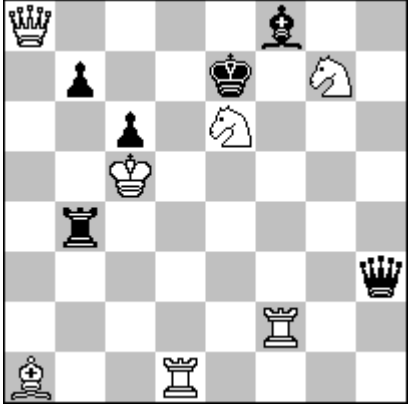
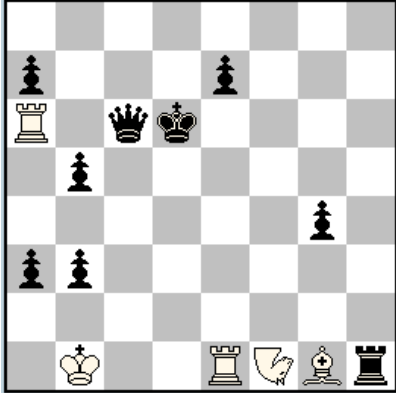


10th TZUICA TOURNEY – Kobe 2012

Theme: Help-selfmates (**hs#n**) or help-selfstalemates (**hs=n**) where **at least three units cyclically exchange their functions during the solution** in at least three phases. These functions can be passive or active.

Example 1 for Orthodox Section Paz EINAT & Ofer COMAY (Israel) 1 st HM Romanian Tzuica Tourney 2010	Example 2 for Fairy Section Petko PETKOV (Bulgaria) Problem Paradise 2010
 <p style="margin-top: 5px;">hs#2 (7 + 6)</p> <p style="margin-top: 5px;">b) wBa1 → a5 c) –wSg7</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">a) 1.Sd8(A) Qf3(B) 2.Rd7(C)+ Kxd7# b) 1.Sd4(C) Qc8(A) 2.Rf7(B)+ Kxf7# c) 1.Sf4(B) Qd3(C) 2.Qe8(A)+ Kxe8#</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Thematic pieces: wQa8, wRf2 and wRd1.</p>	 <p style="margin-top: 5px;">hs#3 Anti-Andernach (5 + 9)</p> <p style="margin-top: 5px;">3.1.1.1.1.1. Nightrider f1</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">1.Re3=bR Kc5 2.Nxe3 Qe4=wQ 3.Nxg4+ Rxg1# 1.Ne3=bN Ke5 2.Bxe3 Qf3=wQ 3.Bxa7+ Rxe1# 1.Be3=bBKd5 2.Rxe3 Qc3=wQ 3.Rxe7+ Rxf1#</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Thematic pieces: wRe1, wNf1 and wBg1.</p>

18 problems by 18 composers from 13 countries have taken part in this tourney. We had expected fewer entries, taking into account the difficulty of this year's theme. There were three helpself-stalemates this year.

The first decision was to establish eliminatory criteria.

- In the first place and according to our thematic requirement, the composition must show at least 3 different pieces cyclically exchanging their roles. The presence of two proper and convincing cycles virtually ensured a prize; similarly, if a single cycle was composed of only active effects, it would also deserve a high award.
- For an honourable mention, at least two active effects out of three would be necessary, as well as a twinless presentation.

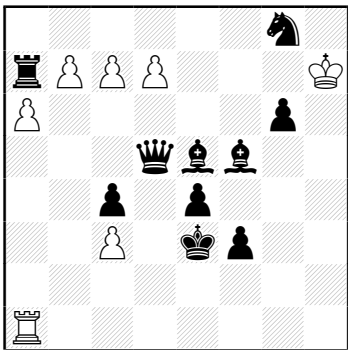
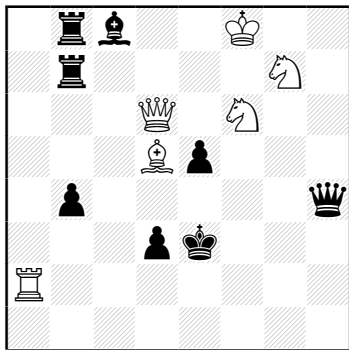
Another decision, which was very hard to take, was to eliminate the problems having at least two unused white / black figures in at least one phase / solution. We therefore had to withdraw some otherwise very interesting compositions which would have certainly deserved a place in our final

classification taking into account the difficulty of the theme. We hope the unlucky authors will be able to improve their compositions and successfully participate with them in other tournaments.

