



The Astronomical
Society of Edinburgh

Image of the Quarter Competition

Jul - Sep 2022

www.astronomyedinburgh.org

Winner Apr - Jun 2022
Mike McGovern
White Moon Mosaic



COMPETITION

- 12 entries
- Criteria:
 - Composition
 - Processing
 - Effort
 - Skill
 - Artistry
 - Ingenuity
 - Creativity
 - The journey
 - Gut reaction...

Winner Jan - Mar 2022
Ian Smith
Abell 31

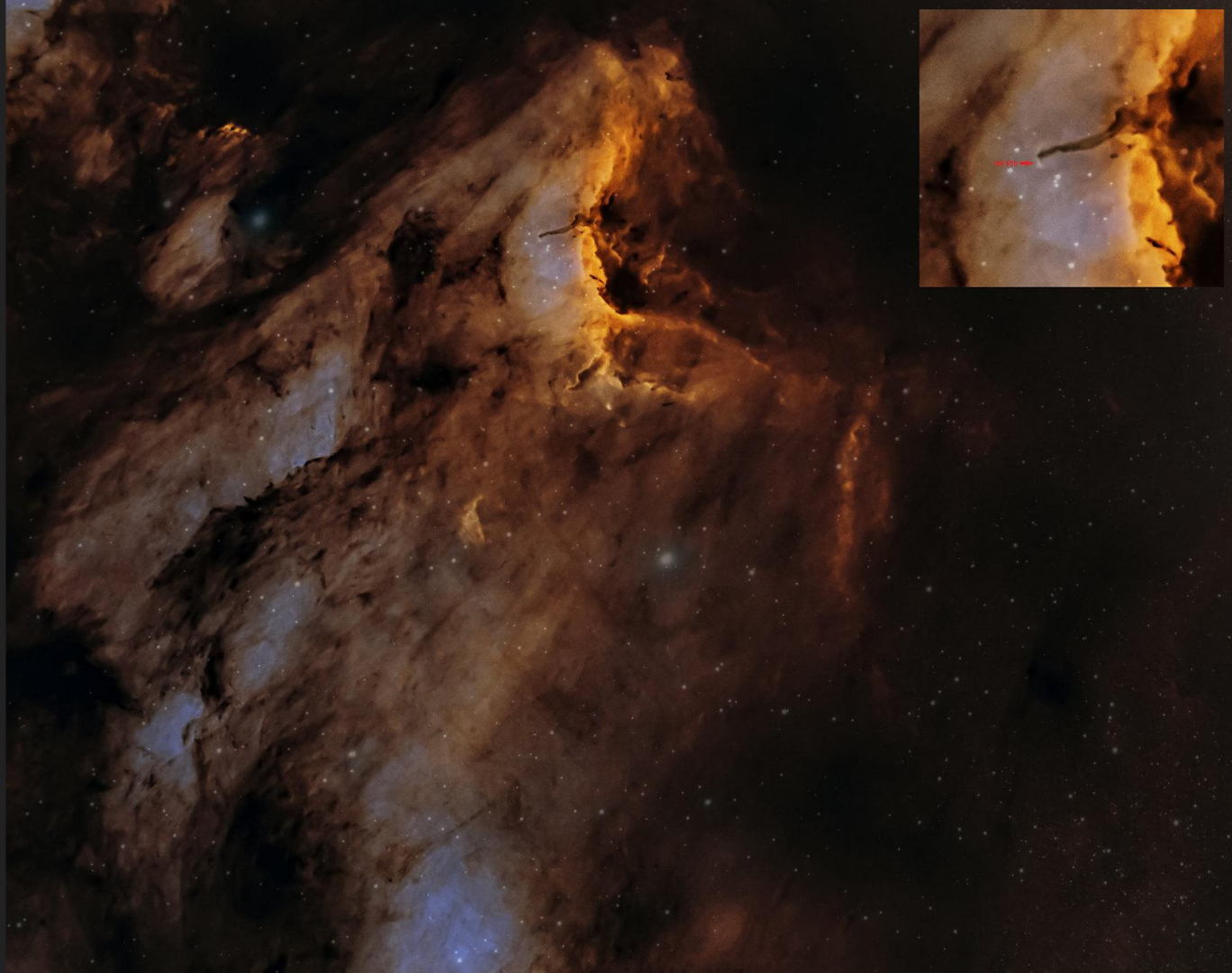


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Pat Devine

IC 5070 with HH555 inset

The Pelican Nebula IC 5070 is an emission nebula in the constellation Cygnus. It is an active star forming region (HOYS target). If you zoom in to the pelican's head, you can just about make out HH 555 which is a Herbig-Haro object within the Nebula (at the tip of a long, dense pillar of dusty material at the back of the "pelican's head"). Herbig-Haro objects are narrow jets of gas and matter, ejected by newly born stars at speeds of several hundred kilometres per second.



