

Lighting Work

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Intro

For all of my lighting portraits throughout each of these briefs, I want to maintain a level of emotion throughout, I seek to simply shed a light on how light can either add layers or make your overall meaning clearer. I am going to utilise the different technical elements of lighting I have been taught throughout this module also to demonstrate my clear understanding of lighting and how it can enhance an image.

Artist Research

Brain Griffin

Brain Griffin is a photographer who was born in 1948 in Birmingham, for his studies of photography he studied at Manchester polytechnic school of photography from 1966-72. He was a freelance photographer for much of his early career until he established the Brain Griffin studio and from there, he went on to shoot TV commercials, films, and documentaries. One of his most notable achievements is he went on to be inducted into the album cover hall of fame in 2016.

The thing about Griffin's work that stuck out to me is the emotion displayed in his portraits, there always seems to be some form of action in his images which I want to explore in my own lighting shoots

Source: <https://www.briangriffin.co.uk/>

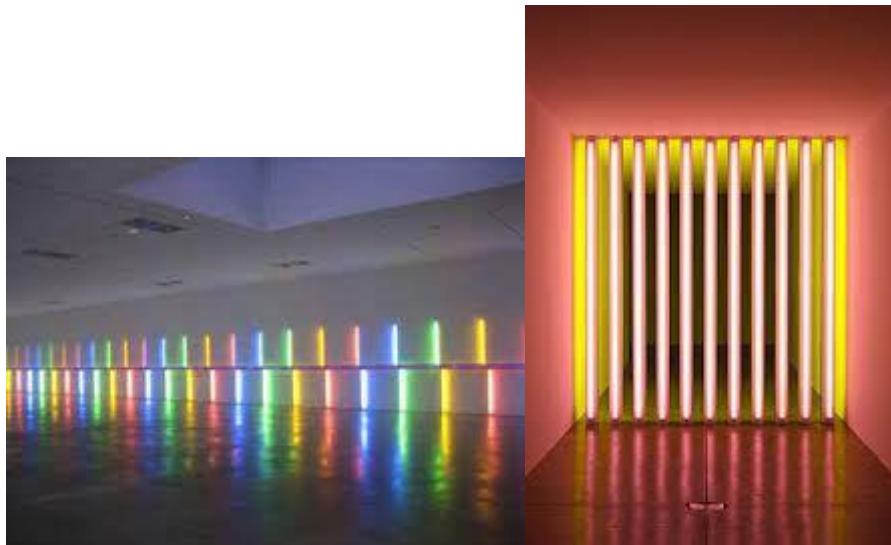


The composition of his images also intrigues as his use of black and white is no accident; it adds an extra depth to his images, that evokes the reader to think of the context and past of the individuals in the image. I want to evoke my viewers to delve into my images the same way that Griffin does with his photographs and work in magazines.

Dave Flavin

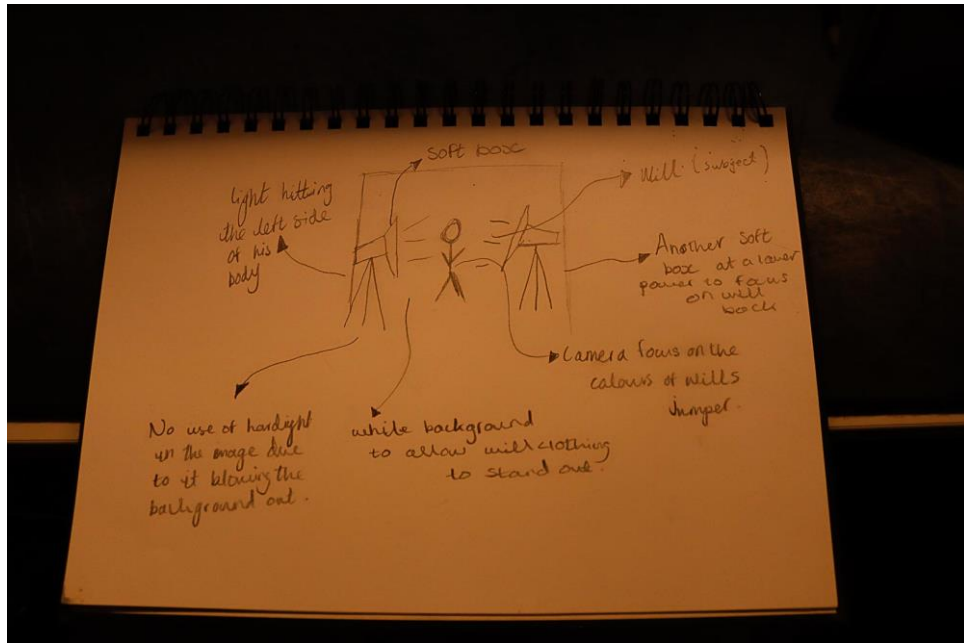
David Flavin is an American Artist who worked mostly with fluorescent light. In 1961 after his studies at Columbia university he began to combine Electrical lights with plain light squares but after a while he gave up and began to start his work with fluorescent tubes in 1963 since then he has made many fluorescent installations in a number of spaces one of his most an example would be the national Gallery of Canada in 1969.