ORTHODOX SECTION

The participation in this section seems rather disappointing: only 5 problems from 5 authors, one not thematic. We decided to exclude the single problem from the tournament featuring the complete cycle ABC-BCA-CAB/ACB-CBA-BAC because the employed strategy seemed somehow mechanical.

For the remaining three compositions we propose the following ranking:

Petko PETKOV – Special Prize Orthodox Section Tzuica 2012	Menachem WITZTUM – Commendation Orthodox Section Tzuica 2012
	
<p>hs=3.5 (7+10) C+</p> <p>B: bKe3 → h3</p> <p>C: bKe3 → h4</p>	<p>hs#2 (8+6) C+</p> <p>B: bPb4 → h6</p> <p>C: bPe5 → d4</p>
<p>a) 1...Qxb7 2.Rb1 Qxb1 3.d8=Q Qb8 4.Qd2+ Kxd2= b) 1...Bxd7 2.Ra4 Bxa4 3.c8=Q Be8 4.Qg4+ Kxg4= c) 1...Bxc7 2.Rxa5 Bxa5 3.b8=Q Bxc3 4.Qg3+ Kxg3=</p>	<p>a) 1.Qxb4 Qh6 2.Sg4+ Bxg4# b) 1.Sfh5 Qb4 2.Sf5+ Bxf5# c) 1.Sgh5 Qf2 2.Qe6+ Bxe6#</p>

Special Prize: Petko PETKOV (Bulgaria)

The only composition from the orthodox section featuring two cycles, on both white and black sides:

The white thematic pieces are: wPb7, wPc7, wPd7 and the effects are:

- Passive annihilation at black first move
- Passive indirect selfpin after white third move
- Active promotion in Q in third white move and active sacrifice in white last move

The black thematic pieces are: bQd5, bBf5 and bBe5 and the effects are:

- Active annihilation of white pawn and Rook; preventive line opening for promoted wQ
- Passive / static guard of wK flight(s)
- Passive / static guard of wK flight(s)

This solid problem deserves a prize for the convincing strategic contents used for presenting the required theme. The composer skillfully used a third pin of thematic white pawns and added an active wR sacrifice in order to ensure the soundness. Although both cycles contain more passive than active effects and the twinning comprises the movement of the black King, this is totally acceptable since it does not involve a thematic piece. The model stalemates show the author's attention to all presentation details.

However, careful readers might claim the black cycle is rather debatable, since the static guards are already arranged in the initial position and no actual cyclic effect is present during black play, as bQd5, bBf5 and bBe5 will always guard respectively g8, g6 and g7 / h8 in the final positions. For this reason this composition gains a special distinction, instead of a normal one.

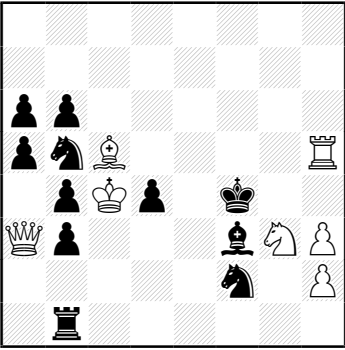
Commendation: Menachem WITZTUM (Israel)

Neat presentation of the following cyclic effects for thematic pieces wQd6, wSf6 and wSg7:

- Active guard of flight square ("f4") at white first move
- Active sacrifice at white second move
- Passive pin by black Queen after black second move

The small drawback in the twinning (i.e. the black pawn blocks a flight square in the last twin) and the heady helpmate flavor don't reduce the charm of this very attractive composition.