Ron Morley

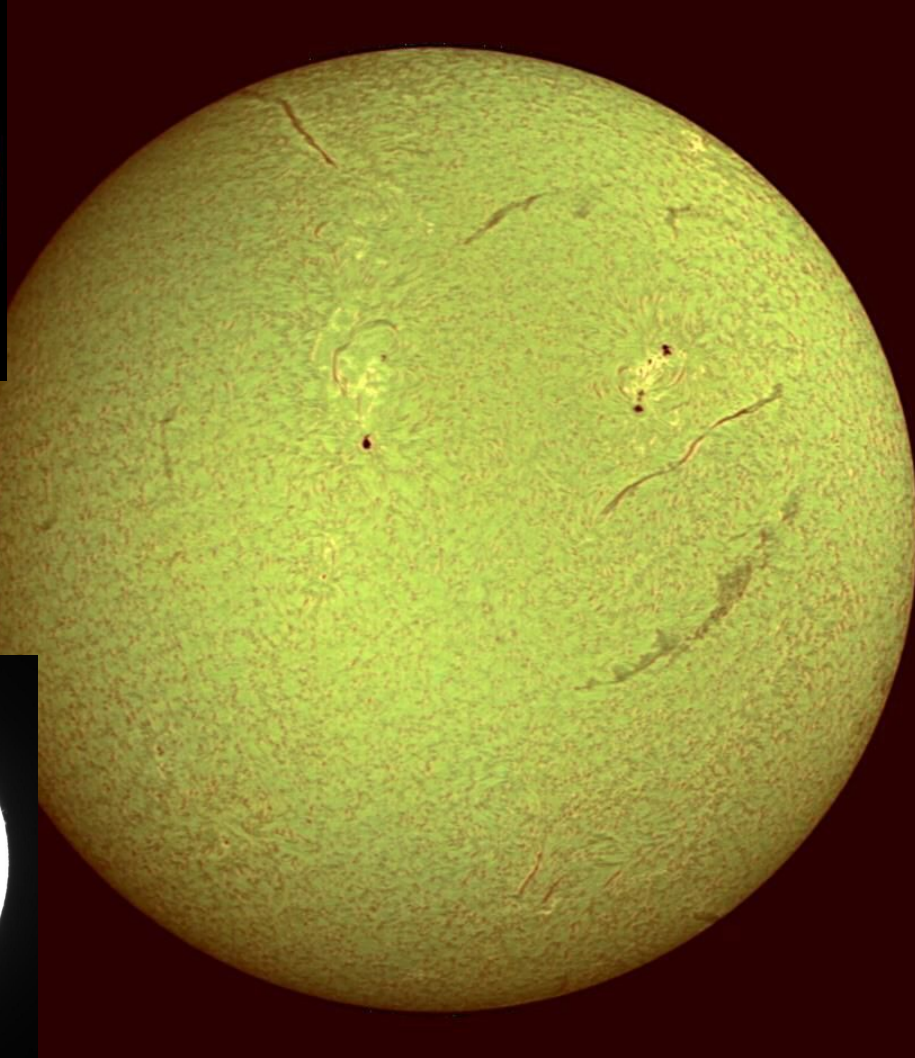
Sun in Ha

In February this year, after a particularly numbingly cold night imaging deep sky, I ordered a Lunt 50 solar scope. Five months later in early July it arrived.

I was amazed at the visual red appearance of the Sun and with careful rotation of the helical focuser and etalon knob was able to see many features on the Sun disc as well as solar prominences around the edges.

The results of my first imaging session are shown as the yellow and white pictures. The first, some way from perfection, showed many interesting disc features. The second, white image, was taken using a higher exposure to show solar edge prominences. Early days but an encouraging start. The third red image was taken a week or so later. It shows (approximately) the view through the eyepiece in hydrogen alpha. I used a printed version at the recent ROE open days to help explain what visitors were viewing.

I look forward to more solar observing. The variety of features and activity in this part of the solar cycle is very rewarding. And it's warmer than night observing/imaging! 🧐



Ramsay McIver

Milky Way Panorama

This is an eight image panorama of the Milky Way as seen from the Maasai Mara in Kenya on 25th July 2022. The images were stitched together in Lightroom and very lightly processed with dehaze.



