PORTRAIT TECHNIQUE #1

TRADITIONAL LIGHTING

Rembrandt, Split, Butterfly, Loop, Backlighting, Silhouette

Rembrandt Lighting







Rembrandt lighting - The light is positioned at forty-five degree angle about a foot above the subject and is aimed down at the subject. One side of the face is lit and the other has a small triangle of light on the cheek.

Split Lighting







Split lighting splits the face exactly into equal halves with one side being in the light, and the other in shadow. It is often used to create dramatic images for musicians or artists. Experiment with lighting left or right and how close or far away you position the light.

Butterfly and Loop





Butterfly - the subject is lit from the front and above. This creates a nose shadow directly underneath the nose





Loop - the subject is lit from 45 degrees in front of them and above. This creates a nose shadow that 'loops' down at an angle onto their cheek. The light is not flat, but the face is still mostly illuminated.

In these techniques the subject sometimes holds a reflector to reflect light back into their eyes

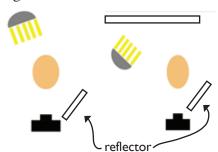
Silhouette and Back Lighting











Backlighting means the background is lighter than the subject. The light should either shine on the subject from behind or shine on the background and be reflected on the subject. A 2nd reflector in front of the subject will add detail to your subject. Using this techniques without a 2nd reflector will result in a silhouette.

Broad and Short

In the traditional lighting set-ups the subject is facing the camera but broad and short refer to the use of traditional lighting with the subject facing away from the camera



Broad is when the subject is turned away from the camera with the more well lit side of the face towards the camera



Short is when the subject is turned away from the camera with the less well lit side of the face towards the camera