

Home Is Where The Heart Is

Environmental Portrait

An environmental portrait is a portrait executed in the subject's usual environment, such as in their home or workplace, and typically illuminates the subject's life and surroundings.

The Goal:

This project requires that you shoot images of people within their natural or "known" environment(s). You will also be required to shoot the environment without the subject present.

While the environment is important, it must be secondary to the portrait.

You are trying to strike a delicate balance between a unique background and a supporting piece of important information that will help your viewer decipher the portrait.

Concept:

By photographing a person in their natural surroundings, it is thought that you will be able to better illuminate their character, and therefore portray the essence of their personality, rather than merely a likeness of their physical features.

It is also thought that by photographing a person in their natural surroundings, the subject will be more at ease, and so be more conducive to expressing themselves, as opposed to in a studio, which can be a rather intimidating and artificial experience.

The Project:

You must shoot 2 different environmental portraits with two different subjects.
You must also shoot their respective environments without the subjects in them.

You will turn in 4 images: two with people and two without.