



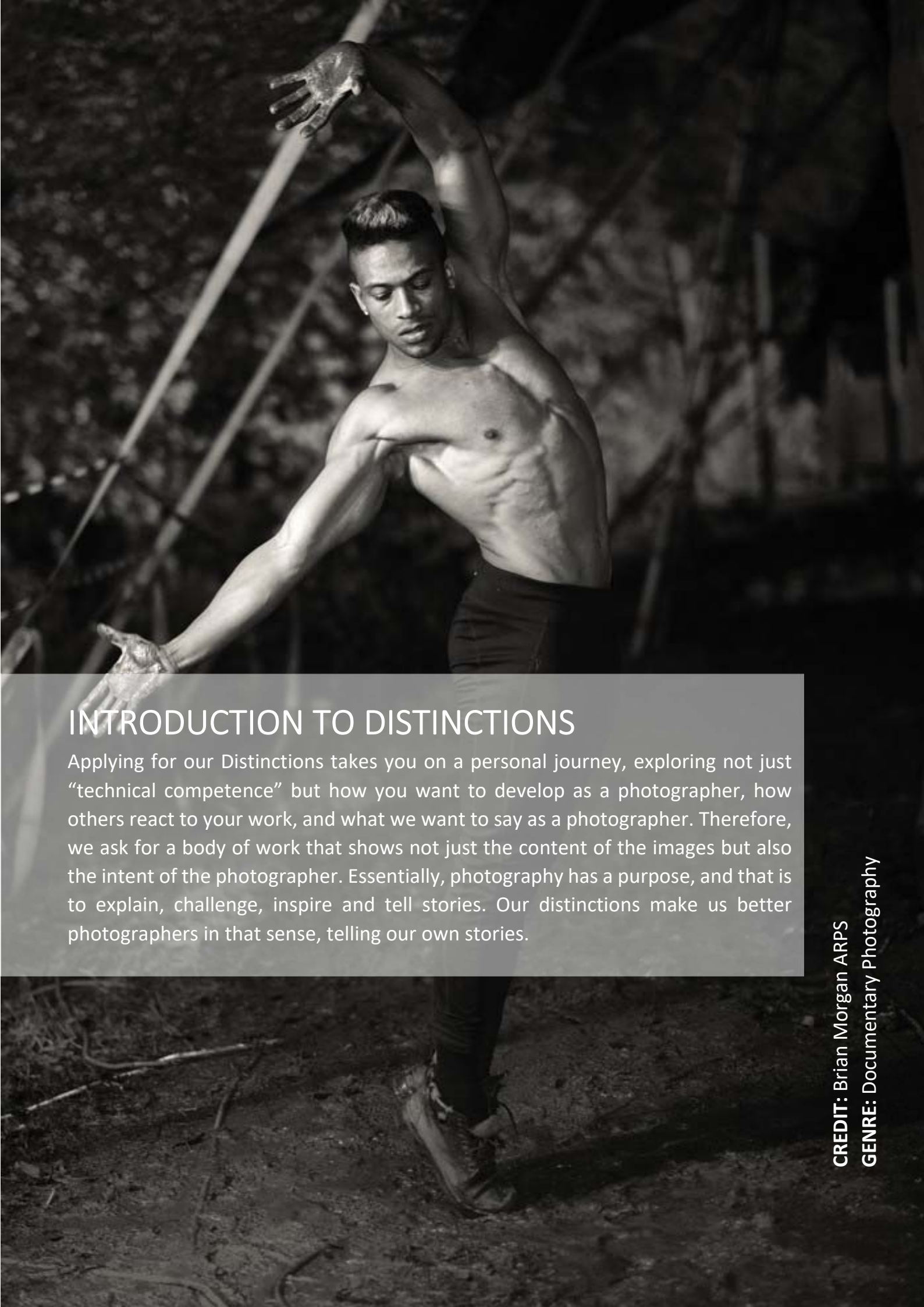
DISTINCTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS

# A GUIDE ON HOW TO APPLY

CREDIT: Qasim Syed ARPS  
GENRE: Natural History Photography

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## INTRODUCTION TO DISTINCTIONS

Applying for our Distinctions takes you on a personal journey, exploring not just “technical competence” but how you want to develop as a photographer, how others react to your work, and what we want to say as a photographer. Therefore, we ask for a body of work that shows not just the content of the images but also the intent of the photographer. Essentially, photography has a purpose, and that is to explain, challenge, inspire and tell stories. Our distinctions make us better photographers in that sense, telling our own stories.

