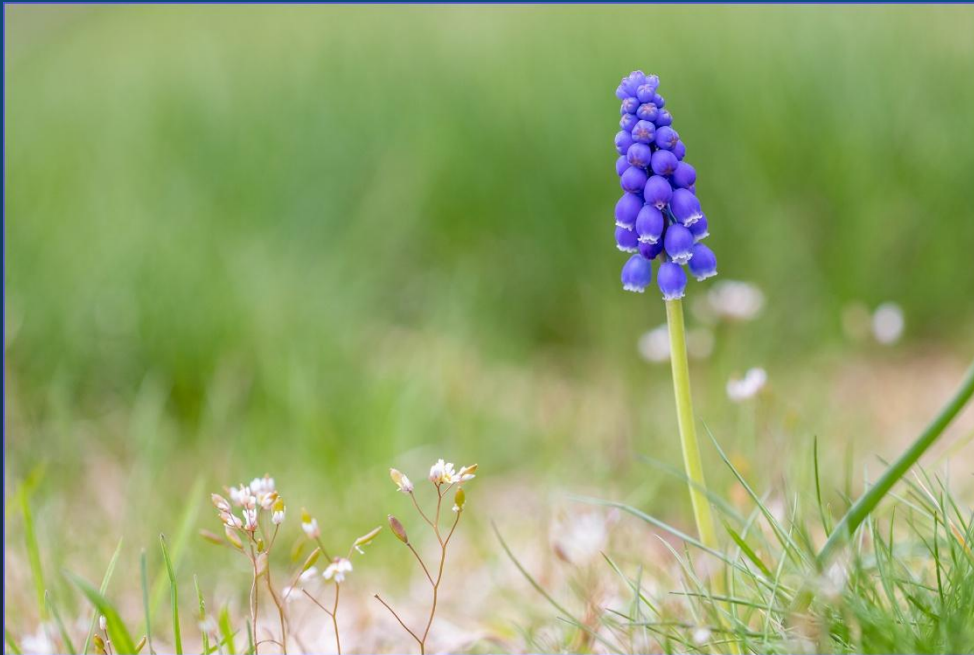


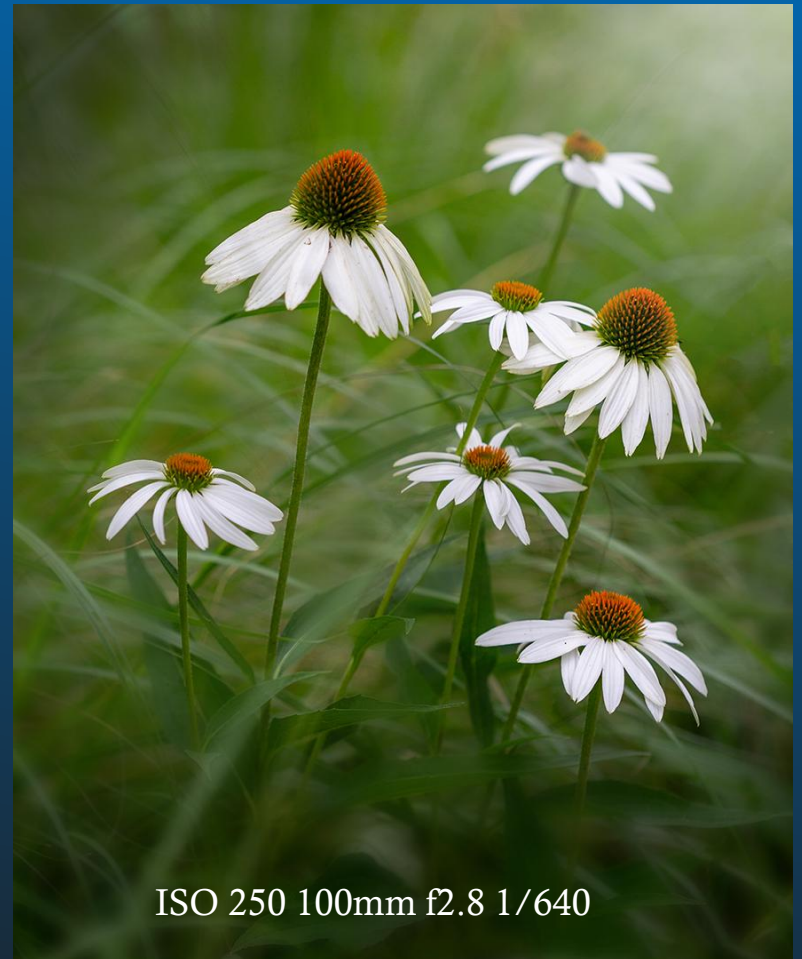
# Flower Photography From Studio to Garden

Sandy Schill



# Agenda

- ◇ Tools for Garden Photography
- ◇ Basic Photography Elements
- ◇ Not Just Flowers
- ◇ Include other subjects
- ◇ Shoot in all seasons
- ◇ Tools for Studio Photography
- ◇ Technique
- ◇ Editing
- ◇ Printing
- ◇ Inspiration



