

Advice for Online Portfolio Review attendees

We want you be able to get the most out of your review session, this document is designed to help you to prepare and advise you on what you might like to show at your review. The event is primarily a feedback session. We offer feedback and advice on how to develop your project or ideas, and we are not explicitly trying to find work for the gallery programme.

Frequently asked questions....

Who will be reviewing my work?

The reviewer will be a member of Impressions' programming team, Anne McNeill, Pippa Oldfield, or Angela Sheard.

How will the review work?

Once you sign up to the event, we'll ask you to send a project summary or artist statement along with 6-10 images, so we can familiarise ourselves with your work ahead of the review and match you up with a member of our team who can offer the best advice.

We'll set up a meeting via Zoom and email you a link to access the online review. We recommend familiarising yourself with Zoom ahead of the review and how to access the 'screen share' option. You can then talk through your photographs whilst scrolling through digital images on your screen.

How much work should I show?

There is no one rule fits all with the amount of work to show, it depends on the nature of your work and what stage of a project or idea you are at. However it is good to remember that time will pass quickly so edit your images before hand and think about what images and projects you want feedback on, and any questions you would like to ask.

Who are the reviews for?

These review sessions are free and have been designed to support photographers who have experienced a loss of income due to the Covid-19 crisis.

Top tips

- Spend some time before the review thinking about your work and what you want to get out of the review.
- Look at our website and find out what we do before hand.
- Think about any questions you may like to ask about your work, its development and direction, its strength and weaknesses.
- Bring a notebook, and make a note of any artists, photographers, books, or exhibitions that may be mentioned to you.
- The reviewer will offer constructive criticism, so try not to be discouraged by this. In some respects reviewers are actively looking for the 'problem' or conflict within the work – by discussing this they aim to challenge your ideas and help you develop your work.

Typical questions we might ask include:

- How long have you been working on this series of images?
- How do they relate to work you've taken previously?
- Is the work complete or do you feel you need to add more?
- Have you shown the work to anyone else?
- How do you want to present it?
- What made you interested in making work around this subject area?