

## Guidelines for Photo Critique on the Malta Institute of Professional Photography (MIPP) Wall

The MIPP Wall is a place created to give and receive useful feedback on the images submitted. There are very few places on the Internet where it is possible to receive genuine and useful critique and assessment of your images. To make sure critique stays this way, please take note of the following:

### Number of Photographs allowed

To give the same opportunity to everybody, please limit the number of photographs to ONE per day. "Bumping" up posts by thanking every individual for every comment received will not be tolerated. If you like a comment use the LIKE button to thank them.

### Give and Receive

The purpose of critique is for everyone to gain something - insights into their images from other people, the opportunity to sharpen their own critique skills, the possibility of building a network of friends or colleagues. Like any social situation, this is best done by using your time here to help others. If you just take without giving anything useful in return, you will lose out in the long term.

### Write in English

In order to respect our foreign members, the preferred language for this WALL is English.

### Make sure your critique is useful

Simple praise ("nice photo") or condemnation ("I don't like it") will not help a person to improve their image. Please make sure you use the WHAT, WHY, HOW approach:

- a) WHAT you like or dislike about the image
- b) WHY you would change it
- c) HOW you would make improvements to the image

Some inspiration about things to write about are the idea, story, message, mood, style, composition, lighting, colours, technical quality, effects and if all part of the photo fit together. Can something be added or taken away from the photo to make it stronger? Should there be people in the photo? Do their expressions fit the photo? Does it feel genuine? How does it compare to other similar photos? Is it original? Do you understand what the photographer wants to say with the photo? How do you interpret it etc; etc.

## Be polite and courteous

Offensive and/or rude posts, personal attacks, insults or bad language will not be tolerated. Anyone using bad language and/or purposely offends any individual will be banned.

Try to understand that there are people from very different backgrounds and cultures, and for some, English is not their native language. What might be perceived as harsh or un-complementary might not be the intention of the commentator. The key is to give commentators the "benefit of the doubt" and to ask for clarification. Do not jump to conclusions.

## Wall Moderators

The purpose of the Wall Moderators is to remove comments that are not useful to people using Critique. They will remove SPAM, blatant personal adverts, comments not written in English, offensive and/or poor comments that offer no real critique. Please note that repetitive or severe failure to follow these guidelines might lead to a ban from the Wall.

If you discover any such comments on your images, please contact the Wall Moderators to deal with it

## Clicking the LIKE button

By clicking the LIKE button, you are saying that the photograph, in your opinion is perfect. If you like the composition of a photograph or the post processing etc but you feel that it lacks in other fields, then together with the LIKE button leave a comment. Having a thousand LIKES on a photograph does not help the artist improve and evolve.

## Administrator rights

The administrators reserve the right to remove any post/entry/photograph they consider is not suitable or conducive to the spirit and scope of the Wall.