Traditional Images

As a general guideline for traditional categories, photos may be processed in the digital or traditional darkroom using basic photographic techniques such as dodging, burning, masking, spotting, blurring or sharpening. Adjustments may be made for exposure, contrast, color or saturation. Graduated filters, lightly applied high dynamic range techniques and stitched panoramas are acceptable.

Allowed retouching includes not only the removal of blemishes from faces and sensor dust from images, but also the removal or mitigation of distracting elements that are not essential to the picture, such as telephone lines and tree branches.

Composition may be affected by cropping or applying perspective adjustment, but cloning or cutting and pasting that changes the position of an element or adds an element to an image is not permitted.

Traditional images include methods that are used in the setup and exposure of the image such as long exposure, moving the camera or changing the focal length during exposure, multiple exposure in one image (such as long exposure with multiple light flashed or exposure/focus stacking), use of physical filters, transparencies, netting, etc. in front of the lens.

Heavily manipulated and/or composite images must be entered in the Open category, if such a category exists.