Shoot To Thrill: Speedlight Flash Techniques For Photographers
Ever wonder if speedlights could work for lighting everything at your studio? Acclaimed wedding and portrait photographer Michael Mowbray asked himself that very question several years ago—and the answer was a resounding "Yes!" He now use speedlights for 99.9 percent of his award-winning portraiture both in the studio and on location. In this book, Mowbray covers the basics, then takes you through the creation of sixty images, breaking each one down to show how the lighting was set up as well as the underlying creative and technical thoughts. Armed with these no-nonsense techniques, you'll be ready to jump-start your speedlight portraiture for better sales, more flattering portraits, and more creative results at each session!

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars - See all reviews (24 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews

Speedlights have been a mystery and they are such an important key to backlighting, shooting in bright daylight, portability, specular lighting and knowing their features greatly enhances a shooters ability to choose most any location. Michael's book covers the difference between ETTL, TTL, Optical, Radio with illustrations, examples and explains the pros and cons of each setup. Michael's book is full of shots he took with speedlights so you can see the result. I now know what to do with my investment of speedlights. I can now get out of my stuffy studio and make some money. I now know how to go 'portable on location'''. I'm happy with this book, it's dog eared, tagged, bookmarked and stays on the dash of my car. I'll read it 6 more times. If you want to be a pro then this book is a
Speedlights flood our industry more each day. With so many beginning to use them as an integral tool of the trade, even without knowing the key to successfully using them, this book is vital to understanding many of the facets of speedlight photography. Michael did an excellent job explaining not only HOW to use the flash but WHY (just because you can, doesn’t mean you should). Great examples and explanations of situations we all will come upon in our careers. This gives us a better tool to quickly, effectively and beautifully overcome those, less-than-perfect situations. Any professional portrait or wedding photographer must read this book. It will help getting the perfect lighting in every light, on the fly. This book gives the true professional yet another tool in the camera bag | and a good chance at being a “flash fu master.”

This book does a great job of describing how to use speedlights in any type of condition. It is a must have for any wedding or portrait photographer who struggles with getting good light on the fly. Michael does a great job of explaining in detail the settings he uses as well as the equipment to get the shot. The book is packed with illustrated lighting diagrams, behind the scenes shots and images that show the final result. It is even small enough to fit in a medium size camera bag so you can have it with you in the field!

The technical content in the book is very good. The author does a great job in his writing and explanations. It’s always nice to have the lighting diagrams included and he did a great job on his diagrams. I purchased the Kindle version and found the images to be a huge disappointment though. They are very small in the reading part and when double clicked to expand like every other Kindle book, the resolution is horrible to the point the image is so distorted you can’t see shadowing or features. I’m now wondering if the printed version is any better. This is not my first Kindle photography book but the first with bad expanded images. I’ll look closer next time before purchasing. If you like looking at the images up close for a learning experience to see the lighting patterns don’t buy the Kindle version. Quite a disappointment. But the technical part and lighting descriptions are excellently thought out and written well. I recommend the book as long as you don’t mind unclear images.

Wow, Michael ... thank you for a fantastic "recipe book" for the Off Camera Flash (OCF) lighting practitioner (Strobist)! It is superb with insights and how to info for each dramatic shot, over 60 ...
went out and found your other OCF book "The Speedlight Studio: Professional Portraits..."!! Loved it!

Lots of good ideas, very accessible, for photographers of all levels, presented is a very clear manner. More of a beginner / intermediate level than an advanced level. A good book to read before this one is another by same author: The Speedlight Studio: Professional Portraits with Portable Flash.

I am a natural light portrait photographer, but there are times when "FLASH" is necessary and needed. "Shoot To Thrill" opened my eyes to a new world. I can't wait to add speed-lights to my camera bag. Just one more tool that will add variety to my sessions. Michael did a good job of explaining the equipment when and how to use it. I like that the lighting diagrams and camera settings are listed. It gave me a good visual of what to expect when in the field. I like the "real" life weddings and session examples. This is for everyday work and beyond. Who knows... someday I too could be a "Flash Fu Master"

This was a fascinating read. Before reading this book I was one of the photographers he mentions who don't think of using speed lights for all situations. After reading it I have totally changed my mind. His images are crazy good and show us that it is possible to run a studio on speed lights and still get the professional shots we want. He has definitely honed his technique and style to make speed lights work for him. I will for sure look at expanding my speed light collection after seeing all that they can do.I received this book in order to review.

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