

Master of Photography

Genres / Subjects and Rules

1. Abstract

An image that does not have an immediate association with the object world and that has been created in camera or by post processing.

An abstract photograph may isolate a fragment of a natural scene in order to remove its obvious context from the viewer. So, effectively an abstraction from a scene that requires at least a second look to recognise the context. It may be purposely staged to create a seemingly unreal appearance from real objects, or it may involve the use of colour, light, shadow, texture, shape and/or form to convey a feeling, sensation or impression. The usual requirement of composition still applies.

2. Food

Food prepared, in preparation or as raw ingredients before preparation that are edible by humans. If the “raw” ingredient is still running around then it doesn’t count! So, whilst a bull in a field could be regarded as an extremely rare steak, this is not to counted as food for these purposes but meat on a butcher’s slab would qualify, as would fruit and vegetables in a greengrocer or ingredients on a supermarket shelf or in a kitchen.

3. Nature

Flora and Fauna, in which the flora is uncultivated and the fauna is not domestic or farmed. Images of wildlife in captivity are allowed. Very minimal post processing is allowed: minor “gardening” (removal of the odd misplaced blade of grass), dodging and burning only.

4. Landscape

Essentially any scene taken outdoors where the main subject is the view or scene. This can be of the countryside, a seascape or an urban landscape. Wide views and close ups of outdoor details are permissible. People and animals can be present in the scene as can man made features (which is obviously the case in urban landscapes). For a good guide to the scope of what Landscape photography covers see a few Landscape Photographer of the Year books.

5. Portrait (Human)

Any image of a single human being that shows the character or personality of that person.

6. Monochrome

Any image presented with a single tone + white – (eg) Black and White, Sepia and White, Blue and White etc.