Iain Paterson

NGC 7635, M52, NGC 7538

NGC7635's bubble, around 10ly diameter, is a star remnant illuminated gas cloud c 11,000ly distant.

NGC7654 (M52) lower right is an open cluster of undetermined distance*

NGC7538 lower left is bright nebula

Up is 5° E of N

All processing with PixInsight
77 x 180Sec + 30 x 300 Sec, over
multiple nights.

BIAS and Optimised DARK files used for
calibration**.

ASI294MC, Esprit ED80, AVX mount.

*Current estimates are 3.5-5.0ly due
intervening gas clouds

**There is an unresolved issue with FLATS
for the relevant nights



Alan Erasmuson

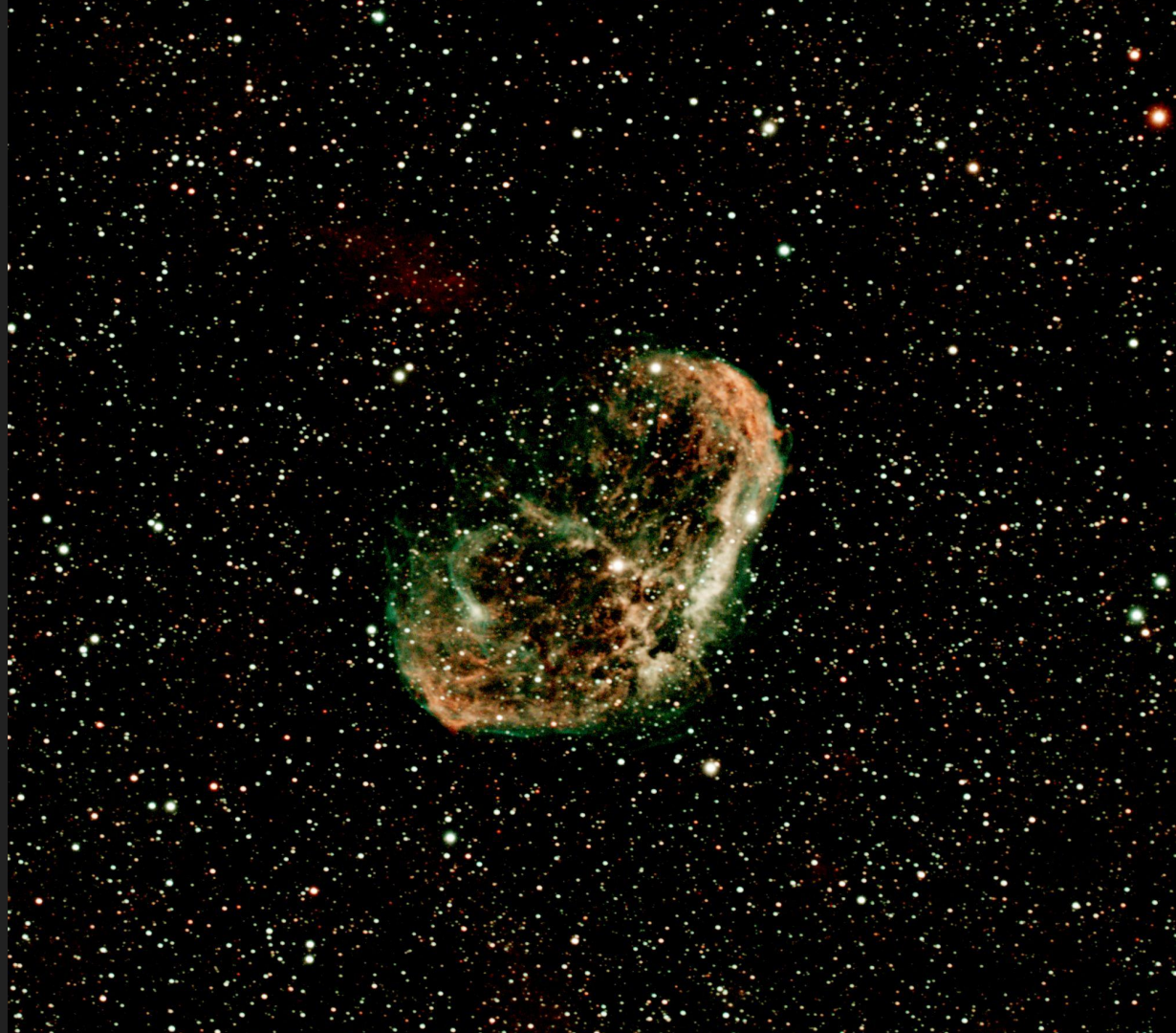
C27 Crescent Nebula

91 subs. Exposure time 300s. Taken over three nights.

