

Chess Study Art 2022

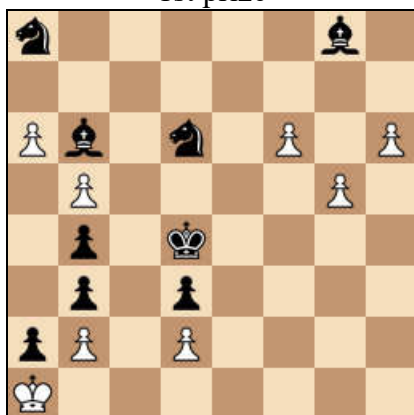
- 👑 All the studies of the tourney: https://chessstudy.art/cs_category/art-2022/
- 👑 The award of the tourney: <https://chessstudy.art/2022/12/21/chess-study-art-2022-2/>
- 👑 The awarded studies in the online database: <https://eg.org.ua/?s=chess+study+2022/>

The tourney was announced several months after the Russian invasion in Ukraine. When I recovered from the first shock I repaired my site, moved it to another address and decided to celebrate the housewarming with a tourney. Russian composers were not allowed to participate. I wrote the announcement on the Mat Plus forum. Unfortunately, the arves.org website refused to publish it. Mario Garcia wasn't so radical: he posted the announcement on his website, but in small letters and without the ban.

Still, people found the information about the tourney somewhere. 19 studies submitted by composers from 10 countries made the tourney one of the strongest this year.

All the studies were published on the website with their authors' annotations. In my award I present the studies without some secondary lines in order to highlight their ideas and artistic merits for which the studies earned their distinctions.

Vladislav Tarasiuk
1st prize



Draw

White has a choice: to queen his h-pawn or sacrifice them all?

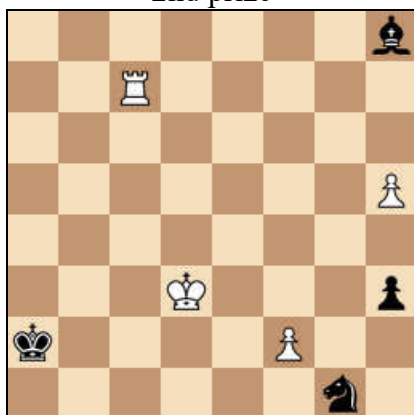
1.h7! [1.f7? ♕xf7! 2.h7 ♖xb5 3.h8♚+ ♔c4 and the knight comes on c2.]

1...♕xh7 2.f7 ♖xf7 3.g6! ♖c7! [3...♕xg6 4.a7 ♕xa7 5.b6 ♕xb6 stalemate.] **4.a7!** Time is more precious than material.

4.gxf7? ♕c5 5.a7 ♕e4 6.b6 ♖b5! 7.b7 ♖a3! 8.a8♚ ♖c2#.

4...♕xa7 5.b6! It's a funny position: two pawns strangle four pieces with their little hands. Now we know what Caissa's breasts look like not from the paintings by some ancient artist, we see them in this study by her faithful servant.

Michael Pasman
2nd prize



Draw

1.♖c4! [1.f4? ♕b2! 2.♖c2 ♖f3! 3.♖f2 h2-+] **1...♕f6 2.f3! ♖b3 3.♖c2 ♕e5 4.f4!** White must ask the black king to take a seat in the back row.

Logical try 4.h6? h2 5.♖xh2 ♕xh2 6.♔e4 ♖h3 7.♔f5 ♕g1 8.♔g4 ♖f2+ 9.♔f5 ♖d3! 10.h7 ♕d4 11.♔e4 ♔c4-+.

4...♕xf4 5.♖c3+! ♖b2 6.♖c2+ ♖b1 7.h6 h2 8.♖xh2 ♕xh2 Now the word to the white king.

