

PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR 2D ARTWORK WITH A MOBILE DEVICE

Helpful tips for documenting 2D work with a mobile device.

1. Lighting

Try to find a flat surface where there is bright, indirect sunlight. It is also preferable that the light streams in from the side so that you do not cast a shadow on your work.

2. Framing

Get as close as you can to the piece while leaving some room around the edges to crop in. Keep an eye on the edges of your work because sometime your phone will switch to a wide angle lens which will distort the edges. Using the grid option built into your camera app will help things framed straight.

3. Camera Angle

Be sure that you are holding your cell phone flat and parallel to your work. Sometimes its easier to start with your cell phone flat against the work then lock your wrists and walk back until you reach a distance with an ideal framing.

4. Editing

It's best to include a little beyond the edge of your work. If the wall behind your work is not a clean, simple surface you can hang a piece of paper or white bedsheet on the wall prior to photographing. Be careful of editing the exposure settings in comparison to your cell phone's screen brightness. Make sure your screen brightness is up all the way before lightening or darkening the exposure. The goal with adjusting the exposure is to get an image that appears as close as possible to the paper or surface you are working on in real life. Be sure to keep an eye out for overexposing and losing your lightest values.

FURTHER RESEARCH: VIDEOS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0g4a1Ge-Ds>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=buQzjCMfFBM>

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