**CREDIT:** Brian Morgan ARPS  
**GENRE:** Documentary Photography

In defining the objects of the RPS, the Charter states:

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*The objects of The Society are to educate members of the public by increasing their knowledge and understanding of Photography and in doing so to promote the highest standards of achievement in Photography in order to encourage public appreciation of Photography.*

*In this Charter 'Photography' shall mean the Art or Science of the recording of light or other radiation on any medium on which an image is produced or from which any image may by any means be produced.*

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The Royal Photographic Society's Distinctions are recognised as some of the most prestigious in the world.

Distinctions offer all the opportunity to develop their own ability and understanding of photography by applying for one of the three levels.

There are three levels of Distinctions – **Licentiate**, **Associate** and **Fellowship**. Should you be awarded a Distinction, you are entitled to use the Distinction while you remain a member of the RPS.

## LICENTIATE

For those who have started their photographic journey. An open and approachable level for those to develop their competence in camera work, visual awareness, technical quality and presentation.

## ASSOCIATE

Photographers who want to submit a body of work that demonstrates a high technical competence and comprehensive knowledge of their chosen genre, that also shows an individual approach.

## FELLOWSHIP

Photographers working at the highest level in their chosen field, with a distinctive body of work.

## LICENTIATE

There are no restrictions on the subject matter when applying for this level. A Panel of Associate or Fellowship members of the RPS assesses your submission.

## ASSOCIATE AND FELLOWSHIP

Submissions are assessed by genres as detailed below. Assessors are Fellows of the RPS or, in particular circumstances, external advisors may be consulted.

The RPS uses Genres within the distinctions process to ensure that Applicants and the RPS have the reassurance and confidence that a submission is assessed by those Assessors with the appropriate understanding, knowledge and experience to effectively evaluate a particular submission. Genres are the name given to the pathway within the overall educational structure and process to achieving a distinction.

# THE GENRE PANELS AND DEFINITIONS

## **APPLIED AND PORTRAITURE PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography which has been produced for an intended purpose.

**N.B.** Portraiture: Strapline and criteria to be published mid January 2021

## **DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography which communicates a clear narrative through visual literacy.

## **NATURAL HISTORY PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography which illustrates an element of the natural world with in an unrestricted, uncultivated and untamed environment.

## **SCIENCE**

Most applicants involved in scientific subjects apply for one of the Imaging Science Qualifications (ISQ). It is possible however, to apply for a Distinction in scientific and medical imaging, medical photography or other related discipline by the submission of a portfolio of prints, transparencies or digital images.

## **CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY**

A visual realization of a stated argument, idea or concept.

The definitions above are what the Associate & Fellowship Panel Members are looking for within your body of work.

For the full information regarding Genres, Criteria and Requirements, please read the Licentiate, Associate or Fellowship Requirements Guide.

## **FILM**

The work can be created in any moving image format including film, video, and digital media.

## **LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography that illustrates and interprets earth's habitats, from the remotest wilderness to urban environs.

## **RESEARCH**

This Panel encompasses research in the arts & sciences of photography. It also looks at how photography is considered, how its history is recorded and preserved, how photography is taught and how it is understood in its own terms and as part of wider visual and artistic culture.

## **TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography which communicates a sense of place.

## **VISUAL ART PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography which communicates a creative vision.

## HOW TO APPLY

Consider the three level's available to you, find out what each level is asking, its' Criteria and Requirements. You need to ask yourself, which one is most suitable for you. To help you decide there are many resources; including Guides, Example submissions to view, Events and Journal articles, and of course you can contact the Distinctions Team at [distinctions@rps.org](mailto:distinctions@rps.org).

Once you have decided on the Level and the Genre Panel (if appropriate) book an assessment date.

