

A top-down view of a person's hands working at a wooden desk. The person is wearing a blue and white striped shirt and a gold watch. Their left hand is on a laptop keyboard, and their right hand is writing in a notebook. A camera with a red and black strap is on the desk to the right. A pen and a mouse are also visible.

STORYTELLING SKILLS

SUMMER SESSIONS

HOW TO TAKE GREAT PHOTOS

(ON YOUR SMARTPHONE OR DSLR)



**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE
PHOTOGRAPH?**

FIRST THINGS FIRST...

**NO-ONE LIKES HAVING
THEIR PHOTO TAKEN!!**



- Be relaxed
- Smile!
- Make eye contact
- Be confident & decisive
- A joke is better than 'smile'
- Don't switch off once you've taken 'the photo'

**MOST OF THE WORK OF A
PHOTOGRAPHER IS DONE
WITHOUT THEIR CAMERA!**





SOME OF THE THINGS WE'LL BE LOOKING AT TODAY

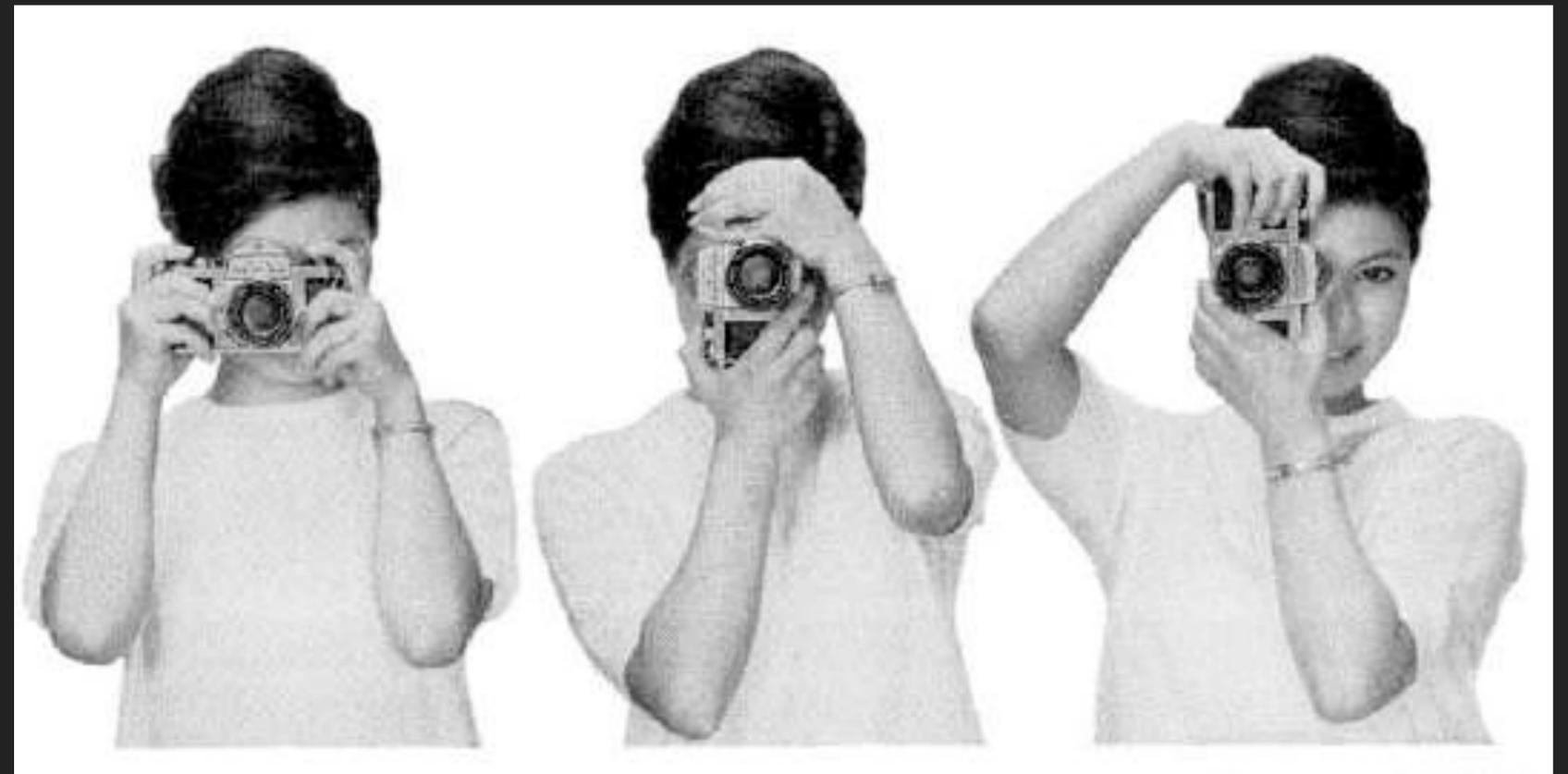
- ▶ **Some basic tips**
- ▶ **Rules of composition**
- ▶ **Preparing to take your photos**
- ▶ **Taking photos in controlled situations**
- ▶ **Taking photos in unplanned situations**
- ▶ **Editing**