ISO 250 100mm f2.8 1/640

# Tools for Garden Photography

Camera

Lens with  
low f-stop

Tripod

Reflector -  
Foam core  
with tin foil

Diffuser -  
Foam core or  
fabric

Clamp –  
clothes pins

Flash

“backdrop”  
paper

Basic  
Photography  
Elements

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Lighting

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Composition

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Depth of Field

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Focus

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Shutter Speed

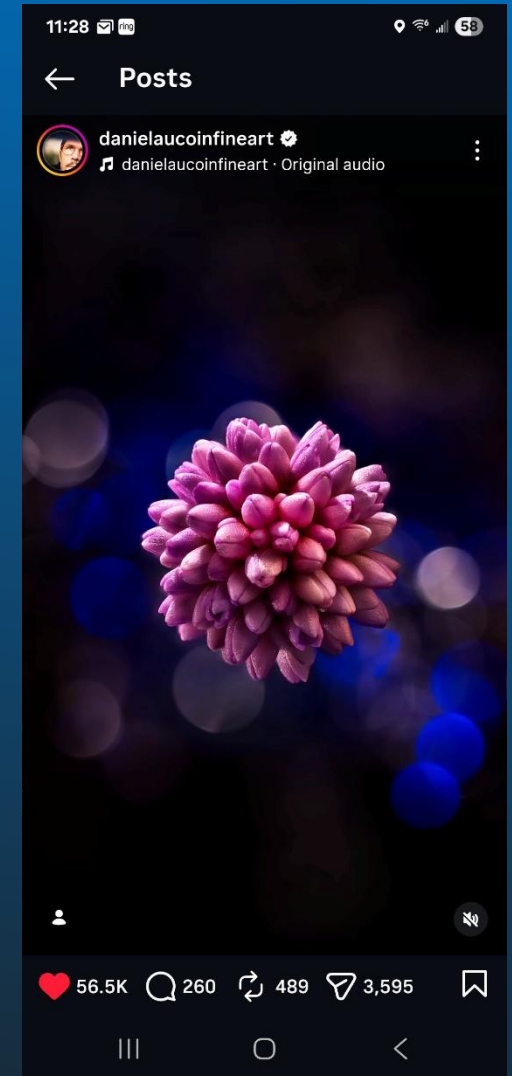
# Natural Light

- ◇ Early Morning or Late in the Day
  - ◇ Look for shade
  - ◇ Reflector
  - ◇ Diffuser