TSA102 refractor with 0.7 reducer.
ASI2600MC PRO camera. Optolong
L-Extrene filter. Captured using ASIAIR
software.

Unguided on 10micron GM1000HPS
mount.

Processed using ASIIimg and PixInsight.



Bill Bonar

Moon

This is a single frame shot with the ZWO ASI485MC, from the 17th September, very little processing. I just like the serenity of it.
Not complicated, just the moon....



Eros Tang

NGC 7000 North America Nebula

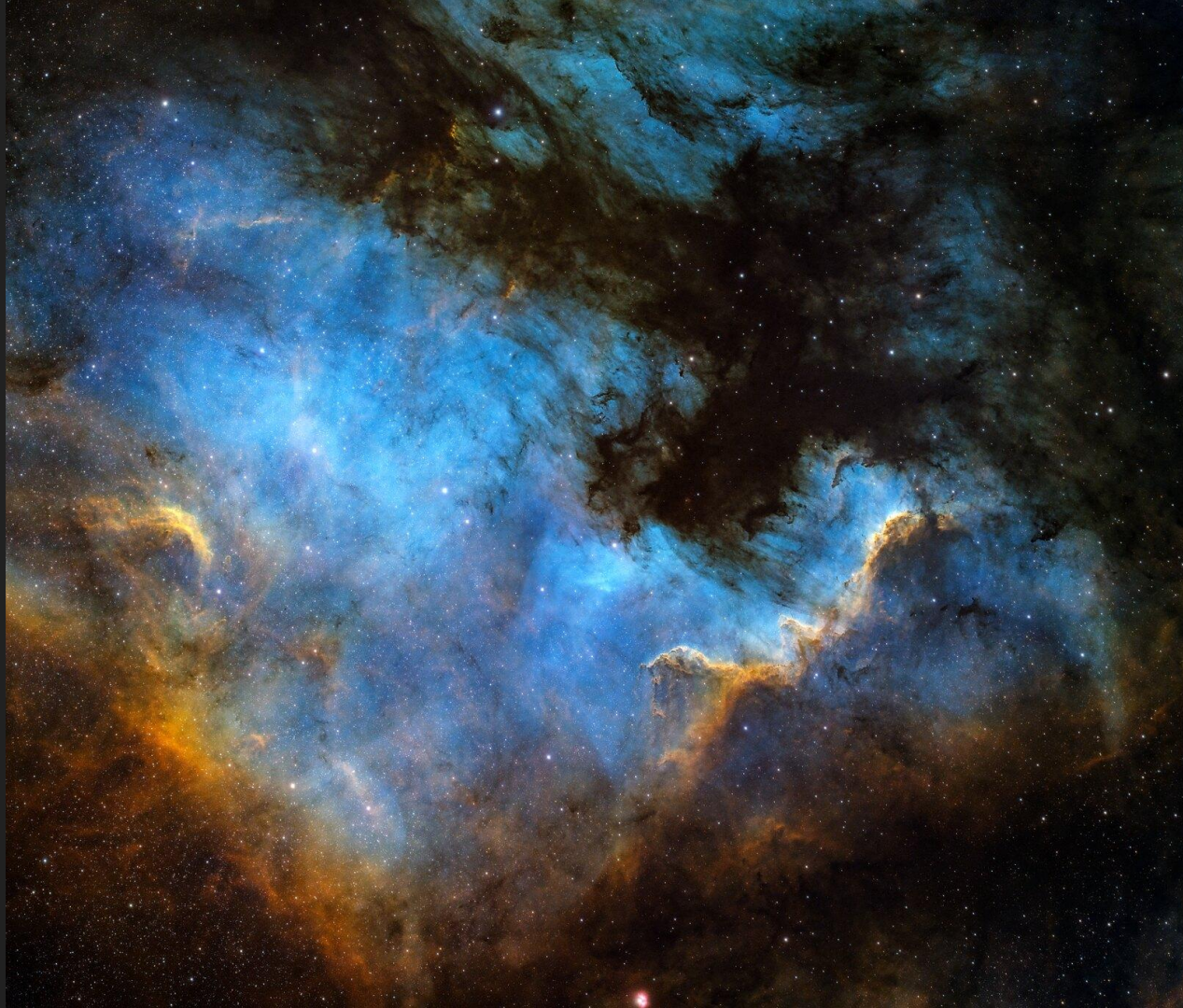
I've tried to image the North America Nebula in the past but have never felt it was completed.