HOW TO HOLD YOUR CAMERA OR SMARTPHONE

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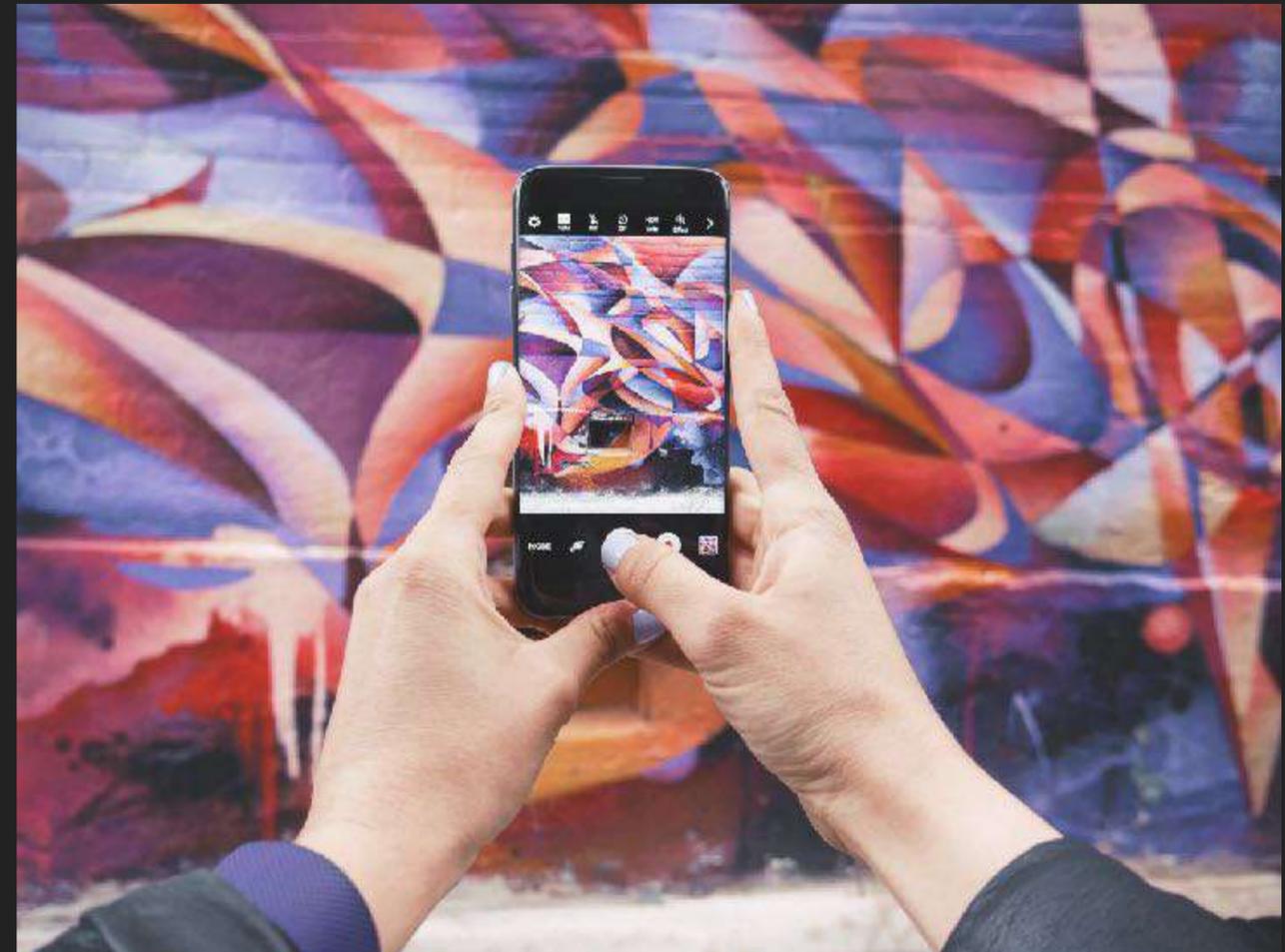
- ▶ It's all about your grip and your centre of gravity
- ▶ Hold your camera as close to your core as possible
- ▶ General tips
 - ▶ Keep your arms close to your body to stabilise the shot
 - ▶ Stand with your feet apart the same width as your shoulders
 - ▶ Find something to lean against and stabilise you if you can



HOLDING YOUR DSLR



HOLDING YOUR SMARTPHONE





TAKING PHOTOS ON YOUR DSLR

Basic Tips

CONTROLLING YOUR IMAGE

▶ THE BIG 3

▶ Aperture (f.stop)

- ▶ How big the hole is that lets in light

▶ Shutter Speed (1/120)

- ▶ How long the film or sensor is exposed to the light

▶ ISO (International Standards Organisation)

- ▶ How sensitive the film or sensor is to that light

Original

	Aperture	Shutter Speed	ISO
-2	f/16	1/40	100
-1	f/11	1/20	200
0	f/8	1/10	400
+1	f/5.6	1/5	800
+2	f/4	1/2.5	1600

Situation 1

	Aperture	Shutter Speed	ISO
-2	f/16	1/40	100
-1	f/11	1/20	200
0	f/8	1/10	400
+1	f/5.6	1/5	800
+2	f/4	1/2.5	1600

Situation 2

	Aperture	Shutter Speed	ISO
-2	f/16	1/40	100
-1	f/11	1/20	200
0	f/8	1/10	400
+1	f/5.6	1/5	800
+2	f/4	1/2.5	1600

Situation 3

	Aperture	Shutter Speed	ISO
-2	f/16	1/40	100
-1	f/11	1/20	200
0	f/8	1/10	400
+1	f/5.6	1/5	800
+2	f/4	1/2.5	1600

CONTROLLING YOUR IMAGE

▶ LENSES

▶ Prime

- ▶ Fixed focal length - generally better glass quality, but no ability to zoom.

▶ Zoom

- ▶ Allows changing of focal length, but variable aperture is a downside.



