



# Photograph with an Artist's Eyes

...

Seeing the Person

# This series is about Seeing

Seeing the person's story  
in the Portrait

*“It’s one thing to make a picture  
of what a person looks like, it’s  
another thing to make a portrait  
of who they are.”*

— *Paul Caponigro*

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# Environmental Portraits



In this Photowalk session we will investigate using the landscape as the background for an “environmental portrait” that perhaps gives some insight into the personality, hobbies or lifestyle of the subject. We’ll explore a ‘keep it simple’ strategy to arrange visual elements. In the case of a portrait in nature we need a complimentary centre of interest so as not to distract but rather compliment and give context to the subject.

Composition becomes very important as an aid to tell a subject’s story. Composition is a massive topic in art and design. So we will just explore some of the rules of composition and share tips and common pitfalls in developing a strong design for your photos. We’ll also have a bit of fun deliberately breaking some of the common rules of composition.

# Keep it Simple

Separating Subject  
and Background

A lot of well informed photographic portraiture advice is to separate the subject from the background, to avoid distractions. In environment portraits we should use the background to compliment the subject and tell their story.

## **Depth of Field**

- Bokeh?
  - But not to much
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# Who?

Today we will focus on the ideas of making environmental portraits of photographers, because we have several of them, Assuming you are happy about being photographed, if not just hide behind your camera. Please help other photographers, let them pose you and help them get a meaningful portrait, that tells their story even if it's made up.

An environmental portrait, doesn't have to be a person, it could be a bird in its habitat or showing characteristic behaviour, perhaps a tree or even an inanimate object like a weathered bench seat.

# Good Composition Rules to Use

Attracting Attention by Design

## Leading Lines

## Contrast - Visual Balance

- Tonal/Light
- Complimentary Colours

## Patterns, Textures

- In negative spaces

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# Good Composition Rules to Break

Attracting Attention by Design

Whilst you always want to avoid splitting for story into two separate halves (because that's boring)

## **Rule of Thirds ?**

- The Golden Ratio 1 : 1.618

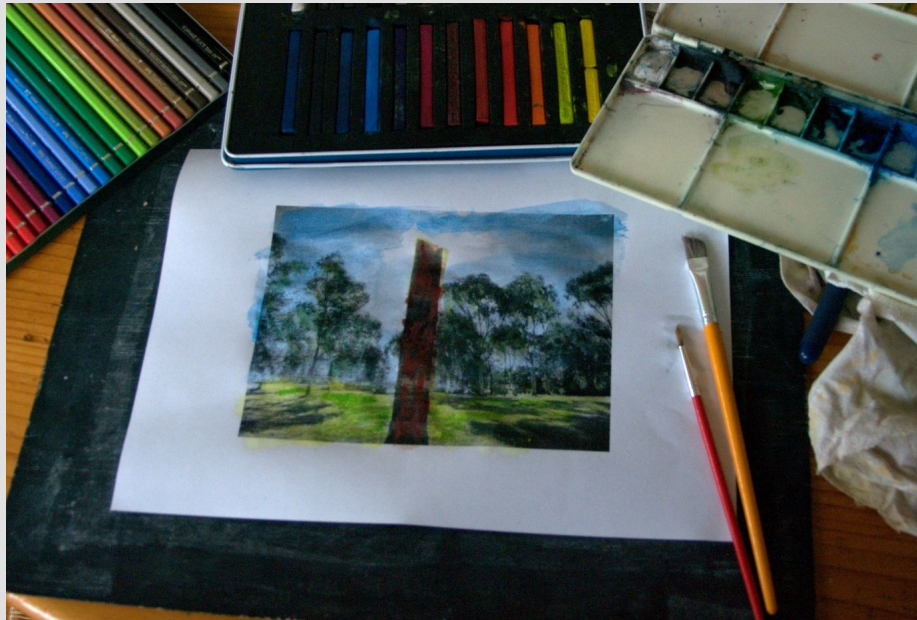
## **Fill the frame ?**

Sometimes it is better to stand back and let the landscape tell the story,

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# Next Photowalk

## Hand colouring photographs



**Sunday 25 June 2023**

Sunday 1:00pm – 2:30pm  
\$7.50 - \$10 Bookings Essential  
Wheelers Hill Library  
Meeting Room

**Register via  
MAPh events page**



# Sharing what you have photographed

Sharing your photos is entirely optional, but you may want to share your final set of photos with other walkers in a private group.

## IPadlet with MAPH

Or you may prefer to showcase your photographic work to a wider audience on social media platforms such as Instagram, Twitter, Tumblr, Pinterest, and Facebook. Make sure to use the #hashtags **#MAPhPhotoWalk** and **#Seeing** so we can find and follow you.



# More about Norm

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