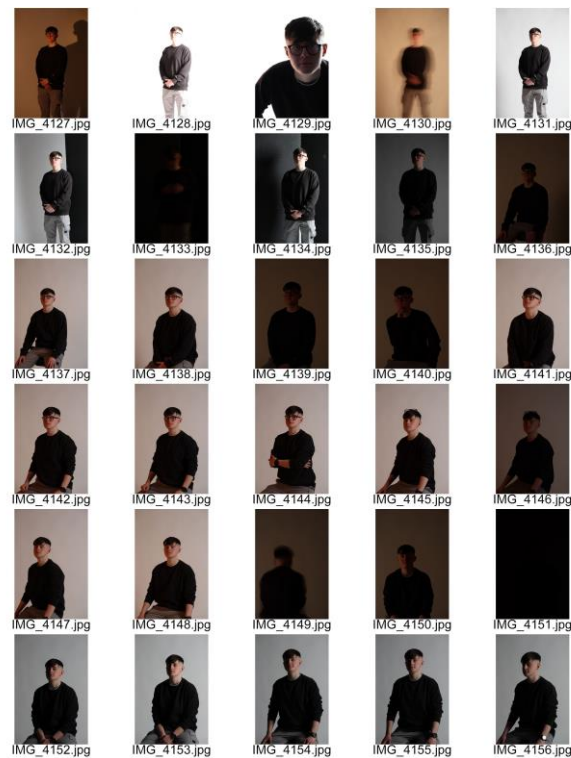


Lighting

Studio Lighting

Shoot 1

Studio Lighting was a new concept for me and is something I had very little previous experience in. My main focus at first was figuring out what effects different lighting equipment had on the images. In the studio, I played around with various configurations and decided to experiment with split lighting, which splits the face into two equal halves, one being in the light, the other in the shadow.





These are the images I captured during my first studio shoot. I think the split lighting effect worked quite well and is a new technique that I can now incorporate into future projects when necessary. These are a few of my favourite images from the shoot, where I think this lighting effect worked best.





After gaining some experience and knowledge of studio lighting it was time to experiment with more sophisticated techniques. One such technique I decided to capture was light art, as this was something I had some previous experience in and it can be carried out to a good standard when under the correct lighting conditions.

Eric Staller

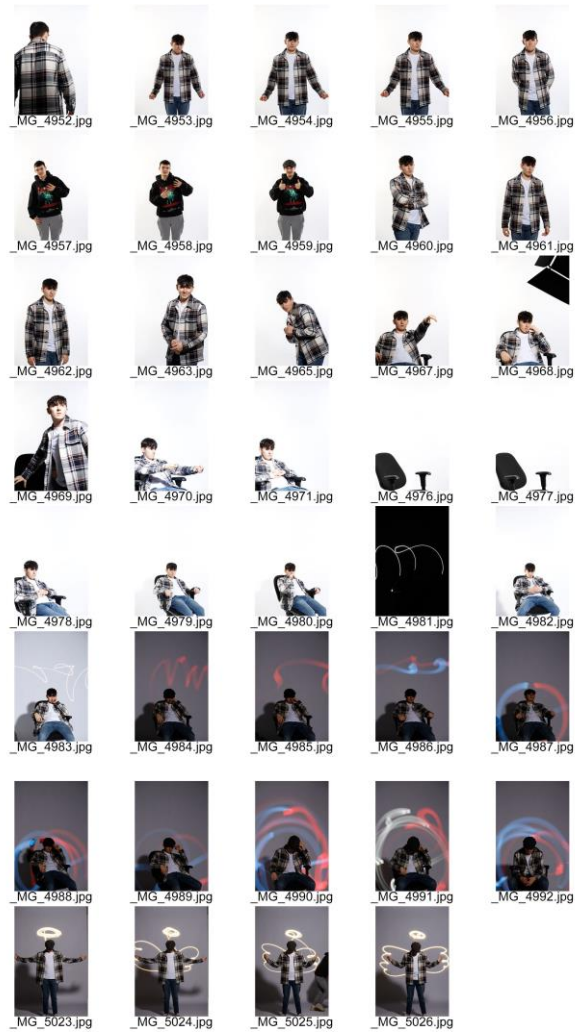
Eric Staller is a fine-art photographer from New York who uses light as a medium to create artworks. He uses a method in which you use a long exposure in order to effectively draw using the trails of light from any given source. His work features vibrant light trails that cut through the environment he is photographing. He draws obscure shapes and figures using these light trails and this creates a unique and interesting effect.