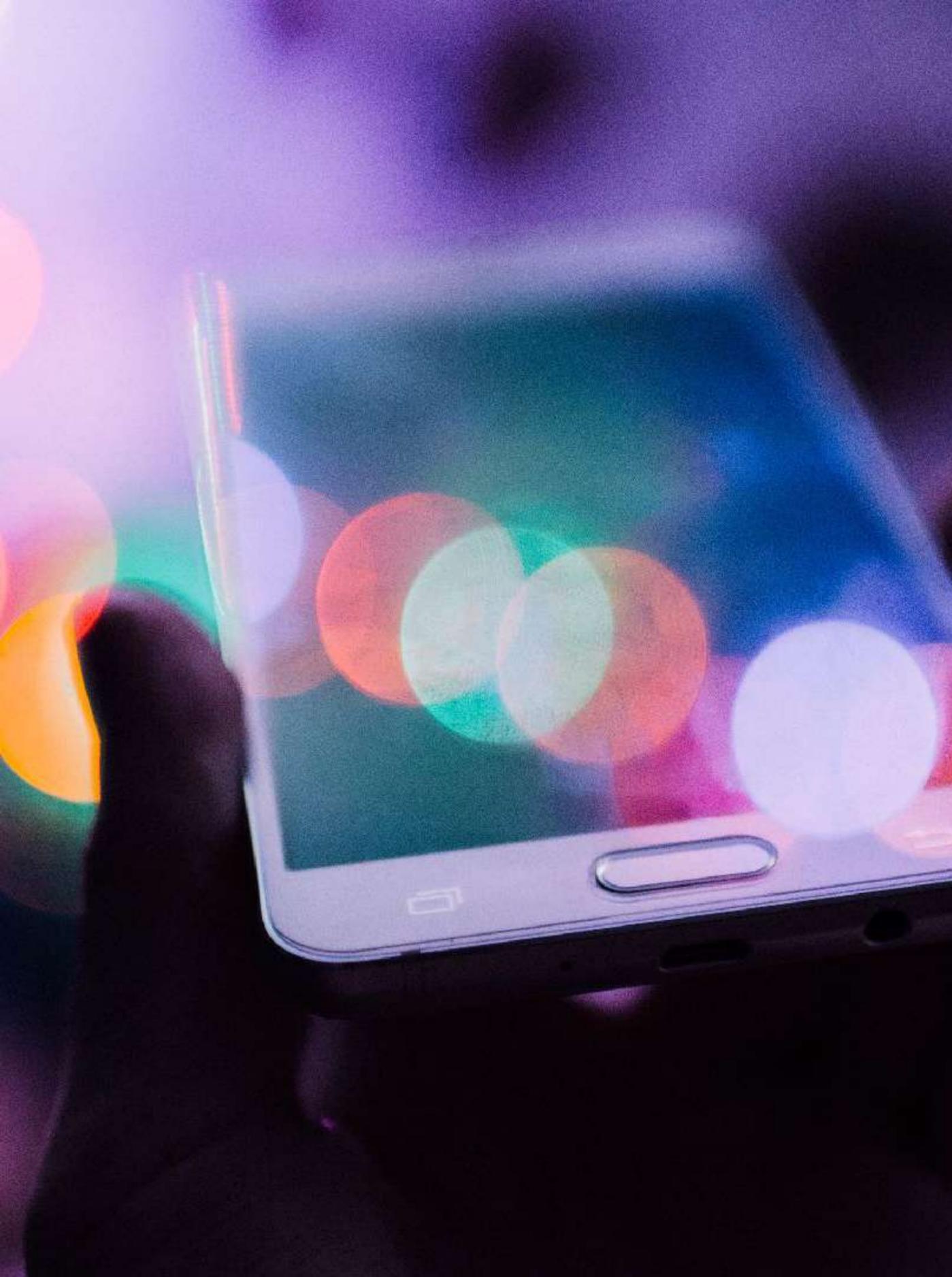
SOME BASIC TIPS

WWW.DIGITAL-PHOTOGRAPHY-SCHOOL.COM/MEGAPOST-LEARNING-HOW-TO-USE-YOUR-FIRST-DSLR

WWW.SLRPHOTOGRAPHYGUIDE.COM/DSLR-PHOTOGRAPHY-TIPS

WWW.PHOTOGRAPHYLIFE.COM/PHOTOGRAPHY-TIPS-FOR-BEGINNERS

Taking Photos on your DSLR

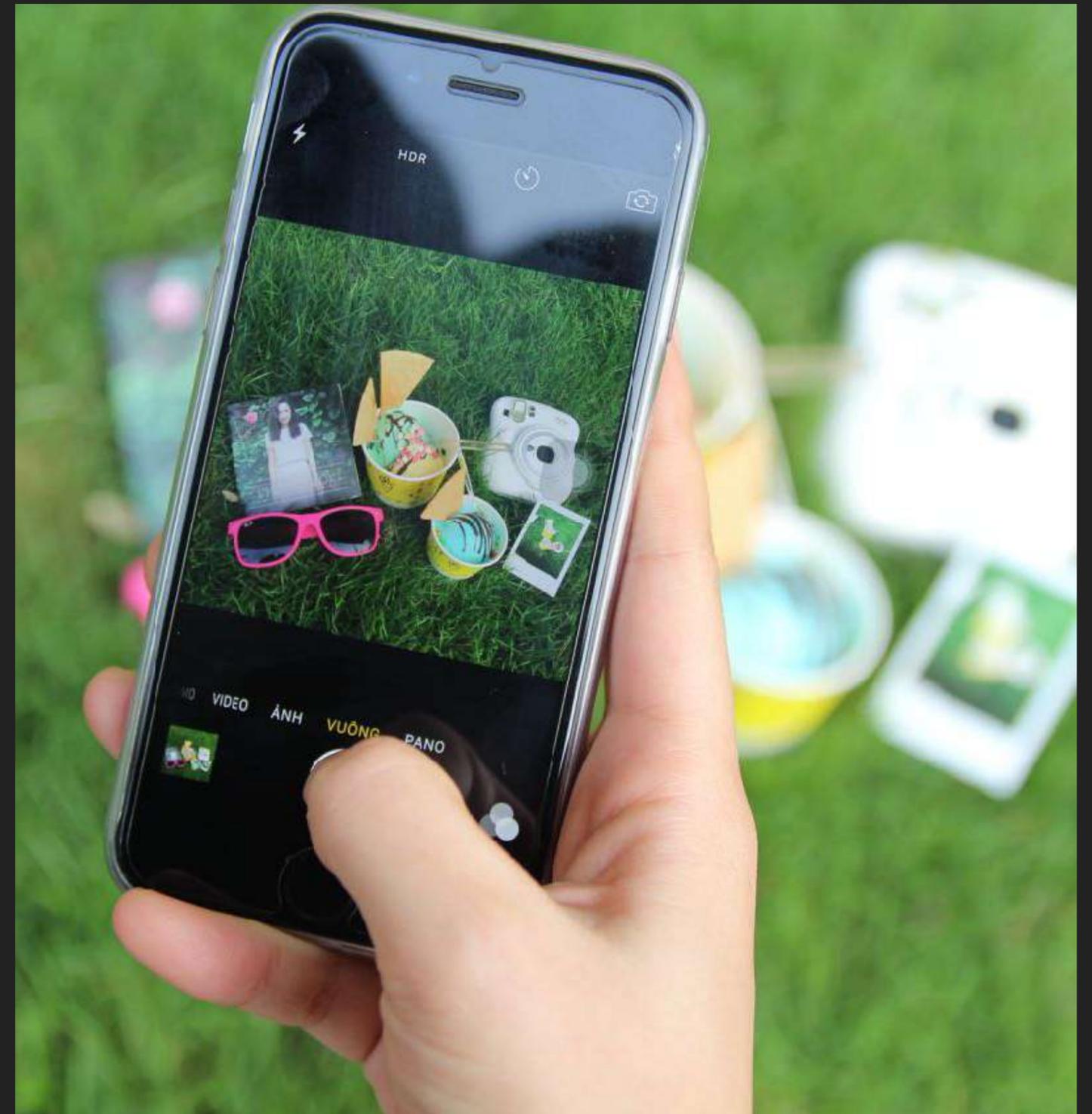


TAKING PHOTOS ON YOUR SMARTPHONE

Basic Tips

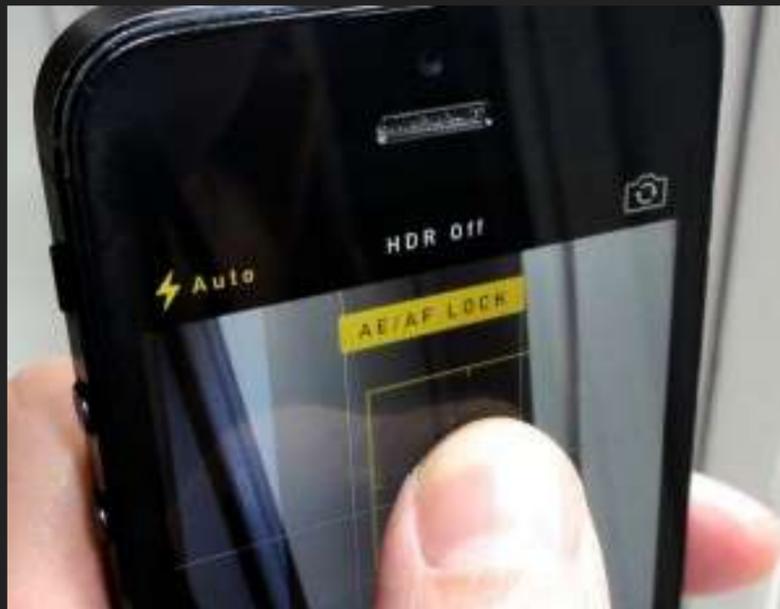
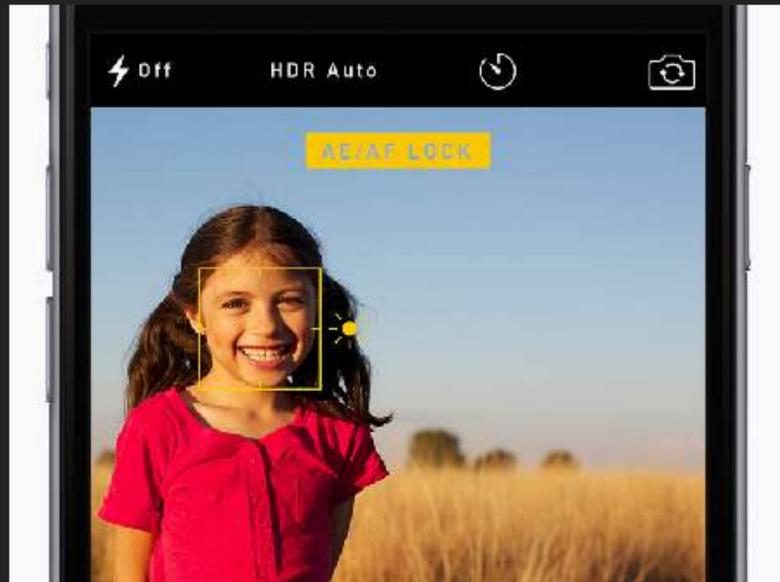
CHOOSING A CAMERA APP