**Emanuel NAVON– Special Commendation
Orthodox Section Tzuica 2012**



hs#2 Duplex (7+11) C+

b) wQa3 → a8
c) wBc5 → g4

a) 1.Qxb3 Rd1 2.Bd6+ Sxd6#
1.Rd1 Qxb3 2.Sd6+ Bxd6#

b) 1.Bxd4 Sc7 2.Se2+ Bxe2#
1.Sc7 Bxd4 2.Bxe2+ Sxe2#

c) 1.Rd5 Bd1 2.Qc1+ Rxc1#
1.Bd1 Rd5 2.Rxc1+ Qxc1#

Special Commendation: Emanuel NAVON (Israel)

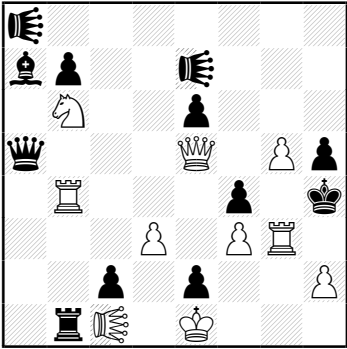
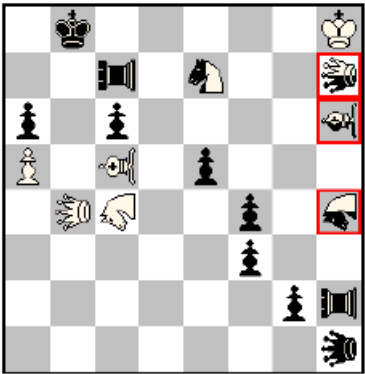
We hesitated before deciding to include this composition in the award. The thematic pieces bRb1, bSb5 and bBf3 perform a clear cycle with rather simple motivations:

- Active preventive guard of flight
- Mate / active sacrifice
- Passive control of flight

In addition, the Duplex form with inversed play constitutes a nice enhancement to the required thematic contents. Two other pieces (wQ and wB) also exchange their roles in a cyclic way in three phases (i.e. a/b: active selfblock, b/c: passive guard of flight, c/a: active sacrifice / mate), although these additional changes are facilitated by the movement of white pieces in the twinning. All this is of course impressive, but there is also a high price to pay: the useless bSf2 in the first two solutions. A version using a bNh1 and without bPa5 would have partially eliminated this defect, by introducing a merely technical fairy piece, but in the end we think the author's choice was right.

FAIRY SECTION

Out of the thirteen problems in this section, we had to eliminate seven problems for not homogenous cyclic effects or unused white / black pieces. We would particularly like to mention two composers had the same ambitious and appealing idea of cyclic interception of white pieces on the same field, but we finally decided to leave them to their authors for further improvement.

Manfred RITTIRSCH – 1st Prize Fairy Section Tzuica 2012	Diyan KOSTADINOV – 2nd Prize Fairy Section Tzuica 2012
	
<p>hs#2 3 sol. (10+12) C+ (1+2) Double Grasshoppers</p> <p>1.Sd7 DGexc1 2.Qxf4+ DGxf4# 1.Sa4 Qxe5 2.Rxf4+ Qxf4# 1.Sc8 Rxb4 2.DGxf4+ Rxf4#</p>	<p>hs#2 (5+10+4) C+ Half Neutrals: Leo h7, Vao h6, Nao h4 Neutral Se7 Leo b4, h1; Pao c7, h2; Vao c5 b) bPe5 → e3 c) bPc6 → d2</p> <p>a) 1.hnLEb1=wLE+ Ka8! 2.LEb6+ hnNAg6=bNA# b) 1.hnVAXe3=wVA Kb7! 2.VAb6+ hnLEe4=bLE# c) 1.hnNAXd2=wNA Ka7! 2.NAb6+ hnVAF8=bVA#</p>

1st Prize – Manfred RITTIRSCH (Germany)

A cerebral composition – the kind of problem the deeper you explore the more you enjoy it. Although the overcrowded position does not produce at all a positive first impression, after playing the solutions on the board and fully understanding the specific roles of each piece, the originality of the conception will convince even the most skeptical readers.