- Check the website for availability and dates.
- Download, complete and return to us the relevant Booking Form.  
*(On receipt and successful processing, you will receive a confirmation email and a Submission Details Form).*
- Read the instructions and information within the confirmation email regarding the next steps of your submission and assessment.
- All submissions must be received at least 14 days prior to the assessment date. Please check the website for cut off dates. Submissions received after the 14 day deadline will not be assessed.  
*(If the Booking Form or Submission is incomplete you will be contacted by a member of the Distinctions Team.)*

## GENERAL TERMS OF APPLYING

- Applicants may make only one submission to one particular Distinctions Panel at any time.
- If a submission is incomplete, the assessment will not take place. Please read the guides to the individual Level Requirements.
- Individual images may only be submitted at one level of Distinction.
- The applicant must own the copyright to, and be the creator of, all the photographic elements in a submission.
- No third-party images may be used in the majority of genres, check the individual level and genre requirements for more details.
- Licentiate and Associate assessments are assessed in front of an audience. Fellowship and book submissions are assessed without an audience.
- At each level the submission must be a new body of work. Individual images may not be used in multiple submissions to different levels.
- All assessments that are assessed in front of an audience are carried out anonymously, with the applicants name only being announced after a successful assessment.
- Qualifications and Distinctions are awarded to members of the Society, although non-members can apply, it is agreed that on the conditions of the by-laws that membership is taken up by the applicant on the success of an application.
- In applying you are agreeing to the Terms and Conditions.



# DISTINCTIONS: THE PROCESS AND FORMATS

## ASSESSMENT DAYS: HOW YOUR WORK IS ASSESSED

The day begins with a welcome from the Distinctions Team and a brief introduction from the Chair. Each submission is assessed by a Panel consisting of a Chair and a minimum of three Assessors. A Distinctions Committee Member may also be present. Submissions are assessed anonymously; only the Chair and Distinctions Team are aware of the applicant's name. Submissions are assessed against the published criteria for the appropriate Level and Genre.

## LICENTIATE: PRINT

- The prints are displayed as per the presentation layout; in a maximum of three rows. The assessors initially view the submission, followed by a detailed examination of the images.
- The Chair will ask for initial vote, Assessors will show either a red or green card. The Chair will ask two of Assessors to convey their views and any concerns regarding the submission referring to the Criteria.
- The Chair will ask the remaining Assessors for any further comments. A final vote is taken, and the decision is made. If recommended the applicants name will be announced, and if not recommended the assessors will write down the reasons why they cannot recommend the submission.
- The Chair will summarise the reasons for the outcome.
- All unsuccessful applicants will receive a feedback letter giving the reasons why they were not recommended within 28 days from the date of the assessment.

## LICENTIATE: DIGITAL

- The images are displayed in numeric order, and the whole submission is displayed twice.
- Thumbnails are then left on the screen while a decision is made.
- The Chair will ask for initial vote, Assessors will show either a red or green card. The Chair will ask two of Assessors to convey their views and any concerns regarding the submission referring to the Criteria.
- The Chair will ask the remaining Assessors for any further comments. A final vote is taken, and the decision is made. If recommended the applicants name will be announced, and if not recommended the assessors will write down the reasons why they cannot recommend the submission.
- The Chair will summarise the reasons for the outcome.
- All unsuccessful applicants will receive a feedback letter giving the reasons why they were not recommended within 28 days from the date of the assessment.

## LICENTIATE: BOOK

- Books are assessed without an audience.
- Books are viewed by the Assessors and the assessment procedure is in align with a Print assessment.



## ASSOCIATE: PRINT

- The Prints are displayed as per the presentation layout; in a maximum of three rows and the Statement of Intent is read out. The assessors initially view the portfolio as a whole, followed by a detailed examination of the images.
- The Chair will ask for initial vote, Assessors will show either a red or green card. The Chair will ask two of Assessors to convey their views and any concerns regarding the submission, referring to the Criteria.
- The Chair will ask the remaining Assessors for any further comments. A final vote is taken, and the decision is made. If recommended the applicants name will be announced, and if not recommended the assessors will write down the reasons why they cannot recommend the submission.
- The Chair will summarise the reasons for the outcome.
- All unsuccessful applicants will receive a feedback letter giving the reasons why they were not recommended within 28 days from the date of the assessment.