- ▶ **BASIC FEATURES TO LOOK FOR**
 - ▶ Add gridlines to your frame
 - ▶ Enable or disable flash
 - ▶ Set a timer
 - ▶ Adjust exposure level easily
 - ▶ Lock focal point and exposure level
 - ▶ Shoot video!



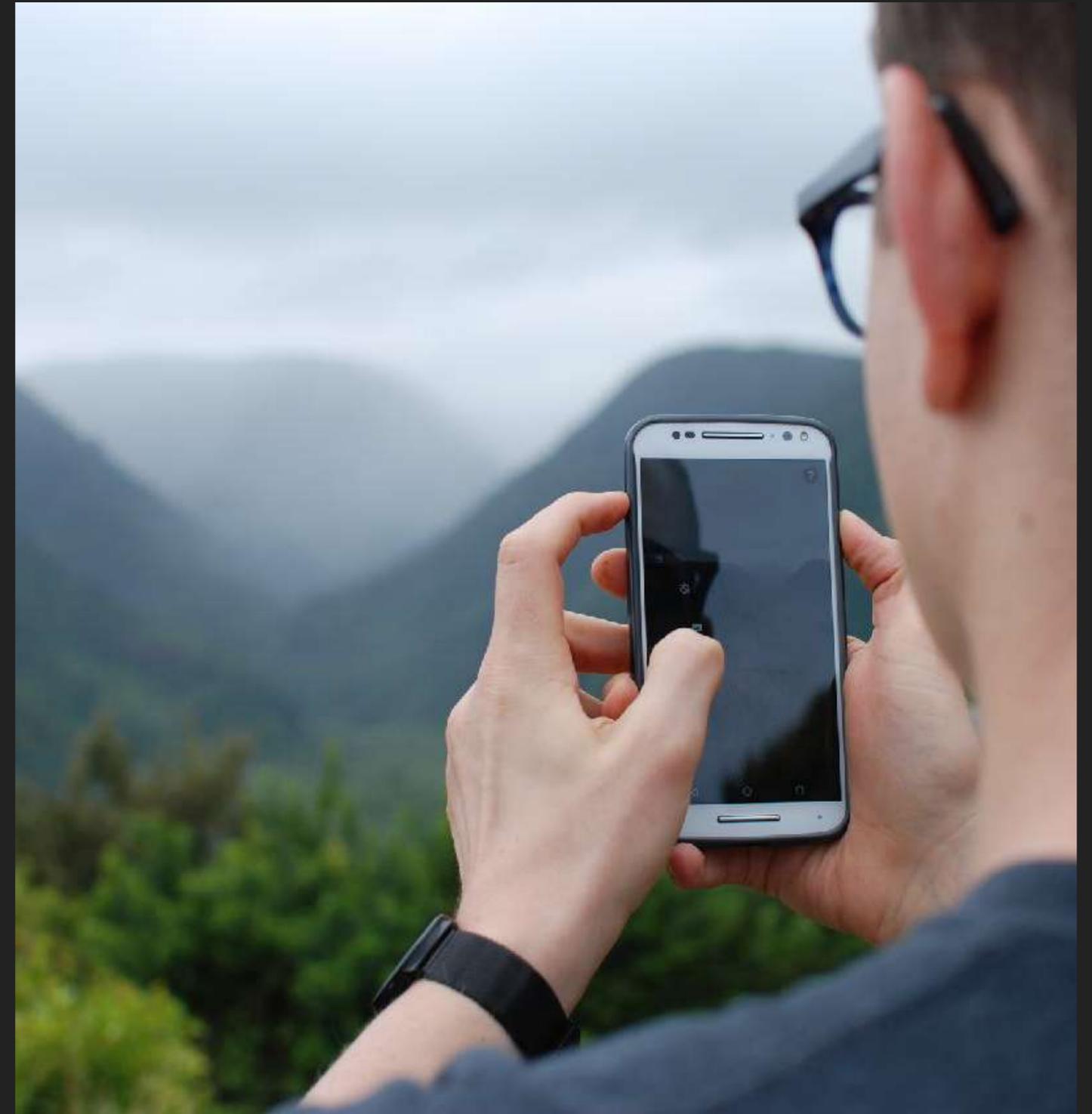
SOME BASIC TIPS

LOCKING FOCAL POINT & EXPOSURE

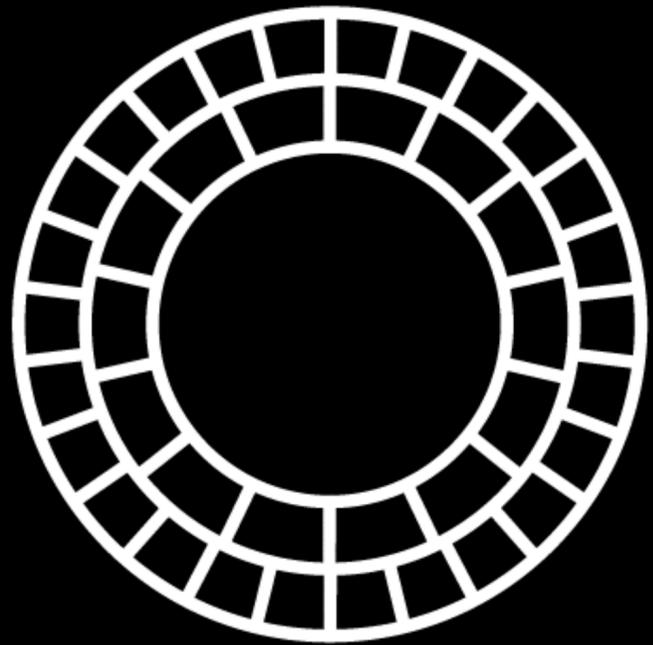


GET TO KNOW YOUR CAMERA APP

- ▶ **How to make your photo look awesome!**
 - ▶ **Test out the modes**
 - ▶ Panorama, Square, Timelapse, etc.
 - ▶ **HDR (High Dynamic Range)**
 - ▶ Creates a single shot from a variety of exposures
 - ▶ **Get your composition right! (More on that later!)**
 - ▶ **Use the physical shutter button**
 - ▶ **Use the 'grid' function on your camera app**
 - ▶ **Using the timer function**



PHOTOGRAPHY APPS



VSCO



Afterlight



Instagram

WWW.PHOTOGRAPHYCONCENTRATE.COM/
INTRODUCTION-TO-SMARTPHONE-PHOTOGRAPHY

Taking Photos on your Smartphone



SOME GENERAL TIPS!

