

PORTRAIT PROJECT: " Final Portrait Portfolio "

A photographer's portfolio is their primary sales tool. It is what indicates to a prospective client whether or not their talent and skill produce images that satisfy the needs of the client. Portrait photographers are no different in this regard, they live or die economically, on the strength of their portfolio.

Portfolios take on many forms depending on the needs and niche of a particular photographer. Some rely on window displays in their studios, others use a more typical "book" that can be easily transported, and all are now commonly going to the use of a web presence as at least a secondary venue to display their work and thereby attract clients.

Subjects

This assignment will start you down the road to your first working "book" (jargon for portfolio). Working portfolios are often made up of 12-15 shots but for this assignment you will only need 10 - 12.

Procedure

This assignment will start you down the road to your first working "book" (jargon for portfolio). Working portfolios are often made up of 12-15 shots but for this assignment you will only need 10. You may use some shots from the class to flesh out this collection. When shooting for an assignment take advantage of having a model and shoot various versions and/or with other props or clothing or locations. But each of the 10-12 shots should be a different subject.

You can shoot in either film or digital. However the final submission will be in two forms: An electronic file to be submitted to Blackboard for grading purposes and a print for critique and class discussion purposes. Specs for each follow but this is important and part of the grade component:

To Turn-in

FILES FOR BLACKBOARD: You may submit a "contact print" (I'll show you how to make it in Photoshop if you do not know how) of the files in your portfolio. That contact print should be sized as follows:

1. 100 ppi
2. 1,000 pixels tall
3. sRGB color space or can be in grayscale color space
4. 8-bits in bit-depth
5. All layers flattened
6. JPEG format
7. Rename the file as "yourname_portfolio_contact.jpg"

Be sure to press the "Submit" or "Save" button after the files is attached. The cutoff date for the submission of the contact print is December 18th at 11:30 pm. Nothing will be accepted after that date.

PRINT PORTFOLIO FOR DISCUSSION/CRITIQUE. You can produce whatever type of portfolio you think will best show off your work and tell the world that YOU respect the work you do. (If the book is sloppily and unprofessionally put together it shows that YOU do not respect your own work so why should a client believe it is any good either?) We will show several types in class and you can use one of those or take a brand new approach.

Make minimum sized 11x14 prints. These can be bleed/flush mounted on 11x14 board or over-matted up to 16x20 as you deem most appropriate. You can also make a web page (real or mocked-up) as an example of your portfolio and load it onto Blackboard as an attachment or submit the actual URL so we can call it up and see it.

Grading

This final assignment carries double the normal points (200). It will be based not only on print quality but also on presentation quality of the portfolio itself.

Since it is due at the end of class there is no room for late turn in..