

Modeling Opportunities

What characteristics am I looking for in a model?

Many fine art photographers will tell you that a model's personality and reliability are more important than his or her appearance. I look for people who communicate well and who are very reliable. You should also be able to relax and have fun in front of the camera. People who have had no prior experience can be a bit nervous at first, but this is nothing to worry about.

Looks are also relevant but you do not need to be tall and glamorous to be successful in fine art photographic modeling. It does help if you look interesting or attractive in some way, or are physically expressive. There is no preferred body type or hair color. Most of the people I shoot are between the ages of 19 and 40, though >40 is not ruled out. It also helps if you like the water, as I do some shooting in very shallow, warm water. Athleticism and flexibility can also be assets and I have done a great deal of past work with dancers.

Attributes that do not make for a successful modeling relationship are limited availability, poor reliability. Prominent or numerous tattoos and non-removable jewelry are problems for some shots. Please do not apply if photographic modeling will lead to personal problems with others in your life.

Where would the photographs appear?

Photos of you would most likely appear in exhibits, contests, in your portfolio, in my portfolio, and on this web site. Less likely venues would include magazines and advertisements. I do not make photos for dealers of pornography.

Where do the sessions occur?

Nearly all shooting takes place outdoors or in my studio in Falmouth, all year round. Common sites include local public gardens, beaches, parks, wild life preserves, and ponds. I shoot morning, afternoon and night. Sessions with new models take place in public locations during the day. The sessions typically last 1-1/2 to 3 hours.

What is the pay scale?

The pay is typically \$20-\$30 per hour depending on your level of experience. A few people prefer to work in exchange for prints. Prior experience is not required. Models who have developed a long term working relation with me earn \$30 or more per hour. For long sessions I may negotiate with you for special rate for the whole session.

Are portfolio prints available?

A selection of the better digital images is made available within a few weeks of a photo shoot for those who wish to use them professionally. The resolution is appropriate for Instagram or a personal website and I only ask that the acknowledgement “L. Pratt photo” with date but included.

Clothed vs. nude?

The images on this site speak for themselves. I do not like to take people out of their safety zone with regard to clothing and it is important for me to find out what your comfort level is. *That level will always be fine with me.* Generally speaking, models that do nude work with me have had professional experience (often in workshops or life classes) or are nonprofessionals who have built up mutual trust as the result of extensive prior work with me. If you want to hear from an independent source on this subject, I would be happy to put you in touch with any of the models I have worked with.

Men vs. women?

I enjoy working with both.

What legal issues are involved?

Before I can take your picture and pay you, you must sign a *release form* that cedes all rights to the photos to me. Among other things, the release gives me the freedom to display the photo when I want and entitles me to 100% of sale profits. Generally speaking, I check with models in advance if there is any question in my mind about the venue in which a particular image is to be displayed. The release form can be altered to include individual concerns.

How would we get started?

Prior to any paid shooting, a potential model and I usually meet in person or over Skype. Please read the release before this meeting and consider any stipulations that you would like to write into the agreement. If the first meeting is successful and the release is signed, the next step would be to take a series of test shots of you wearing different outfits that you own. You would be paid for this session.