Get in close

Charge your batteries!!

Practice, practice, practice!

It's all about the light

SOME EXAMPLES OF CREATIVE USE OF LIGHT



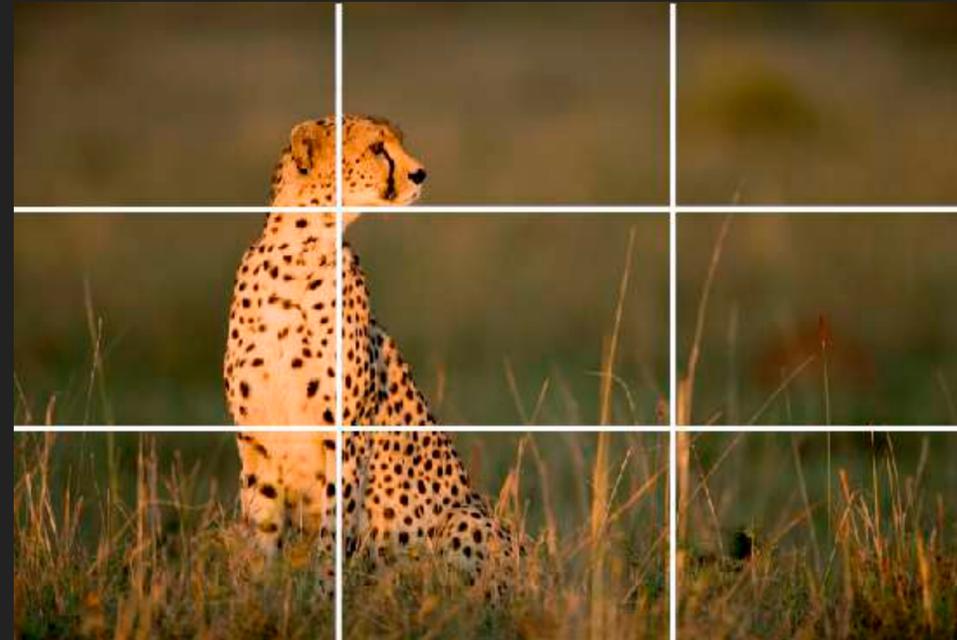
HOW TO TAKE GREAT PHOTOS

COMPOSITION IS KING!



THE RULE OF THIRDS

- ▶ *Place your point of interest where the lines intersect*
- ▶ **Questions to ask yourself are:**
 - ▶ What are the points of interest in this shot?
 - ▶ Where am I intentionally placing them?



FRAMING

- ▶ *Drawing attention to your point of interest by blocking other parts of the scene!*



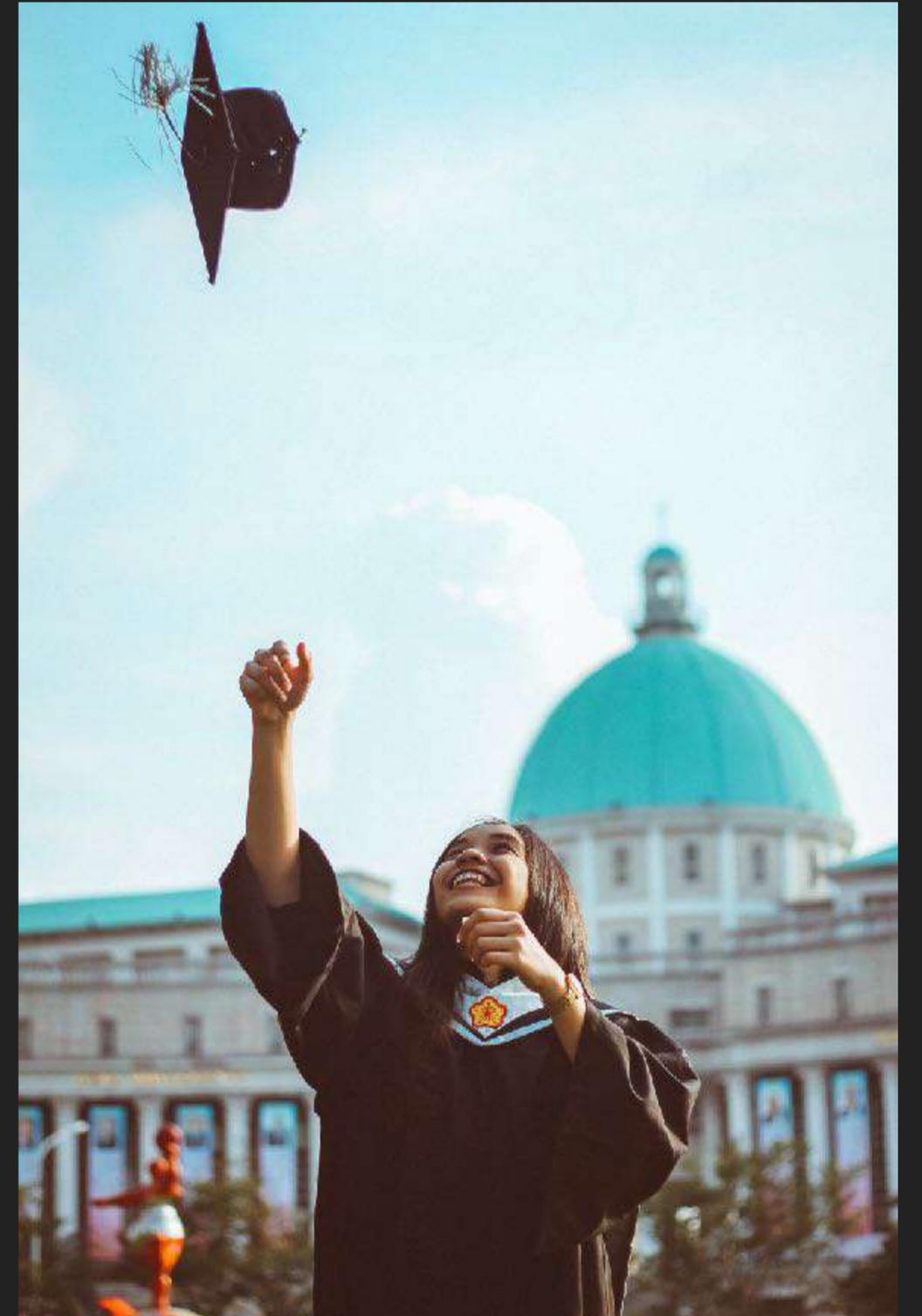






PERSPECTIVE

- ▶ *Changing the 'viewpoint' of the photo can make a massive difference!*





LET'S GIVE IT A GO!