## ASSOCIATE: DIGITAL

- The images are displayed in numeric order and the statement is read out, then the whole portfolio is displayed twice.
- Thumbnails are then left on the screen while a decision is made.
- The Chairperson will ask for initial vote, Assessors will show either a red or green card. The Chairperson will ask two of Assessors to convey their views and any concerns regarding the submission, referring to the Criteria.
- The Chairperson will ask the remaining Assessors for any further comments. A final vote is taken, and the decision is made. If recommended the applicants name will be announced, and if not recommended the assessors will write down the reasons why they cannot recommend the submission.
- The Chair will summarise the reasons for the outcome.
- All unsuccessful applicants will receive a feedback letter giving the reasons why they were not recommended within 28 days from the date of the assessment.

## ASSOCIATE: BOOK

- Books are assessed without an audience.
- Books are viewed by the Assessors and the assessment procedure is in align with a Print assessment.

## FELLOWSHIP: PRINT

- The Prints are displayed as per the presentation layout; in a maximum of three rows and the Statement of Intent is read out. The assessors initially view the submission as a whole, followed by a detailed examination of the images.
- The Chair will ask for initial vote, Assessors will show either a red or green card. The Chair will ask two of Assessors to convey their views and any concerns regarding the submission, referring to the Criteria.
- The Chair will ask the remaining Assessors for any further comments. A final vote is taken, and the decision is made. If recommended the applicants name will be announced, and if not recommended the assessors will write down the reasons why they cannot recommend the submission.
- The Chair will summarise the reasons for the outcome.
- All unsuccessful Applicants will receive a feedback letter giving the reasons why they were not recommended within 28 days from the date of the assessment.

## FELLOWSHIP: DIGITAL

- The images are displayed in numeric order and the statement is read out, then the whole portfolio is displayed twice.
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- The Chairperson will ask the remaining Assessors for any further comments. A final vote is taken, and the decision is made. If recommended the applicants name will be announced, and if not recommended the assessors will write down the reasons why they cannot recommend the submission.
- The Chair will summarise the reasons for the outcome.
- All unsuccessful Applicants will receive a feedback letter giving the reasons why they were not recommended within 28 days from the date of the assessment.

## FELLOWSHIP: BOOK

- Books are assessed without an audience.
- Books are viewed by the Assessors and the assessment procedure is in align with a Print assessment.



# DISTINCTIONS: THE PROCESS AND FORMATS

## NOTIFICATION OF RESULT & ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

## SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSIONS

On the day of the assessment Applicants will receive an email notifying them of the outcome.

Successful LRPS/ARPS applicants will have the opportunity to have their certificate presented and a photo taken with the chair, distinctions committee members or distinctions team member at lunchtime or end of the day.

## UNSUCCESSFUL SUBMISSIONS

This refers to Non-Recommendations and Resubmission. On the day of the assessment Applicants will receive an email notifying them of the outcome.

All unsuccessful applicants will receive a feedback letter giving the reasons why they were not recommended within 28 days from the date of the assessment.

## EXEMPTION APPLICATION

All Applications will be processed at the beginning of every month. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by email. It is the Board of Trustees who finally award the Distinction. Successful Applicants will receive a letter of confirmation and a Certificate under the Seal of The Society; signed by the President. You will also receive a lapel badge and a digital file containing the Distinction emblem which can be used on your personal stationery. You are entitled – and encouraged – to use the letters LRPS/ARPS/FRPS after your name.

## RESEARCH APPLICATION

All Applicants will be notified by the Distinctions Manager regarding the outcome of their submission.

## CREATIVE INDUSTRIES QUALIFICATION

All Applicants will be notified by the Distinctions Manager regarding the outcome of their application.

## OUTCOMES

### Assessment Outcomes

#### *Successful*

A submission that fulfils the criteria

#### *Unsuccessful*

A submission that does not fulfil the criteria

#### *Resubmission*

A submission that has not been successful, but the Applicant is offered a resubmission by the Panel Chair. A Resubmission is offered to submissions with strong potential.

