

DISTINCTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS

# GENRES DEFINITIONS: ADDITIONAL CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS

GUIDELINES FOR EACH ASSOCIATE & FELLOWSHIP GENRE

CREDIT: Sylvester Wong Hsiang Hui ARPS  
GENRE: Landscape Photography

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CREDIT: Michael Poole ARPS  
GENRE: Applied Photography

# APPLIED PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography which has been produced for an intended purpose, utilising a stated output.

### ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

*No additional criteria*

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

*No additional criteria*

### APPLIED GUIDELINES

- Possible genres could include; Commercial, Fashion Design, Portraiture or Editorial.
- Studying other bodies of work by Applied Photographers may help, not to replicate, but to inspire. Find elements that could develop your own approach and understanding to Applied Photography.
- It is advisable to avoid stereotypical images produced at workshops, course or tours. Although images produced at workshops, courses and tours are accepted.



**CREDIT:** Sarah Dow ARPS  
**GENRE:** Contemporary Photography

# CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography which communicates a visual realisation of a stated argument, idea or concept.

### ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

*No additional criteria*

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A statement of intent that clearly stated the aim(s) and objective(s) of the submission within a maximum of 300 words.

### CONTEMPORARY GUIDELINES

- Possible concepts could include; Emotions, Society, Environment, Art and Culture.
- Studying other bodies of work by Contemporary Photographers may help, not to replicate, but to inspire. Find elements that could develop your own approach and understanding to Contemporary Photography.
- It is advisable to avoid stereotypical images produced at workshops, course or tours. Although images produced at workshops, courses and tours are accepted.



CREDIT: Philip Butler ARPS  
GENRE: Documentary Photography

## DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography which communicates a clear narrative through visual literacy.

### ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

*No additional criteria*

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Manipulation that significantly alters the truth of an image or subject is not permitted
- Images must show a true representation of the subject(s).

### DOCUMENTARY GUIDELINES

- Concepts could include events, objects, people or places which are explored through the photographer's immersion in the subject.
- A submission regarding a particular place may have one aim but may need to clearly show many different aspects or objectives of that place; the landscape, it's people, it's history, a geographical aspect etc. to avoid a repetitive element.
- A submission may be an opportunity to communicate 15 different visual elements of your aim and objectives within your chosen subject.
- Studying other bodies of work by Documentary Photographers may help, not to replicate, but to inspire. Find elements that could develop your own approach and understanding to Documentary Photography.
- It is advisable to avoid stereotypical images produced at workshops, course or tours. Although images produced at workshops, courses and tours are accepted.



CREDIT: Joe Cornish HonFRPS  
GENRE: Landscape Photography

# LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography that illustrates and interprets earth’s habitats, from the remotest wilderness to urban environs.

## ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

*No additional criteria*

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

While landscape photography is a creative endeavour, this distinction remains within a broad definition of the art of seeing, and the eyewitness tradition. Black and white, and a reasonable degree of editing/enhancement that remain credible are all included. (Very long and very short exposures are allowable.)

More extreme creative techniques, such as multiple exposures, deliberate camera movement, complex collages and image blending are more likely to be seen as Visual Art Photography.

## LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES

- Concepts for photography can be scientific, geographic, architectural, artistic, metaphoric.
- At a time of critical change for earth’s ecosystems we urge photographers to explore what that means to them, and their own landscape.
- Seek out personal, new and revealing ways to photograph the landscape.
- Landscape photographers should be mindful of our responsibility to do no harm to the land and nature that we photograph, and as far as humanly possible to leave no trace, taking only photographs.



CREDIT: Jayanth Sharma ARPS  
GENRE: Natural History Photography

## NATURAL HISTORY PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography which illustrates an element of natural world within an unrestricted, uncultivated and untamed environment.

### ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

*No additional criteria*

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Manipulation that significantly alters the truth of an image or subject is not permitted.
- Main subjects correctly identified where possible and listed in order of presentation, with the Common and Scientific name, e.g. 01 Tawny Owl - *Strix Aluco*. We refer to this as a Species List – An additional written document required for a Natural History submission, either as a separate A4 document or at the bottom of the Statement of Intent (format word or pdf).
- The welfare of the subject must come before the photography and any action by the photographer or third party, that puts welfare of the subject at risk is unacceptable.
- Images must show a true representation of the subject(s).
- Subjects are to be free and unrestricted, in their natural or adopted habitat.
- Subjects are to be untamed and uncultivated.
- Images that have been set-up, controlled or directed by a third party must be indicated on the Submissions Details Forms and species List.

