

What do judges look for when judging photographs

Based on my sometimes painful
experience of listening to Judges
talking about my images

1.6 Trillion

1.7 Seconds

Types of images

Snap



Record Shot



Photograph





Composition

Technical

Creativity

Impact

Creativity

Storytelling

Production Values

Technical

Impact	50%
Creativity	25%
Storytelling	15%
Production Values	10%
Technical	0%

Judging is subjective

but

It is subject to “Rules”

“Rules”

Focus

Horizon

Focal point

Title



“Considerations”

Background

Lines in / out

Central Horizon

Distractions









Landscapes

No excuse for lack of sharpness

Sky vs Land

Negative Space

Sunset Seduction

Urban Landscapes















Portraits

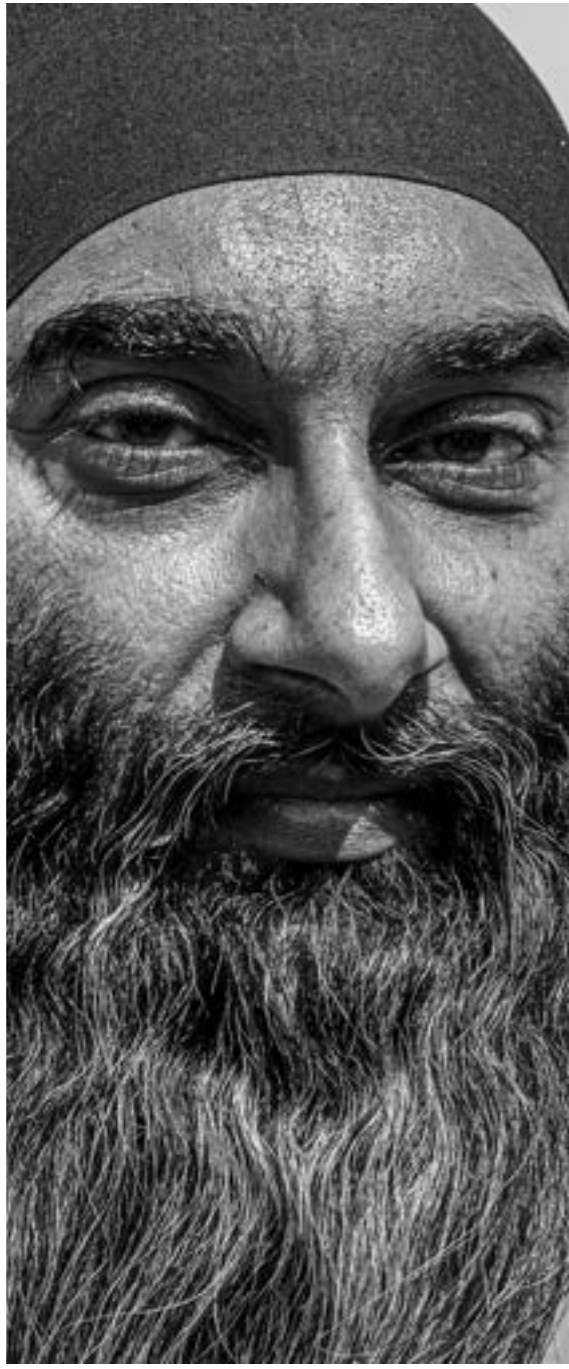
Pin sharp eyes

Hands

Crop or Not







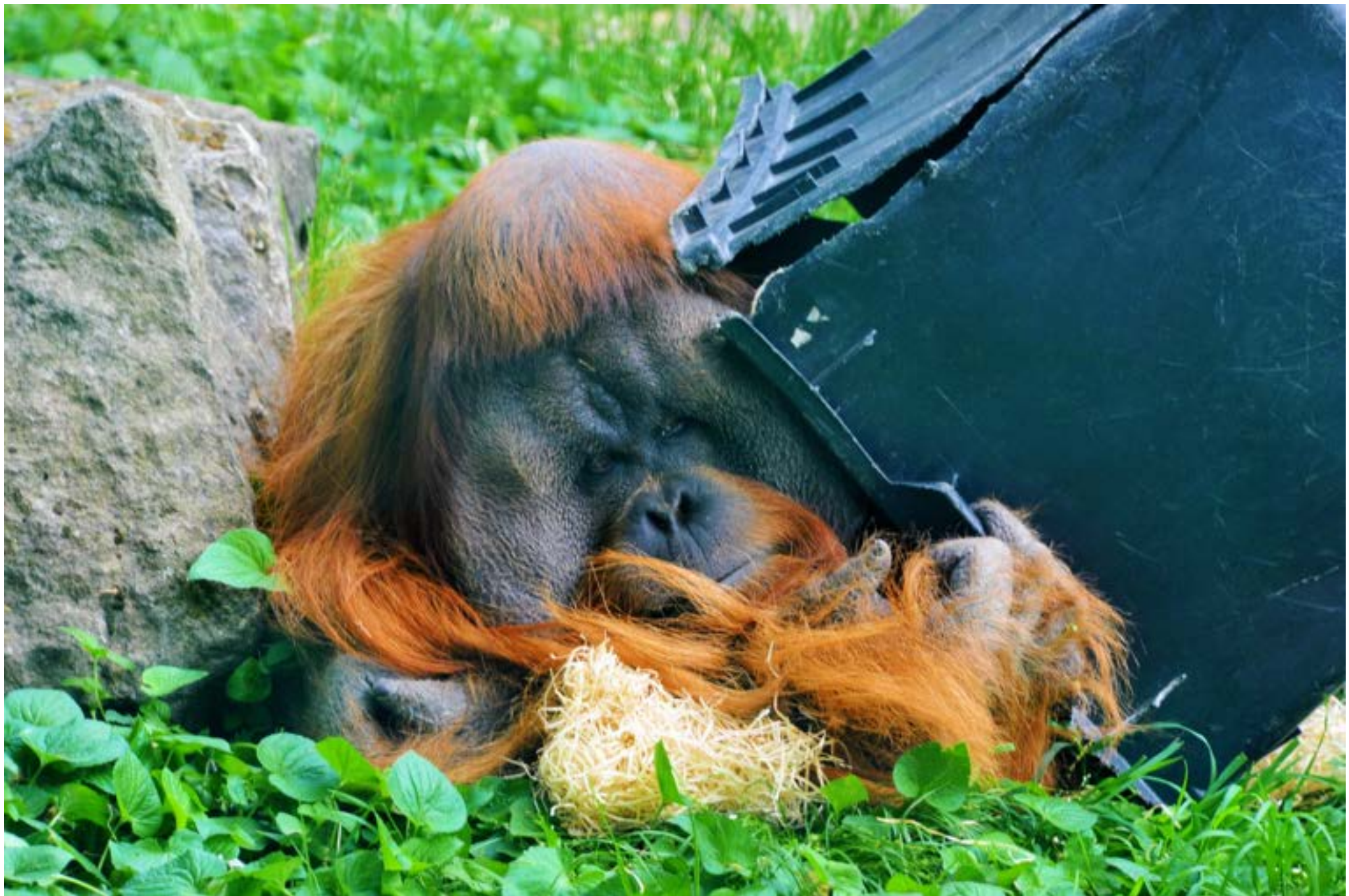


Wild life

Natural Habitat vs In a Zoo

Stationary vs Movement

Bird on a Stick











Sport & Action

Freeze or Movement









How I try to make a good image

Does it have a “WOW” factor?

Does it tell a Story

Does it Make a Statement

Does it elicit an Emotion

Is it Different

The winning photo hits the Judge the second
he/she sees it.

“WOW”



Summary

Snaps and record shots see the world.

Good Photographs look carefully at the world.

They pick out the details of a scene, they look for the contrasts, the beauty and the humour in everyday life.

They tell a story.