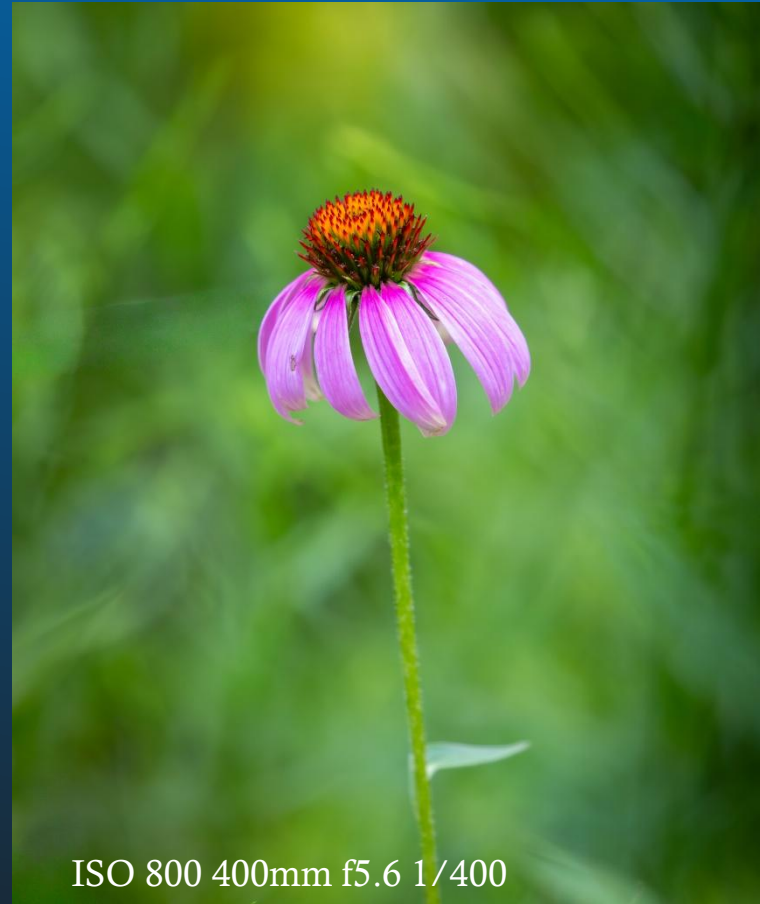
# Outdoor Flash Photography

- ◇ Pop up Flash
- ◇ Fill Flash
- ◇ Speedlight
- ◇ LEDs



# Composition

- ◇ Rule of Thirds
- ◇ Subject not placed in center of image



# Composition

- ◇ Fill the frame
- ◇ Get in close
- ◇ Look for a center of attention



# Composition

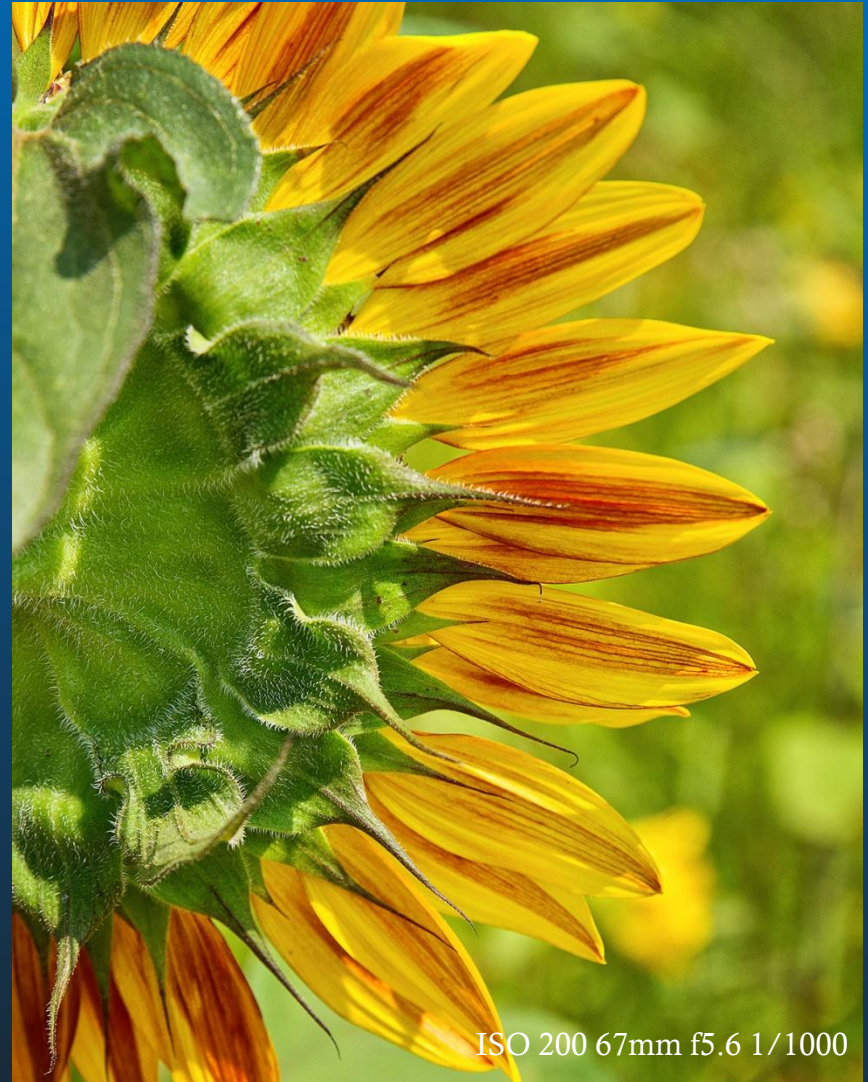
- ◇ Stem Placement
  - ◇ Not straight up and down
  - ◇ Not coming out of the corner



