

FILM NOIR

WHAT IS FILM NOIR?

- Film Noir is a French term that means "black movie" or "dark movie".
- Used primarily to describe stylish Hollywood Crime Dramas, particularly those that emphasize cynical attitudes and motivations.
- The 1940s and 1950s are generally regarded as the "classic period" of American Film Noir.
- Often presented in a shadowy cinematographic style Film Noir has become associated with a low key, black and white visual style and unbalanced compositions.

CLASSIC FILM NOIR MOVIES YOU MAY KNOW

- The Third Man
- Citizen Kane
- The Maltese Falcon
- The Big Sleep
- Double Indemnity
- Sunset Boulevard

SOME STILLS FROM THE CLASSICS



















WHAT IS NEO NOIR?

Revival of Film Noir adopting a similar style but with updated themes, content, style, and visual elements.

Some classic Neo Noir Films you may know:

- Body Heat
- Blade Runner
- Taxi Driver

SOME NEO NOIR STILLS





PHOTOGRAPHY IN FILM NOIR STYLE

- Low Key
- Usually single light source
- Side or back lit
- Use common motifs as props – guns, cigarettes, ash trays, whisky glasses and bottles, suits, greatcoats, hats, venetian blinds or other gobos
- Model adopts a persona

EXAMPLE PHOTOGRAPHS IN FILM NOIR STYLE















SET UP FOR THE CLUB FIM NOIR EVENING

- 3 or 4 stations in the Parish hall and one outside if weather permits:
 - One station with a venetian blind
 - One station with option to use Table and chair
 - One/two stations with lighting only inside
 - One station with lighting only outside and possible use of a smoke/fog machine
- Bring your own props
- Bring your own flash equipment, triggers, fill lights and reflectors (there will be equipment you can borrow if you do not have your own)
- Dress suitably to be a model in some shots

SOME THOUGHTS ON APPROACH

- We will need to work together, we will all get a chance to take photographs but we also need to help others by acting as models and photographers assistants.
- We will need to be flexible but will probably work in small teams if the numbers attending allow this.
- Do some research and think about what you want to achieve. I suggest you work on an idea where you have a very clear vision of the image you want to create and how you think you will go about it (including post processing) and a couple of loose ideas you can use as try outs to experiment with lighting and composition.
- If you do not feel confident team up with more experienced members of the club, they will be happy to give guidance and share their expertise.
- Feel free to approach other members before the evening to see if they would be happy to model for you, particularly if you have a specific idea you want to try out.

SUGGESTED KIT LIST

- Camera (of course)
- Standard zoom or primes lenses in the 35mm to 85mm range
- Flash and remote trigger if you have one
- Reflectors and torches for fill in purposes
- Tripod (optional)
- If you want to take photographs outside:
 - Warm clothing
 - Head torch or ordinary torch

CAMERA SETTINGS FOR LO KEY PHOTOGRAPHY

- Manual exposure
- Low ISO
- Low F number (unless you want large depth of field)
- Fastest shutter speed that is compatible with flash

Keith will give a full briefing at the start of the studio evening

FURTHER READING/RESEARCH



Excellent Utube video showing, step by step creation of this image:

<https://youtu.be/-9o1Pc6uDRU>

FURTHER READING/RESEARCH

Web articles on film noir photography:

The Secrets Of Film Noir Photography

<https://www.lightstalking.com/film-noir-photography/>

Shoot film noir portraits with a DIY gobo

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/uk/tutorials/home-photography-ideas-shoot-film-noir-portraits-with-a-diy-gobo>

Film Noir Photography (some interesting one light portrait images from a photoshoot)

<https://darkdreamerphotography.com/film-noir-photography/>

This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about flash
and low key photography.

ITS GOING TO BE FUN!