

Better Photography Through Composition

Presented by
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OLYMPUS®

What is Composition?

- ▶ Placement of objects in a scene by:
 - ▶ Using thought
 - ▶ Applying rules
 - ▶ Making use of various elements

Good Composition

- ▶ Generates interest
- ▶ Tells a story
- ▶ Leads the eyes of the viewer
- ▶ Achieved through various rules



You Have Control Over

- ▶ What you shoot
- ▶ Time of day to shoot it
- ▶ Distance to subject
- ▶ Lens used
- ▶ Camera settings
- ▶ Composition





Thoughtful composition can lead to great results

The Right Approach

- ▶ The route to good composition involves analysis and effort
 - ▶ Is this an interesting angle?
 - ▶ Would the shot improve if I climbed those stairs?
 - ▶ How about getting down on the ground?
 - ▶ Should I get closer?
 - ▶ Farther away?
 - ▶ Is this the right time of day?

The Rule of Thirds

The Grid

- ▶ Made up of:
 - ▶ Lines
 - ▶ Points or Intersections



Lines of Interest

- ▶ Horizons in landscapes



Lines of Interest

- ▶ Vertical subjects (trees, buildings, etc)





Typical centred composition



Alternative: place subject near vertical line of interest



This composition evenly divides foreground and sky



We can emphasize either by using the grid



Emphasizing the sky



Emphasizing the sky



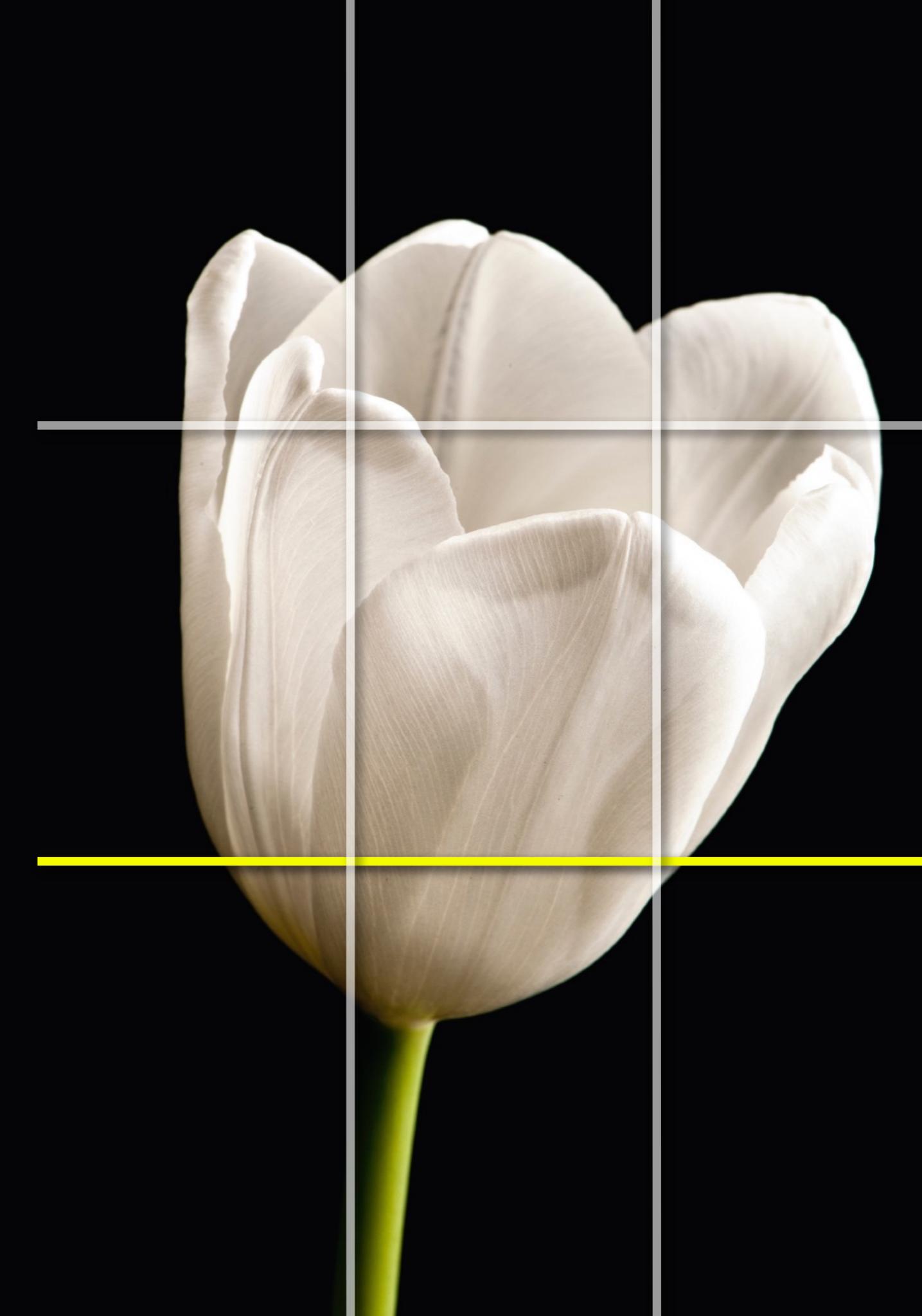
Emphasizing the foreground



Emphasizing the foreground

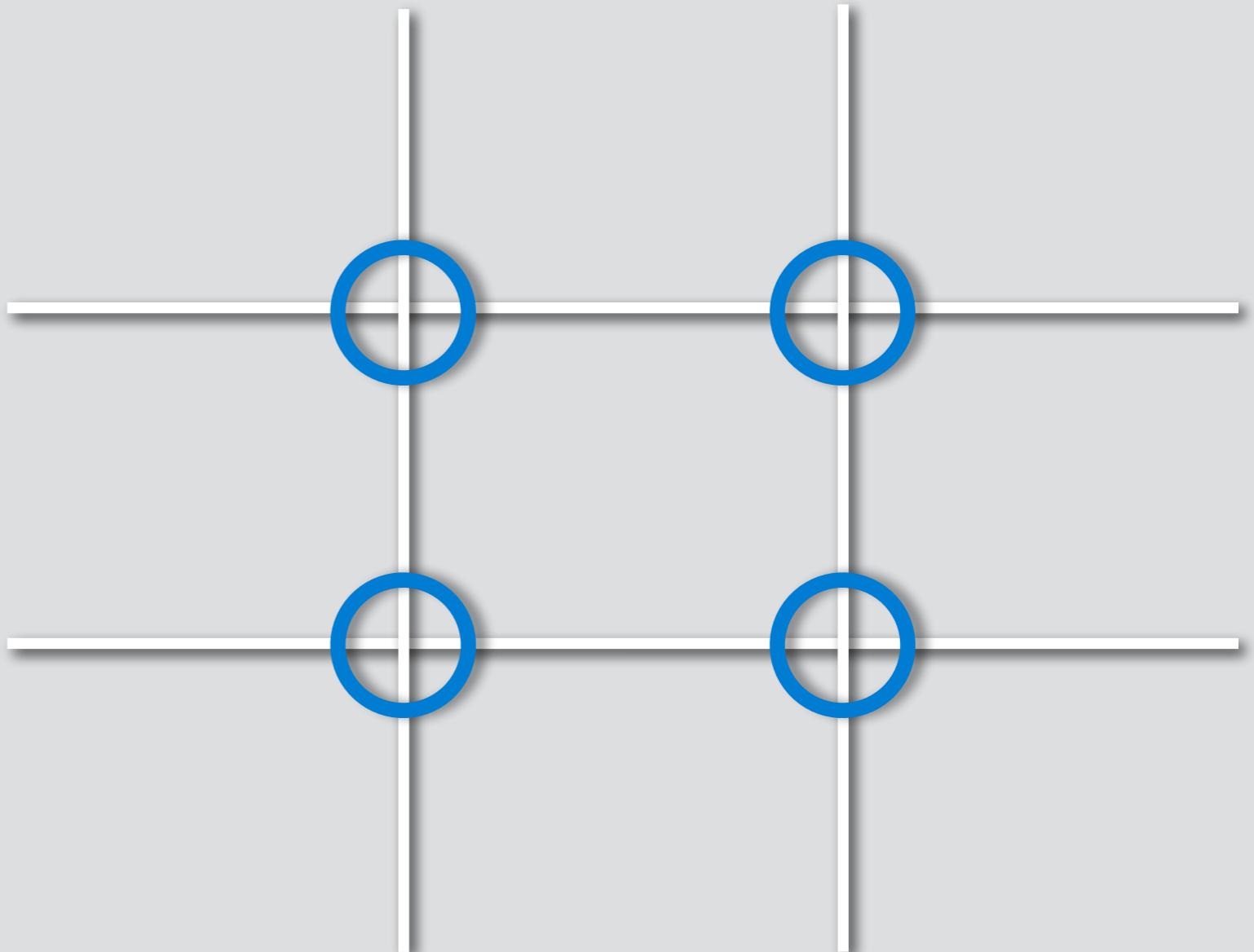
Portrait Orientation

