



SURREAL: MPU

(Monochromatic Print Unrestricted editing)

"We are Sorry-eal!"

By Tony Lilles

Keeping the Winners podium within the Top Three is easy this month! The three top photographers with the winningest scores simply need to trade places for the top three photographers of the month roster as well.

Namely, **Tito Santos**, with the judges' and informal member's favorite choice, had the highest scoring photograph of the seamless rendering of an eagle's head coming out of woodwork. Or in this case, the petrified roots of a tree! A stunning rendition to a most surreal concept! And he certainly got the definition of surreal right by placing second in the Top Photographer of the month category as well. We may miss seeing Tito consistently in the monthly meetings but he sure makes up for it and stays sharp by participating in the monthly competitions. So, we know he keeps our Club close to his heart. As testimony, he climbs up to 18th place in the Master's Cup, out of 63 participants.

Another consistent and persistent participant is **Jun Garrido** who is not only the Photographer of the Month but also has the 3rd top scoring picture of the month! We find this month's theme as one of the most challenging due to the many definitions of *surreal* but to gamble it all under one interpretation is very bold and risky.

Lito Quimel also read his interpretation of the theme well and it has paid off as he has the 2nd Top picture of the month and is the 3rd Top Photographer of the Month. This should really motivate our recent lifetime member to participate again after an eventful half year that has kept him out of the Club circuit.

The Dictionary meaning of the word **Surreal**(which Merriam-Webster has named 2016 Word of the Year) is broad, ranging from *bizarre, freakish and unearthly, to dream-like and with positive visions*. Surreal-ism, often confused with the art form, aims to express imaginative dreams and visions from conscious rational control. *Salvador Dali* is the most popular and influential surrealist painter. *Surreal Photography or Photo Surrealism* (from Google) "is an intellectual and artistic movement that started in the early 1920s in France". The purpose of which



Tito Santos: Picture of the Month



Jun Garrido: Photographer of the Month



Jun Garrido: Photographer of the Month

"was to destroy the borders between reality and a dream...". We saw many views, interpretations and daring creativity from the **45 participating members**. We had 14 entries that failed to make a mark! It was a difficult theme to judge as you will read under the *Judge's notes* article.

Huawei, through its marketing arm *Ogily*, presented the qualified 50+ entries after the first pass of judging of **"The Huawei Photo Walk Contest"**. After final judging, the exhibit of the 50 photos is on **July 19, 20, and 21 with venue to be announced**. In the meantime, we are all still welcome to join the *Global Huawei contest: HUAWEI NEXT-IMAGE AWARDS*. Kindly visit the link for details: <https://gallery.consumer.huawei.com/en/qa.php> with deadline on **July 21, 2019**.

Special thanks to our member-volunteers for June composed of co-emcee **Bob Sison**, new members **Evan Grabador** and **Boyet Mesuga** for accepting entries online and onsite; **Tilak Hettige**, **Jimmy Hermogenes**, **Jun Garrido** and **Jaime Cumagon** for layout and announcement of scores; **Garrick Ang** for an extra hand at

