



# Matthew Stanton

*Photographic Portraiture 1*—  
An introduction to studio lighting techniques.

## **Date & Time :**

Saturday 3rd December &  
Sunday 4th December, 2011  
10am to 4:30pm

## **Location:**

Barkly Street Studio /  
14 Barkly Street East, Brunswick  
Victoria, 3057

—The workshop will look at a range of approaches to lighting and contemporary photographic portraiture. Through the use of studio strobes and digital image capture, you will receive comprehensive demonstrations and discussions of essential portrait lighting techniques as well as invaluable opportunities for practical application with professional equipment. The price of the workshop includes catering for both days and the provision of a photographic model.

## Topics Covered.

### — Introduction

- A brief history of photographic portraiture
- A brief survey of contemporary photographic portraiture
- The evolution of lighting technology
- Contemporary and historical approaches to portrait lighting

### — Safety in the studio

- Avoiding trip hazards
- Stabilising booms and stands with shot bags
- Avoiding fire and electrical hazards

### — Studio flash equipment

- How electronic flash works
- Using Monoblocs or Floor Packs
- Adjusting power levels
- Controlling the modelling light
- Triggering the flash
- Flash duration
- Sync cables and wireless transmitters
- Using portable speedlights in the studio

### — Camera technique

- Handheld or tripod based shooting
- Minimising lens flare with hoods and flags
- Manual or Auto Focus
- Choosing an appropriate focal length
- Film or digital?

### — Metering for electronic flash

- Operating a flash meter
- Flash synchronisation speeds
- Ambient metering for flash—hemisphere or flat disc
- Spot and reflected metering of flash exposure
- Eliminating ambient light from measurements
- Assessing general exposure using the RGB histogram
- Assessing skin tone exposure using the red histogram channel

### — Evaluating colour temperature

- The Kelvin scale and studio flash
- White balancing methods—raw conversion using a colour reference chart
- Using colour temperature meters in TIFF or JPEG mode
- Predicting and adjusting for colour temperature shifts caused by flash power adjustment

### — Studio workflow

- Untethered shooting straight to Compact Flash card
- Tethered capture using Capture One pro
- A brief discussion of raw processing

### — Using a single, hard light source

- Controlling contrast and light falloff using the inverse square law
- Using barn doors to control spill
- Feathering light with a bare reflector
- Using flags to soften edges and sculpt light

### — Establishing a lighting pattern

- Paramount, Loop, Rembrandt, Split, Edge and Back-Lighting
- Adapting lighting patterns for frontal, three-quarter and full profile portraits
- Short & broad lighting

### — Modifying and softening the key light

- Using diffusion materials
- Bounce lighting
- Umbrellas: white, silver and translucent brollys
- Soft boxes
- Altering the size of the light source in relation to the size of the subject
- Controlling contrast through the size and distance of the light source
- Feathering a diffused light source

### — Controlling contrast with reflectors

- Positioning and feathering a reflector for a natural fill light effect
- Choosing a reflector surface: white, silver or coloured reflectors
- Establishing a basic lighting ratio with a single reflector
- Using multiple reflectors to accentuate form
- Adjusting the degree of reflected fill for soft and hard light sources
- Creating catch lights with reflectors

