

Better Photography Through Composition

Presented by
Denis Rule

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

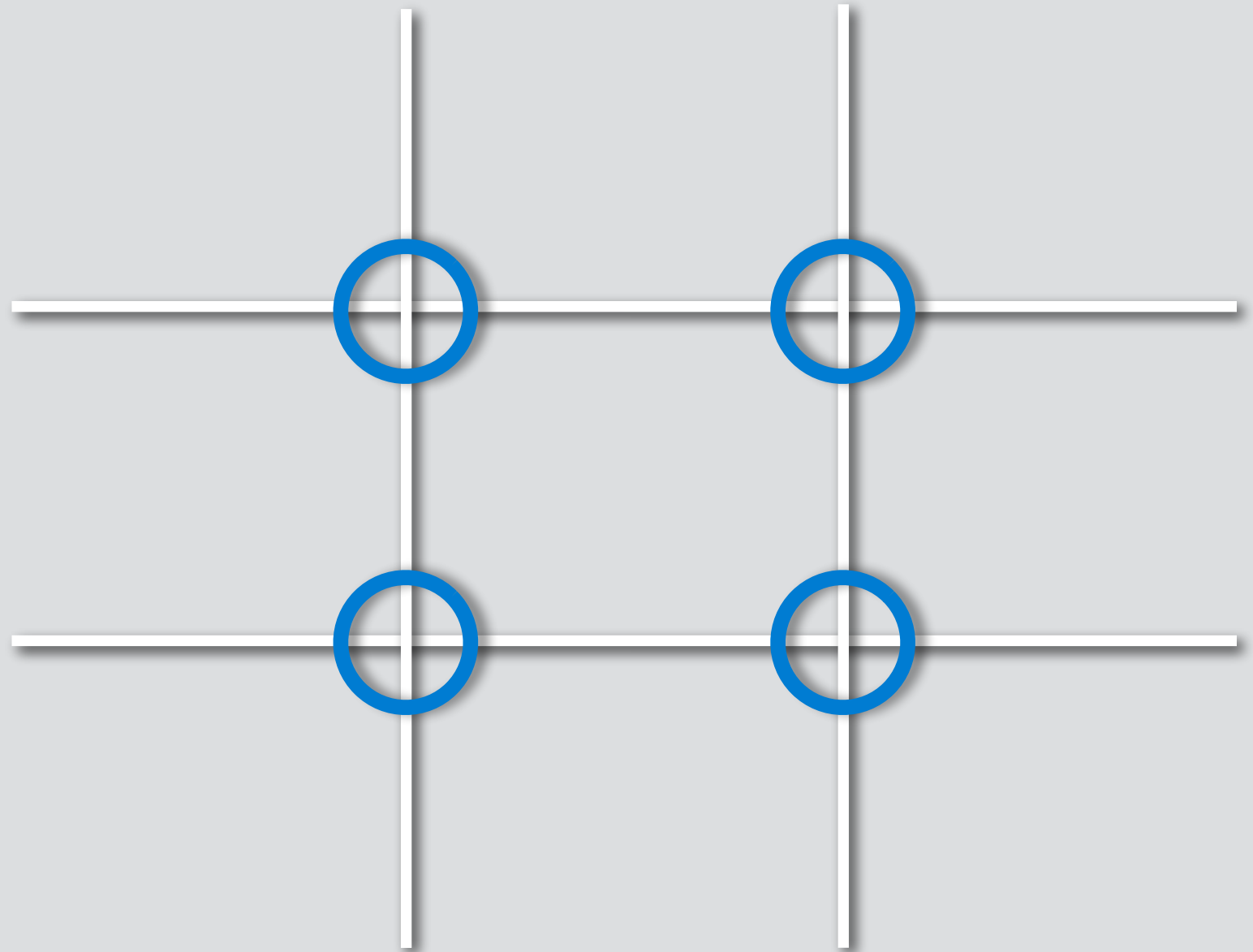
Portrait Orientation

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



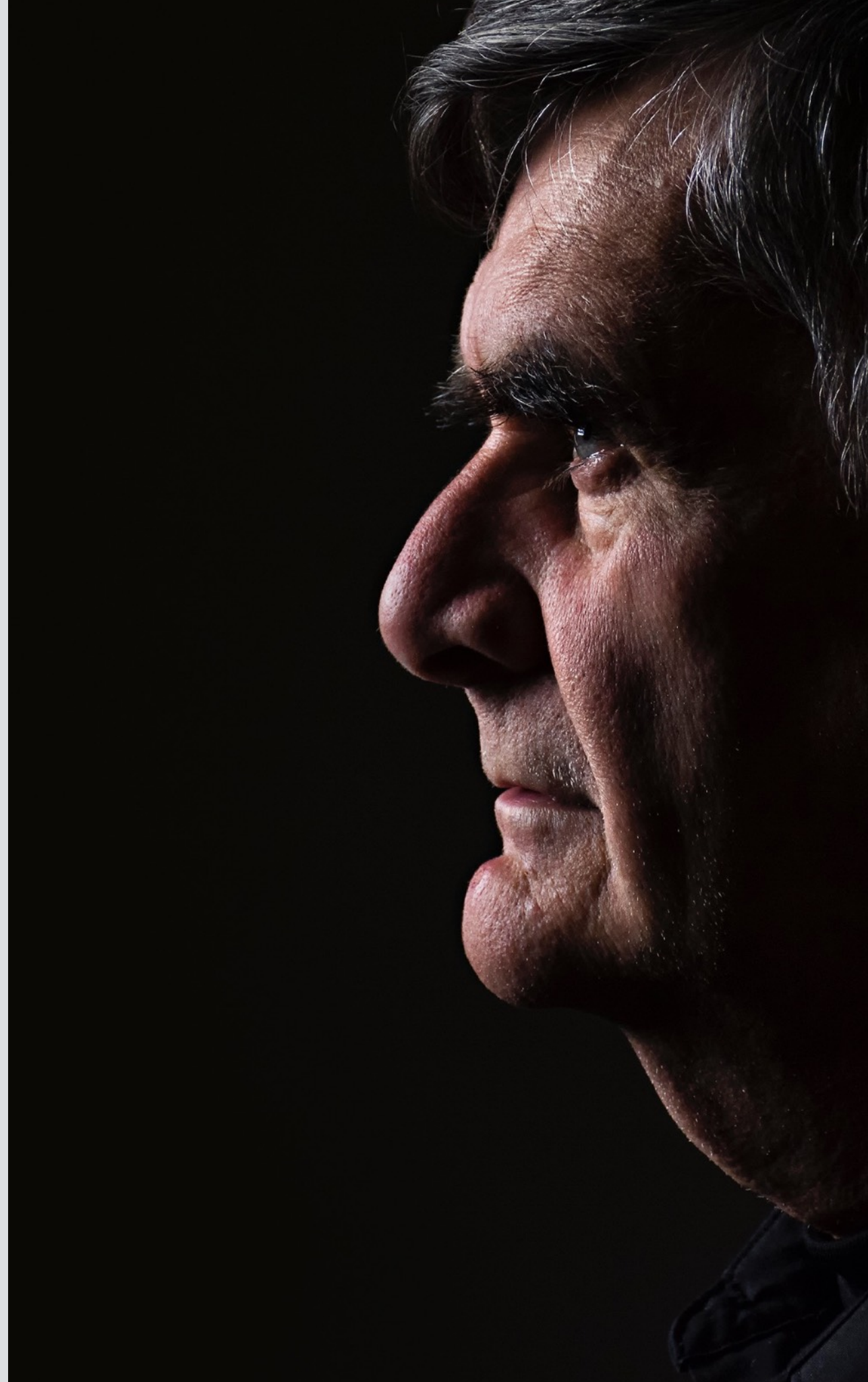
Points of Interest

- ▶ 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



Elgin Street Diner

OPEN 24 HRS



OPEN 24 HRS

BURGERS
SHAKES
& FRIES



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



1
CHARLOTTETOWN

1
CHARLOTTETOWN



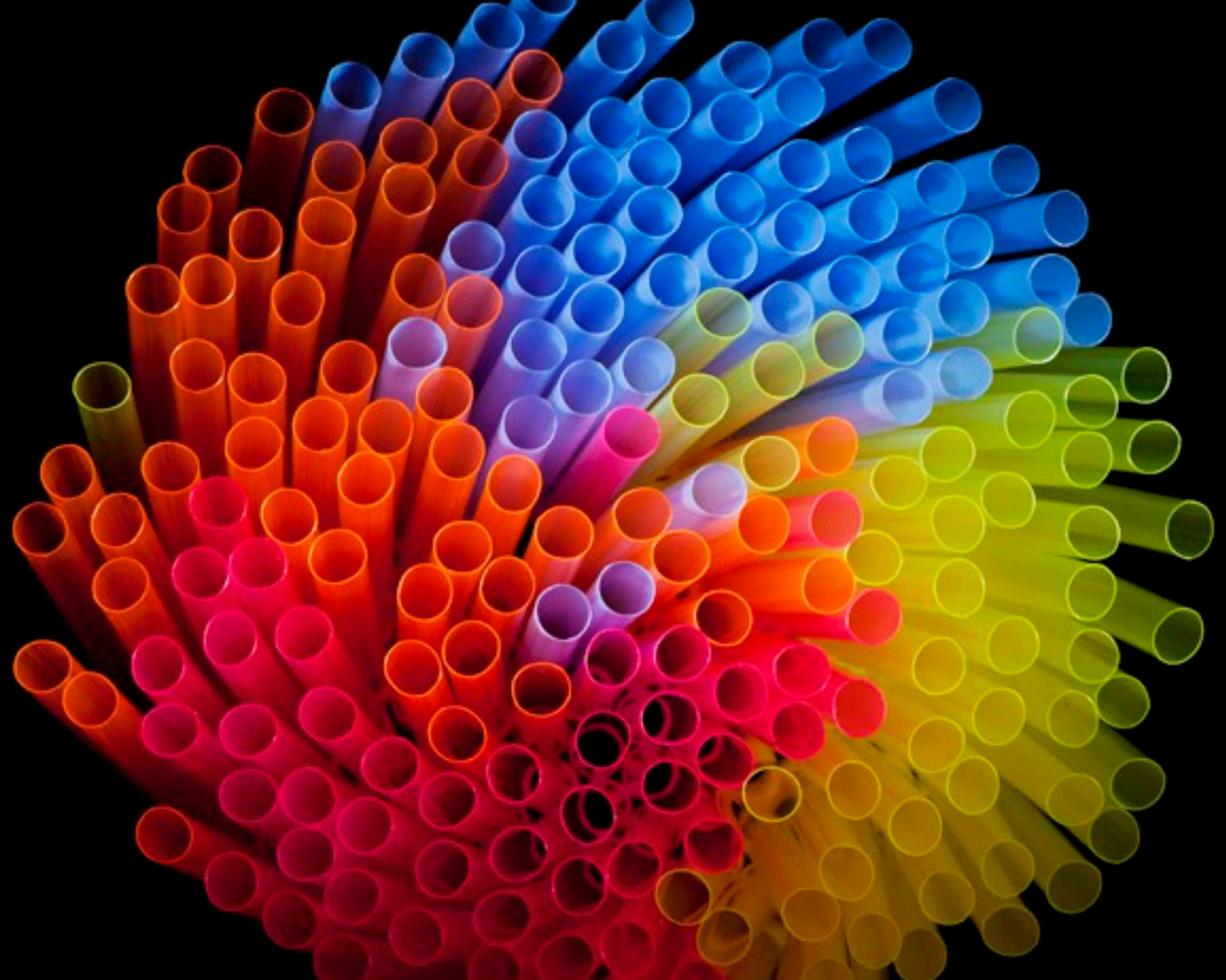


KEN RULE











Time Day and Weather





B 72981 CPL
WILLIAM E. GOMM
45th HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA
