORES, JAVI	4.3002	3.8127	8.1129
15	APUYA, ARMAND	4.0902	3.8277	7.9179
16	VENTURINA, NAP	4.0027	3.8402	7.8429

Pedrowon Third Place Top Photographer award. He strived to come up with entries that depicted rain with a storyline. Both of his



Javi Flores: First Place

entries were shot in Makati. His first one is a silhouette of a man holding an umbrella against a well-lit colorful backdrop reflected on a puddle of water, with the latter being disturbed by a drizzle. His second entry is that of a taho vendor, resting after



Tony Lilles: Second Place

a day of backbreaking toil, counting his earnings, while shielding himself from a steady downpour with a perfectly backlit red umbrella.

In the Bali OTS competition, Annabelle Chavez lorded it over the other participants with her sterling performance. She won both First



Paul San Pedro: Third Place

## CONTEST 90 ANNIVERSARY OTS DIGITAL FILE

RANK	PHOTOGRAPHER	ENTRY 1	ENTRY 2	TOTAL
1	GRABADOR, EVAN	3.8922	4.2905	8.1827
2	SAN PEDRO, PAUL	4.1002	3.8875	7.9877
3	MESUGA, BOYET	3.5905	4.2615	7.8520
4	CHAVEZ, ANNABELLE	3.9787	3.8225	7.8012
5	BAUTISTA, EMIR	3.6790	3.9450	7.6240
6	LAGONERA, JAKE	3.8402	3.7102	7.5504
7	SANTOS, TITO	3.3282	4.2127	7.5409
8	MONTALBAN, JOEY	3.7045	3.8027	7.5072
9	CUMAGUN, JAIME	3.6527	3.7802	7.4329
10	ORTIZ, REY	3.7277	3.6927	7.4204
11	VALERA, STEPHEN	3.6027	3.7627	7.3654
12	VILLARICA, UDSIE	3.6040	3.7077	7.3117
13	SERRANO, TG	3.7660	3.4877	7.2537
14	CRUZ, ERIKK	3.5027	3.6900	7.1927
15	LAGRIMAS, EJ	3.2152	3.6902	6.9054
16	DE LEON, RUDY	3.7497	3.1545	6.9042

Place Top Photographer Award and First Place Top Photographer Award with her photos of people on boats at the Tamblingan Lake during sunrise. Annabelle is one of the hardest



nd Place

working photographers during OTS competitions, and this trip to Bali was no different. Accompanied by a friend, they traveled three hours to get to the lake just in time for sunrise. Her entries were similar in that both appeared three-dimensional; Annabelle made sure that she had a foreground and a background in her images. She was not deterred by the fact that she was submitting similar photos, a gamble which paid off in the end with solid scores.

Raffy Santos won Second Place Top Photographer with his photos of two people carrying seawater to a spot on the beach where they filter the salt out of the water and of a person on a boat beside the UlunBeratan Temple at Lake Bratan during sunrise.

Third Place Top Photographer went to Patrick Uy, who considered the Bali OTS intense as his team woke up at 4am for two straight days, to embark on long land journeys to catch the sunrise. His photo of a slender Balinese girl in yellow walking along green rice fields was shot without effort, however, as they were swimming in their hotel's pool when the Balinese girl walked by. They scampered to dry up

and shoot. His other photo is that of a couple of boys throwing water up in the air against the backdrop of waterfalls.

Patrick considers the Bali OTS one of the best in a long time as there were a lot of photo opportunities and their team had the added benefit of being mentored by the most prolific Master Photographer of all time, Rudy de Leon. He fondly remembers the babiguling, crispy duck, and BBQ ribs on the roadside.

For some reason, the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was also considered an OTS, maybe to ensure

that there would be more memorable photographs of the event. OTSes that are held close to Manila are usually well attended, and yet perhaps considering that the competition was held at the same time that people were enjoying themselves, only 14 submitted entries. Of the 14, Evan Grabador, Paul San Pedro and Boyet Mesuga won the first, second, and third place, respectively.