ISO 250 100mm f2.8 1/400

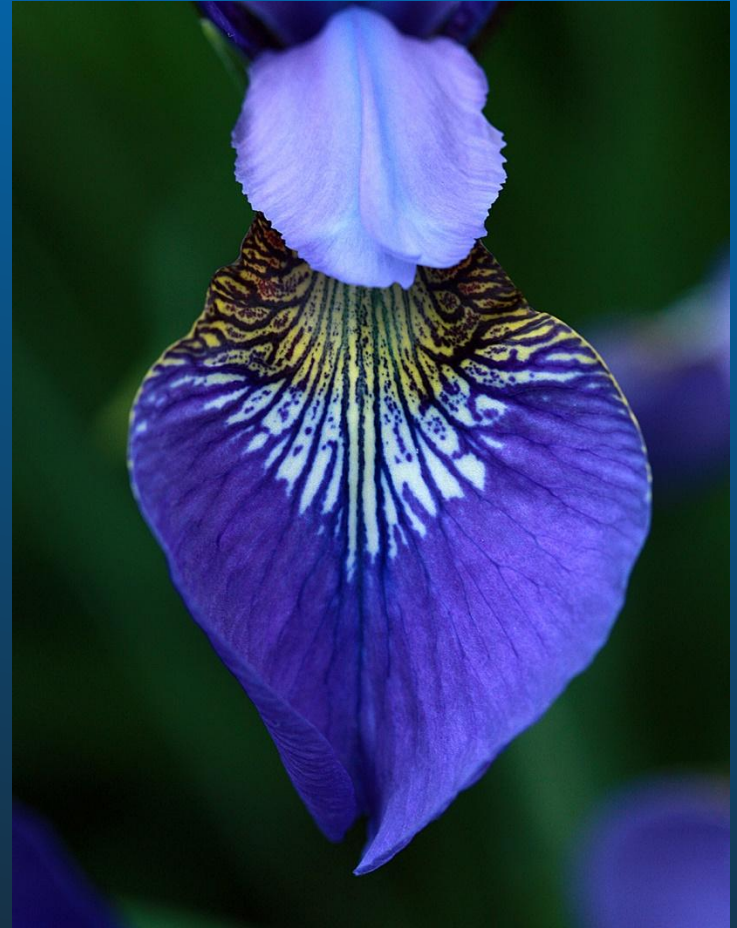
# Composition

- ◇ Angles - move around
  - ◇ Front
  - ◇ Back
  - ◇ Top
  - ◇ Bottom



# Composition

- ◆ Parts of the flower



# Depth of Field

- ◇ Watch your Background
  - ◇ Try to blur the background – wide open f-stop
  - ◇ Keep the background simple – move around to find less distraction
  - ◇ Use a “backdrop”
  - ◇ Highlight the main subject using blur, focus and light



ISO 200 100mm f2.8 1/200





Don't be afraid to capture a grouping of flowers but provide other elements in the image to create interest or highlight the story.

Try to elevate the image beyond a snapshot.





# Focus

When choosing your focal point, ask yourself where do you want the viewer to look. What is the highlight of the flower or image.

If you want the entire flower or grouping in sharp focus, you will need to focus stack if you want the background soft.



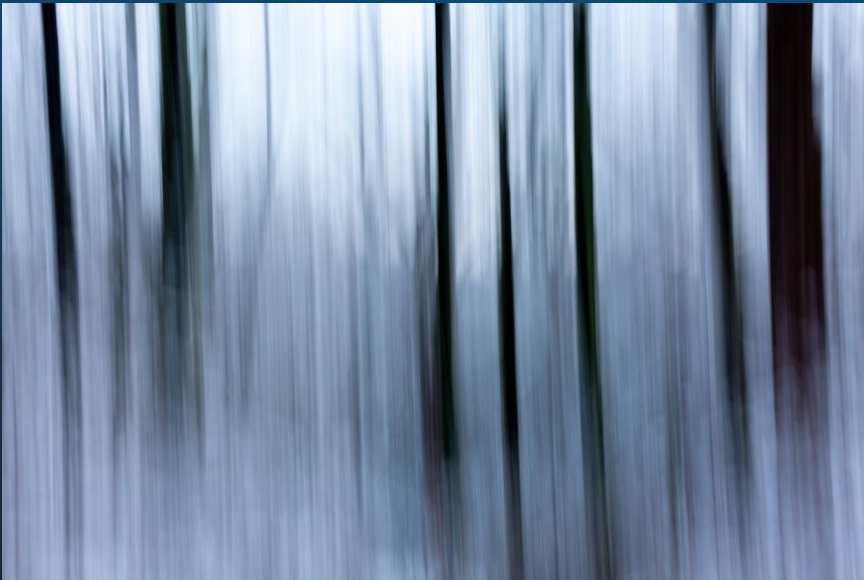
ISO 125 100mm f2.8 1/400



ISO 320 100mm 2.8 1/400

# Shutter Speed

- ◇ Keep it fast
- ◇ Watch the wind
- ◇ Steady your subject
- ◇ In camera motion can create abstract images

