

These portfolio review sessions are designed to offer advice and inspiration for people who take their photographic practice seriously and want to further develop it. They are for all underrepresented photographers – creatives who face barriers and inequality to opportunity. The sessions are for photographers at all levels, whether you are a student, non-professional, or a seasoned photographer.

People at many different stages and levels of photographic practice attend our review sessions. We are always interested to see new work and keen to give advice on possible directions for development. The main thing is that you are open to feedback and dialogue.

We want you to be able to get the most out of your portfolio review sessions. This document is designed to help you to prepare and advise you on what you might like to bring to the event.

The portfolio review is primarily a feedback session. The reviewers will offer comments and advice on how to develop your project or ideas. Please note reviewers representing Impressions Gallery are not explicitly trying to find work for the gallery programme.

Frequently asked questions....

What will happen on the day?

The Tilt/Shift event will run from 10.30am to 1.10pm, you will be offered a 25 minute session within this timeframe. Please be prompt to attend your session.

Who will be reviewing my work?

You will have the opportunity to be with two reviewers during your session. They are Marc Wilson (photographer), whose exhibition is currently in our gallery, and Raquel Villar-Pérez (Curator, Impressions Gallery).

How should I present my work?

Once you sign up to a portfolio review session, we will ask you to send a summary and/or an artist statement along with 6 to 10 images, so we can familiarise ourselves with your work ahead of the review. You can email these to tiltshift@impressions-gallery.com.

The presentation of your images will depend on the nature of your work, how far along you are with your ideas, and what level you are at within your photographic practice. The reviewers will understand this. You can choose how to show your work this could be digital or prints if you already have them.

If you need advice on editing your project, the reviewers recommend you bring prints. This enables the reviewer to lay the images out all together and aids the editing process.

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 your project or ideas are at.

We recommend bringing work from just one main project as time will pass quickly, however, feel free to bring another project if you feel that would be helpful.

We also suggest to think about any questions you would like to ask.

Top tips

- Spend some time before the review thinking about your work and what you want to get out of it.
- 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 may offer constructive criticism. Please try not to be discouraged by this. In some respects, reviewers are actively looking for the 'problem' within the work, by discussing this, we aim to challenge your ideas to help you develop your work.

Typical questions we might ask include:

- Why are you doing this project?
- What made you interested in making work around this subject area?
- How long have you been working on this series of images?
- How do they relate to work you have done previously?
- How do you want to present it?
- Who is your audience?
- Is the work complete or do you feel you need to add more?
- Have you shown the work to anyone else?