



Polina Plotnikova ARPS

Follow-up notes

I enjoyed my visit to your club and I hope that some members were inspired to try something different after seeing my images.

Here are a few things I mentioned during my talk that may be of interest to club members.

Studio Lights

First of all the studio light I use is manufactured by Bowens. They do not do the exact model of flashes I am using anymore. This range was very successful and they kept improving it. The closest to what I have is something between Gemini Classic 500 and Gemini 500 Pro:

www.bowensdirect.com/index.php/flash-lighting.html

Software

The software I use for remote shooting and for focus stacking called Helicon (Mac & PC) and it's available in a few packages - I have Helicon Remote which I use for controlling the camera and Helicon Focus which I use for focus stacking.

Here is official web site with lots of demo footage and easy to get a working 1 month trial version of the software:

www.heliconsoft.com

Lensbaby

I also mentioned Lensbaby lens that I use to create Impressionist like images. It is type of tilt and shift lens, I have Lensbaby Composer Pro with three different optics Sweet 35, Sweet 50 and Edge 80. The official website has got lots of demos and other information about this system:

www.lensbaby.com/lenses

Paper

The paper I use to print my images is Pinnacle brand, I usually buy it from PaperSpectrum:

www.paperspectrum.co.uk

I like using two types - Cotton Rag for matt prints and Luster for a slightly glossy, pearl effect.

Backgrounds

Most of my backgrounds (fabric ones, not digital) come from either B&H :

www.bhphotovideo.com

or from WEX:

www.wexphotographic.com

I prefer Lastolite brand - reversible collapsible backgrounds.

Any local art shop is usually a good source of backgrounds; I usually buy art paper popular for arts and crafts. You can photograph it separately and use it as an added layer in Photoshop achieving various effects by changing the opacity and blending mode.

Print Mounts

I use pre-cut mounts from Cotswoldmounts - very reliable service with reasonable prices:

www.cotswoldmounts.co.uk

I hope those who were inspired by my approach to still-life and flower photography will find this information useful.

I regularly update my official website: www.polinaplotnikova.com

I also have an account on Flickr where I upload pretty much anything I shoot:

www.flickr.com/photos/76569077@N03/sets

Please do not hesitate drop me an e-mail (fine.art.photography.polina@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Polina Plotnikova, ARPS