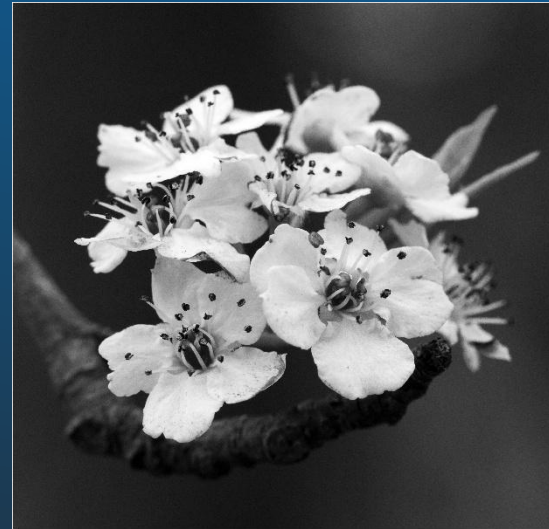


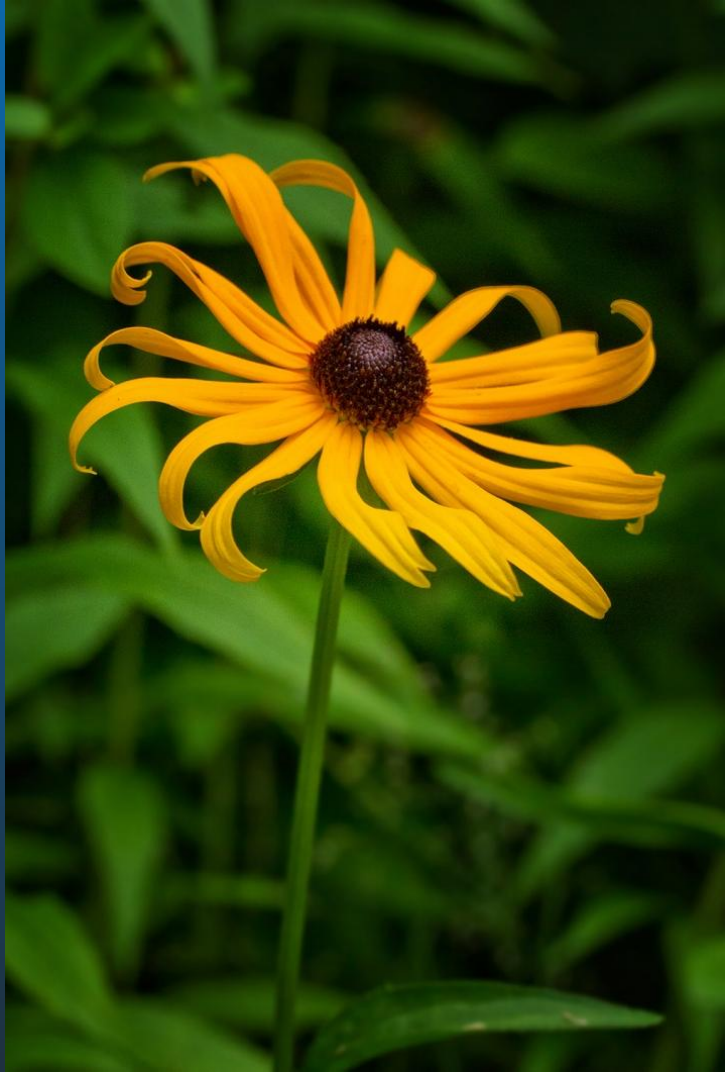
# Consider Black & White

Find blooms and stems that have texture, character or unique elements that work with black and white



ISO 2000 100mm f8 1/320



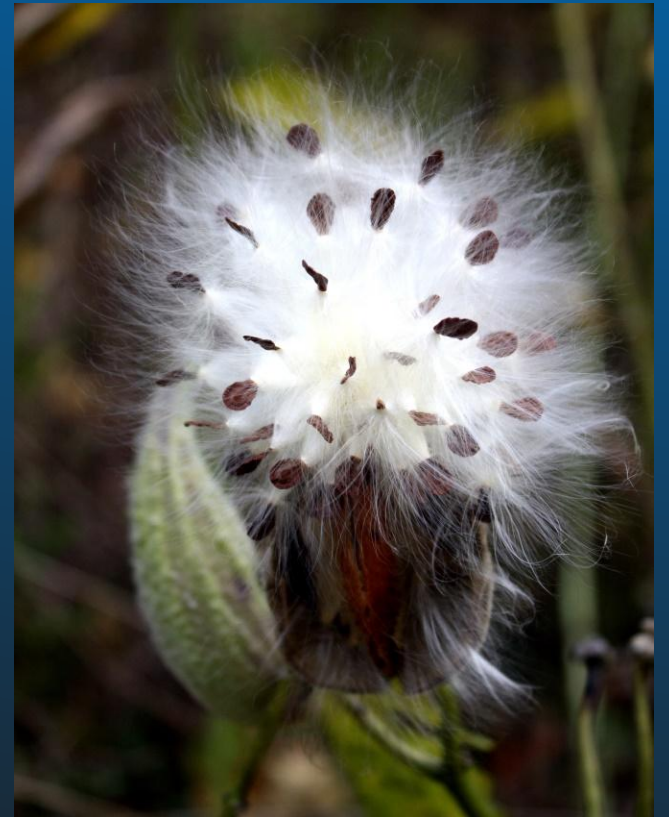
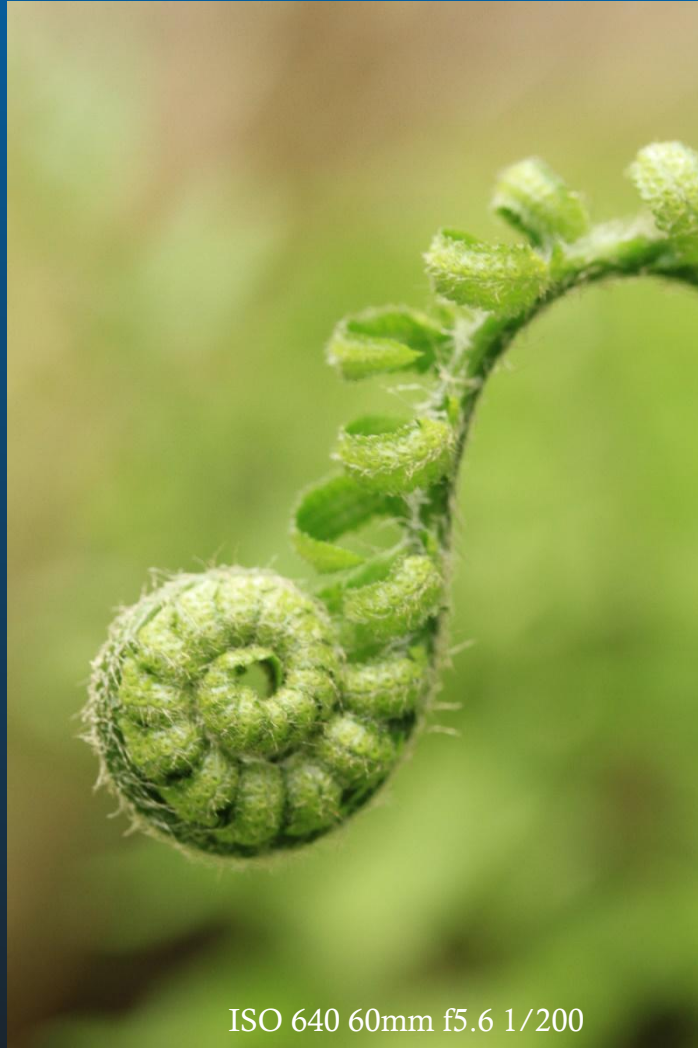