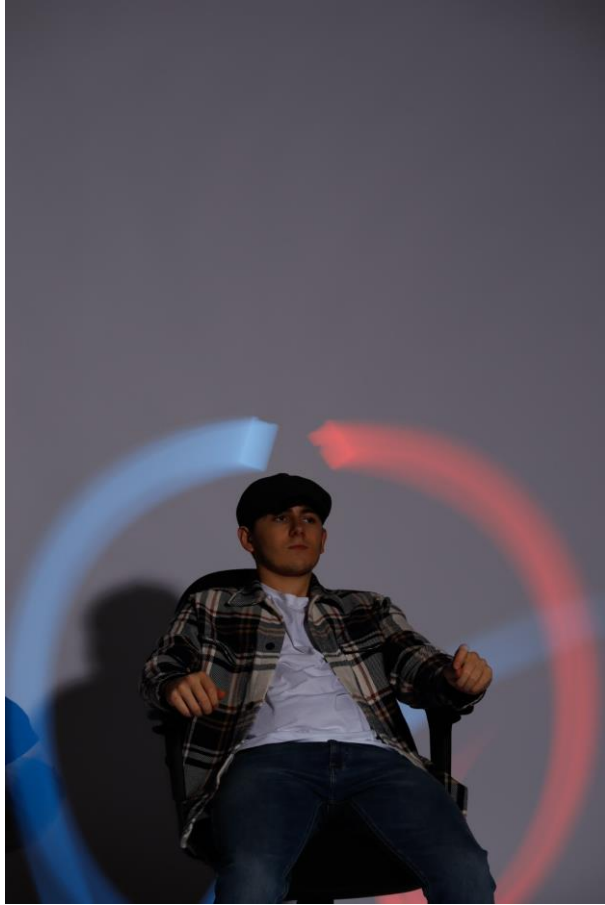
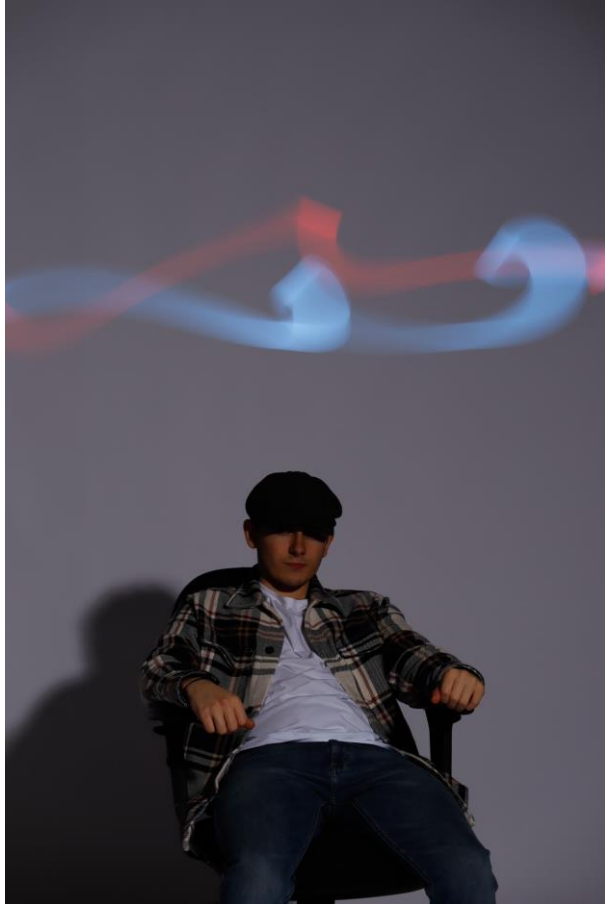
I particularly like this image because after attempting this method myself, I now recognise the time, effort and skill it takes to produce an image such as this one. This image would have been taken on a very long exposure and would have required a lot of precision.