CONTEST SURREAL B&W

RANK	PHOTOGRAPHER	ENTRY 1	ENTRY 2	TOTAL
1	Garrido, Jun	3.9437	4.1812	8.1249
2	Santos, Tito	3.5400	4.5775	8.1175
3	Quimel, Lito	3.6950	4.2812	7.9762
4	Antonio, Joey	3.9162	4.0062	7.9224
5	Lagonera, Jake	3.8162	3.5675	7.3837
6	Benitez, Manette	3.7162	3.5137	7.2299
7	Montalban, Joey	4.1062	3.0937	7.1999
8	Mesuga, Boyet	3.4737	3.7137	7.1874
9	Santos, Raffy	3.6250	3.5387	7.1637
10	De Leon, Rudy	3.6637	3.4562	7.1199
11	Gutierrez, Gutch	3.2887	3.7400	7.0287
12	Bautista, Emir	3.1812	3.8312	7.0124
13	Gaite, Manny	3.6750	3.3312	7.0062
14	Roxas, Manolo	3.9050	3.0862	6.9912
15	Valmonte, Cha	3.4312	3.4137	6.8449
16	Cruz, Gino	3.7937	3.0487	6.8424
17	Cumagun, Jaime	3.5225	3.3037	6.8262
18	Cruz, Erikk	3.3125	3.5112	6.8237
19	Dela Merced, Narcing	3.2437	3.5775	6.8212
20	Apuya, Armand	3.2837	3.4487	6.7324
21	Viñas, Chito	3.5087	3.1987	6.7074
22	Garbanzos, Gino	3.1500	3.5362	6.6862
23	Grabador, Evan	3.4312	3.2125	6.6437
24	Castillo, Quincy	3.5775	3.0362	6.6137
25	Sison, Bob	3.3212	3.2250	6.5462
26	Lilles, Tony	3.3587	3.1687	6.5274
27	Yuson, Fred	3.4987	3.0150	6.5137
28	Riingen, Leo	3.0962	3.3912	6.4874
29	Valera, Stephen	3.1737	3.2987	6.4724
30	Villarica, Udsie	3.2225	3.1762	6.3987
31	Uy, Patrick	3.0000	3.3112	6.3112
32	Ortiz, Rey	3.0937	3.2137	6.3074
33	Serrano, TG	0.0000	3.8912	3.8912
34	Cancio, Tony	3.8525	0.0000	3.8525
35	Guingona, Jojo	3.7587	0.0000	3.7587
36	Samson, Juni	3.5537	0.0000	3.5537
37	Roces, Miles	3.4612	0.0000	3.4612
38	Banaga, Ed	3.4587	0.0000	3.4587
39	Bautista, Bien	0.0000	3.4212	3.4212
40	Sto. Domingo, Raymund	0.0000	3.3937	3.3937
41	Hermogenes, Jimmy	0.0000	3.3812	3.3812
42	Del Rosario, Fred	3.3525	0.0000	3.3525
43	Hettige, Tilak	3.2750	0.0000	3.2750
44	Paraan, Renee	0.0000	3.2187	3.2187

scores; **TG Serrano** and **Annabelle Chaves** for shooting the evenings activities. Special thanks to **Patrick Uy** for providing the lights for our guest and first-time judge, **Cory Quirino**, who has announced the official CCP's participation in her first year as *Mutya ng Filipinas President*. Worth mentioning is the fact that as owner of the *Miss World Phil. Franchise* from 2011-16, **Cory** is credited for finding **Megan Young** (2013 winner) and **Catriona Grey** (Miss Universe 2019) under her watch and both represented the Philippines under *Miss World*. Former *Mutya* candidates **Franchesca "Geri" Delino Camargo** and **Mina Kiim** came to model as well.

We are pleased to announce in response to our urgent appeal for member-volunteers, **Bern Siy**, **Eric Quiason** and **Nitoy Velasco** will be helping with the monthly meetings. We invite fellow members and Master's Cup competitors to enlist in our monthly regular meeting volunteers' roster to stay active, involved and in touch as we operate under a *probee-less Club*.

The Club truly appreciates the help.





The Judge's Notes:

Different approaches brings different strokes: how much effort, genuineness and art was evoked?

Interview by Tony Lilles

UP Dean of Fine Arts **Neil Doloricon** is a graphic artist and an editorial cartoonist at the Malaya Business Insight. He has judged since the 1990s and knows what the CCP wants in terms of scoring. So does veteran photographer **Joey Tanedo** who is also a UP Fine Arts Faculty who has judged dozens of times since 1984 back in the Intercon days. He was part of the FPPI Board with late fellow **Dean Amado Castro**. Both have been briefed by our Amado before and know the capabilities of CCP and accepted the challenge brought by this intriguing theme.