# Flowers

- ◇ Look for unique looking blooms
- ◇ Fresh in the morning
- ◇ Know the peak blooming time

# Not Just Flowers

- ◇ Buds
- ◇ Seeds
- ◇ Leaves



# Incorporate a subject

- ◇ Butterflies
- ◇ Caterpillars
- ◇ Bugs
- ◇ Frogs
- ◇ Snakes (eek)





# Photograph All Seasons - Fall

- ◇ Fading flowers
- ◇ Colorful leaves
- ◇ Berries



ISO 640 60mm f3.2 1/125

# Winter Photography

- ◆ Leaves
- ◆ Branches
- ◆ Dead flower heads



# Studio Flower Photography

- ◇ Still Life
- ◇ Flash or Natural Light
- ◇ Black and White
- ◇ Store bought flowers to practice with



Tools for  
Studio  
Flower  
Photography

Camera

Tripod

Backdrop

Strobes  
Speedlights  
LEDs

Modifiers

Reflector –  
Flags

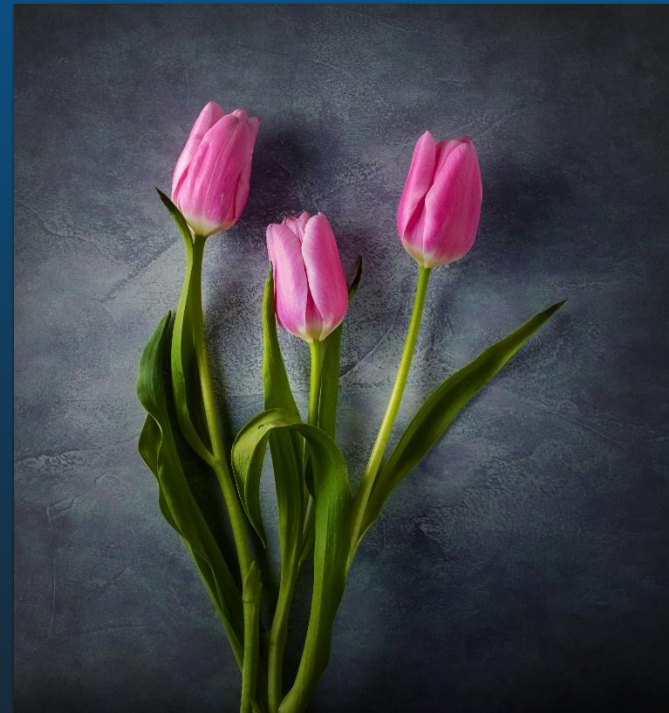
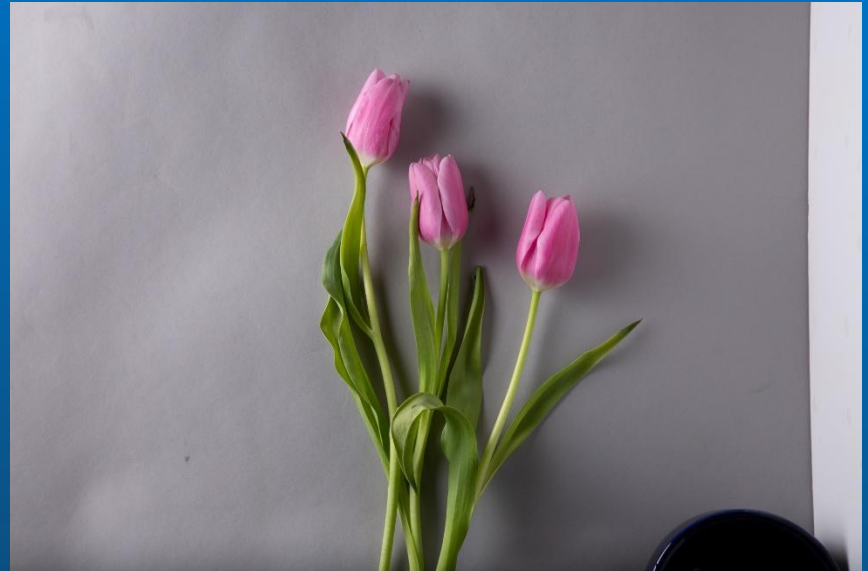
## Side Light with reflector