Associate submissions can contain a maximum of four images taken in commercially/ third party set-up conditions.

Fellowship submissions cannot contain any images taken in commercially/ third party set-up conditions.

### NATURAL HISTORY GUIDELINES

- Field craft is a principal element of Natural History Photography and it is desirable for the images in the submission to reflect the photographer's own work and effort.
- An informative image showing behavior is desirable but not crucial. A portrait image can be just as informative where the clear intention of the image is about such details as plumage, courtship or seasonal differences.

- A submission's concept may aim to depict; natural behavior, Life-cycle, a single species or the flora and fauna of a place, be it at home or abroad.
- A submission regarding a single species should aim to clearly show many aspects of the species. i.e. behavior, life cycle, environment etc. to avoid a repetitive element to the submission.
- It is advisable to avoid stereotypical images produced at workshops, courses or tours. Although images produced at workshops, courses and tours are accepted.
- An informative element is desirable to all images but not crucial. A pictorial image can be just as desirable where the clear intention of the image is about setting a scene, the subjects environment, or conveying an atmosphere or emotion.
- Studying other bodies of work by Natural History Photographers may help, not to replicate, but to inspire. Find elements that could develop your own approach and understanding to Natural History Photography.
- The Photographer should always follow the Natural History [code of practice](#)
- It is best practice to find out and follow the Natural History laws and rules, both at home and abroad, regarding where you intend to take your images.
- In the UK, certain flora & fauna species are protected by the wildlife and countryside act 1981. The act contains strict laws which prohibit the handling or disturbance of certain species and with respect to birds, restricts activities around and near sensitive nesting sites. Some species can be photographed but some will require a license to do so.

It's not just birds – so please go online and check, cause no disturbance and do make sure you're not breaking any laws. England & Wales – Natural England. Details for all of the UK are available via [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england)





## TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography which communicates a sense of place.

CREDIT: Victor Wong ARPS  
GENRE: Travel Photography

### ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

*No additional criteria*

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Manipulation that significantly alters the truth of an image or subject is not permitted.
- Images must show a true representation of the subject(s).

### TRAVEL GUIDELINES

- A submission's concept may aim to depict; a region, a journey, a land, a community or a way of life.
- A Travel submission doesn't have to be of distant place or foreign lands; it may start at home.
- A submission regarding a particular place may have one aim but may need to clearly show many different aspects or objectives of that place; the landscape, it's people, it's history, a geographical aspect etc. to avoid a repetitive element.
- A submission may be an opportunity to communicate 15 different visual elements of your aim and objectives within your chosen subject.
- There are no geographical limitations.
- It is advisable to avoid stereotypical images produced at workshops, course or tours. Although images produced at workshops, courses and tours are accepted.
- An informative element is desirable to all images, but not crucial. A pictorial image can be just as desirable where the clear intention of the images is about setting a scene, an environment or conveying an atmosphere or emotion.
- Camera techniques like HDR can be used as long as the element of truth is not altered.
- Studying other bodies of work by Travel Photographers may help, not to replicate, but to inspire. Find elements that could develop your own approach and understanding to Travel Photography.



## VISUAL ART PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography which communicates a creative vision.

CREDIT: Sarah Townley ARPS  
GENRE: Visual Art Photography

### ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

*No additional criteria*

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

*No additional requirements*

### VISUAL ART GUIDELINES

- A submission concept may aim to depict; A sense of design, emotion, mood or meaning which encourages the viewer to look beyond the subject.
- A submission may be approached regarding a particular Art Movement or Style such as Surrealist, Abstract, Realism, Modernism, Impressionism, Minimalism etc.
- Images can be produced either solely in camera or be subsequently creatively altered by the photographer.
- Each image in the submission may be based on one or more original photographic image.
- There are no restrictions on the subject matter or techniques used.
- Strong evidence of a personal artistic style or interpretation is desirable but not crucial.
- Studying other bodies of work by Artist and Photographers may help, not to replicate, but to inspire. Find elements that could develop your own approach and understanding to Visual Art Photography.
- It is advisable to avoid stereotypical images produced at workshops, course or tours. Although images produced at workshops, courses and tours are accepted.