Source: <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/dan-flavin-1101>



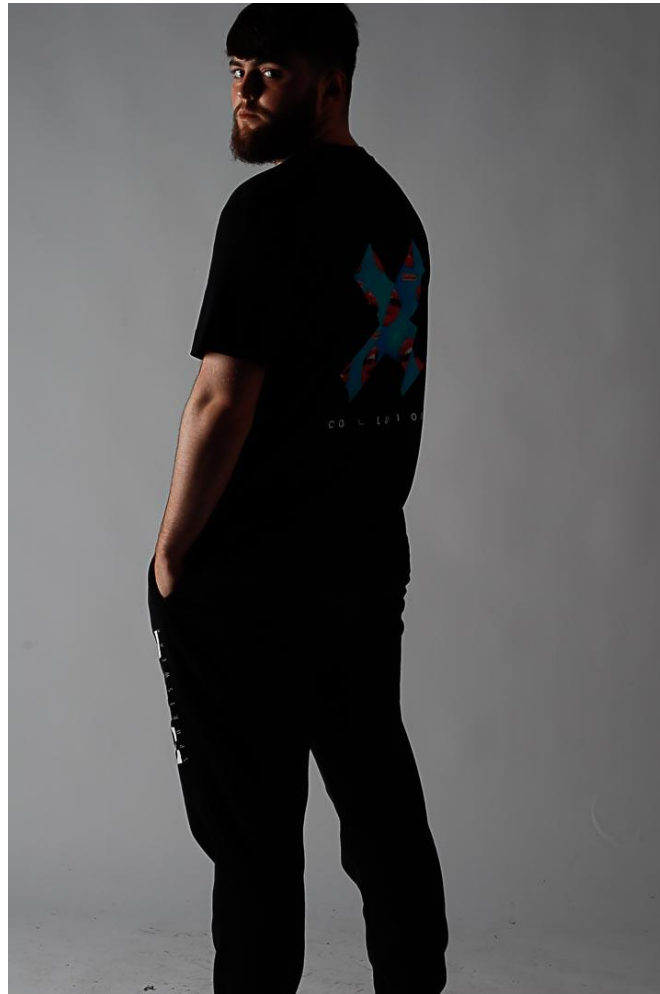
David Flavin's work has elements of simplicity that I want to insert into my own work regarding lighting, his art almost speaks for itself without having anything in it except for the light, in turn the art effectively speaks for itself, which I admire as an artist myself a lot. His lighting work also bends reality through the way he uses the fluorescent lighting tubes and the structure around it, the way he composites the shots create quite an abstract image.

A Lit portrait made in the studio of one or more people



In these initial images I wanted to explore hard light and soft light to see which would portray the best effect and outcome. The initial hard light images I did not come to appreciate as there was no darkness to the image and there was no deeper element to look at. So, to combat this I had will turn around and used a single soft box light from the right (wills left)