#### *Transfer*

(Associate & Fellowship Level Only)

The Chair and assessors agree that for the best opportunity of success, the submission should be transferred to a different genre, as it does not fulfil the genres' criteria and requirements but may be of Associate or Fellowship level.

## PANEL DECISIONS

- Successful Applicants will receive a letter of confirmation and a Certificate under the Seal of The Society; signed by the President. You will also receive a lapel badge and a digital file containing the Distinction emblem which can be used on your personal stationery. You are entitled – and encouraged – to use the letters LRPS/ARPS/FRPS after your name.
- The RPS reserves the right to request the original file, of an image used in a submission.
- Please note that if a submission for Associate or Fellowship is unsuccessful, Applicants are not permitted to resubmit the same submission to another Genre Panel. If the Panel considers a submission to be more appropriate for another genre, they can recommend transferring it to that genre prior and the assessment will be suspended to the next available date of the recommended Genre.

## RESUBMISSION

A Resubmission is offered to an Applicant where the Panel Assessors can see potential and wish to encourage the submission to be resubmitted. A submission that was not recommended due to more than minor concerns or consistent faults e.g. printer banding, colour cast concerns throughout the images.

The Chair will announce that the submission has not been recommended, but the applicant will be invited to make a resubmission taking into account the written feedback. The applicants name remains anonymous.

On the day of the assessment Applicants will receive an email notifying them of the outcome.

Within 28 days of the assessment, all applicants who have not been recommended will receive a feedback letter giving the reasons for the decision.

As with all images put forward for any assessment, the applicant can receive advice & guidance on the replacement image(s).

The replacement image(s) need to fit within the original submission and fulfil the criteria.

### What constitutes as a new image?

- A brand-new image to the submission.
- An image that has been previously submit but has been reworked.
- An original image that has been reprinted.

The Applicant can change the layout of their presentation layout to suit new images. The applicant must state all changes to the submission on the Resubmission Details Form and indicated on the new Presentation layout.

All email communications between Chair, Assessor, Distinctions Team and Applicant will be printed and attached to the Resubmission Details Form.

The resubmission will then be resubmitted at a later assessment date of the appropriate Level and Genre. Resubmissions are assessed in front of an audience. (LRPS & ARPS only)

The new submission will be assessed against the appropriate Level, Criteria and Requirements. If the Assessors are not from the original panel, they must consider what their colleagues have what previously stated in the feedback. The new images will be indicated by a card next to the prints. Images for Digital submissions will be indicated with “New” included in the file name, e.g. 08 New.

An Applicant can be offered a further Resubmission if the reasons for non-recommendation fall within the criteria of either procedure.

## TRANSFER (Associate & Fellowship Only)

The Chair and assessors agree that for the best opportunity of success, the submission should be transferred to a different genre, as it does not fulfil the genres' criteria and requirements but may be of the level.

The submission is presented regarding the Format and applicants' intentions. The Statement is read out. At this point if anyone from the Panel has a concern to the suitability of the submission for the Genre, they may raise this now. The Chair will lead the discussion and may wish to seek advice as to which Panel would be more appropriate to assess the submission. The decision must take into account the criteria and requirements of the proposed Genre Panel.

The assessment is postponed and rescheduled to the next available date of the proposed Panel. No feedback is given.



## DISTINCTIONS: THE PRACTICALITIES

THIS SECTION SETS OUT THE PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF APPLYING FOR A DISTINCTION

## BOOKING FORM

- To apply you must submit a Booking Form, available from [www.rps.org/qualifications/](http://www.rps.org/qualifications/)
- You may apply for more than one genre or level, but each once will require a separate Booking Form and payment.
- Upon receiving the completed booking form, your form will be processed, and a confirmation email will be sent.
- A Submission Details Form will be attached to the confirmation email. This form is to be completed and sent with your submission.

## THE SUBMISSION

### PRINT

- Make sure your prints are packed away in the numeric order. On the back of each print you must include your name and the print number.
- You must include two copies of your presentation layout, statement of intent (ARPS & FRPS only) and Submission Details Form.
- Your name must not be shown on the front of any of the prints. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in the disqualification.
- When you are sending your work please make sure that:
  1. It is securely packed. Please do not use any materials to pack your portfolio that may contaminate, or damage.
  2. Portfolio box is clearly labelled with portfolio label is supplied within the Submission Details Form.
  3. The parcel must arrive 14 days prior to the assessment date. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that it arrives on time.
- You will receive an email confirmation when your submission has been received at RPS House – Bristol.

