

HIGH KEY—LOW KEY -1

We have heard the expressions *high key* and *low key* recently from our judges. Briefly, these are creative techniques, either in your setting up for your image, or by your specifically taking images which qualify as “high or low key”.

A low key image will be quite moody, with rich shadows, while a **HIGH KEY** image should be very light, delicate and appear soft.

High Key can be a scene with delicate tones or pastel colours or a photograph which contains large areas of light tones, with few middle tones or shadows

In portraiture, blonde models, dressed in very pale colours, in a very light or white set up, would be high key. However a well tanned brunette or dark skinned model, in a darkened room with suitable highlights would make a low key image.

Snow images on an overcast day are **high key**, while images taken inside in natural light or carefully placed artificial light are usually low key.

This is a very brief description of the *high* and *low* key approach. If you are interested follow this up .There is plenty of information on the internet.

Fran Cross