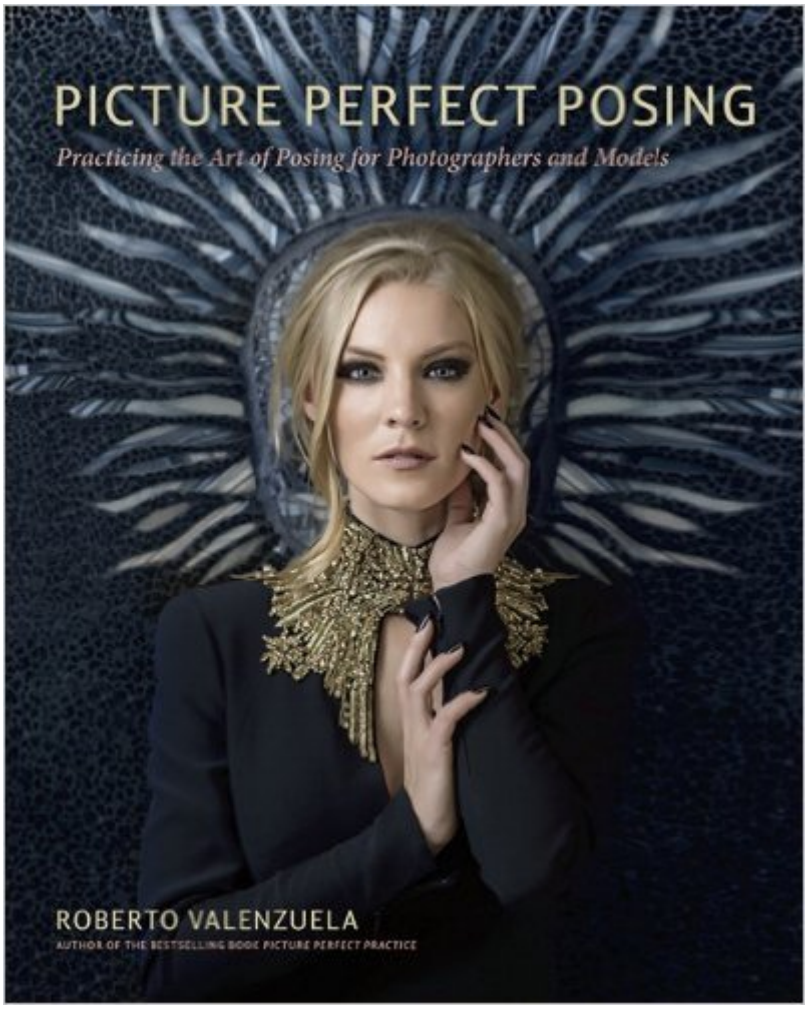
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Picture Perfect Posing: Practicing The Art Of Posing For Photographers And Models (Voices That Matter)



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Synopsis

Photographer, author, and educator Roberto Valenzuela has a proven track record for teaching and explaining difficult concepts to photographers of all skill levels. His remarkable ability to break down complicated ideas into understandable, approachable elements that photographers can truly graspÃ¢â ¬â œand then use their newfound knowledge to improve their photographyÃ¢â ¬â œmade his first book, Picture Perfect Practice, a breakout success. In Picture Perfect Posing, Roberto takes on the art of posing. For many photographers, after learning to compose an image and even light it properly, a portrait can still easily be a failure if the pose is not natural, elegant, and serving the needs of both the subject and the photographer. Instead of just showing page after page of posesÃ¢â ¬â œlike most posing books on the marketÃ¢â ¬â œRoberto actually breaks down the concept of posing by examining the anatomy, starting with the core foundation: the spinal chord and neck. Building from there, Roberto discusses every component of what makes poses work, as well as fail. How should the model hold her hands? Bend her elbows? Position her fingers? Should the model look toward or away from the camera, and why? It all depends on what the photographer wants for the shot, and Roberto discusses the entire process, from the intent of the photographer through the execution of the pose. For those who have been discouraged by an inability to pose their subjects, or who have simply not known where to start in order to "figure it out," Picture Perfect Posing is the essential resource they need to learn how posing truly works, and how they can learn to direct the exact pose they need for the shot they want. Ã Â