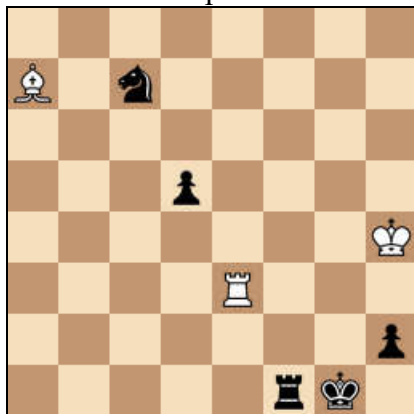
9.♔e4! ♖h3 10.♔f5! ♕g1 11.♔g4! ♖f2+ 12.♔f5! [12.♔f3? ♖d1 13.h7 ♕d4-+] **12...♖d1** The knight has to climb down. [12...♖d3 13.h7 ♕d4 14.♔e4=]

13.♔e5! The black king or knight can help the bishop to occupy the d4-square. **13...♘c3** [13...♔c2 14.h7 ♘d3 15.♔e6 ♙d4 16.♔f7=] **14.h7 ♘e2 15.♔e4!** [Not 15.♔e6? ♙d4 16.♔f7 ♘f4 17.♔g8 ♘g6+] **15...♙d4 16.♔d3!** The king returned with another fork.

The wonderful duel of the king and black pieces is skillfully enriched by a logical combination.

Jan Sprenger

3rd prize



Win

1.♖e2+ d4! The bishop on d4 will be attacked by the knight from e6 or b5.

1...♖f2 2.♖xf2! (2.♔g3? h1♘+!) 2...♘b5 (2...h1♖+ 3.♔g3 ♖e4 4.♖f4+ ♔h1 5.♖f1#) 3.♙c5! (3.♙b6? d4 4.♖a2 ♘d6! 5.♙xd4+ ♔f1 6.♖xh2 ♘f5+) 3...d4 4.♖a2 ♘d6 5.♙xd6 h1♖+ 6.♔g3 - Black can't stop checkmate because of his pawn.

2.♙xd4+ ♖f2 [2...♔h1 3.♔g3! ♖g1+ 4.♔h3 mates.] **3.♖xf2!**

Main A. 3...♘e6 4.♙a7!

4.♙e3? ♘g5!! 5.♖f5+ ♔g2 6.♖f2+ ♔g1 7.♖a2+ ♔f1 8.♔g3 h1♖ 9.♖a1+ ♔e2 10.♖xh1 ♔xe3=; 4.♙b6? h1♖+ 5.♔g3 ♖b7! 6.♖f6+ ♖xb6!

4...h1♖+ 5.♔g3 ♖a8 6.♖f7+ ♖xa7 7.♖xa7 ♔f1 8.♖f7+! ♔e2 9.♖e7+–

Main B. 3...♘b5 4.♙c5! In fact, the bishop chooses a square for his rook.

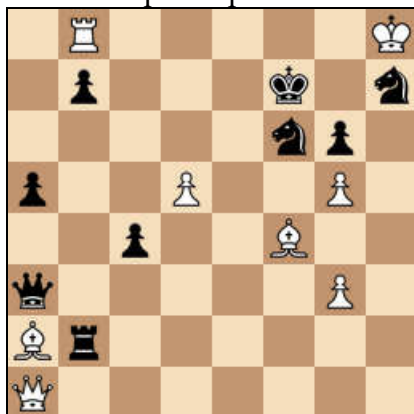
4.♙e3? h1♖+ 5.♔g3 ♖e4 6.♖f3+ ♖xe3 7.♖xe3 ♔f1 8.♔f3 ♘d4+=; 4.♙b6? h1♖+ 5.♔g3 ♖b7! 6.♖f6+ ♖xb6 7.♖xb6 ♘c3=.

4...h1♖+ 5.♔g3 ♖c6 6.♖f5+ ♖xc5 7.♖xc5+–

The theme of mined squares for the both sides. The bishop can't move on b6 and e3 in the main lines for various reasons. White is lucky that the black knight also walks on mines: a double attack hits the knight on b5, and a pin on e6.

Steffen Nielsen

special prize



Win

1.♙xc4! White has charged the battery. After 1.d6? ♖c3 2.♖e1 ♖xe1 3.♙xc4+ it's easy to overlook that the decoyed queen stayed in the game - 3...♖e6!

1...♖c3! The black battery defends against the white one. **2.♖f1!** This battery fires one move further. **2...♖h2!** This one even further. [2...♘f8 3.♙d2! ♖xd2 4.♖xb7+] **3.g4!** The black rook doesn't have good squares on the h-file.

3.d6+? ♘d5+ 4.♙e5+ ♘hf6+ – all four batteries fired.

