





What is Still Life Photography?

- Still life photography is the depiction <u>of inanimate subject</u> <u>matter, most typically a small</u> <u>grouping of objects.</u>
- The photographer has <u>full</u> <u>control over the arrangement</u> <u>of design elements within a</u> <u>composition.</u>



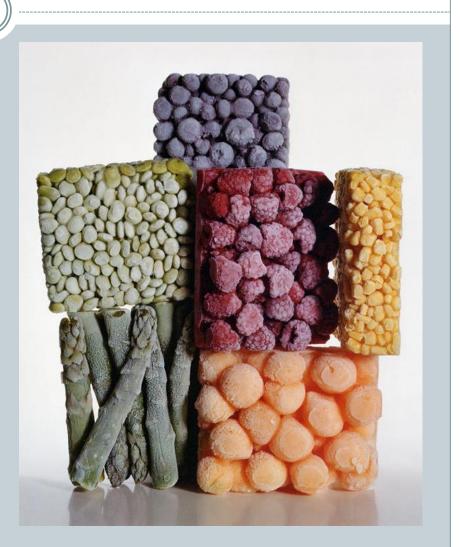
What is Still Life Photography?

- Still life photography requires <u>a refined sense of</u> <u>lighting, along with compositional skills</u>.
- The still life photographer <u>makes pictures rather</u> <u>than takes them</u>.



Inspirational Photographer: Irving Penn

- Irving Penn (1917 2009) was an American photographer known for his <u>fashion photography</u>, <u>portraits</u>, and still lifes.
- Penn's career included work at *Vogue* magazine, and independent advertising work for a variety of clients.



Inspirational Photographer: Irving Penn

Penn's still life
compositions are spare
 and highly organized
 assemblages of food or
 objects that showcase the
 abstract interplay of line
 and volume.



Inspirational Photographer: Irving Penn





Set Up and Location

- Contrary to common perceptions, you don't need <u>a studio or a fancy</u> <u>location</u>.
- Begin by simply using a space at home, such as a table placed by a window, along with a simple backdrop



Lighting for Still Life Photography

2. Overall Lighting

- Environment: <u>All white</u> <u>surface and surroundings</u> <u>without direct light source</u>
- Source: <u>White sheet</u>, <u>paper or some other form</u> <u>of drapery</u>
- Effect: <u>Using white or</u> <u>light colours allows light to</u> <u>bounce and soften</u>





Lighting for Still Life Photography

3. Natural Lighting

- Environment: <u>Using</u> <u>light created by a natural</u> <u>source</u>
- Source: <u>Take photo</u> <u>outside, or using light that</u> <u>is filtered through a</u> <u>window</u>
- Effect: <u>Depends on the</u> <u>time of day and the</u> <u>amount of natural light</u> <u>entering the location of the</u> <u>still life set up</u>





Choosing the Objects

- What you photograph is <u>completely up to you</u>.
- Search around the house for <u>simple but</u> <u>interesting items</u>
- Don't feel like you have to take photos of <u>fruit or</u>



<u>flowers</u> just because everyone else does – be creative and think outside the box!

Choosing the Objects

• Try to combine <u>objects of contrasting shape, colour,</u> <u>texture</u> and see what you can come up with.



Composing the Shot

- Ensure there are <u>no distractions</u> <u>within the frame</u>, just the <u>objects and the backdrop</u>.
- Be sure to try <u>different angles</u> <u>and arrangements.</u>
- Where are you <u>leading the eye</u> within the image?
- Are you utilizing <u>negative space</u> or might it work to try and <u>fill</u> <u>the frame</u>?



Camera Angles

1. <u>Traditional or "Eye-Level" Angle</u>



Camera Angles

2. <u>Bird's Eye view (Above the Still Life)</u>



Camera Angles

3. <u>Close-Up Shots</u>



Camera Angles

4. <u>Unique or different angles</u>