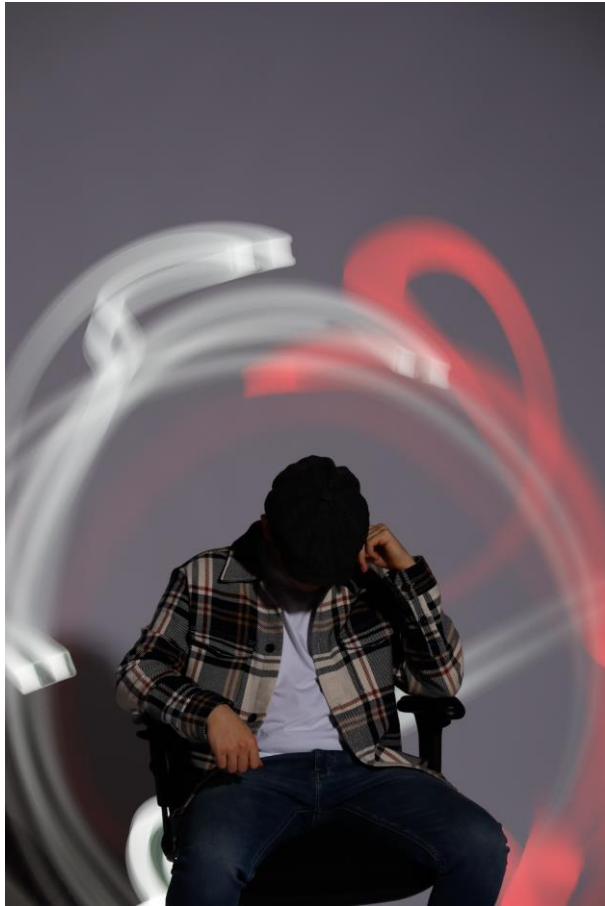
Shoot 2

After playing around with different lighting setups, I employed the use of two mobile phones as light sources to draw the trails of light in the images. I used a long exposure at around 10 seconds in order to give myself plenty of time to draw. In addition to wanting to capture the light trails, I still wanted the subject to be in focus. Normally, at a long exposure any slight movement would be picked up by the camera and result in a blurry subject, however due to the shoot taking place in the studio I had the option to use the lighting equipment on flash. This meant that at any given time during the exposure I could manually trigger the flash in order to capture a still image while maintaining the light trail effect that I was after.



Here are the resulting images from using this method. I think the light art worked well and the use of flash within these images definitely made them look more clear and polished. Here are a few of my favourite images from this shoot where I think the light art had a nice effect.