Speedlight camera left

Reflector camera right

Flowers laying on floor with backdrop

Textured backdrop added in post processing





# Textured Backdrop

Natural window light camera right



Use scrapbook paper or textured backdrop  
behind subject

ISO 1600 100mm f5.6 1/13

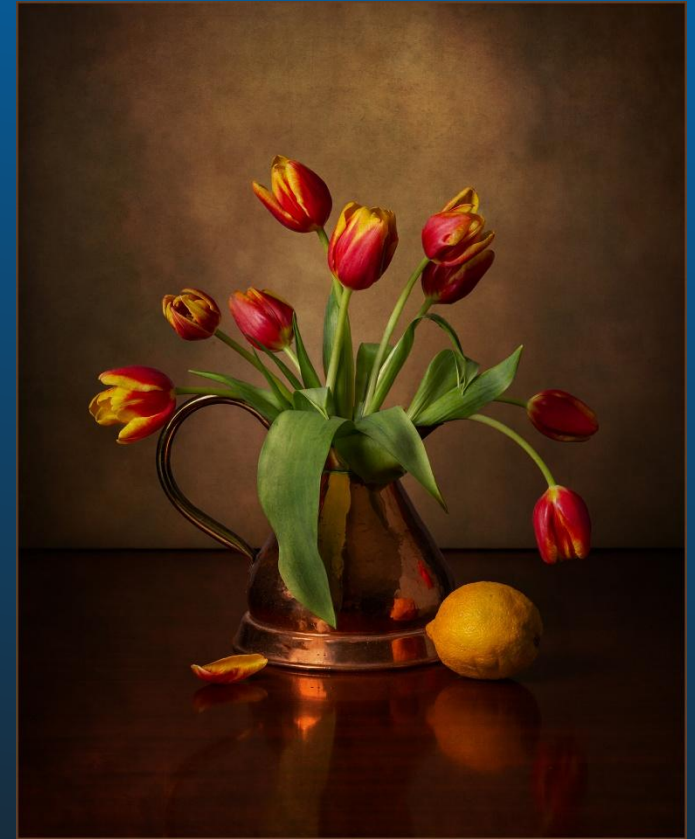
# Side Light with reflector

Speedlight camera left with 2X2 softbox

Reflector camera right

Focus stacked with 3 images

Note: when picking containers be aware of reflectivity



# Natural Light

Large window camera right

Textured Background

Focus stacked 4 images

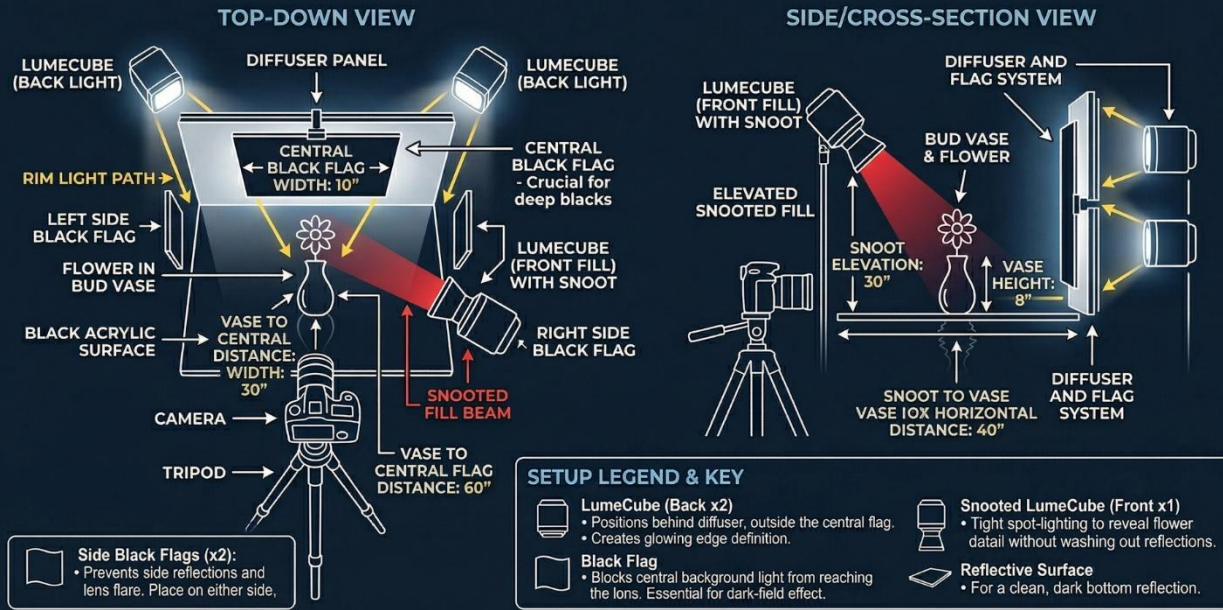
Note: Adding other elements helps the  
story