It's not all about the fancy picture editing software programs alone. It demands a "special sort of creativity to produce such a photographic impact" says **Joey Tanedo** and it is all about the "approach of the photographer in addressing and defining this theme". A remarkably realistic-looking photo of an impossible reality is a challenge both technically and graphically. However, "some chose not to do major enhancements to provoke the surreal effect or evoke surrealism" and both respected this. Combining unrelated elements digitally is one thing but stirring a dream-like vision and quality from typical and natural scenery and landscape poses an equally challenging task. So "there were some straight shots that captured the essence of the theme" says Neil Doloricon: by "using limited enhancements to evoke surrealism" by making natural scenes fantastic even if these are real!

So these 2 veteran graphic artists recognized and accepted both of these approaches and leveled the



playing field by evenly scoring entries based on the attempt of the photographer to accomplish his or her task. For those who went the digitally-unrestricted way, entries were judged on their success of making a seamless rendition of an altered reality into art says Joey Tanedo. "Some did have a tendency to overdo or get too cluttered", he added, and were judged accordingly. Others were judged on how much the image maker tried and succeeded in accomplishing his rendition.

Thus to be fair, the judges took to seeing all the entries as a whole first and then felt the justifiable need to give higher scores for the genuine and daring effort and basically gauged by how much the photographer tried vs. those they felt that didn't while respecting the unrestricted-editing vs. straight-shot approach of each entry.

MASTER PHOTOGRAPHER'S CUP JUNE

RANK	PHOTOGRAPHER	TOTAL
1	Mesuga, Boyet	47.9963
2	Cruz, Erikk	46.2145
3	Sison, Bob	46.1511
4	Garbanzos, Gino	45.6125
5	Garrido, Jun	45.6116
6	Santos, Raffy	45.538
7	Riingen, Leo	45.2249
8	Lilles, Tony	45.1883
9	Antonio, Joey	45.1868
10	Grabador, Evan	45.1517
11	Benitez, Manette	45.1082
12	Apuya, Armand	45.0924
13	Cumagun, Jaime	44.9611
14	Bautista, Emir	44.82
15	Lagonera, Jake	44.0682
16	Ortiz, Rey	44.0532
17	Santos, Tito	43.951
18	Gutierrez, Gutch	43.4049
19	Cancio, Tony	42.7695
20	De Leon, Rudy	42.2249
21	Quimel, Lito	41.926
22	Yuson, Fred	41.8999
23	Dela Merced, Narcing	41.7552
24	Villarica, Udsie	41.2547
25	Bautista, Bien	41.2127
26	Samson, Juni	41.0685
27	Castillo, Quincy	41.0135
28	Sto. Domingo, Raymund	40.9465
29	Uy, Patrick	40.8195
30	Roxas, Manolo	40.5504
31	Roces, Miles	40.0958
32	Montalban, Joey	38.4282
33	Del Rosario, Fred	38.3382
34	Viñas, Chito	38.2123
35	Cruz, Gino	37.7585
36	Lagdameo, Dindin	36.7995
37	Gaite, Manny	36.7692
38	Banaga, Ed	35.7865
39	Valera, Stephen	35.5639
40	Lagrimas, EJ	34.1893
41	Hettige, Tilak	33.6491
42	Paraan, Renee	33.6037
43	Chavez, Annabelle	33.4913
44	Valmonte, Cha	32.6987
45	Serrano, TG	31.7223
46	Ocampo, Nesty	30.9624
47	Yu, Philip	30.9433
48	Abejo, Tim	22.4458
49	Guingona, Jojo	21.8324
50	Buenaventura, Jorge	21.5841
51	Hermogenes, Jimmy	20.7678
52	Balagtas, Kiko	19.1721
53	Cachero, Eric	17.4333
54	Rodriguez, JR	13.4491
55	Montifar, Miko	10.9935
56	Montifar, Raul	10.2755
57	Samson, Adel	8.385
58	Venturina, Nap	8.08



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