Judging a Photograph

What do judges look for?

Technical Merit Composition Impact

Technical Merit: Exposure Sharpness/Focus Shutter Speed/Aperture/ISO White Balance Brightness/Contrast/Light Post Processing

Composition: Framing/Cropping Balance Rule of Thirds (know when to break it!) Distractions Where does eye lead

Impact: Emotion/Mood/Feeling Creativity Story Telling/Convey Your Intent

Subject doesn't really matter

How you see your subject and

How you present your subject are the important things

You Need to Create a WOW!

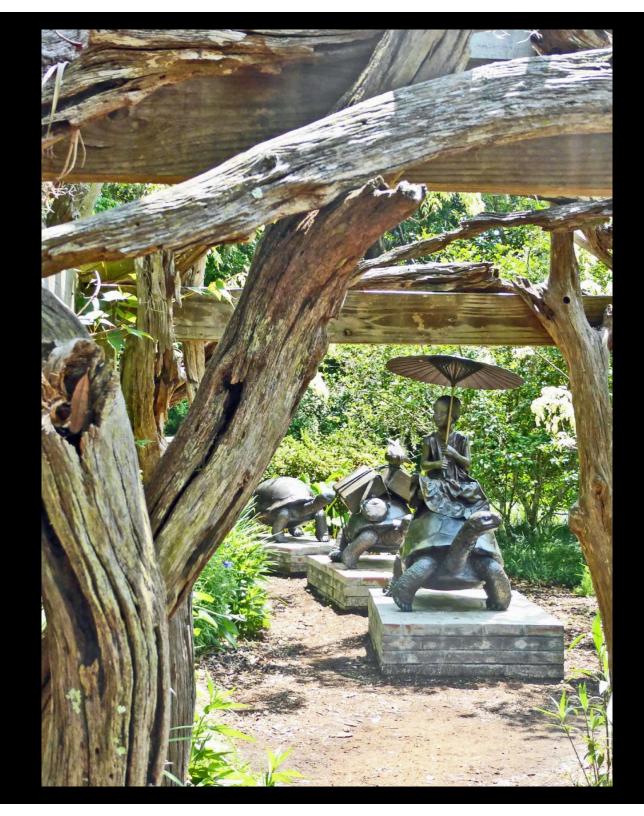
Let's Do Some Judging!









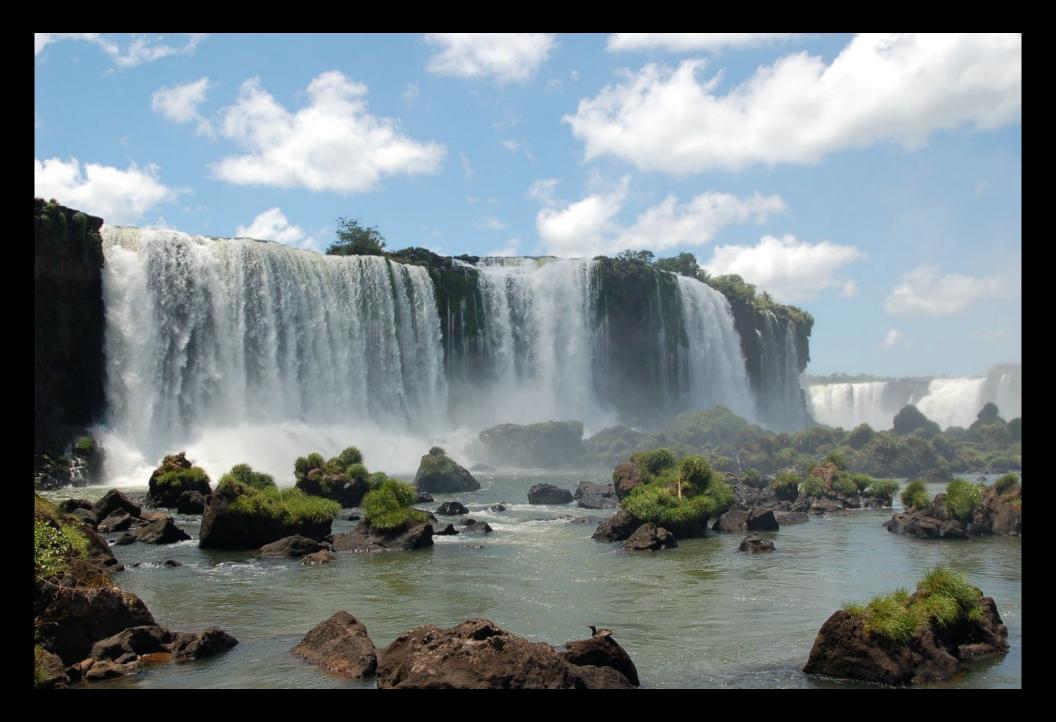






Making a Good Photo ínto a More Interesting One

















How to Take a Boring Picture and Score Low Points with Judges

Center Your Subject

Avoid Interesting Placement

Don't Include a Maín Subject at All

Take Picture at Random

Ask Your Subject to Say "Cheese"

Avoid Natural and Genuine Expressions

Schedule Photo Shoots for the Middle of the Day

Avoid Beautiful Light of Evening Morning and Late Afternoon

Use Auto Exposure at all Times

Don't Take Control of your Exposure so that you can Avoid Creating Drama

Evenly Light Everything

Avoid Creating a Sense of Depth with Shadows and Highlights

Keep it Dull

Keep Your Distance

Keep Viewers Feeling Detached by Staying far away from your Subject

Include Distracting Elements

Always Stand and Shoot From Your Own Eye Level

Never Kneel or Climb to get Different Perspective and help Engage the Viewer

Use Your Camera's Build-In Flash

Don't Flatter your Subject with Side Lighting or Bouncing Flash

Follow the Rules of Composition to a "T"

Never Ever Stray from the Rules

Keep Things Lifeless rather than Creative

Final Thoughts

It's the Photographer who makes the picture, NOT the camera!

If you want something to look interesting, don't light all of it.

- John Leonard Pícture Edítor at Lífe

Don't just TAKE the shot, MAKE the shot!