on Crits

crits are rare and precious
times to talk about art.

I am an important part
of this crit.

People need to feel safe before
they will speak honestly.

Help to quickly build a
psychologically safe
environment.

It is as important to
listen as it is to speak.

Do not use sarcasm.

No one wants to be
embarrassed in front
of their peers.

Some things are better said
privately than publicly.

I can be kind while
also being critical.

If you ask a question,
do not answer it.
Wait for an answer.
Wait as long as it takes.

Thank people who respond.

Do not ask rhetorical questions;
make statements.
Am I inappropriately dominating this critique?

Crits need not be always judgmental.

To describe what you see and interpret what it means is to be critical.

What is the purpose of this crit: to demoralize and discourage or to motivate and encourage?

Everyone’s work need not be discussed during every critique.

Decide whether the critique will be primarily descriptive, interpretive, evaluative, theoretical, or a combination of these.

Determine the role that artistic intent will play during the critique.

Determine the role the artist should play in the critique.

A successful crit leaves everyone inspired to make more art.