



# How to Photograph Artworks for Your Portfolio:

When taking photographs of your work the aim is to get as much information as possible across to those who cannot see the artwork in front of them.

Here is a guideline on how to take photographs of your artworks using the camera on your phone:

- Look around the edges of the camera screen to make sure you have everything you want in the picture. Remove any distracting objects in shot; you can even put up a fabric backdrop like a sheet behind your artwork to minimize visual 'clutter'.
- When photographing a flat artwork such as a painting, try and hold the camera parallel to the artwork to avoid converging lines. This ensures that the top and bottom of your artworks will be the same size on screen. See image below for example:



Taken from below



Taken from above



Taken parallel to artwork

- Be aware of reflections in your artwork. If you have a major reflection, you may have to shift the camera slightly to avoid it.
- To ensure your artwork is in focus, you can tap the screen of your phone when it is camera mode in the middle of the artwork. This brings all of the camera focus onto the area you tapped.
- Steady your camera if needed to avoid a blurry photograph. This could mean propping it on a chair or box and then taking the photograph.
- Lighting: Indirect daylight works well for your artwork. Avoid harsh lighting conditions, and avoid semi-shaded areas. Photographing indoors in the day near a window, or outside (avoiding the bright reflecting sun) is best.
- Editing: Please don't add any filters or crop unnecessarily. You may edit the brightness and contrast if you like, but only slightly and if needed.
- Do not send huge image files. If you are photographing from your phone, the file size should be fine for sending. If you are photographing from a camera, make sure your file size does not exceed 2MB.