At the time CCDs had small sensors, software was more basic compared to what we have now and task of doing a mosaic image proved challenging so I've never been happy with my images of it.

7 years on and now I've finally been able to image this vast nebula and capture the beauty of the distinct dark dust band with its smoky texture.

The image is made up of 6½ hours of 5 minute subs shot through narrowband filters (SII, HA, OIII) and mapped to RGB to produce the distant Hubble Palette.

Stacking, Integration and RGB combine was done in APP, and the rest of the processing was finished off in Photoshop



Alan Erasmuson

Bubble Nebula flanked by M52 star cluster and the Lobster Claw Nebula.

146 subs. Exposure time
300s. Taken over three
nights. Near full moon on
two nights.

TSA102 refractor with 0.7
reducer. ASI2600MC PRO
camera. Optolong
L-Extrene filter. Captured
using ASIAIR software.

Unguided on 10micron
GM1000HPS mount.

Processed using ASIIimg
and PixInsight.



Bill Bonar

M33

One more since M33 is one of my favourites. This was a test of my slightly risky dismantling and cleaning of my 2600MC due to poor response from 365 Astronomy



David Harvey

M42 Orion Nebula

My Photoshop subscription has become one of my contributions and cost saving efforts towards the family's cost of living crises.

I had purchased Affinity Designer for use in my little web design part time home business a few years ago and later, Affinity Photo. Thus Forcing myself to focus on the software, my current feeling is the best AstroPhotography software move I've made in 7 years.

My first process using Affinity Photo (final tweak), Pixinsite went earlier in the year now goodbye photoshop happy bunny...

Capture Details:

Telescope ts-photon 6" f/4 advanced Newtonian
Camera - ASI 533MC

Mount - Ioptron Gem NUC

Exposure _ 36 x 300s, 10 x 4secs L-pro Max filter

Calibration- Darks, Flats & Bias (p.s. same calibration masters for both exposures).

Processing- APP, Affinity Photo



Alan Erasmuson

C11 Bubble Nebula

146 subs. Exposure time 300s.
Taken over three nights. Near full
moon on two nights.

TSA102 refractor with 0.7
reducer. ASI2600MC PRO
camera. Optolong L-Extreme
filter. Captured using ASIAIR
software.

Unguided on 10micron
GM1000HPS mount.

Processed using ASIIimg and
PixInsight.



Greig Louden

IC 1396 Elephant Trunk

This was taken over a couple of nights in early August so should be ok for this round of submissions.

It's the first time I've gone back to a target a few nights in a row and was pleased with how gathering more data (I think about six hours in total) brought out more contrast and detail than a single night's capture.

IC 1396 is a large emission nebula in the constellation of Cepheus, and the rotation of my camera allowed me to center the Elephant's Trunk nebula (IC 1396A) within my framing. The trunk is over 20 light-years long and is an area of active, star-forming interstellar gas illuminated by the massive star HD 206267. The IC 1396 nebula is much larger, over 100 light-years across, and lies approximately 2400 light-years from Earth.

The equipment used was my RASA 8 paired with the ZWO ASI 533 MC Pro. The setup still needs a bit of fine-tuning as in the corners my stars are quite elongated, but trying not to pixel peep too much!

The data was stacked in Astro Pixel Processor, then edited in Pixinsight. I've tended to stop using Topaz DeNoise after processing, as my images seem to look a little over-sharpened and I prefer how they look without this extra step.



THE WINNER IS...

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ASE Image of the
Quarter Winner
Jul - Sep 2022

Captured from central Edinburgh - as
so many of our images are. It can be
done!

Lovely colour balance that subtly
brings out the amazing details
without overwhelming it. Stars are
nicely controlled and it is a beautiful,
well-composed image.

Bravo!
(Maybe Eros will show us the
processing technique at an IOG
meeting sometime :)

North America Nebula
by Eros Tang

IMAGE OF THE YEAR 2022



- Enter up to 3 images
- Image can have been entered already (but not won) - different criteria may be used...
- Images taken Dec 2021- Nov 2022
- Winner announced at Dec meeting
- Anyone can win

ASE image of the Quarter Winner
Oct-Dec 2021

The Hunter Rises
by Fran Goodman