### DIGITAL

- Please ensure your digital files are correctly numbered in the order in which they should be displayed i.e. 01.jpg, 02.jpg etc.
- You must include two copies of your presentation layout, Statement of Intent (ARPS & FRPS only) and Submission Details Form.
- Your name must not be visible in any digital image and must not be included in the file name.
- When you're ready to send your images, please post them to us on a USB stick or alternatively send them by email via the following link: [distinctions.wetransfer.com](http://distinctions.wetransfer.com)
- Your digital files must arrive 14 days prior to the assessment date. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they arrive on time.
- You will receive an email confirmation when your submission has been received.

### BOOK

- You must include the Submission Details Form and two copies of your statement of intent (ARPS & FRPS only).
- Your name must not be shown on the front of your book submission, unless it is a commercially produced publication.
- When you are sending your Books please make sure that:
  1. It is securely packed. Please do not use any materials to pack your portfolio that may contaminate, or damage.
  2. Portfolio box is clearly labelled with portfolio label is supplied within the Submission Details Form.
  3. The parcel must arrive 14 days prior to the assessment date. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that it arrives on time.
- You will receive an email confirmation when your submission has been received.



## OVERSEAS PARCELS

- Import duties, taxes, and charges are the applicants' responsibility.
  - Please check with your country's customs office to determine what these additional costs will be prior to sending your portfolio.
- Please attach the portfolio label provided on the front of your parcel. You will be notified by email when we receive your portfolio.
- The RPS will not take responsibility for paying import fees and will not accept parcels requiring additional payments. Applicants will be required to pay any outstanding customs charges.
- Note – it may cost more to have your prints returned than to reprint them; Please state if you do not wish them to be returned. If prints or digital files are not to be returned, the RPS may retain them for educational purposes, otherwise they will be destroyed.
- If you have requested for your portfolio to be returned, please ensure we have valid credit card details, as payment will be taken on receipt of the courier invoice.

## PERSONAL DELIVERY AND COLLECION

You may deliver your submission to us at RPS House, Bristol, during the following opening times:

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Monday    | 10am – 4pm |
| Tuesday   | 10am – 4pm |
| Wednesday | 10am – 4pm |
| Thursday  | 10am – 4pm |
| Friday    | 10am – 4pm |

If you wish to collect your submission on the day of the assessment, you should state this on your Booking Form by ticking *PERSONAL COLLECTION* and it will be available at lunch time or the end of the day.

To collect your submission at a later date – during office hours – please contact the Distinctions Department.

## FEES AND PAYMENT

- For current fees, please visit our website and booking forms.
- Distinctions are only awarded to members of the RPS. If you are a member, you must ensure your current subscription is paid. If you are not a member, you must complete the Non-Member section on the *Booking Form* and include the membership subscription. This will only be processed if you are successful or unless stated in your Booking Form.
- If you have requested your portfolio to be returned, please ensure we have valid credit card details.

## RETURNING YOUR PORTFOLIO

- Please see the *Booking Form* for details.
- USB sticks, CD/DVDs will not be returned and will be securely disposed.
- Personal collection – please see above.
- All reasonable care will be taken with your submission, but the RPS will not be responsible for any loss or damage whilst in its care or in transit. By submitting your *Booking Form*, you agree to these terms.

## RETENTION OF PORTFOLIOS

The RPS reserves the right to retain successful submissions beyond the date of assessment to promote The RPS and its Distinctions. By submitting your application, you agree to these terms. You will be notified if your submission is to be retained.

