



GPU Title's Application Image Categories, Rules, Conditions , definition and Criteria

What do the judges look for?

Sometime judging of photography is subjective (personal opinion), this can be so true, but is not in the guide case, For GPU judging process minimize the potential of subjective by judging through a panel process utilizing experienced judges from varied judging backgrounds.

GPU have set criteria to consider. The criteria being based around the facts that photography is a combination of art and science.

These are 10 consideration points as judge's guideline:

1. **Impact** (this is the sense one gets upon viewing a photo, for first time. Compelling image evoke, sadness, anger, pride, laughter, emotion, wonder).
2. **Presentation**, (does the work support sequence or single individual work, technique such as, lighting, posing, capture, presentation media and more are part of technique applied to an image)
3. **Technical Excellence** (should consider the quality of the image and as presented for viewing)
4. **Lighting** (effective control and use of applied to the image, whether natural or artificial light, by looking at the effective use of it, in order to enhance the image light quality)
5. **Creativity** (looking for original, fresh and external expression of the imagination of the photographer to convey an idea, message or purpose)
6. **Sorry Telling** (refer to the image's ability to communicate to the viewer and evoke imagination)
7. **Subject** (this should always be appropriate to the story being told in an image)
8. **Colour balance** (the effective use of colours and tones in an image. An image in which the tones work together, effectively supporting the image, can enhance harmony. By contrast a lack of harmony can be used to evoke diverse feeling for effect)
9. **Composition** (this the most central effective which should bring the visual elements together in concert to express the purpose of the image. The proper composition should hold the viewer in the image and prompts the viewer to look where creator intends. The effective composition can be pleasing or disturbing depending on the intent of the image maker)
10. **Unique Style** (Jury panel judges should look for a specific style, the photographer style. This can be defined in a number of ways. It might be defined by a specific genre or simply be recognizable as the characteristics of how a specific photo art applies to a subject, that can impact on the image in a positive manner when the subject matter and the style are appropriate for each other, or it can have a negative effect when they are at odds)

Definition of GPU Title and Distinction Image Categories.

Definition Creative photography

Creativity embraces "altered reality" in which a representation of what could exist or, more expressively, that which does not exist. However, constructed, the viewed final image should be interpretable. Creative images are often montages, i.e. a blending or composite of multiple images (one or many), where the viewed final image is designed, planned and executed in a deliberate manner by the author. GPU takes the view that the application of out-of-the-box filters, supplied by the software manufacturers, or turnkey effects, such as High Dynamic Range (HDR) composites, without further changes are not considered creative "enough" as the author just has to "push a few buttons".

Conditions: All elements of the final submitter creative image must be original with the copyright owned fully and solely by the applicant. No elements generated or owned by anyone else is permissible. Each element of the original images must be altered by the author alone. Images may not be constructed and submitted if they have been entirely "made" within a computer.

Definition of Nature Photography

Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and to certify as to its honest presentation. The **story telling** value of a photograph **must** be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality. Human elements shall not be present.

Conditions: No techniques that add to, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the nature story or the pictorial content are permitted. All adjustments must appear natural. Colour images may be converted to gray-scale monochrome.

Definition of Travel Photography

Travel photography involves the documentation of an area's landscape, people, cultures, customs and history. GPU defines a travel photo as an image that expresses the feeling of a time and place, portrays a land, its people, or a culture in its natural state, and has no geographical limitations. Therefore, any and all Photo Travel images must express the feeling of a time and place, and portray a land, its distinctive features or culture in its natural state. If the author submits a close-up picture of people or objects it is essential that the image includes a clearly distinguishable environment.

Conditions: Techniques that add to, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. All adjustments must appear natural. Conversion to full monochrome is acceptable. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged, combined or changed in any way that affects the integrity of the image content. No manipulation or modification is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original colour of the scene. No special effect filters can be added or applied, and any sharpening must appear natural.

Definition of Architecture Photography

GPU's definition would include any man-made construction, anything that is not a creation of nature, will have unique architectural features. Architectural images draw the viewer's attention to lines, construction detail, design, structure and form. Many architectural structures are set in locations where the context (i.e. the setting) may be important to the interpretation and correct understanding of the building. Hence, the landscaping surrounding a building maybe important to the overall composition of the image photograph, even necessary to communicate the aesthetic harmony of a building and its environment. An architectural photographer will often include flowers, trees, fountains or statues in the foreground of a composition, taking advantage of their ability to help lead the eye into the composition, to the main subject, the building. Interiors and external subjects are allowed; each with technical challenges (including depth of field and converging verticals) shooting architectural images from a different perspective. The use of light offers many possibilities to enhance, both internally and externally, the architectural feature.

Conditions: The inclusion of human interest is permitted for the purposes of providing "scale" but should not be the main feature of the image. Excessive computer editing/modification/manipulation to correct converging verticals or sharpening is to be avoided. The GPU jury reserve the right to request the RAW file(s).

Definition of Landscape Photography

The definition of landscape photography is of necessity, broad. It includes urban settings, industrial areas, and natural scenes as well as the classical coastlines, seascapes and mountains. Landscape photography seeks capture the essence of the many diverse environments within our world both sometimes vast and unending, but also localised scenery; wild natural places; managed environment. Images badges as "landscape" typically show little or no human activity: but may on occasion use man-made features as objects of "scale". GPU's definition of landscape photography aims to portray a pure, unsullied depiction of nature devoid of human influence, instead featuring subjects such as strongly defined landforms, weather and ambient light and their interactions. Even a less than imposing landscape can be rendered an excellent subject with dramatic light; natural landscape plus natural light giving a double reward.