**THE POINT OF HAVING RULES...
IS TO BREAK THEM!**



PREPARING TO TAKE YOUR PHOTOS

**WHERE ARE
YOU TAKING
PHOTOS?**

**WHAT ARE
YOU TAKING
PHOTOS OF?**

TECHNIQUE

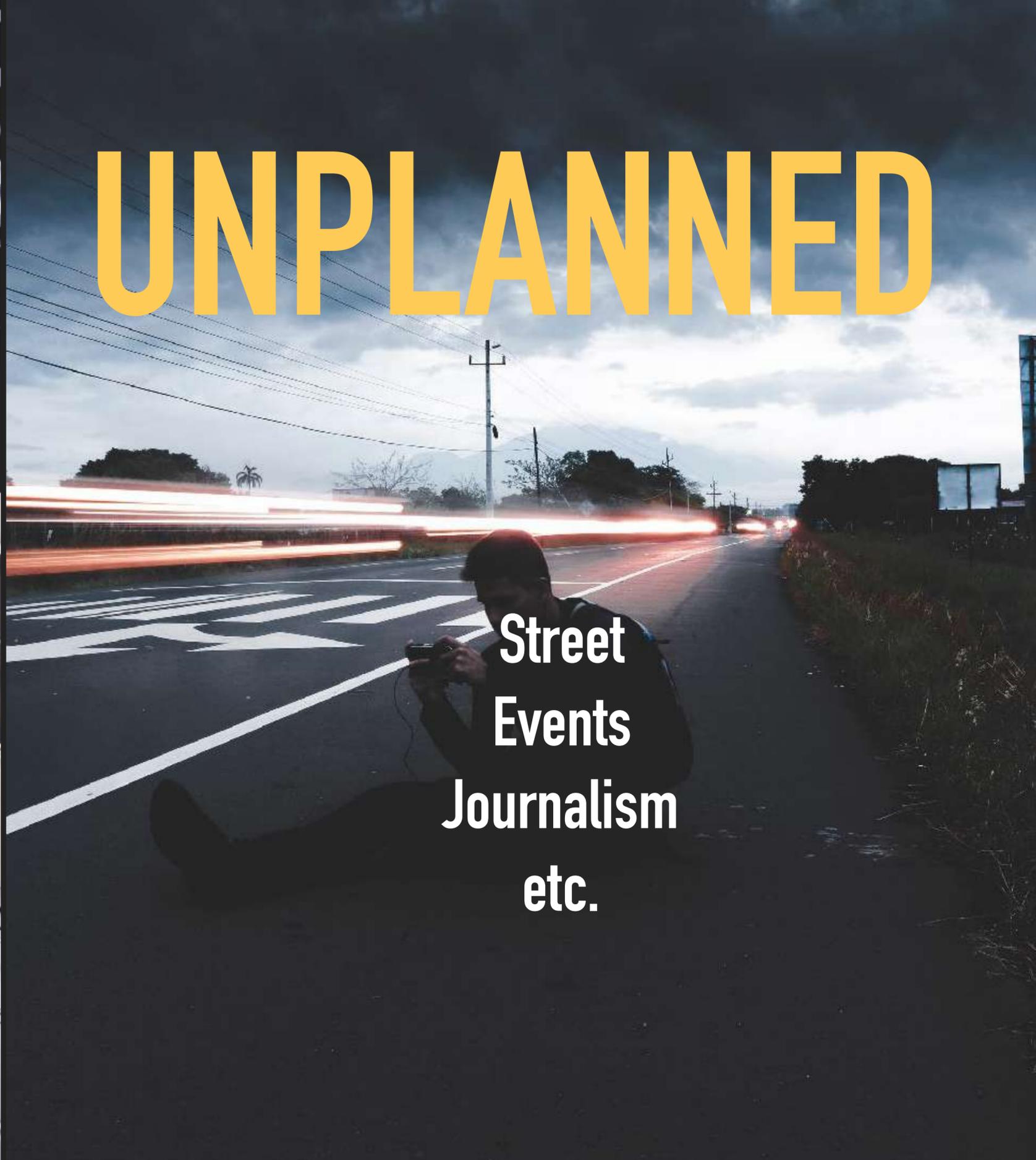
CONTROLLED



Portraits
Landscapes
Studio
etc.



UNPLANNED



Street
Events
Journalism
etc.

CONTROLLED

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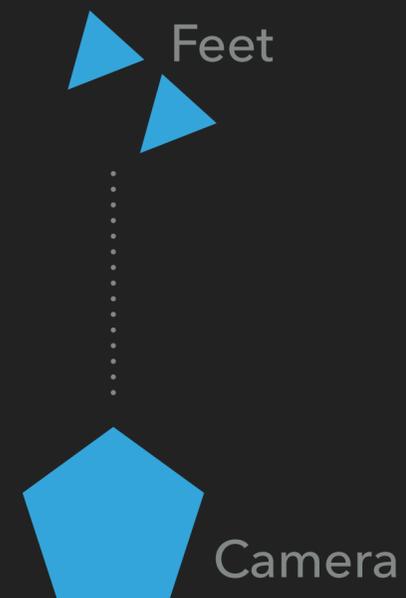
HOW TO TAKE A GOOD PORTRAIT

- ▶ Wide aperture
 - ▶ Throw out the background
- ▶ An 85mm or 50mm lens is the BEST! (In my opinion!)
- ▶ Build rapport with the subject