## CANCELLATION/DEFERRALS

After submitting your *Booking Form*, if for any reason you are unable to send your submission or need to make other changes, please e-mail [distinctions@rps.org](mailto:distinctions@rps.org)

- Any cancellations or change requests must be made via e-mail. If you cancel/defer within 14 days of your assessment date you will be fully charged for the assessment. We are unable to offer a refund or deferral.
- You can request once only to cancel/defer 15 days or more prior to your assessment, without any charge, but all future requests will incur a £25 administration charge.
- The RPS is unable to refund any cancellation or offer a transfer to another event if the attendee does not notify the Distinctions Department by e-mail 14 days prior to the event start date. email [distinctions@rps.org](mailto:distinctions@rps.org)
- The RPS reserves the right to cancel any event 7 days prior to its start date, or less than 24 hours due to adverse weather conditions or extraordinary circumstances beyond its control. All attendees are advised to check hotel and travel cancellation/refund policies, as the RPS is unable to offer compensation for any loss.

## REVIEW PROCEDURE AND DISPUTES

The decision of the assessment panel is final. However, if an applicant feels that there is any question as to whether the assessment process has been correctly adhered to, they can ask the RPS to review their application. All such requests must be made in writing within four weeks of receipt of the feedback letter, outlining fully the substance of the applicant's case. In such cases, the Chair of the Distinctions Committee will initially review the case and decide if the Appeal merits further action. If that is the case, the Distinctions Committee will appoint a moderator to investigate and report to the Distinctions Committee for a decision. In such cases, the decision of the Distinctions Committee will be final.



## WHERE TO GET ADVICE ON YOUR SUBMISSION

CREDIT: James Kelly LRPS

There are a number of ways in which you can obtain official guidance when working towards applying for a Distinction.

- The website has examples of successful applications ([www.rps.org/qualifications](http://www.rps.org/qualifications))
- Attend a Licentiate, Associate or Fellowship Advisory Day.
  - These are organised throughout the UK, with web advisory sessions for overseas members. These are led by Assessors who review potential submissions brought on the day. (see below).
- Attend an Assessment.
  - These are open to all who want to watch, whether or not your submission is being assessed. Dates and locations of assessments are available online. please contact the Distinctions Department to register your interest in attending as a spectator.
- Advice on which Genre your submission best suits can be obtained by emailing [ben@rps.org](mailto:ben@rps.org)
- You are recommended only to obtain advice from a current Assessor who will be aware of the current criteria and requirements.

## ADVISORY DAYS

Distinctions Advisory days are educational events and provide an opportunity for anyone working towards a Distinction to receive informed advice from Assessors of the appropriate Distinctions Panel. You will see successful submissions and have the opportunity to receive comments on your own work, and to hear comments on work by others attending throughout the day. Many people attend initially as an observer to begin to understand what is required, and the differences between the different Genres and Levels.

- The applicant should bring a working submission, plus a maximum of 5 spare images.
- Prints should be mounted but not framed, and to the actual size that the applicant intends to submit.
- The advice given will depend on the portfolio seen on the day and the advice from an assessor is guidance only. It is the responsibility of the applicant to make the final decision on which images to put forward for assessment
- At the assessment there will minimum of three Assessors who may view your portfolio differently. Individual Assessors can only give advice and cannot guarantee success.
- Fellowship Advisory days are held at venues throughout the UK. We advise only attending two Fellowship Advisory Days per a submission.
- Distinctions Advisory Days organised by Overseas Chapters and certain regions may consider Licentiate, Associate and Fellowship applications in all Genres.
- Genre Advisory days – open to everyone who has an interest within the Genre. These events are held in conjunction with the Special Interest Groups.

## RPS PHOTOGRAPHY ROADSHOW

This day is a great opportunity for all who wish to view successful submissions close up. Develop your understanding of photography and Distinctions. The Distinctions Team will present a range of submissions from all genres and Levels.

Our aim is to educate members of the public, Promote the highest standards of photography, and Encourage public appreciation of photography and there is no better way of doing this than attending our Photography Roadshow events.

This is your opportunity to ask questions and find out more about the RPS Distinctions.

We will explain what our assessors are looking for and what you need to do and what to avoid. Find out how you can become one of the many thousands that have gained a Distinctions with the RPS.

Learn and be inspired by others - Successful applicants will talk about their experiences and present their submissions.

## 1:1 Advice

Members and non-members can receive 1:1 advice using zoom. Please visit the website for more info. [www.rps.org](http://www.rps.org)