The thematic black pieces Qa5, Rb1 and DGe7 exchange their roles as follows:

- Static pin, already existent in the initial position
- Static battery rear piece after the capture of white pinned officer
- Active battery front piece mating on f4

Also the thematic white pieces Qe5, Rb4 and DGc1 exchange their roles:

- Active sacrifice in white second move
- Static pin, already existent in the initial position
- Passive annihilation by the black homologue piece – a matching effect which explains the author's choice for wDGc1 instead of wQc1.

First white move opens the line of bBa7 and also ensures which continuation is possible:

- Sd7 is the only move that allows the access of DGe7 to c1
- Sa4 is the only S move that does not gain control over squares e3, e5 or e7
- Sc8 is the only move that allows both the control of d2 by DGa8 (because bRf4 does not control d2, as DGf4 or Qf4) and does not gain control over d2, c3 or b4.

As stated above, the construction is full of subtle points, typical for the composer. Just to give an example: wPg5 ensures a double check is delivered in the last solution, thwarting the defense 3.Bf2! A splendid piece of work, a worth first prizewinner!

2nd Prize – Diyan KOSTADINOV (Bulgaria)

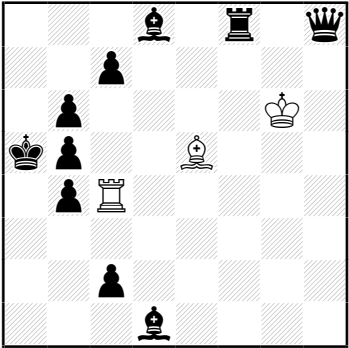
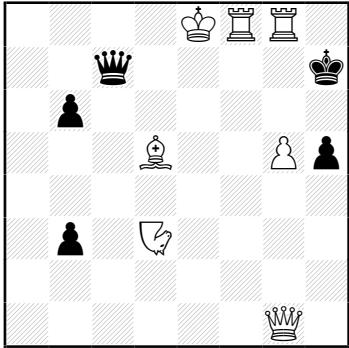
An extraordinary composition featuring two groups of pieces with cyclic play! Here the first thematic group consists of three white pieces LEb4, VAc5, NAc4:

- Active hurdle for two antibatteries (one direct and one indirect)
- Passive rear piece for indirect antibattery
- Passive rear piece for direct antibattery

The second group consists in the three third battery / pinned half neutral pieces: LEh7, VAh6, NAh4:

- Guard of flight through a specific third antibattery
- Passive pin and hurdle in the mating position
- Active Madrasi paralysis of direct white antibattery front piece.

The construction is very clever, with usage of neutral Se7 for guarding both Kings' flights and serving as a hurdle in the last solution. Although Madrasi is solely used in order to force the mating move, the potential of the other specific fairy pieces (Chinese and half neutral pieces) is better exploited. We only wonder if a twinless presentation of the idea with an additional halfmove (featuring for instance a black active sacrifice of a piece on b1, d2 and e3) could be arranged.

Frantisek SABOL – 1 st Honorable Mention Fairy Section Tzuica 2012	Juraj LÖRINC – 2 nd Honorable Mention Fairy Section Tzuica 2012
 <p>hs=2.5 3 sols. (3+10) Mars Circe</p> <p>1...Bg5 2.Bd6 Qxd6 3.Rh4+ Rxh4= 1...Rf4 2.Bg7 Bxg7 3.Rd4+ Qxd4= 1...Qh1 2.Bh2 Rxh2 3.Rc5+ Bxc5=</p>	 <p>hs#3 3 sols. (7+5) C+ Andernach Nightrider d3</p> <p>1.Bxb3=bB Be6 2.Qxb6=bQ Qe3 3.Nb4+ Bd5# 1.Nxh5=bN Nd7 2.Bxb3=bB Ba4 3.Qh2+ Nh5# 1.Qxb6=bQ Qd6 2.Nxh5=bN Nb2 3.Be4+ Qg6#</p>

1st Honorable Mention – Frantisek SABOL (Czech Republic)

The arrangement of black pieces on the eighth rank already suggest their roles: mutual batteries with each of them acting as a front piece for another: bQh8 for bRf8, bRf8 for bBd8 and bBd8 for bQh8. Each black piece actively plays in each solution – a 100% active interpretation of the required theme.