- ▶ Shot with portrait orientation
- ▶ Rule applies equally well here



Points of Interest

- ▶ Intersection of lines of interest
- ▶ Used to draw viewer's attention



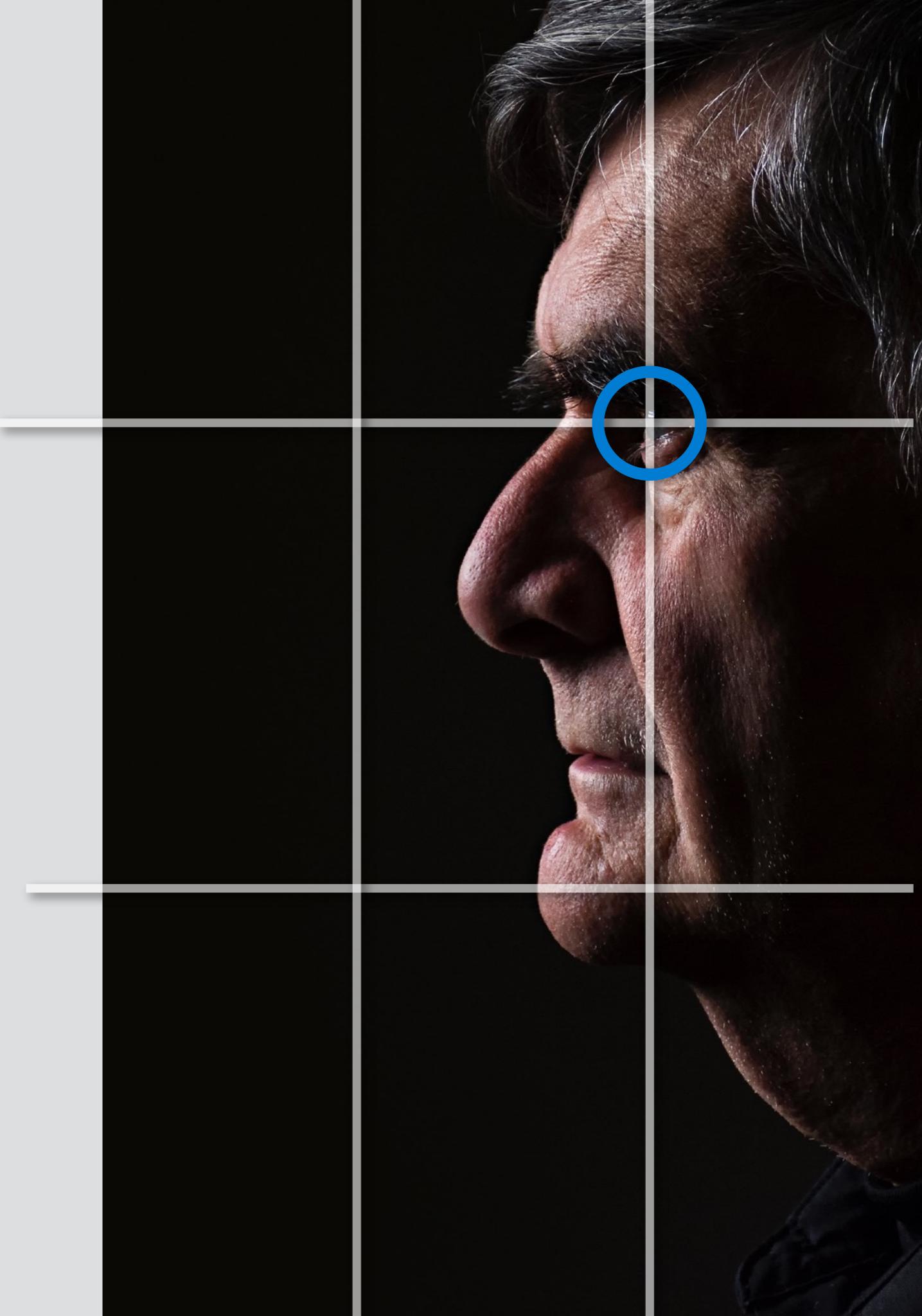
Points of Interest

- ▶ Eye is drawn to the non-centred subject
- ▶ It ‘stands out’ and creates a focal point



Points of Interest

- ▶ The subjects eye is on or near a point of interest



To Use the Rule or Not

- ▶ That is up to you but you need to know the rules before you break them



Shooting position

Use your Feet

- ▶ Get to your subjects level
- ▶ Look for distracting objects
- ▶ Choose your point of view



How many of you have shots like this one?



Move to you subject level



Can any see what's wrong here?