With the monthly competitions over, and only the finals for black and white, color print and OTS left, and with two more OTSes to go, the Master Cup competition is likewise drawing to a close. Annabelle, with her 9.1 score in the Bali OTS may have secured for her self the Third Place in the Master Cup. The First and Second Place is yet to be decided.

## MASTER PHOTOGRAPHER'S CUP SEPTEMBER

RANK	PHOTOGRAPHER	TOTAL
1	Flores, Javi	85.42640
2	San Pedro, Paul	84.41480
3	Chavez, Annabelle	81.91200
4	Antonio, Joey	79.58580
5	Cancio, Tony	79.03570
6	De Guzman, Jijo	78.90900
7	Lagonera, Jake	78.53640
8	Lilles, Tony	77.71870
9	Ortiz, Rey	77.45220
10	Villarica, Udsie	77.31340
11	Ailing, Jan	77.27440
12	Santos, Raffy	76.53610
13	Gaite, Manny	76.15140
14	Garbanzos, Gino	75.76990
15	Viñas, Chito	75.07270
16	De Leon, Rudy	74.97900
17	Grabador, Evan	74.87570
18	Lagrimas, EJ	74.76880
19	Yuson, Fred	74.68310
20	Balagtas, Kiko	74.60140
21	Jaucian, Jay	74.52180
22	Apuya, Armand	74.49270
23	Del Rosario, Fred	74.17580
24	Benitez, Manette	74.15930
25	Uy, Patrick	74.08440
26	Mondoñedo, Billy	73.14950
27	Bautista, Emir	71.07070
28	Gutierrez, Gutch	71.02940
29	Quimel, Lito	70.19530
30	Buenaventura, Jorge	69.85260
31	Reyno, King	69.43600
32	Yu, Philip	69.02470
33	Venturina, Nap	68.70770
34	Bautista, Bien	67.97440
35	Sison, Bob	66.20340
36	Castillo, Quincy	66.04800
37	Valmonte, Cha	65.60930
38	Serrano, TG	65.33720
39	Montalban, Joey	64.42430
40	Guingona, Jojo	62.51130
41	Cumagun, Jaime	61.71540
42	Riingen, Leo	61.57620
43	Roxas, Manolo	61.27070
44	Mesuga, Boyet	61.03750
45	Santos, Tito	58.71180
46	Valera, Stephen	58.25710
47	Lagdameo, Dindin	54.93450
48	Paraan, Renee	51.23060
49	Burgos, Mark	49.36120
50	Hermogenes, Jimmy	48.47370
51	Ocampo, Nesty	46.37400
52	Mills, Vicente	45.86220
53	Gozum, Lito	44.31860
54	Garrido, Jun	41.86420
55	David, Ruth	41.03650
56	Littaua, Raoul	40.80780
57	Fidelino, Boyet	40.39900
58	Samson, Adel	40.20030
59	Castro, Gerry	39.26030
60	Montifar, Raul	37.79620
61	Cruz, Erikk	35.79940
62	Cachero, Eric	34.50760
63	Velasco, JR	30.50260
64	Chan, Rocky	21.50470
65	Sto Domingo, Raymond	20.25190
66	De Vera, Arps	20.19250
67	Ressureccion, Paul	20.14540
68	Bautista, Mark Victor	13.49850
69	Ang, Garrick	13.46290
70	Buendia, Paolo	13.32000

# OTS WINNERS

## BALI OTS



**Annabelle Chavez:**  
*First Place*

**Raffy Santos:**  
*Second Place*



**Patrick Uy:**  
*Third Place*

## 90TH ANNIVERSARY OTS



**Evan Grabador:**  
*First Place*

**Paul San Pedro:**  
*Second Place*



**Boyet Mesuga:**  
*Third Place*

## CODE OF CONDUCT

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- Statements that are hateful, hurtful, or offensive (to race, gender, ethnicity, age, physical appearance, and learning challenges, among others)
- Materials defaming, abusing, or threatening others
- Material using vulgar, obscene, or incident images or language
- Material advocating illegal activity

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*(This Code is loosely based on the Code of Conduct for Social Media published by Digital Strategy)*