SPYROS HENIADIS

GET OUT THERE AND TAKE SOME DAMN PHOTOS!

SELFHELPHOTOGRAPHER.COM

Using Gels To Change Background Color

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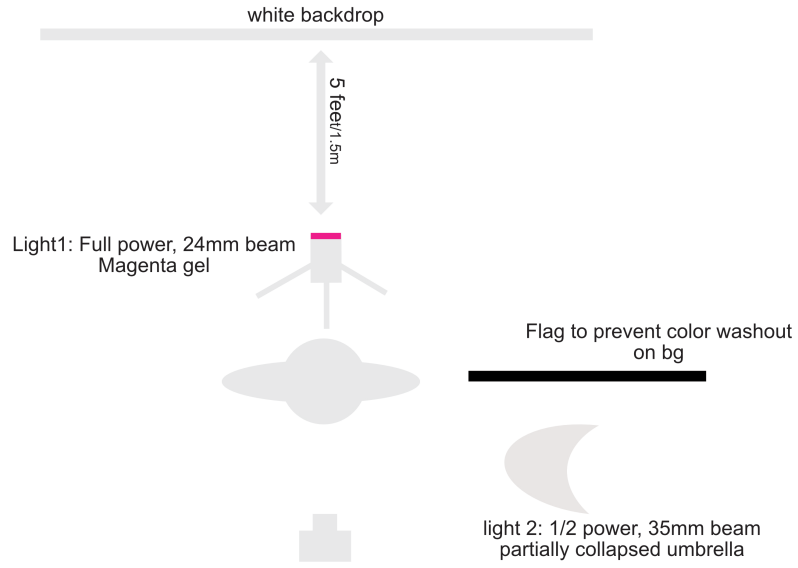
Step By Step Printable

1. Set up the flash with the gel
    1. For greater coverage of the background, position the light farther away. (Roughly 5 ft/ 1.5m away)
    2. Set the flash zoom to the widest possible angle (typically 24mm)
    3. If the flash has one, pull out the additional fresnel panel to further widen the beam
    4. Put the gel on the flash (make sure to cover any gaps with gaffer's tape)
2. Set the power level of the flash
    1. If shooting against a white backdrop, start with a lower power (around 1/16, then test and adjust as necessary)
    2. If shooting against a black backdrop, start with a higher power (around 1/1, then test and adjust as necessary)
3. Bring in your subject
4. Add and adjust any light(s) for your subject
5. Flag those lights as necessary to maintain background color
6. Shoot! 😊

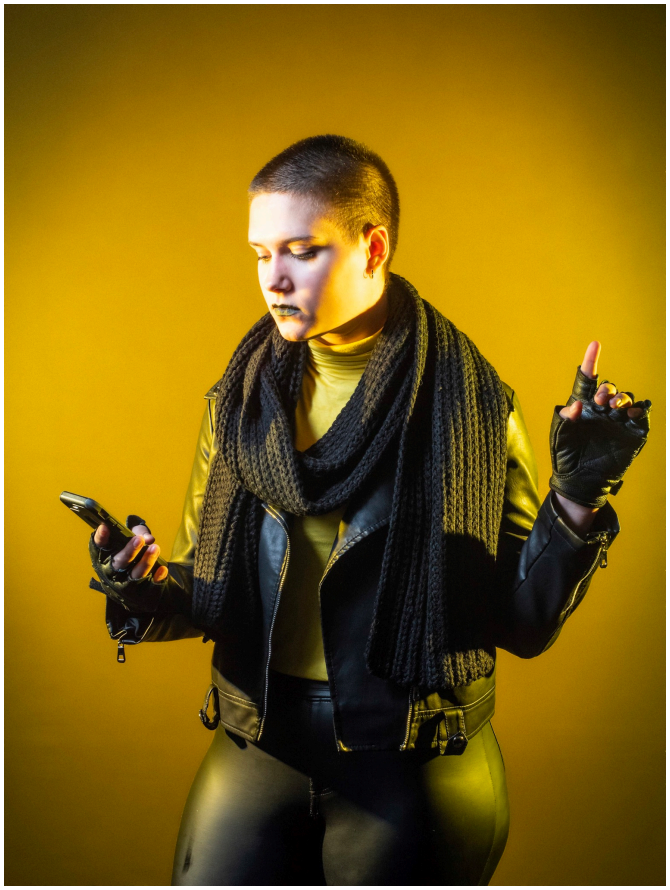
Examples With Lighting Diagrams

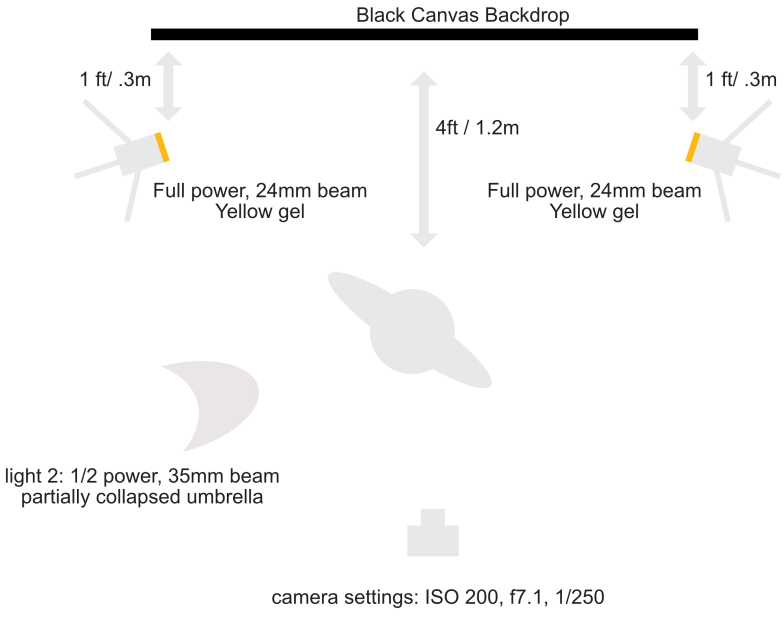
Example 1:



camera settings: ISO 200, f5.6, 1/160

Example 2:





camera settings: ISO 200, f7.1, 1/250

Conclusion

I am excited to help you in your your photography journey, and I am really looking forward to seeing what you can do with your flash and gels, and if you're just getting started with flash photography and you want to truly master your flash so you can use it to take amazing photos that will match the vision you see in your mind, check out my Understanding Flash Photography Video Course...

and then…