

## Summary of Photography Critique Concepts

The purpose of critique is to provide useful feedback to the photographer on whether or not they achieved their stated objective and how they might better do so. The objective itself is not subject to critique.

### **How Does It Make You Feel?**

- Mood
- Did the photographer succeed in telling his/her story?

### **Critique the Composition**

- Centered vs. Rule of Thirds
- Cropping / Framing
- Creativity
- Tonal Range
- Balance and Spatial Positioning
- Leading elements

### **Critique the Technical**

- Exposure
- Focus
- Depth of Field
- Lighting / White Balance
- Color
- Effort

### **Tips On What Critique Is or Is Not**

#### **Critique Is/Does:**

- Polite
- Geared towards the audience
- About what has been done well as well as what could be improved
- Avoids changing the photographer's concept
- Considers the context
- An observation with a suggestion
- Considers artistic vision and technical ability separately.

#### **Critique is not/does not:**

- A put-down
- All about you
- A short statement that offers no direction or suggestion.

### **Tips On How to effectively give critique:**

- Avoid "yes, but" and "yes, although" statements.
- Use "yes, and" statements rather than "yes, but" and "yes, although".
- Avoid "you need to" statements.

**Please bring this summary sheet to every SIG meeting to serve as a reference guide.**