Final Outcome

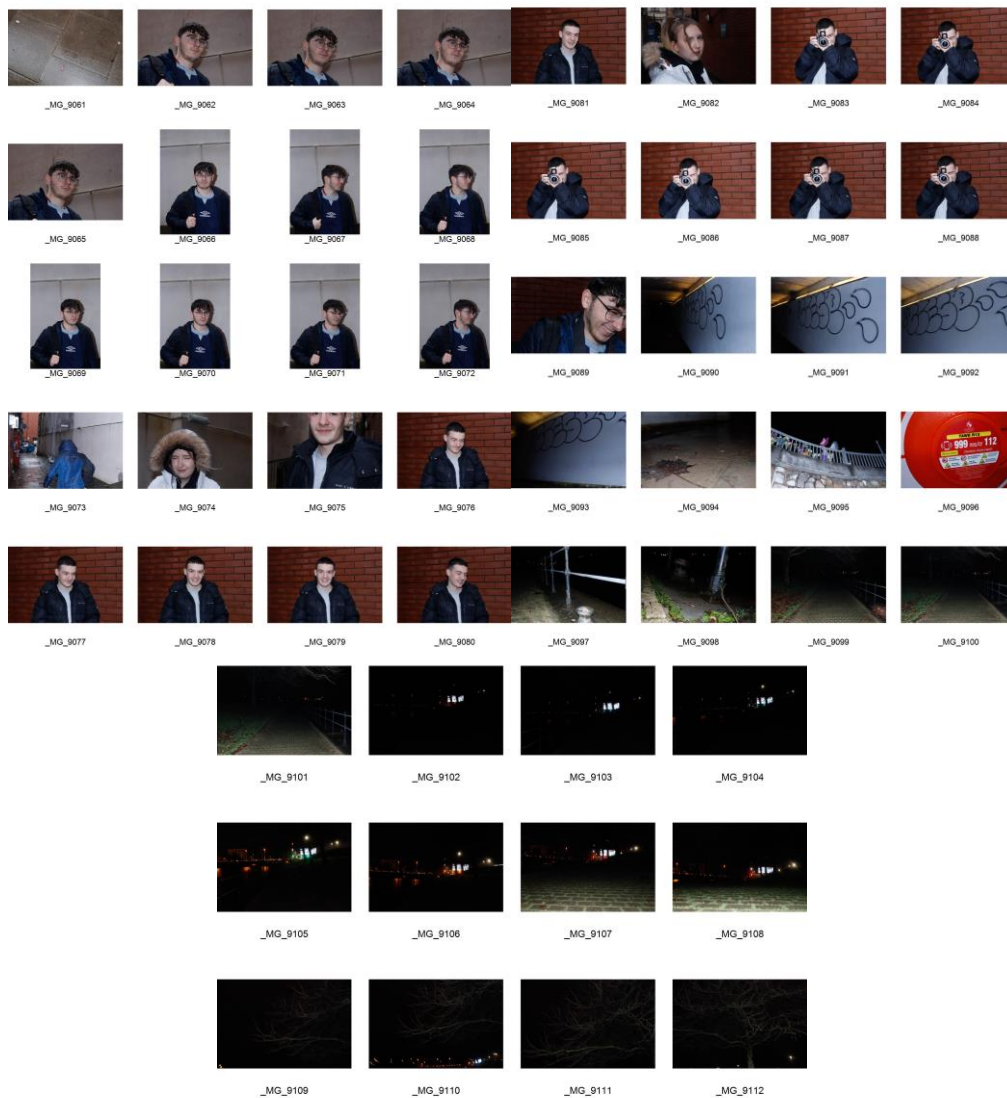


F/18 ISO 100 Exposure Time 1/125 sec

For my lighting work I took inspiration from both Griffin and Flavin in elements of their photography, although I was heavily influenced by the colours of Flavins photography using fluorescent tubes. The colour on the back of wills jumper was a focus for me during the shoot in the studio, I used a soft box for this photo direct from the left directed at his face to really draw attention to the portrait itself when capturing the Image.

A location image lit with artificial light (flash or continuous), in either combination with ambient light or cancelling the ambient light out.

For this shoot, I was not sure where I wanted to take my images so to I wanted to experiment with ambient light and then exclusively the flash from my camera and my overall outcome resulted in me using a combination of both to provide an ample background for my image so the location was clear. I used flash instead of a lighting kit as for me it capture the image as it is, in the moment it isn't staged it is photography that is true to reality that has not been altered.