3...♘g4+ [3...♖h4 4.♙g3!; 3...♖h1 4.♙d2! ♖xf1 5.♙xc3]

4.♙e5+ ♘hf6+ 5.♙xh2 ♘f2! 6.♙e5! The only way to disable the black battery.

6.♖f8+? ♔xf8 7.♙e5 ♖f3! 8.♙xf6 (8.♙e2 ♖xd5) 8...♖h5#.

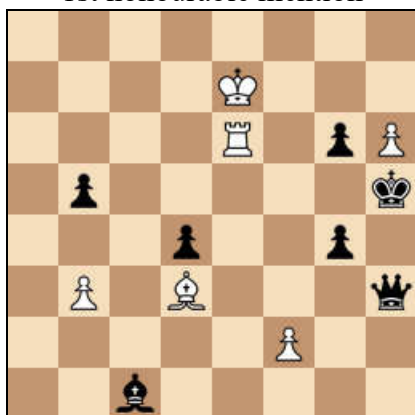
6...♖xe5 7.♖f8+! [7.♖xf2? ♖xb8#] **7...♔xf8 8.♖xf2 b5**

8...♖xg5 9.♖c5+ ♔e8 10.♖c8+ ♔e7 11.♖c7+ ♘d7 12.d6+ ♔f8 13.♖c8+ ♖d8 14.♖xd8#.

9.♖xf6+ ♖xf6+ 10.gxf6 bxc4 11.d6+–

Consecutive creation of four batteries by adding a rear piece. I see a circle of cowboys aiming their guns at the opponent's temple to protect the friend in danger. At this tense moment Steffen opens a bottle of champagne - g4! Only the pawns survived the skirmish.

Steffen Nielsen
1st honourable mention



Win

1.h7 ♖h4+

1...♔a3+ 2.♕d7 ♕g5 3.♖xg6+ ♕f4 4.♖f6+ ♕g5 (4...♕e5 5.♖f5#) 5.♖f5+ ♕g6 6.♖h5+ ♕xh5 7.h8♖+ ♕g5 8.♖g7+ mates.

2.♖f6 ♕g5 3.♖xg6+ ♕f4+ 4.♖f6+ ♕e5 5.h8♖ ♔a3+ [5...♖xh8 6.♖f5#] 6.b4!

Logical try 6.♕d7? ♖xf6 7.f4+ gxf3 8.♖h2+ ♕d5 9.♖h5+ ♖e5 10.♖xf3+ ♕c5 11.♖c6+ (11.♖f8+ ♕b6 12.♖xa3 ♖c7+ 13.♕e6 ♖c3=) 11...♕b4=.

6...♔xb4+ 7.♕d7 ♖xf6 8.f4+! [8.♖h2+? g3! 9.♖xg3+ ♕d5]

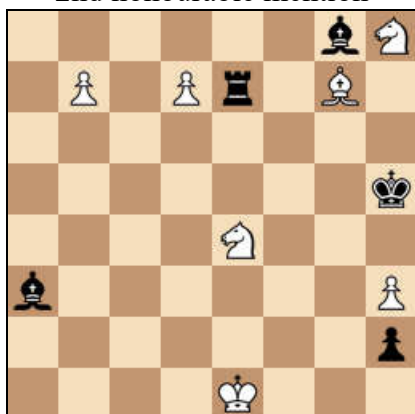
8...gxf3 9.♖h2+ with two epaulette mates:

9...♕d5 [or 9...♖f4 10.♖h5+ ♕f6 11.♖g6+ ♕e5 12.♖e6#]

10.♖h5+ ♖e5 11.♖xf3+ ♕c5 12.♖c6#

A self-block in each checkmate was preceded by a logical sacrifice of a pawn. Black's counterplay is weak.

Martin Minski
2nd honourable mention



Draw

1.♕f2! ♔c5+ [1...h1♖ 2.♕g3+] **2.♔d4!** Measures against the rook's move on d3.

Logical try 2.♕g2? ♖xg7+ 3.♕g3+ (3.♕xh2 ♔g1+ 4.♕h1 ♔d5 5.d8♖ ♔xe4#) 3...♖xg3+ 4.♕xh2 ♔d3! 5.b8♖ ♔d6+-.