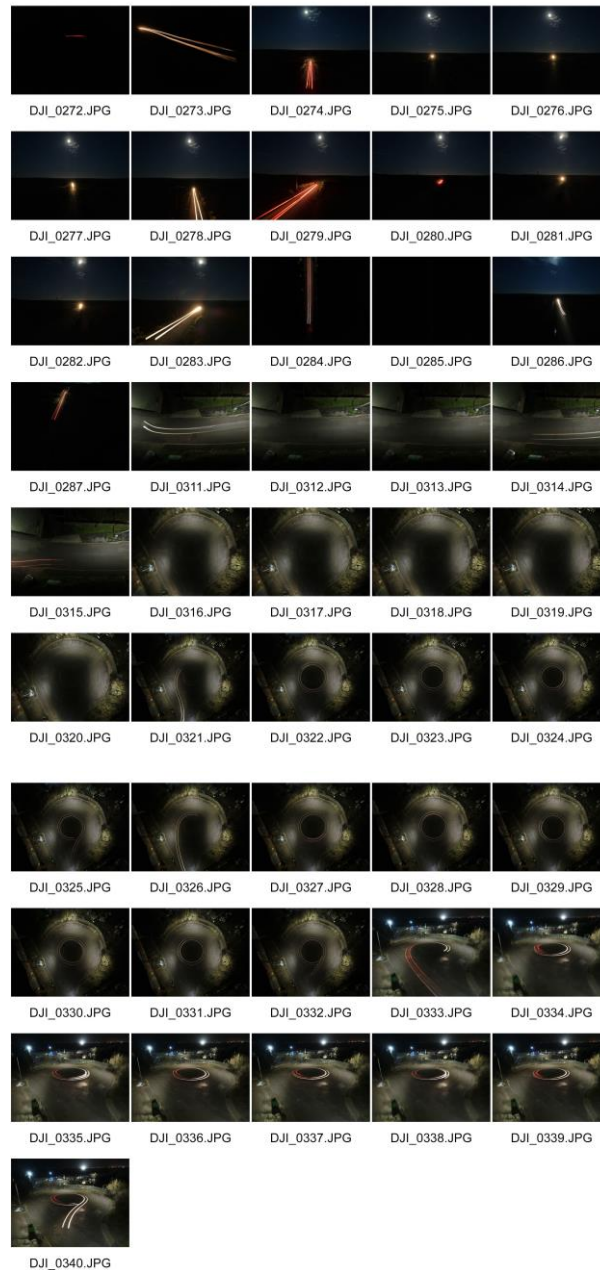




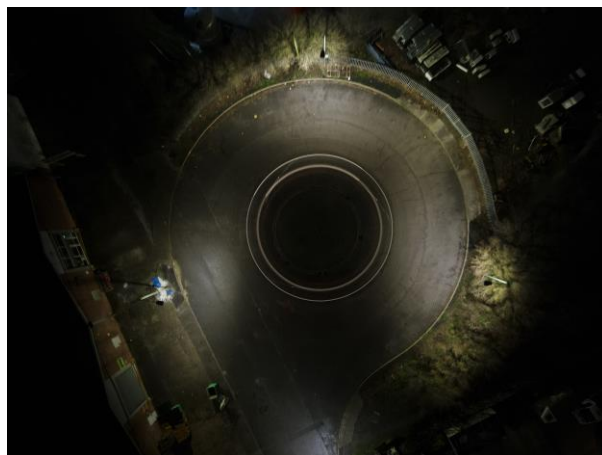
External Lighting

Shoot 1

I decided that for my first external lighting shoot I was going to use my drone to capture long exposure images of a road from above, in hopes that the light trails from the traffic would create a pleasing aesthetic. The aim of this is to use what I have learned from light art in the studio and to apply it on location.



These are a few of my favourite images from the shoot:



