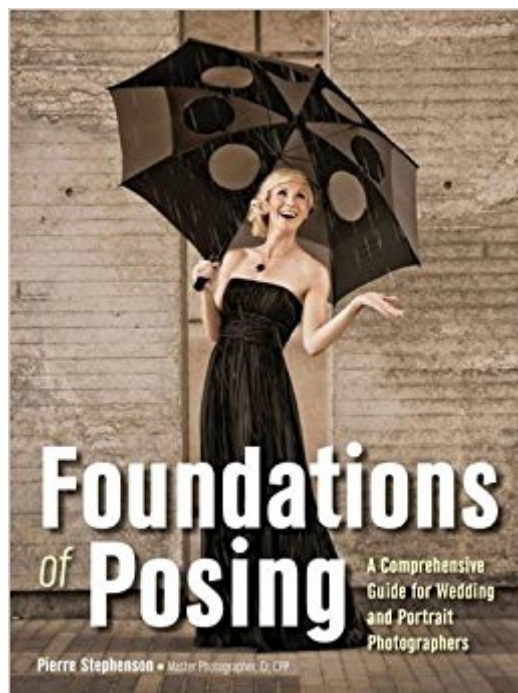




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Foundations Of Posing: A Comprehensive Guide For Wedding And Portrait Photographers



Synopsis

Photographers must have a clear understanding of how the human body, from head to toe, should be posed and adjusted in order to look good—and natural—to the camera. Learning effective strategies to flatter the face, arms and legs, torso, and hands and feet will allow us not only to flatter our subjects but also effectively tell the subject's story. Regardless of your photographic style, the tips and techniques outlined in this book will allow you to better control what the camera sees and the mood or message you want to convey. Whether you are a portrait or lifestyle photographer, photojournalist, fashion or commercial photographer, this book is designed to help you learn skills that you can apply to your specific style and method of shooting. Stephenson maintains that you should first identify the intent of your portrait before you begin to analyze the way in which you will pose your subject or subjects. How will the client use the image? Does he or she need a business portrait, which will require an air of authority and confidence, with a traditional vibe? Is the couple who booked the session deeply in love, and would a pose that speaks to their emotional closeness be appropriate? The author then moves into a discussion on body language. The way that an individual holds himself says much about his mind-set, mood, and motivations. Image viewers subconsciously read the cues that the subject's body conveys. It is important to ensure that the body language that is summoned through posing suits the mood/theme /intent of the portrait. There are traditions of posing that have been in play in the visual arts for eons. Many photographers fall into using the same pose for every subject. When this happens, all of the images that leave the studio begin to look the same. This can have dire consequences when it comes to the public perception of the photographer's work—and can squelch the joy photographers feel when creating. Stephenson offers simple approaches to flattering every body part when photographing individual clients and also teaches readers how to create artful images of couples and groups, as in multi-subject portraits, each individual must look great and relate logically and aesthetically to other subjects in the frame. With tips for posing the young and old, males and females, singles, couples, and groups in both indoor and locations—and in reclining, seated, and standing poses, from full-length to close-up, this book will walk you through all aspects of posing and balance with examples and easy to follow instructions. It's time to stop guessing and learn the art and science of posing.

Book Information

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Digital Photography

Customer Reviews

Pierre Stephenson is the father of two wonderful boys, Connor and Ty. He is also a professional photographer, national speaker, and adjunct professor of photography at Madison College in Wisconsin. His diverse portfolio of work includes portraiture, wedding, commercial, and underwater photography, as well as a love for urban exploration photography. He is the owner of the multi-photographer studio Pierre's Portrait Art Company and has received numerous international awards since starting in business in 1995. His work has been featured nationally in magazines including Modern Bride, Photo District News, Rangefinder and Professional Photographer. Pierre was born in New York City and lived in the Cayman Islands before moving to Wisconsin at the age of seven. He grew up amidst a family of two accomplished underwater photographers and mentors, Dr. Ronald and Camille Stephenson, but didn't dive into photography until his mid-twenties. His training initially began in the studio with commercial large-format photography and unexpectedly changed direction when he discovered his passion for portraiture and weddings, as well as working with people. Pierre has held seminars and workshop for professional photographers from around the world. He has presented at WPPI in Las Vegas four years in a row and has lectured at the Canadian Imaging Conference. He is a founding mentor of the nLIGHTn Tour. Visit PierreStephenson.com for more information on Pierre's future programs. Pierre is a PPA (Professional Photographers of America) Master Photographer and Craftsman and is a PPA Certified Professional Photographer. In addition to other awards, Pierre was awarded PPA Photographer of the Year Silver Level in 2010, WPPA Best of Show Weddings 2009 and 2013.

This is definitely one of the best books on posing that I have read (and I have read a bunch of them). Well organized and written with good photographic examples (although I think the next edition should have even more photos to illustrate in detail ALL of the issues raised in the text - please don't take this as an inadequacy of this book, it is very good / excellent but like most things there is always room for improvement). Highly recommended.

good book for posing guidance

This is one of the most in depth books on posing I have read. He covers everything from head to toe literally. He discuss posing differences for men and women, for flattering different body types, and an entire section on how to correct for some common issues. He also goes through posing for groups. This was a very complete guide. I received this book in order to review.

Pleasant and instructive reading. Its not only about the pose per si, but how to combine several elements - composition, lines of the body, clothes, style, colors - to keep the viewer's attention. I recomend to photographers of all levels.

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