Final Outcome



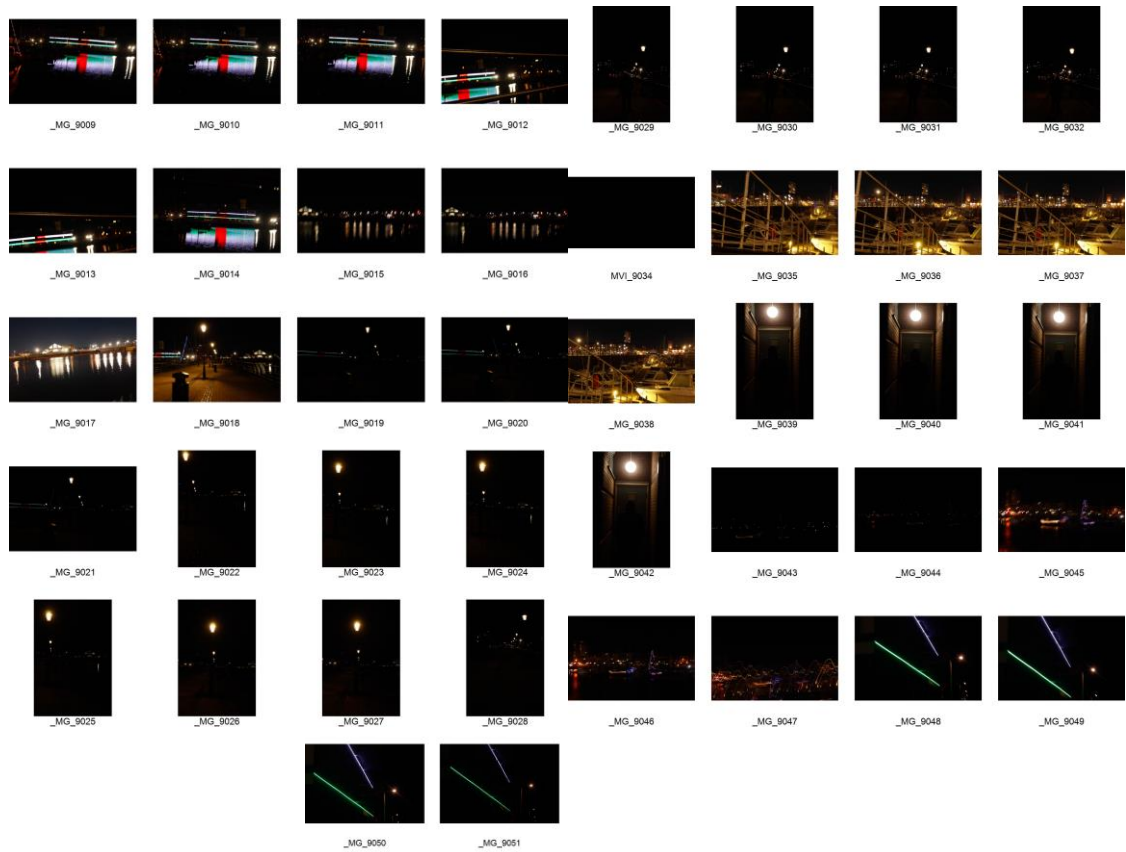
F/6.3 ISO 1600 Exposure time 1/200 sec

For my final outcome I chose this image of Rhys due to the shadows behind him it almost adds an extra layer to the image without me having to influence the image at all. I concluded this brief with this image as I think that although I have used flash from this is still various levels of light within the image that create an effective composition throughout.

A Location portrait using available light only, creatively

For the final brief I wanted to continue my idea of the light capturing this a moment however, this time I had to do a location portrait using light creatively so in terms of location I chose Swansea Marina due to the variation in lighting located down there, I thought it would provide me a chance to be creative.

For the inspiration of my final image, I decided to photograph the numerous lighting around the marina to depict which would provide the best light for my location portrait, in the end I concluded with a doorway that I found with a single light. I chose this



Final Outcome



F/5.6 ISO 400 Exposure Time 1/15 Sec

or the inspiration of my final image, I decided to photograph the numerous lightings around the marina to depict which would provide the best light for my location portrait, in the end I concluded with a doorway that I found with a single light. I chose this due to eeriness to the image and doorway, it evokes questions from the viewer, who is the figure? What is behind the door? Etc and that as photographer is an idea especially within this lighting task. I also chose it due the composition of the image due to the colour of the bricks as they reflect the light it created an image that I personally believe does not feel a part of this period.

Concluison

To conclude this project, I found this project valuable to my technical understanding of lighting and how it adds meaning to imagery that could otherwise be missed. For my personal work I believe maintained my main theme throughout and that was to capture the emotion of my subjects through my shoots whether that be through the tone of the image or how the person is portrayed in the image itself. From this brief I have also

learned the value of lighting itself and how it can impact an image and the works of artists like Flavin have inspired to look at lighting as a subject in my future work.