


**The Photographic Society of America – Photo Travel Division  
Digital Study Group 1**

<b>Round:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Maker's Name</b>	<b>Jia Han Dong</b>
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<b>Image No:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Image Title:</b>	<b>Country Barber Shop</b>
			

**BURKE COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** This is truly a scene that is not seen too often these days. It certainly tells a story about the way things once were in lots of places. All of the important elements are present that give authenticity to the scene. The monochrome treatment is well-suited for the image.

**Improvements:** In addition to a bit of added contrast and sharpening, some cropping from the left and right sides would eliminate some clutter and unnecessary blank areas.

**Visual feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Above average    **Technical:** Above average    **Composition:** Above average

**DOERRIE COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** Hi! I am a fan of monochrome, and this image really grabbed my attention when I first saw it. It has a moodiness to it that draws me in, even though it is a bit busy.

**Improvements:** While it would have been nice to have an actual customer in the photo, I can understand your reluctance to attempt that. I have that same trepidation when photographing people much of the time. You mention wishing you had a wider angle, but I question whether that may have made the image too busy. I think I like it the way it is. Technically, it is well-focused. My recommendations would be to adjust levels a bit, as the histogram on my computer is showing many of the whites being a bit dull. Also, I'd probably burn in the wooden table and arm of the chair on the bottom right a bit and perhaps do a bit of burning on the calendar/top right corner as well, as I think that will put more emphasis on the subject. In terms of composition, the image is well-composed, and as mentioned previously, I think a wider angle might have caused more competition among subject matter. Overall, a very nice job of capturing the mood in this still-life image.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Above average    **Technical:** Above average    **Composition:** Above average

### **RAU COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** A striking image and it works well for me in black and white. The old chair with chipped and worn paint makes a strong center. And the chair contrasts with the much newer blow dryer. The scuffed up floor, patched walls in front, and electrical outlets seemingly hanging on the wall all convey a sense of place—to me, common person's barber shop. There is nothing fancy here, it is strictly utilitarian, but the poster on the wall tries to give a sense of décor to the room. A good shot and I think worthy of exhibiting. I'd readily put this image into camera club competition.

**Improvements:** If I were to change one thing, it might be to straighten the left and right side, so the verticals are at 90 degrees. It might be worth trying in Photoshop, but I think the image work as is.

**Visual Feedback:** No

**Interest:** Impressive

**Technical:** Impressive

**Composition:** Impressive

### **SUKUMAR COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** The black and white rendering of this image is appropriate for conveying the documentary effect. A wider angle lens might have helped, but I already find the image a little busy: there is so much to look at, but nothing really for the eye to settle upon. The empty barber chair is probably the center of interest, but since it is empty, my eyes do not linger there, but soon wander off. I like the texture on the walls. The image has good story-telling potential for use in a series as a photo essay.

**Improvements:** Perhaps a person in the chair might add human interest, but that would be a different image.

**Visual Feedback:** No

**Interest:** Above average

**Technical:** Good

**Composition:** Improvements helpful

**Image No:**

**2**

**Image Title:**

**The Pier at Provincetown**



### **BURKE COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** It appears that a sepia-like treatment was given to the scene in order to enhance the otherwise dull lighting. The architecture of the pier and building are somewhat interesting, if seems that more elements are needed to present a stronger story. It is obvious that the tide was out and the gull appears to be wading in very shallow water.

**Improvements:** Some added contrast and sharpening would be an improvement,

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Improvements helpful      **Technical:** Improvements helpful      **Composition:** Improvements helpful

### **DOERRIE COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** You probably will notice right away in the visual feedback that I've converted your image of the pier back to black/white monochrome. I really like the structure of the pier and the reflections in the water, but for some reason, the magenta tone distracted me from that. I'd be curious to see the image in color, too, as there may be some shades/tones in the wood and water that are striking that way.

**Improvements:** As I mentioned in another review, I do hope you all will correct me if I am wrong since I am still learning PSA definitions, but I also am concerned that the magenta overlay might be considered a filter and/or alteration of the natural color that possibly could provoke a docking of points or disqualification in the photo travel division (although it would not be an issue in pictorial or electronic imaging, so if you really like the overlay look, you might want to consider submission in the EI monochrome category instead). Compositionally, I found the amount of bare sky somewhat distracting, too, so I've cropped out quite a bit of that. I debated about whether to keep the buoy or get rid of it. I think it would work either way, but I ultimately concluded that I preferred my attention to be on the pier and reflections themselves. You did a nice job of off-centering the image. I just happen to like it better a bit tighter with the cropping, but perhaps that is just me. You can see what you think.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Above average      **Technical:** Good      **Composition:** Good

### **RAU COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** A nice small harbor photo and the texture in the left foreground (tide out?) adds depth. The gull and buoy provide subjects to fill in the negative space of that section of the water. I don't see this image in an exhibit, but something similar (see suggestions below) might be stronger.

**Improvements:** If I were to try to improve on the image, I might try to get higher (not always possible, I know). Being higher would have separated the pier in the middle ground from the docks in the background and would have cut out more of the sky. Dealing with less sky might have created more water in the foreground and I would have cropped out some of it. Also, my preference would be to see the image in black and white without the pink tone.

**Visual Feedback:** No

**Interest:** Improvements helpful  
Improvements helpful

**Technical:** Improvements helpful

**Composition:**

### **SUKUMAR COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** I like the warm, pastel colors from the split toning. A pleasant, peaceful scene, but the image is split almost evenly between the (bland) sky and the water.

**Improvements:** Crop a little from the top. The image could also do with a bit of sharpening and curves adjustment, as shown, to enhance contrast.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Good

**Technical:** Good

**Composition:** Improvements helpful