

PORTRAITURE

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Presentation Outline

Discussion

Presentation

Digital Workflow

What is it!

- *Workflow: preparing for a shoot, shooting procedure, and for downloading, cataloguing, tracking, and archiving the image files that result.*
- **A process that results in consistent and predictable results in an efficient manner.**
- **Digital Workflow is finding what works for you and gives you results that you are happy with.**

Getting ready to photograph

- **Speak with your model**
- **Get your equipment ready**
- **Use a check list**
- **Will you have everything you will need**
- **Have a goal.**

Evaluating your images

You take 400 photos at a portrait shoot

How many are likely to be keepers?

How many great photographs?

What is a Portrait

For the portrait to be distinctive, a touch of the individual's personality needs to emerge from the **photo**.

It should present the person in a **realistic manner**, be instantly recognizable, **reasonably flattering**, represent an approximate time period, **emphasize the perceived positive aspects** and de-emphasize the more negative aspects and minor flaws encountered in most individuals.

Effect of Focal Length

Lens

- Rule of thumb - choose a lens that is twice the diagonal of the film, with a 35mm format, usually 75 to 85mm is a good choice.
- If you have the working room, a 200mm lens provides very shallow depth of field and allows background to completely fall out of focus.

Focus

- It is important that the eyes and frontal features of the face be tack sharp.
- You must focus carefully to hold the eyes, ears and tip of the nose in focus.

Depth of Field

Shooting Apertures

- Choosing the working lens aperture is often a function of exposure level.
- Normally the image is sharpest at or near the optimum aperture - $1 \frac{1}{2}$ or 2 stops from wide open.
- Aperture should be small enough to hold the face in focus, but not small enough to pull the background into focus.

Shutter Speed (it Depends)

- Choose a shutter speed that stops camera and subject movement
 - Tripod: 1/30 - 1/60
 - Electronic Flash: Locked into the flash sync speed of your camera
 - Hand-held: General rule is to use the length of your lens
 - 100mm lens, use 1/100 or the next highest equivalent shutter speed
 - When shooting candid's; use faster shutter speed and a wider lens aperture

Light Meter / Film Choice

Light Meter

- With 1 light it is not as critical
 - use Histogram on LCD screen

Film Choice

- In today's digital world, the camera is the film
- Higher ISO may introduce noise/grain

Posing and Composition

Subject Posing

- Make the person comfortable
- Pose your subject naturally – use a pose that feels good to the subject
- Subject's shoulders should be turned at an angle to the camera
- With men, the head is more often turned the same direction as the shoulders, but with women, the head is often at a slightly different and opposing angle

Posing and Composition (con't)

Never break the portrait at a joint.

A person's body facing one direction or another, usually at a 30 to 45° angle to the camera

Consider having the subjects put their weight on their back foot.

Posing and Composition (con't)

- In Head-and-shoulders portraits, the eyes are the point of central interest.
- In a $\frac{3}{4}$ or full-length portrait, the face is the center of interest.

WHY RETOUCHING

- **The camera captures every flaw, every blemish and every little imperfection.**
- **Our task, is to take that flat, unflattering, two-dimensional image and make the individual look as good as they did when they were standing right in front of us.**

Source: Scott Kelby.

Basic Retouching

- **The camera captures every flaw, every blemish and every little imperfection.**
- **EYES**
- **SKIN**
- **FACE**
- **HAIR**
- **LIPS**
- **SLIM**

Have Fun!

Thank You

