

Hi Everyone,

I will be leading the **Lighting Focus Group**. Since I primarily use flash in my projects, this group will focus on flash photography rather than LED continuous lighting, although we may sometimes work with both.

My goal is to equip participants with the foundational knowledge needed to confidently organise their own studio shoots. We'll have practical sessions to experiment with various lighting setups, as well as Zoom sessions for photo reviews and theoretical discussions. These practical sessions won't be pre-set workshops where you just press a button and get nice shots. Instead, we'll problem-solve together as a group, focusing on learning the principles of flash photography.

To help me plan effectively, I need to know how many people are interested and what level of experience everyone has. I'll be starting from the basics, so everyone is welcome to join, regardless of experience. Those with more experience might prefer to join at a later stage.

We will cover the following topics (and more):

- Purpose of flash photography
- Understanding flash duration and flash power
- On/Off camera flash
- Colour accuracy and temperature
- Different types of flash - from speedlights to studio strobes
- Using flash as fill light in sunny conditions
- Light modifiers - what to use, when
- Inverse square law
- The exposure triangle and flash photography
- Balancing flash and ambient light - Neutralising ambient light
- TTL vs Manual
- Freezing motion with flash
- Creative flash effects
- Front curtain vs Rear curtain sync
- Working with smoke and coloured gels
- 1, 2, 3 light setups - Portrait, Fashion, Dance

If you're interested in joining, please email me at thomste@yahoo.com with the following information:

- Are you comfortable using your camera in manual mode?
- What camera system are you using (Canon, Sony, Nikon, etc.)?
- Are you comfortable reading the exposure histogram?
- Do you have experience shooting with flash?
- What lighting equipment do you already have?
- What specific areas of flash photography are you most interested in learning about?

As I am still working full-time, I can't commit to a regular schedule in advance. However, I am hoping to organize 1-2 monthly sessions, some of which might need to be on Saturday mornings.

Looking forward to exploring the exciting world of flash photography with you all

Stephane