

## **Distinctions Advisory Days**

### **Preparing for Advice**

These notes apply to Distinctions Advisory Days organised by the Thames Valley Region.

All attendance must be pre-booked, whether for advice or to observe.

The Region currently aims to run two Distinction Advisory Days per year. Events run from 9.30am for 10am start, until approximately 4pm depending on the number of panels available for advice. Tea/coffee refreshments will be provided. Bring packed lunch.

### **Advice**

At each event, there will be 14 places for LRPS advice and 7 places for ARPS advice. The panels/topics for ARPS advice will be as advertised, but will usually be Visual Art: the advisor may be able to assist with other panels/topics.

Those bringing work for advice are strongly recommended to familiarise themselves with the Society's arrangements and criteria for the distinction being considered. This information is available from the handbook via the Society's website, or on request from the Distinctions Department.

Media may be prints or digital (on CD), but not mixed. It is strongly recommended that the choice of media should match that intended for the subsequent assessment.

- Prints should be mounted, but we can show some unmounted prints.
- Digital images must conform to the Society's requirements. CDs will be required by one week before the event. Part of the advice will be a compliance report on the media and files submitted.

In general, those bringing work should complete enough prior preparation to have a set of the required number of pictures (10 for LRPS, 15 for ARPS) in a proposed layout/sequence. It is worth bringing 5-10 spare pictures. The advice is given interactively with the author, and in front of the audience, for about 10 minutes. After each session, there will be an opportunity for authors to meet with the advisors to cover any supplementary questions.

There is considerable demand for advice, and places can be filled some months before an event. Overflow applications can be placed on a waiting list for cancellations, and given priority booking for the next event. Please only request a place for advice if you are fairly certain that your preparations will be completed on time.

(Effective Jan-2012) The charge to bring work for advice is £20, payable on arrival. A voucher will be issued, giving a discount of £5 on joining the Society within 3 months. **ONLY IF** a current membership card is shown on arrival, the charge is reduced to £15, and the voucher is not relevant.

### **Observing**

Venues have capacity for observers, who must not bring any of their own work for advice. Observers see all the work and advice, and this can be useful in planning towards a distinction.

The charge for observers is £10, payable on arrival.