24 MARCH 1922 - 1 MARCH 1948
W 192702 PVT
DORIS SMITH-GOMM
AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE
4 NOVEMBER 1924 - 26 OCTOBER 2013

14937 E LT
THOMAS J.C. RINGROSE CD
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY
24 NOVEMBER 1931 - 9 JANUARY 2002
W 36443 AB
BETTY BARBER RINGROSE
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY
WRCNS

17780 CAPT
DAVID A. McGLASHAN CD
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE
GENEVIEVE L. McGLASHAN
BELOVED WIFE
17 APRIL 1931 - 18 APRIL 1999

A 17081 SGT
JOHN RICHARD BOWEN CD
ROYAL CANADIAN ARMY MEDICORPS
21 JUNE 1912 - 1 JUNE 2000
EILEEN M. BOWEN
BELOVED WIFE
11 APRIL 1923 - 11 JUNE 2007

DET 200 SIB MWO
ERIC M. TOLL CD
ROYAL CANADIAN ARMY
28 DECEMBER 1948 - 8 OCTOBER 2001
BONNIE J. TOLL (LANNIGAN)

NSA 400715 PWO
J.C.E. ANDRE BEAUDET CD
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY
11 MAY 1954 - 8 MARCH 2001
LOIS ANN BEAU
BELOVED WIFE
19 MARCH 1952 - 8 JUNE 2001

LTC CAPT
GORDON F. HILCHIE CD
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE
ALICE L. HILCHIE
BELOVED WIFE

V28-330 202 CPL
EDWIN S. TAYLOR CD
MEDICAL CORPS/RCME
27 JUNE 1917

75 4806-400
RALPH L. MACINTOSH
RCMC
26 JUNE 1925 - 18 APRIL 2001
AGGIE MACINTOSH
BELOVED WIFE















Keep Your Camera Ready











**Thanks for joining
me here today**