



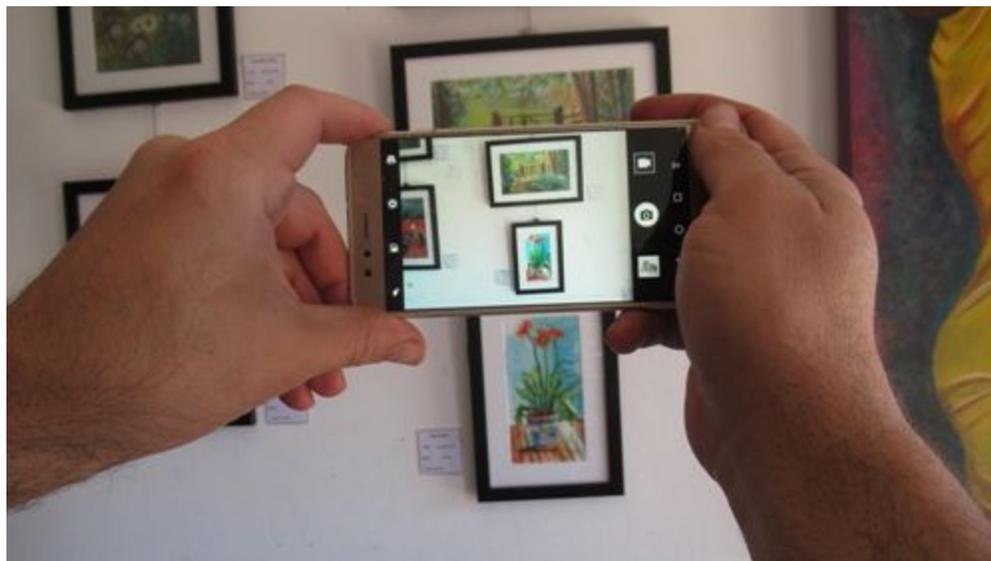
The Painting Cavø

Art Space Solutions #003

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Photographing Your Artwork

How to take a great photograph of your drawings and paintings to share confidently with your friends and family and on social media



by **Jacqui Simpson** on October 7, 2019

There is nothing worse than putting a photograph of your artwork onto social media and then have someone who sees it in real life say “ Oooh it looks nothing like the photograph! “ Now that may be ok if the real thing is better... but what if it’s not?

As a professional artist, this could destroy my reputation. With so much digital art and so many awesome programs out there, you can see why it could become easy to just change it... make it look good. . But imagine if you sold it and the customer opens the package and hardly recognizes the artwork that he purchased.

Nightmare!!!

Digital Cameras and Cell phones

Every time I would decide to invest in a good camera so that I could take photographs of my art; by the time I had saved enough to pay the price of a good camera, guess what!

They'd have something new, better, and of course, more expensive... and in a space of a few years, my cameras became obsolete.

I mean my first Sony digital camera had a whole 5 megapixels! I thought this was amazing, until my next cellphone had almost twice that!

Cell phone cameras are awesome!

Anyway, irrelevant of what phone you have, I can bet you that you can take a great photograph of your art if you simply apply the 4 rules - (Prescribed by Saatchi Gallery in London who have an online Artist platform to sell art)

1. Hang your artwork on the wall.

- Hang it at a height that you can get in to take an eye-level photograph (your eye should be level with the middle of the drawing/painting)
- Get up close and try to keep your phone as straight and steady as possible. Rest your elbow on something to steady yourself if you don't have a tripod.



- You want to get the image into your viewfinder so that there is just a thin edge around the picture. Take a few shots, you can always delete what you don't need.

2. Light your work properly.

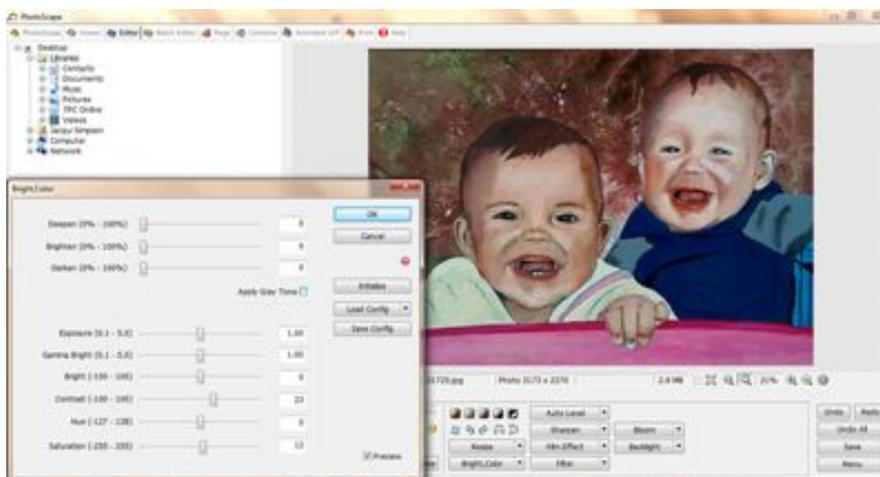
- If you are **shooting** your work indoors, do so in a room with plenty of windows and natural light.
- Skylights are awesome to use because this is indirect light
- Do not use artificial light unless you have proper photography lighting, it will change the colour of your work.
- Photographing outside on an overcast day is ideal for getting clear shots.
- Do not use your camera zoom or flash.

- Make sure that you have no shadows or glaring light on your picture

3. Don't apply any fancy cell phone photography apps when you are taking this photo

4. Edit your photos to perfection.

- Many phone cameras have great little apps that will allow you to crop, straighten and adjust exposure etc.
- If your photo was taken in the correct light there should be very little need for adjustment, however, if you do need to adjust something, keep your artwork close by so that you can be certain that you are matching colours as close as possible with the adjustments.



- Store the adjusted image in its highest resolution in your Artwork folder and resize for posting on social media.

I highly recommend a free little photo app that you can download to your computer to assist you with all the adjustments that you need to make. You can do so much with this little program and it is so easy to use with a help button right there. It is called Photoscape. You can find it here.



<http://www.photoscape.org/ps/main/download.php>



Who am I?

My name is Jacqui (Jax) Simpson. I am an Artist and teacher and have taught many students over 30 years.

I am passionate about Art and about those who want to learn how to create art.

I will be sending out tips, tricks, and advice to you on a weekly basis.

I am here to help you and I would love to hear from you.

Stay in touch with us!



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