2...♔xd4+ 3.♕g2 ♖g7+ 4.♕g6!! The decoy of the black bishop to d4 has both a weakening (the d-file is closed) and a strengthening effect - on the e5-square the bishop will not be attacked by the promoted Qd8. White counters new threats with his play for a stalemate.

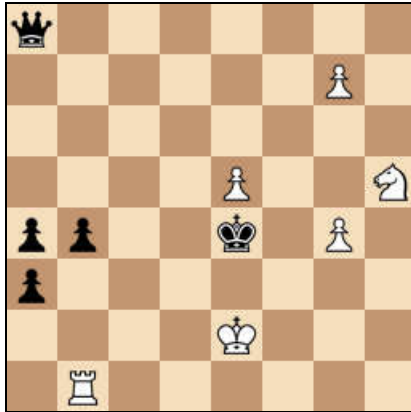
Logical try 4.♕g3+? ♖xg3+ 5.♕xh2 ♔e5 6.b8♖ ♔xb8 7.d8♖ ♔d5! 8.♖xd5+ (8.♖xb8 ♖g2+ 9.♕h1 ♖g8+) 8...♖g5+.

4...♖xg6+ 5.♕g3+! ♖xg3+ 6.♕xh2 ♔e5 7.b8♖! ♔xb8 8.d8♖ ♔d5! 9.♖h4+! [9.♖h8+? ♕g6 10.h4 ♔c7 11.♖e8+ (11.♖h5+ ♕f6; 11.♖c8 ♖c3+) 11...♕h7 12.♖h5+ ♕g7-+] **9...♕xh4** stalemate.

A good attempt to combine an avalanche of sacrifices and logic, an action movie and a detective story, muscles and mind. Although, I have a feeling that one interferes with the other a little.

Mario Micaloni**Daniele Gatti**

3rd honourable mention



Win

1.g8♚! [1.♗f6+? ♗xe5! 2.g8♚ ♗g2+!=] **1...♗xg8 2.♗f6+ ♗xe5 3.♗xg8 a2 4.♞e1! ♗d4** [4...b3 5.♗d3+!] **5.♞d1+ ♗c3**

After 5...♗c4 White drives the king into the cage. **6.♗e7! b3 7.♞c1+ ♗d4** (7...♗b5 8.♗d5 b2 9.♗c3+ ♗c4 10.♗xa2+ ♗b3 11.g5 ♗xa2 12.♗d2! bxc1♚+ 13.♗xc1 a3 14.g6+–) **8.♗c6+ ♗e4 9.♞d1 b2 10.♞d4#.**

6.♗f6 b3 7.♗e4+ ♗b4 8.♞a1! ♗a3

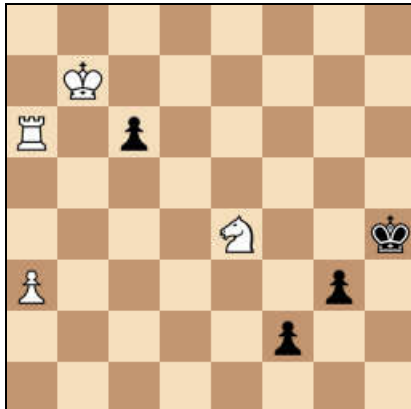
8...b2 9.♞xa2 b1♚ 10.♞xa4+ ♗xa4 (10...♗b3 11.♗d2+; 10...♗b5 11.♗c3+) **11.♗c3+.**

9.♗c5 b2 10.♞xa2+ ♗xa2 11.♗xa4 b1♚ 12.♗c3+

The introductory fork was a warm-up before the chase after the passers with an unexpected checkmate in the center and a bunch of forks in the final.

Mihail Croitor

1st commendation



Win

1.♞a4 f1♚ 2.♗d2+ ♗h3 3.♗xf1 g2 4.♗h2! ♗xh2 [4...g1♚ 5.♞h4+! ♗xh4 6.♗f3+] **5.♞a5!** It is important to slow down the c6–pawn. **5...♗h3 6.♞h5+ ♗g4 7.♞h8!**

In case of a shorter run **7.♞h7? c5 8.♗c6 c4 9.♗d5 c3 10.♗e4 c2 11.♞c7** the king punishes the rook in two ways: **11...♗h5!** (or using a feint **11...♗g3! 12.♗d3 ♗f4 13.♞f7+ ♗g5 14.♗xc2 ♗g6**) **12.♗f3 g1♚ 13.♞h7+ ♗g6–.**