Conditions: In this category the fusion of several images together into a single image is not permitted. Additionally, as the quality of light will greatly enhance a landscape, computer adjustments should be kept to a minimum and those used must be declared explicitly RAW files will be required.

Definition of Sport Photography

Sports photography is all about catching the "moment", the winning, losing or just taking part. GPU accepts images from all recognised sport; training for events as well as the events them-selves. Sport played as a team as well as individual sports; elite level international celebrations of sporting excellence down to the grass-root level activity, summer sports and well as winter ones; on land as well as on water; inclusive of able-bodied athletes as well as disabled participants. In each case the emphasis should be on the human endeavour rather than focused on equipment or the crowd. GPU considers "sport" in this context with animals where the animal and human are both actively involved (e.g. horse racing) but not where the animals alone compete (e.g. dog racing).

Conditions: - The category is SPORT and not SPORT and GAMES therefore images depicting games are not eligible in this category. As the undoubted skill is in capturing the defining moment the key parts of the image that define the story and create the impact MUST be unaltered. GPU is likely to call for the RAW files to verify this intention to validate the skill of the photographer at the taking stage and not through "skilful" post-processing". A minimum of computer adjustments may be allowed in the ancillary areas of the image (as a rule of thumb – consider only "tweaks" that would be possible in a wet chemistry dark-room situation). Sharpening should be minimal, and the overall effect should look natural.

Definition of Portrait Photography

Portrait photography is the capture by means of photography of the likeness of a person or a small group of people (a group portrait), in which the face and expression is predominant. The objective is to display the likeness, personality, and even the mood of the subject. Like other types of portraiture, the focus of the photograph is the person's face, although the entire body and the background may be included to help interpret the portrait. A portrait is generally not a snapshot (a candid), but a composed image of a person in a still position. Images may be studio taken or of a subject in a natural or urban environment.

Conditions: The application of all filters, and especially sharpening tools, need to be used judiciously and not over-done; the overall effect should be, in all cases, natural. Removal of blemishes may be allowed in moderation.

Definition of Street/ Snapshot Photography

Sometimes referred to as “candid photography” is a photograph that is captured without creating a posed appearance. This is achieved by avoiding prior preparation of the subject and by either surprising the subject or by not distracting the subject during the process of taking photos. The cardinal aim of street photography is to record what was seen, where it was seen accurately by catching the moment. Street photography is the capturing of the emotion and expressions of people with emphasis also on the urban environment and the interaction and integration of the “human” aspect with the “environmental”. {The interaction can work both ways - a person is interacting with the environment or in which the environment is interacting with the person}. A key skill is in the framing and timing at a decisive or poignant moment. Simply put, the main focus of street photography is **taking the everyday and the mundane and making it into something unique and beautiful.**

Conditions: The skill is in capturing the defining moment the key parts of the image that define the story and create the impact MUST be unaltered. As the scene is unscripted and unplanned, the lack of stage-management and control of the scene will often result in unwanted and distracting elements being included in the image. In this category, UPI requires the minimum of post-processing and removal of unwanted elements. What was seen, when it was seen WANTS AND ALL.

UPI may to call for the RAW files to verify this intention to validate the skill of the photographer. A minimum of computer adjustments may be allowed in the image (as a rule of thumb – consider only “tweaks” that would be possible in a wet chemistry dark-room situation). Sharpening should be minimal, and the overall effect should look natural.

Definition of Open Monochrome Photography

A black and white image fitting from the very dark grey (black) to the very clear grey (white) is a monochrome work with the various shades of grey.

A black and white work toned entirely in a single colour will remain a monochrome work able to stand in the black and white category for GPU Titles.

On the other hand, a black and white work modified by a partial toning or by the addition of one colour becomes a colour work (polychrome) and is NOT Monochrome but colour.

Definition of Nude or Figure Studies Photography

In drawing up a definition of nude photography it is necessary to draw important distinction with overlapping and related topics glamour photography, erotic photography and pornography.

In summary, nude photography seeks to show bodies as sculptural abstractions. Nude photography is concerned with aesthetic qualities and creativity; thus any erotic interest, although often present, is secondary. This distinguishes nude photography from both glamour photography, which focuses on showing the subject of the photograph in the most attractive way, and pornographic photography, which has the primary purpose of sexually arousing the viewer. The distinction between these is not always clear. The nude remains a controversial subject in many sections of the photographic community and the general public in general. GPU supports nude photography that can be considered “good taste”.

- Glamour photography is a genre of photography whereby the subjects, usually female, are portrayed in a romantic or sexually alluring way. The subjects may be fully clothed or semi-nude, but glamour photography stops short of deliberately arousing the viewer and being pornographic in any way.
- Erotic photography is a style of art photography of an erotic and even a sexually suggestive or sexually provocative nature. Erotic photography is generally a composed image of a subject in a still position. Though the subjects of erotic photography are usually completely or mostly unclothed, that is not a requirement. Erotic photography is distinguished from nude photography, which contains nude subjects not necessarily in an erotic situation, and pornographic photography, which is of a sexually explicit nature.
- Pornography is the explicit portrayal of sexual subject matter for the purpose of sexual gratification. Pornography is often distinguished from erotica, which consists of the portrayal of sexuality with high-art aspirations, focusing also on feelings and emotions, while pornography involves the depiction of acts in a sensational manner, with the entire focus on the physical act, so as to arouse intense reactions. Pornographic photography generally does not claim any artistic or aesthetic merit.

*Conditions: Taking the above text and the aim to create tasteful images” of good taste”; extreme close-ups should be avoided. Computer enhancements, filters and turn-key features (ie HDR), if used, should be used judiciously. **Images of children are not allowed.***

Monochrome

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