Take a few steps forward



Wait for it....



Choose your point of view



Some times a little photo treatment helps as well



choose your shooting angle



Getting down low changes to mood of the photo

Lines

- ▶ Create a sense of structure
- ▶ Lines will lead eyes into the photo





Suggests strength, grandeur



Lines in nature – organic structure



Lines and rule of thirds used together



**Frame Your Composition
With Lines**









**Lines Lead You Through
A Photo**







Curves leading into the distance



Fill the Frame



Take a few steps forward or zoom in



Can make a very interesting photo

SWT201

2
CHARLOTTETOWN

2
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CHARLOTTETOWN

CHARLOTTETOWN





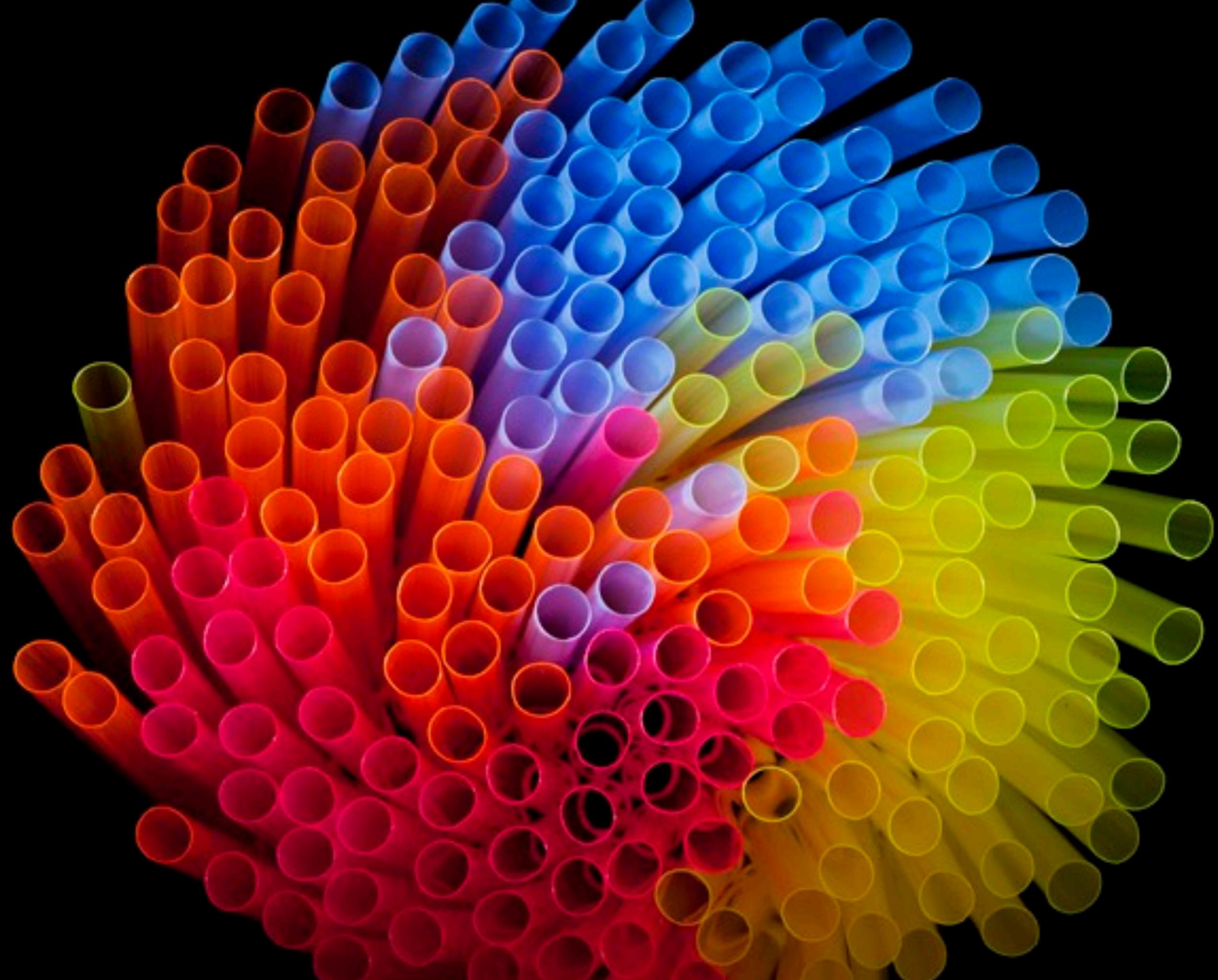
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Time Day and Weather



















Keep Your Camera Ready











**Thanks for joining
me here today**