

IPF and FIAP Distinctions

22/10/19





Irish Photographic Federation (IPF)

- ❖ National Voluntary organization governed by a National council elected by member clubs

- ❖ Promotes the advancement of photography in Ireland by
 - Running annual national individual and interclub competitions
 - Facilitating entry into International FIAP competitions
 - Organizing from time to time presentations by renowned photographers
 - Running and managing a distinctions system as a mean of promoting photographic excellence.



Irish Photographic Federation

- ❖ Currently 80 affiliated clubs - pay a small affiliation fee
- ❖ Regions are organized into divisions to facilitate operation - 6 divisions
- ❖ Our region or division is the SACC (Southern Association of Camera Clubs)

The running of the SACC is rotated around the clubs of the region

www.irishphoto.ie

Distinction System

- ❖ Purpose to promote the improvement of photography in Ireland
- ❖ 3 Levels
 - Licentiate of the Irish Photographic Federation (LIPF)
 - Associate of the Irish Photographic Federation (AIPF)
 - Fellowship of the Irish Photographic Federation (FIPF)





What's the big deal - Why bother?

- ❖ *It was the single biggest driver of improvement in my photography - no question*
- ❖ *For the first time I was forced to really look at my photographs in a way that I NEVER DID BEFORE*
 - *I could never have done this on my own as I did not know what to look for, how to critically analyse a photograph*
 - *I didn't know that I didn't know*
- ❖ *I was helped by a mentor in the club who had experience and who had gone through the process themselves*



LIPF What's required

- 10 images in a panel - must panel well - 2 rows of 5
- Can be colour or monochrome or mixed
- Should show competence in a variety of photographic skills
- Mount size must not exceed 50 x 40 cm
- Size of print a4 considered reasonable
- 2 minor issues in prints allowed - could be subjective
- No identifying info on the front of prints
- Thumbnail hanging plan with layout of prints shown

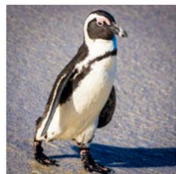
Image Criteria

- ☐ Must be properly exposed
- ☐ *Must be sharp*
- ☐ Strong Composition
- ☐ *Correct colour balance*
- ☐ Good print quality, no burn out whites or blocked blacks
- ☐ *No repetition*
- ☐ Good use of lighting





Successful Panels



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10





The process and importance of panelling

- Sift through your images and select at least 30 good images
- Print these to 5x7 size
- Select 10 images that show photographic skill variety
- Try to get colour coherence in the images
- Pick strong central images and edge images that look towards the centre
- It is a rigorous, challenging process that takes time
- Walk away and look again the next day, do the images sit well as a panel
- Your best image may not fit so you may struggle to drop it.
- One is not always objective about one's own images
- ASK FOR HELP.

Best way to see this is to look at a successful and a non successful panel



AIPF

- 15 images in a cohesive panel - 2 rows
- Can be colour, monochrome or mixed
- Must be based on a theme and show sustained ability in photography
- All images must be new, no carryover from LIPF
- Deferral possible if only 2 images have issues
- Must include a statement of intent (indicate what the panel represents)

Statement critical if it doesn't relate to panel, even if images are to standard, panel will fail

- Hanging plan

Categories

- Photo travel
- Natural History
- General



What The Assessors Will Look For

- ❑ **Quality of Communication:** does the panel successfully communicate ideas, moods or feeling?
- ❑ **Originality:** To what extent does the panel show personal engagement with the subject?
- ❑ **Cohesion:** Is there cohesion and variety in the panel?
- ❑ **Artistic Input:** Has the photographer exploited the photographic possibilities of the subject?
Has there been a sensitive treatment of light, viewpoint, composition, design, perspective?
- ❑ **Technical Ability:** Are imagination and creativity present in the images?
- ❑ **Presentation:** Are the images blemish free? Is the mounting sympathetic and appropriate?
- ❑ **Written Statement:** The written statement sets out the rationale and projected outcome behind the panel. Does the panel deliver on this?



Things to avoid

§ Images not up to the required standard

§ Repetition

§ Poor print quality including burnt out highlight areas

§ Lack of sharpness when correct use of sharpness would enhance the image

§ Not matching written statement with the images



FIPF

- 20 images in a cohesive panel - 2 rows
- Can be colour, monochrome or mixed
- Must show distinguished ability or definite style/ specialism
- No technical errors allowed
- Statement of intent must match panel
- Hanging plan
- Deferral possible if problems with 3 or less images

Categories

- ☐ Photo travel
- ☐ Natural History
- ☐ General



Application and cost

- ★ Online IPF site www.irishphoto.ie
- ★ No waiting time system
- ★ No deferrals

COST - Members of an affiliated club

- Licentiateship € 60
- Associateship € 80
- Fellowship € 100



Distinctions sittings

★ Currently held 4 times a year

- **March** (no fellowship at this sitting)
- **May**
- **September**
- **November**

★ **Locations**

- **LIT Tipperary**
- **Carlow**



Application Form

Available from IPF WEB SITE - www.irishphoto.ie - Contact Bill Morrison

- Name
- Camera club
- Email
- Phone Address
- Phone
- Address
- Current distinction if any
- Select category (AIPF, FIPF only)
- Pay fee online

? club sec to sign



Annual Fee

- 25 € per year
- 15 € over 65
- Lifetime 400 €



Assessment process

Panel will be hung on boards according to your hanging plan

- ❖ Assessors will view the panel as a whole and then each individual print/image
- ❖ Assessors will then vote on panel
- ❖ Chairperson has casting vote
- ❖ If panel succeeds , name and club will be announced
- ❖ If panel does not succeed name will not be announced

The applicant of the unsuccessful panel will get written comments from the assessors on how to improve the panel



Assessing the panel

What the assessors look for

- **Camera work/ Technical quality**

Is the choice of viewpoint sympathetic to the subject

Focusing / exposure etc correct

- **Image quality**

Have contrast, highlights, shadows and colour balance been properly treated

Are images clear and blemish free

- **Cohesion**

Is there cohesion and variety in the panel?



Assessing the panel

What the assessors look for

- **Composition and Editing**

Is their good composition and arrangement in the images

Edited to present strong point

- **Imagination and creativity** - evident

- **Visual Impact**

- **Light**

Good use of light