

## Still Life Photography

- Composition is crucial, you are taking everyday items and putting a new spin on them
- Choose a backdrop that doesn't interfere with your subject, white paper or a sheet, black fabric, all work very well
- These do not need to be "close up" shots, lead the eye within the image and utilize negative space rather than filling the frame
- Your subject is not moving and can't get bored, take the time to get your lighting and focus right. Then move things around and try again. Create a mood, still life's "paint a scene" or tell a story
- Use a tripod !
- Lighting rather than flash in this type of photography, you can use house lamps and ambient light from a window, if you have studio lights be sure to use them
- Depth of field is VERY important, these images should be tack sharp
- Be sure to take all clutter out of a still life image, the only things you see should be your subject
- Most times this type of photograph is best shot level with your subject rather than above or below
- These are usually easy to set up in your home using everyday objects such as fruit, bottles, tea cups, flowers, antiques, etc
- Use a lens with a focal length between 50mm and 200mm, around 135mm is usually ideal