ISO 8000 70mm f4 1/40

# Multiple Constant Lights

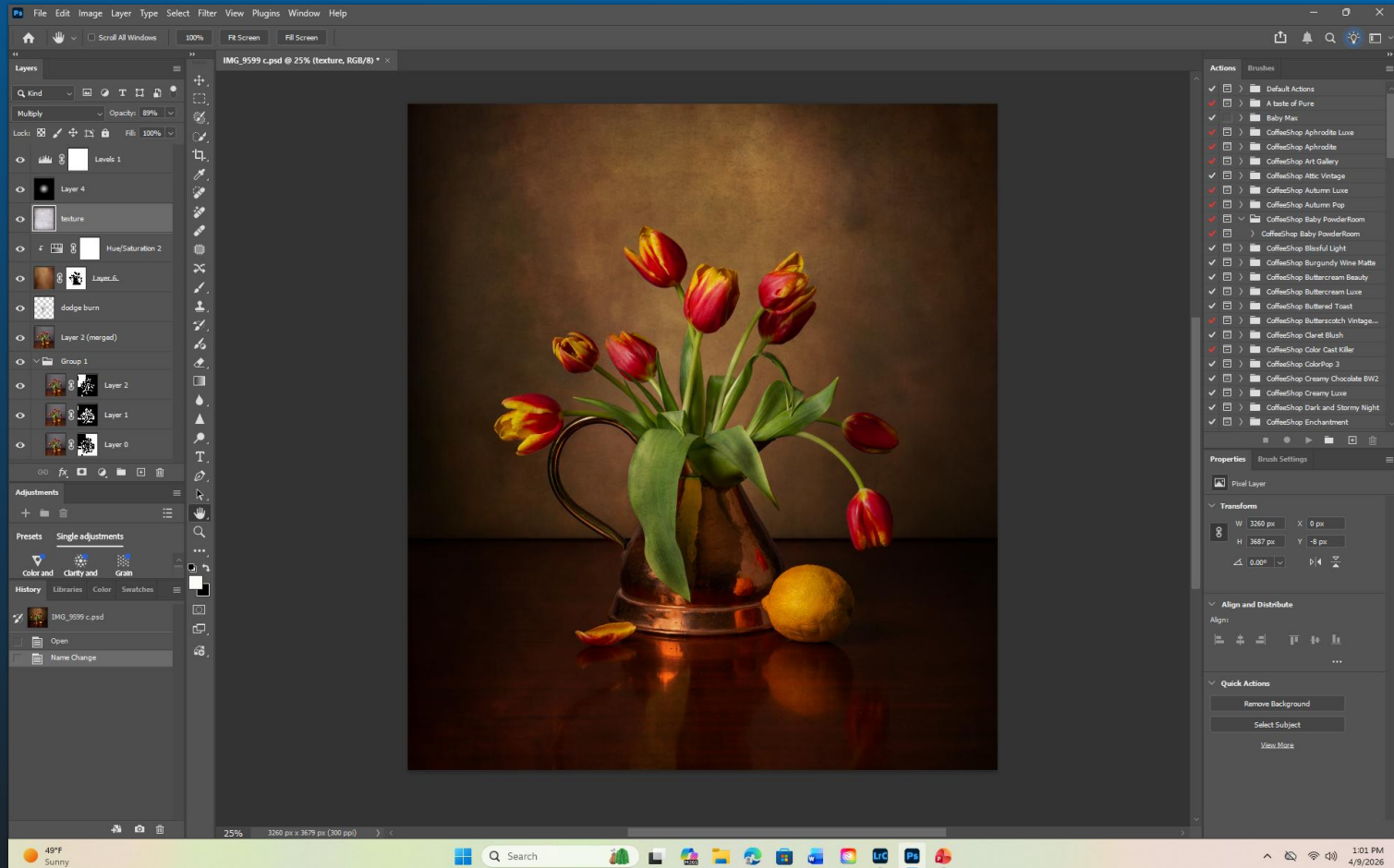
## PHOTOGRAPHY SETUP: DARK-FIELD RIM LIGHTING & SNOOTED FILL



# Editing

If focus stacking, you will need to merge images in Photoshop

If using neutral background, you can add color and texture.



# Print and Enjoy

- ◆ Get photos off your camera/phone/computer
- ◆ Create Gifts
  - ◆ Notecards
  - ◆ Calendars



# Inspiration

- ◇ <https://www.kathleenclemonseducation.org/>
- ◇ <https://www.kathleenclemonsphotography.com/>
- ◇ <https://fineart.danielaucoin.com/>
- ◇ <https://www.annebelmontphotography.com/>

Thank You