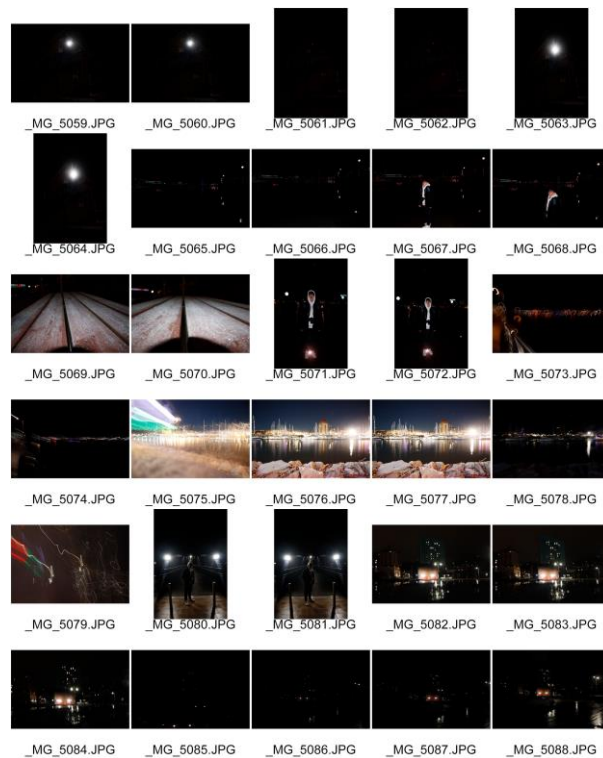


One thing I have learned from this shoot is that when using a long exposure with a drone, wind speed is a very important factor to consider as any movement will be captured in the image. While the light art itself turned out great, the rest of the image was blurry and this is something that can either be rectified by sacrificing a few seconds of exposure or by choosing a day with significantly low winds in order to prevent any movement of the camera.

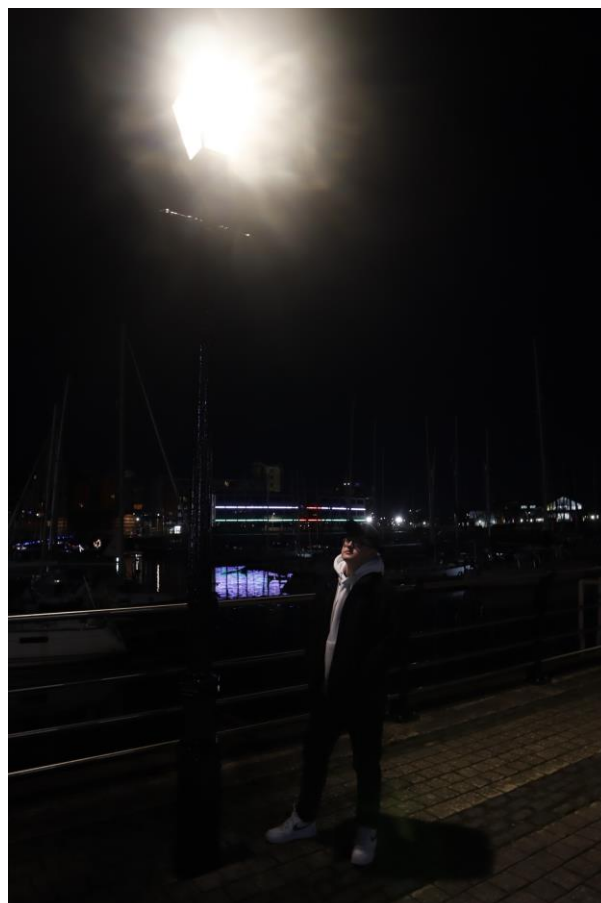
Shoot 2

For my second external lighting task I drew my attention back to the basics and aimed to use various light sources in order to correctly expose my images. For my first external lighting shoot I wanted to experiment with using the available light from lampposts in order to brighten the subject of my images. Here are the images I captured from my first shoot:





One thing I learned from this shoot was that a tri pod would make the images a lot easier to capture. I didn't want to have too much grain in my images so I shot on ISO 400, but this meant that I needed to have as wide an aperture as possible as well as a slow shutter speed, which made capturing images without blur a difficult task.