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Customer Reviews

Roberto Valenzuela is a photographer based in Beverly Hills, CA. He developed his unique teaching style by following the same practice regimen he developed as a professional concert classical guitarist and educator. Roberto believes that it is not talent but deliberate practice that is at the core of skill and achievement. He has traveled to every corner of the world, motivating photographers to practice and break down the various elements of photography in order to master them through goal setting, self-training, and constant dedication. Roberto serves as a judge for photographic print competitions in Europe, Mexico, South America, and the most prestigious international photography competitions held in the United States through Wedding and Portrait Photographers International (WPPI) in Las Vegas, NV. Roberto teaches private workshops, seminars, and platform classes at the largest photography conventions in the world. He has been an international first-place winner three times and has been nominated by his peers as one of the ten most influential photographers and educators in the world. His first book,Ã Â Picture Perfect Practice,Ã Â became a bestselling photography training book, and it is sold worldwide. Aside from the world of photography, Roberto is a high-performance remote-control helicopter pilot, a (not so good anymore) classical guitarist, and a table tennis fanatic. He is also a major foodie and is still searching for the most amazing red wine and the most pungent cheeses. His search for the perfect steak is over; he found it in the Japanese Wagyu.Ã Â Ã Â

I really don’t like the author’s formulaic approach to teaching. I forced myself to read it, but don’t expect to ever open it again even as a reference.

Practical without being "formulaic". Where most photography books lot this type focus on "formulas", Roberto offers what I have longed for and not found in other resources--the "why" behind the "whats" and prepares you to make your own informed decisions rather than just guessing, wherever you find yourself photographing people. He provides a framework to evaluate poses by (both when you are posing and after you have taken the picture, which is the key to becoming a better photographer. I attended his "posing workshop" this week and found it be invaluable Top notch venue, great models and clear teaching with time to practice and receive feedback. I highly recommend both of his books, his workshop and his class on www.creativelive.com! I also

recommend going through his books with friends, doing the assignments then critiquing one another's work. Taking the extra step of evaluating in a systematic way makes all the difference in really "learning" as opposed to just copying someone else's style.

This excellent book not only provides a great resource of poses, but also provides a number of easy to remember "rules" on how to create the perfect pose. Each chapter works on an aspect of the pose and is well illustrated with the author's work to demonstrate the importance of each element. Roberto also includes a number of photos he took early in his career to demonstrate poor posing techniques and also a number of photos at the end of each chapter for the reader to analyze. In fact I would say this is more of a course rather than just a catalog of poses to copy.

By far one of the best posing books out there! If you are serious about learning the art of posing then this is the book for you. This book will teach you how to pose rather than just showing you a bunch of pictures of poses that don't explain how to get to pose. The posing system is designed so that you can understand how to pose instead of just copying an image of a pose or a pretty picture. Every body behaves differently yet will fall into the same pitfalls when posing. You need to understand these pitfalls and some of the nuances of the body in order to be able to correct posing and master it. This book is not a quick fix to your posing problems. You will understand how to articulate directions to pose your subject and why a pose fails, but like anything else, you will need to put in the practice and dedication in order to become a master of posing.

Rather than a list of specific examples that may or may not work for your situation, Valenzuela takes the time to break down the theory of a pose into many different aspects, giving you specific knowledge of why a pose isn't working, or specifically why your favorites photos are so perfect. I'll be taking his advice into account in the future for sure and I'm finally excited about posing my subjects rather than nervous and anxious. If you've ever done any portrait photography, or if you've ever posed for any portraits, this book is essential to read and well worth the moderate price.

For many years I despised photographing people--yeah, I know, I know. After years of photographing animals, I made a serendipitous turn to humans. At about the same time, I purchased a copy of Roberto's book, which I studied very thoroughly, gradually incorporating his techniques to fit my approach to photography. The results have been gratifying, although I must hasten to add that this is going to be a life long process. The techniques presented in this book

have a nice rhythm and logical flow that I believe most people will find helpful in learning these techniques. I found that by using his own photographic blunders as a teaching tool, I was able to more readily grasp the essence of his message. I can not recommend this particular book highly enough for those more than interested in producing quality images of people.

Makes other 'posing' books pale in comparison. Roberto teaches why a pose works or if it doesn't. It's not a book of preconceived poses for you to follow buck the mechanics of posing the human body.

I have invested a lot of money, time and energy into my photographic education. I've explored different mediums, online, live workshops and books. Picture Perfect Posing is by far the best investment that I've made to date. Roberto Valenzuela breaks down posing into a system that is easily learned and does it in a way that changes the way that you shoot and the way that you look at images. I can't say enough positives about the book and about Roberto. Using P3S, I believe that I can bring my work to another level.

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