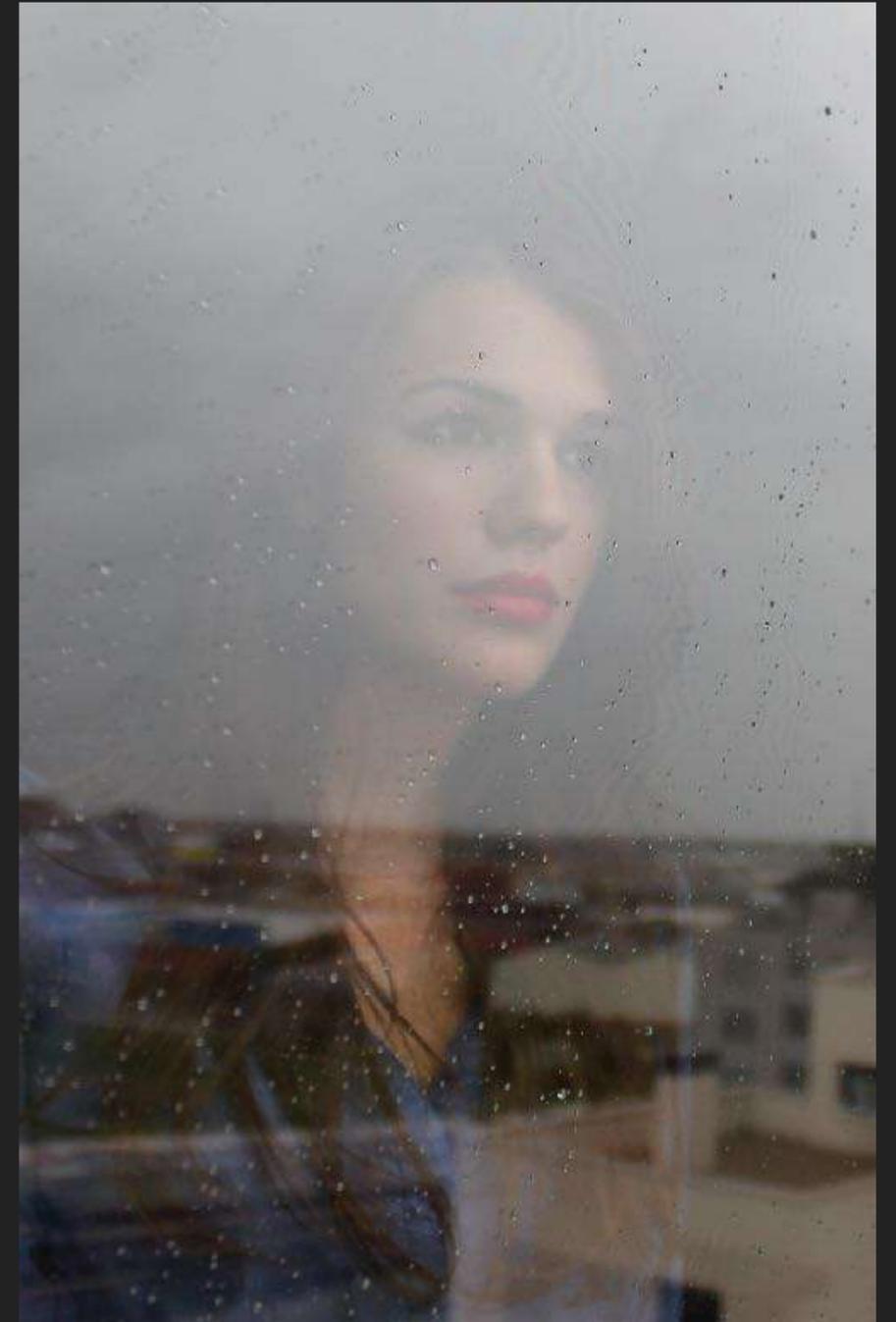
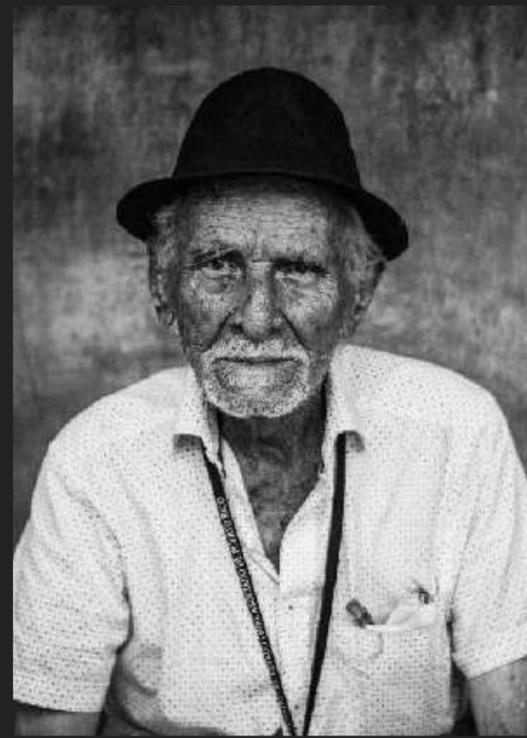
STANDARD PORTRAIT

- ▶ Point feet and body slightly angled away from photographer
- ▶ Turn head and upper body towards photographer
- ▶ Drop chin slightly
- ▶ Stand up straight
- ▶ Smile :)



TAKING PHOTOS IN CONTROLLED SITUATIONS

YOUR PORTRAIT CAN BE CREATIVE!





LET'S GIVE IT A GO!

TAKING GROUP PHOTOS

- ▶ From: **Passive Picture Taker**
To: **Picture Director**
- ▶ Positioning people
- ▶ Make it fun!
- ▶ Create a 'spontaneous' feeling



SOME EXAMPLES OF GROUP PHOTOS



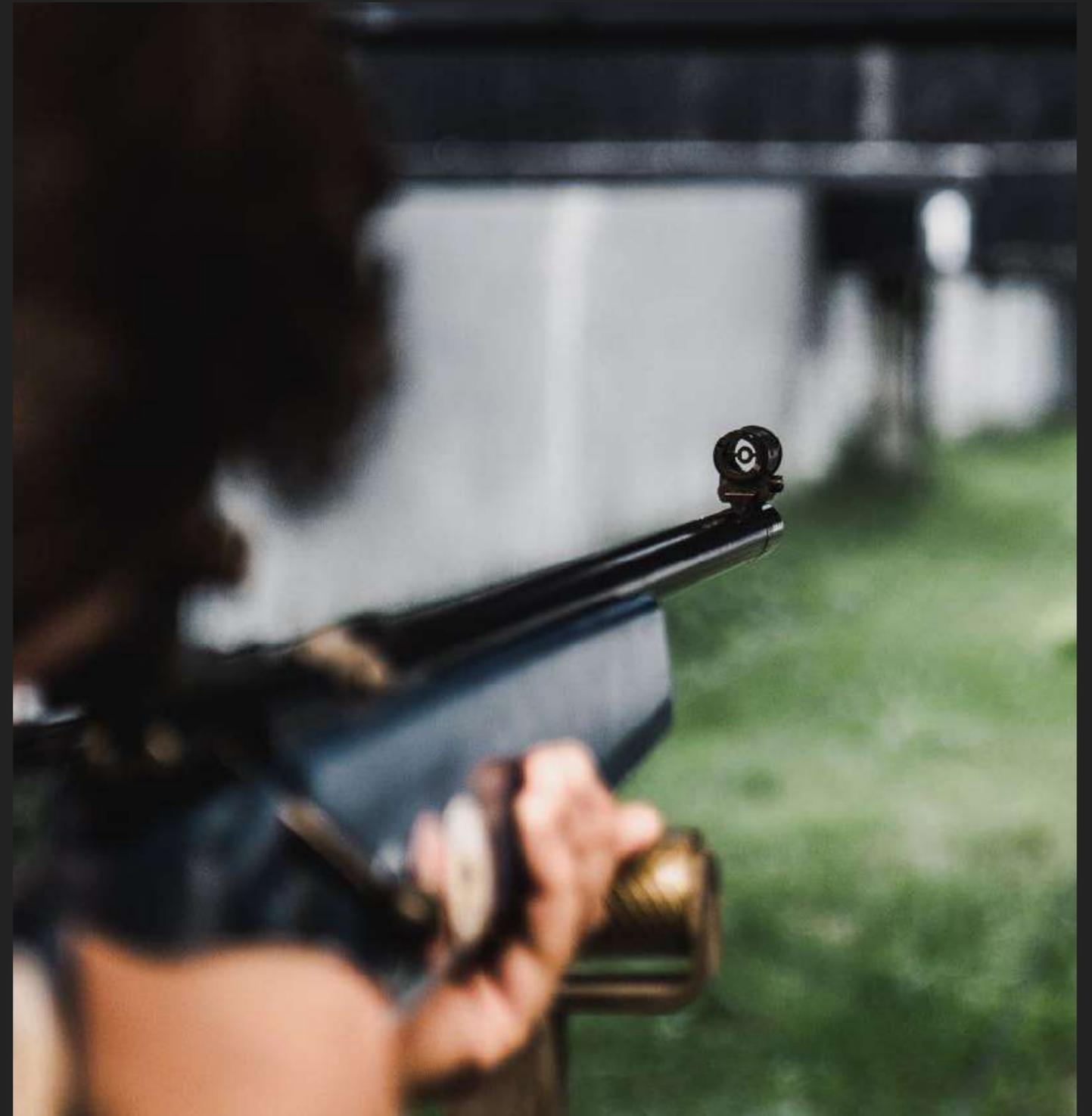
A person is crouching on a road at night, holding a camera. The background shows a road with white lane markings and a crosswalk. There are long, horizontal light trails from traffic in the distance, suggesting a long exposure. The sky is dark with some clouds. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the traffic lights and streetlights.