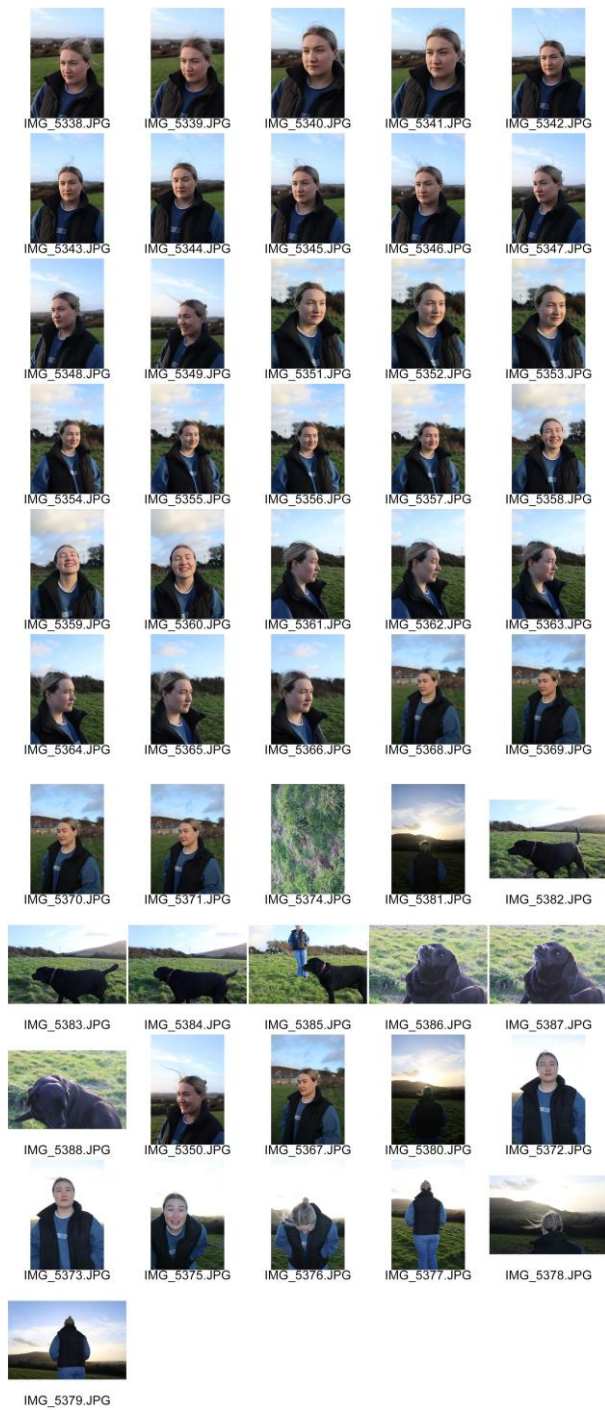


During this shoot I also briefly experimented with using my camera's built in flash to see what effect this had. I found that the images ended up being washed out and flat, which did not help in this case, however this may be useful for my natural lighting shoot as I could look more into a method called 'fill in flash'.



Natural Lighting

For this task, I wanted to capture a range of images using the sun as the primary light source. The idea was that if I took images of the same subject at different angles in relation to the sun I may be able to see the difference in lighting and how this effects the look of the face and image as a whole.



Here are a few of my favourite images from the shoot that I believe demonstrate the effects of positioning in relation to the sun and how it can effect the lighting:





'Fill in flash' is a method often used in portraiture to brighten deep shadowed areas. It can prove useful in a number of conditions but in this case was used on a sunny day, to demonstrate that even with an extremely bright background, the subject can still be brightened. During the shoot I experimented with this method by capturing an image of the subject standing in front of the sun, with my camera's built in flash on. The flash brightened the subject's shadowy portions and created an even exposure. This resulted in a washed out effect and made the colours of the image a sort of plastic texture and I liked the effect this had.

[Martin Parr](#)

One example of a photographer who uses 'fill in flash' in his images is Martin Parr. He is a British documentary photographer most well known for his 'Brighton' series, in which he utilises this technique well. He uses this method in order to balance out any ambient light with a burst of flash. This brings the subjects of his images to life and makes them stand out from the background of the image.



Fill in Flash

Here are some examples from my natural lighting shoot where I experimented with using 'fill in flash':





This method proved effective in bringing out the colours of each image and creating more vibrancy. While the image may look more flat, I like the effect this has as it highlights the subject and creates a clear focal point within the image.