



stained glass association of america

WHAT MAKES A PUBLICATION QUALITY IMAGE?

The *Stained Glass Quarterly* publishes articles about architectural glass art; the quality of the work and the quality of the photograph are both considered in accepting work to be presented in the magazine. There are several factors to consider in determining whether or not a photograph is “publication quality.”

IMAGE AREA/RESOLUTION

Best: 6x6 centimeter or larger slides on 100 speed or slower film; 25 megapixel or larger digital image taken on finest setting.

Acceptable: 35mm slides on 100 speed or slower film; 12 to 24 megapixel digital images taken on finest setting.

FOCUS

To be considered for publication, a photograph must be “tack sharp,” which is photographer’s jargon for an image that is both optically within critical focus and that has no motion blur.

Motion blur is the result of the camera moving while the shutter is open and the exposure is being made. To avoid motion blur, the use of a tripod is strongly encouraged.

COLOR CAST

It is important that there is no color cast in the photographic image. Digital cameras should be white balanced in the light in which the image will be taken. Film cameras should be loaded with daylight-balanced film if the window is lit by natural light.

Both incandescent lights and fluorescent tubes will give the photographs distinct color casts. Interior lights — especially fluorescent lights — should be turned off. If interior lighting is desired, it should be supplied with daylight-balanced studio lights.



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SPECIAL EFFECTS FILTERS

The use of special effects filters — especially starburst filters and color-graduated filters — is discouraged as they detract from the window.

Exceptions: The use of a UV filter is recommended. The use of a polarizing filter is recommended. The use of color-correction filters is acceptable to remove unwanted color cast.

SURFACE GLARE

Surface reflections are created on the glass surfaces of a window when there is reflected light on the window. To avoid surface glare, transmitted light should always be at least three stops brighter than any reflected light. Also, on-camera flash should not be used. A polarizing filter will help to minimize surface glare.

COMPOSITION

Ideally, the photograph should be composed to illustrate one or more windows in their architectural setting in such a way that the windows are given both a sense of scale and an indication of their relationship to surrounding building elements.

To have your work considered for publication in *The Stained Glass Quarterly*, send publication-quality images to:

The *Stained Glass Quarterly*
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