UNPLANNED

Street
Events
Journalism
etc.

FROM SCATTER GUN TO SNIPER

- ▶ Being deliberate about what photos you take
- ▶ Preparing in advance so you know what you're 'aiming for'
- ▶ This will be a process!



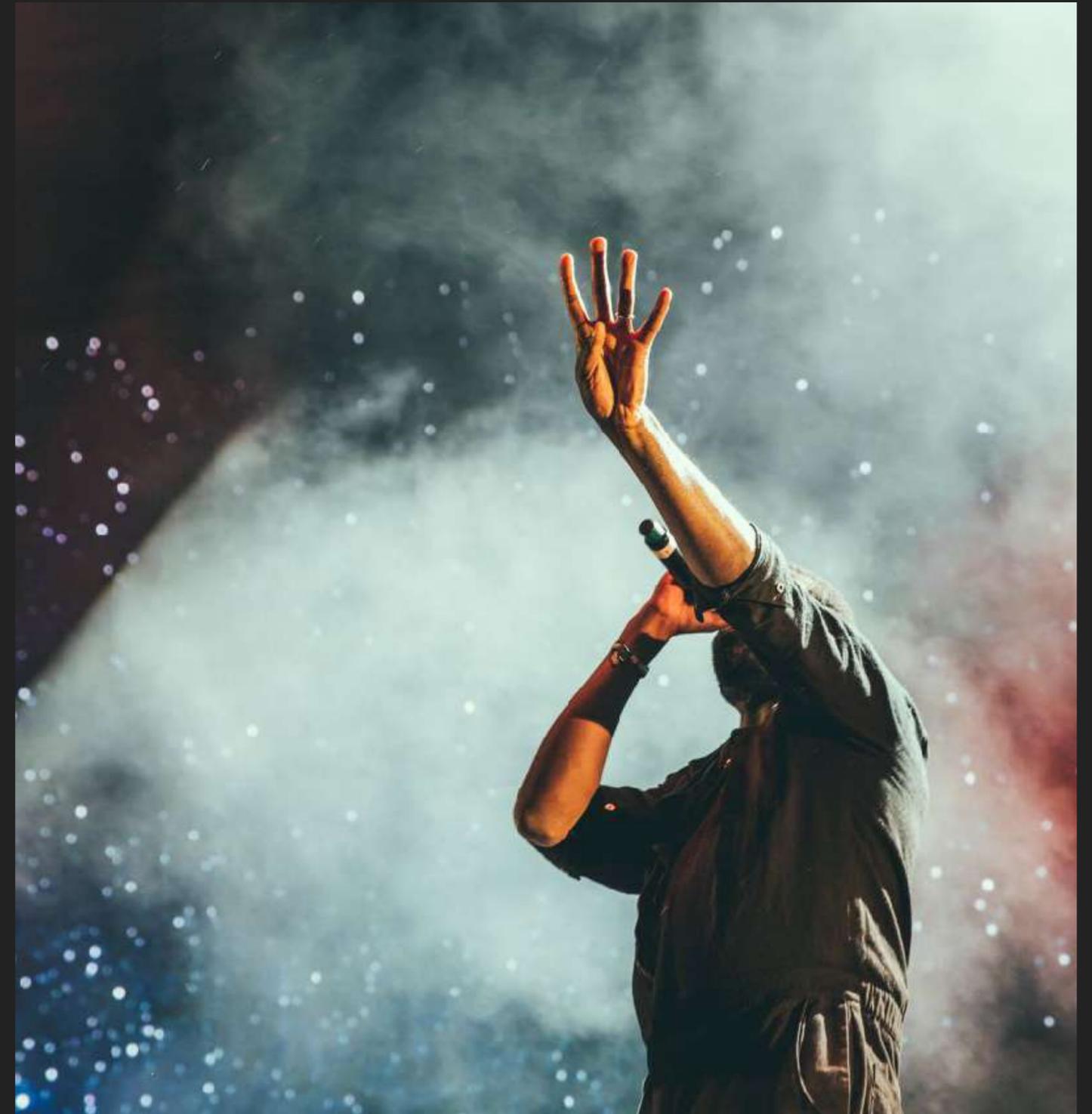
PRE-VISUALISE YOUR PHOTOS

- ▶ Think about the photo you want to take
- ▶ Imagine seeing the subject from different perspectives
- ▶ Think about the lighting and how you might need to adjust your settings before you even take the photo
- ▶ Get in and get out quickly!



WATCH OUT FOR THE 'LITTLE' MOMENTS

- ▶ Generally the best photos are of the moments 'in-between' moments!
- ▶ Be ready, have your settings prepared, and spring into action
- ▶ Be thinking ahead - if that person greets that person, what would be the best angle to photograph that from?



SOMETIMES
UNPLANNED
MOMENTS NEED
A BIT OF A
HELPING HAND!



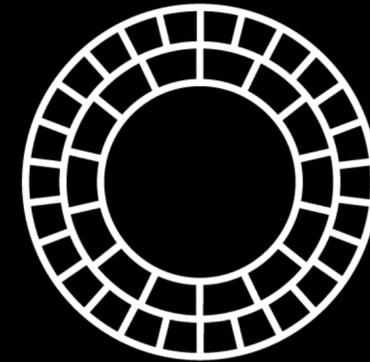


EDITING YOUR PHOTOS

SOFTWARE / APPS



Lightroom



VSCO



Photoshop



Afterlight



Gimp



Instagram

STYLES

- ▶ Black & White
- ▶ High Contrast
- ▶ Desaturated
- ▶ Other filters
- ▶ The important thing is - why use that filter/style?



FORMAT

- ▶ Square
- ▶ Portrait
- ▶ Landscape
- ▶ The key thing is to think about where your photo will be used
 - ▶ i.e. Instagram = square





WHAT WE'VE LOOKED AT TODAY

- ▶ **Some basic tips**
- ▶ **Preparing to take your photos**
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QUESTION TIME!

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