

Experimental Image Making

Exploring Eye-Catching Photography with Nigel Goldsmith

This workshop introduces the importance of lighting, composition, viewpoint and camera controls in capturing creative and eye-catching images.

After an introduction we will look at the importance of light and shade in photography and how we might light objects creatively. There will be a short talk and demonstration on camera supports and movement (subject and camera) and how this can be controlled with the shutter before moving on to focal length of lenses and close up photography. The group will then explore portrait photography where we will learn the importance of the aperture and how it contributes to 'depth of field'. We will explore how focus can be used creatively to emphasise some details while placing less important elements out of focus. Before lunch we will experiment with long exposure photography with flash, studio and improvised lighting in the classroom. After lunch, the group will learn about the value of textures and lines in photography. The group will then go on a local photowalk to record urban landscapes, architectural and documentary images. After reviewing the pictures taken by the group we will look at camera features such as white balance and the Raw format.

This is an introductory level workshop is aimed at the novice photographer that might be using the automatic features of their camera but would like to understand how to take control of their camera and use it creatively.

The 'exposure triangle' is key to understanding the camera's exposure settings. Some people find the Camera Sim website/app a useful way of simulating the relationship between aperture, shutter and ISO before attending a class. <https://camerasim.com/camerasim-free-web-app/>

Nigel Goldsmith is a commercial editorial photographer, filmmaker and lecturer. Nigel is currently taking an MA in Fine Art. One of his films has just been shortlisted for the 2019 John Ruskin Prize.

What to Bring: A digital SLR or mirrorless camera with room on their memory card, charger and or spare battery just in case. A tripod if you have one but please don't buy one for the workshop.

A packed lunch, tea and coffee is available. We will go outside to take photographs so warm and waterproof clothes are advisable.

Time: 10am – 4.30pm

Address: The Royal Photographic Society, RPS House, 337 Paintworks, Arnos Vale, BRISTOL, BS4 3AR