7...c5 8.♗c6 c4 9.♗d5 c3 10.♗e4 c2 11.♞c8! ♗h5

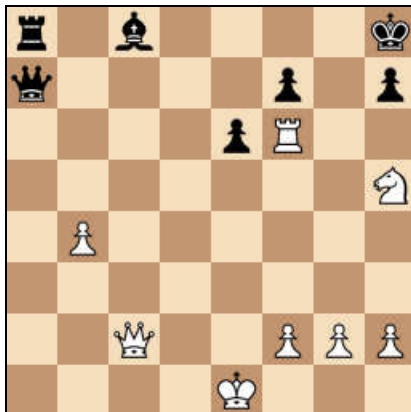
11...♗g3 12.♗d3! ♗f4 13.♞f8+ ♗e5 14.♞e8+ ♗d6 15.♞e1

12.♗f3! [12.♗d3? ♗h6!] 12...g1♚ 13.♞h8+ ♗g6 14.♞g8+ ♗f7 15.♞xg1

A delicate fight against the passed pawns and the long-armed black king. It is a pity that two refutations of the try ruined the logical part of the content of the study.

Michael Prusikin

2nd commendation



Win

1.♚d1! The queen attacks not forgetting about defense. [1.♚c3? ♚a1+] **1...♚c7** [or 1...♚a1 2.♞xf7 ♚e5+ 3.♗f1 and we are in the main line.]

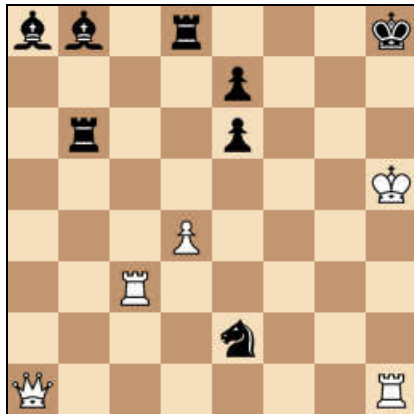
2.♞xf7! ♚e5+ [2...♞xf7 3.♚d8+ ♚g8 4.♚f6+]

3.♗f1 ♚a6+ 4.♗g1 ♚e2! The queen hangs, the knight hangs. Let the rook hang too!

5.♞a7!! ♞g8 [5...♞c8 6.♚c2! ♞xc2 7.♞a8+ mates.] 6.♗f6! ♞xg2+ [6...♞xf6 7.♚xe2+–] 7.♗xg2 ♚g5+ 8.♗h1 ♚xd1 9.♞xh7#

The sacrificial attack ends in a model mate.

Beat Neuenschwander
3rd commendation



Win

1.♔g6+! [1.♖c6? ♜g8! 2.d5+ ♔h7 3.♖xb6 ♜g3+ 4.♔h4 ♜f5+=] **1...♔g8 2.♖h8+! ♔xh8 3.♔f7 ♜g3**

3...♙g3 4.♖c8! (4.♖c6? ♖b1!) **4...♙e4 5.♚a5!+-.**

4.♖xg3 ♙xg3 The messy intro is over. White locked the black king in the corner; his battery is ready to fire. But it is right to proceed quietly:

5.♚d1!

5.d5+? ♖b2! 6.♚xb2+ e5 – all entrances are closed.

5...♖b5 6.d5! The Nowotny interference. **6...♖dxd5 7.♚a1+** Forcing the Grimshaw. [7.♚h1+? ♖h5 8.♚xa8+ ♖b8.] **7...♙e5 8.♚c1! ♙g7 9.♚h1+!**

9.♚c8+? ♔h7 10.♚g8+ ♔h6 11.♚xg7+ ♔h5.

9...♖h5 10.♚xa8+ ♔h7 11.♚g8+ ♔h6 12.♚xg7#

The queen breaks through the defense using chess problems weapons. The first four moves don't make this study better.

Send your claims and comments to the judge's email or post them on the Chess Study Art website till December 31. On that day the award will become final.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the participants! Congratulations to the winners, good luck to the losers in the next year tourney. Its announcement will be published later.

Judge of the tourney Serhiy Didukh,
Lviv, December 21.