Each solution has subtle points, ensuring the uniqueness of first black move:

- Bd8 must avoid a future interference of bQ guard over g5
- Rf8 must be placed on a black square where it won't be captured by wK (f2) or won't interfere bQ (f6)
- Qh8 must leave the pre-control of square a1 and allow the capture of wB by the bR

The construction is absolutely superb and bBd1 is ideally placed, interfering bQh1 way to a1 while being in the same time under bQ control. The rather crude strategy, based on the sacrifice and annihilation of white officers, although allows an economical setting, hinders a higher classification.

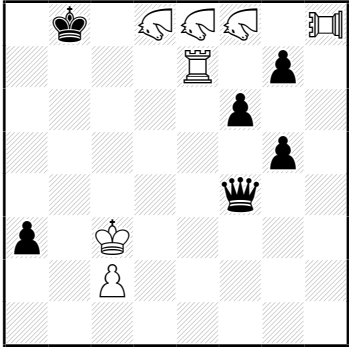
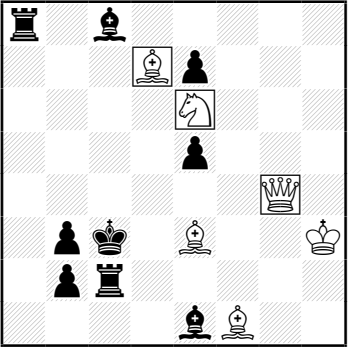
2nd Honorable Mention – Juraj LÖRINC (Slovakia)

The most economical problem of the tournament and the only Meredith! The thematic pieces wQg1, wBd5 and wNd3 perform all the moves in all the solutions:

- Rear battery piece after transformation in black figure
- Front battery piece after transformation in black figure
- Direct check provoking black battery play

The overall strategic content is quite very satisfactory: cycle of first two black moves and full black battery creation with direct selfpin mates. The presence of some very slight disharmonic

notes not matched in the other solutions (e.g. double check in the last solution, the line opening for wQ check in the second solution) made us, in spite of our regret, to rank this beautiful problem lower.

Mario PARRINELLO – 3rd Honorable Mention Fairy Section Tzuica 2012	Julia VYSOTSKA – Commendation Fairy Section Tzuica 2012
<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;"> hs#2 3 sols. (7+6) C+ Anti Take & Make Nao d8, e8, f8, Pao h8 </p> <p> 1.NAh4 gxh4(NAd2) 2.NAec4+ Qxc4(NAe8)# 1.NAb2 axb2(NAd3) 2.NA8b4+ Qxb4(NAd8)# 1.NAh6 gxh6(NAb3) 2.NAfd4+ Qxd4(NAf8)# </p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;"> hs#2.5 (6+9) C+ b) bPe5 → d5 c) wBa3 → e3 Chameleons Bd7, Se6, Qg4 </p> <p> a) 1...Ra7 2.cSc5=cB Rxd7 3.cQd1=cS+ Rxd1# b) 1...Ra4 2.cBb5=cR Rxc4 3.cSd4=cB+ Rxd4# c) 1...Ra6 2.cQf3=cS Rxe6 3.cBc6=cR+ Rxc6# </p>

3rd Honorable Mention – Mario PARRINELLO (Italy)

Crystal clear presentation of the required theme using identical white pieces: NAd8, NAe8, NAf8

- Passive hurdle for white PA after white second move
- Active sacrifice on the mating square
- Active sacrifice allowing a specific block after black first move

The specific Anti Take&Make effects present only at black moves and the overall somewhat schematic impression hinder a higher classification.

Commendation – Julia VYSOTSKA (Latvia)

The third pinned white chameleon pieces Se6, Bd7 and Qg4 cyclically exchange their roles:

- Active flight guard
- Passive annihilation at black second move
- Active sacrifice forcing a typical Dentist mate

Unfortunately only the presence of the twinning and a certain lack of interplay slightly mar this otherwise very interesting idea.

Vlaicu Crişan & Eric Huber
20th September 2012, Bucharest