



THE BOOK
OF BOUDOIR PHOTOGRAPHY
JESUS BERNARDO

INSPIRATIONAL - EDUCATIONAL - PROVOCATIVE

I want to thank God for inspiring me and because He let me meet outstanding and professional friends.

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free for you



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The Book of Boudoir Photography
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Introduction

The Book of Boudoir Photography is a publication that compiles the best works of outstanding Boudoir Photographers around the world. What you will find here, is a collection of pictures that tells you a story about the mind who created it.

As a note, this book was originally, written in Spanish, so I did my best, translating it into English language. Maybe, through your reading, you will find my particular accent, but main ideas will be easy to understand.

You will find this book useful, because each picture will have a Pro, positive critique, a practical explanation of what you are seeing and tips on how you can get similar results in a manner that will help you to refine your own style.

The goal is to help and inspire the newbie boudoir

photographer, as well as the ones who have years in business.

You will find different approaches based on photographer's personal taste. But at the end, the goal is the same, create a boudoir portrait that tells something about your client's feelings; and that meets full client satisfaction.

I started out this book to contribute to the Boudoir photography world, to create a media that pushes forward friends and colleagues through worldwide exposure, and to leave my print in this fascinating photographic field.

I have to thank all the photographers who, generously, contribute their images, time, and knowledge to create this guide. Without them, it wouldn't have been possible.

I also want to thank respectfully: David Mecey (USA), Marissa & Kimberlee (Boudoir Divas) (USA), Jennifer Hass (USA), Erin Clark Zahradka, Jennifer Seerden-Tallerico (USA), Jessie Hanning Gliesman (USA), Jorge Lara (MEXICO), Marissa & Kimberlee (Boudoir Divas) (USA), Kat Gill (CANADA), Nuno Figueiredo (Portugal), Victor Saboya (MEXICO), Robin Owen (USA), and Susan Pizarro (USA) Ludivine Vigié (FRA)

How to Use this Book

This book contains boudoir portraits from photographers around the world. First, I invite you to see all pages as a photo album. Forget about the text for a couple of minutes and enjoy, express yourself in a loud voice, critique or get inspired, seeing all the beautiful pictures.

Then, pick the one that you fall in love with, and read the critique and the suggested tips, to achieve similar results. Then look for a friend, relative or even your wife, and practice what you saw. Once you get a similar result, start adding, removing or changing concepts, props or poses to personalize with your own taste.

*Success is about creating, not compete...
is the progressive realization of a worthy ideal... is
being able to do what you love most and live from
it... Money always will be there after be success...*

Short Boudoir Story

By the period of Louis XVI, opulent houses or castles usually had a small private room in master bedrooms called “Boudoir” That small room, was used by women to beautify themselves , practice an art like painting or music and sometimes as a private room for romantic encounters.

This “boudoir” (room) was used in USA in many high society houses through the Victorian period. Since those days all that was implied with this kind of room, was used by many others arts disciplines. We can find the concept “Boudoir” in painting, architecture, music, lingerie, furniture and of course, photography.

But, what should “Boudoir” mean for a photographer? Lets see, John G. Blair in his book, *Digital Boudoir*, says that in California by the 1980, a marriage of photographers , invented the term, after photographing a client who had trouble describing a portrait she wanted with just some clothes on.

There’s no need to agree with the above definition, if you don’t feel convinced. However, it tell us something interesting about the intention of Boudoir photography.

After long readings and hundreds of practice hours, the best Boudoir definition that I was able to find is: Boudoir Photography, should be described as the art of expressing intimate feelings through images, alluding a deep emotional sense from a client by supporting the self esteem. We also should understand by clients, the fiance or husband as well as the client itself. The rest, are just details, the room decor, props location, etc.





🇵🇷 Photo by Jesús Bernardo

A colonial location, will always add vintage glamour to any Boudoir session.

be Boudoir...

a gift of glamour... a time to be sexy... an experience to feel gorgeous!

In the next pages, you will find what I call, visual gold. A photo collection that shows how Boudoir Photography is expressed and performed by photographers around the world.

The Boudoir Photographer...

The Boudoir Photographer

When thinking in a Boudoir Photographer, maybe you're imagining a man or woman taking pictures of other women with just a few or no clothes on. But, what really is a Boudoir Photographer? We can find many answers to that question, but what first a Boudoir photographer should be, is just that, a Photographer. A professional who knows how to nurture client's self esteem. An artist who has the knowledge to make their clients looks their best. A Kind human, who has the ability to link with the client so strongly, that he builds a friendly lifetime business relationship.

Jeffrey Gitomer, the autor of *The Sales Bible*, says; "*Our clients are our most valuable treasure, we need to nurture and keep it from being stolen.*" You need to understand that your pictures is not all that the client receives from you. The Boudoir photographer is a person who gives a valuable experience, where clients feels that they are receiving more, than the money we are taking from them.

The Holistic Approach of Photography

Your client as an integral being, needs to positively be impacted in a way that help you build a life long business relationship. By integral being, I refers to: *the way you approach them, the way you foster a relationship, the customer service and the quality of services you provide.* There is no need to see your clients like a moneymaker machine, instead we need to build a friendship, a person who will be satisfied by your service and that she will spread the news about your business. Is about

making your customer smile with excitement, when she looks herself in a beautiful image, and at the same time, increase their self-esteem. You will need to create an image that motivates them to always seek the best for themselves.

Three Boudoir Photography Approaches

The single client

There are clients who, as part of their personal goals and / or body enhancements, will want to have a photoshoot to remembering that experience. The focus, around this kind of shoot, maybe more “commercial” / “editorial”. I mean, an elaborate use of lighting, in a studio or outdoor settings. In this kind of boudoir sessions, the client wants to have a “Super model experience”, and that’s part of what you sell ... Experiences!



Photo by Jesús Bernardo



Photo by Kat Gill

The Honeymoon Gift.

When client’s intention is to use their images as a honeymoon gift, our approaches must be in accordance with that idea. A pre-shooting interview, is the best way to plan this kind of Boudoir session. Ask questions that allows you to understand your client’s interest. You will also need to think of the person to whom it is directed the final product. It is vital to know this to prevent an unexpected result in the client’s intention.

The Wedding Anniversary Gift

There will be client, interested in a photoshoot as an anniversary gift. Usually, this kind of clients are between their 30’s to 40’s, and in relationships ranging from 10 years onwards. This clients will be more willing to be guided by the photographer’s recommendations. You will need to be aware of areas of their bodies, that does not make your client feel comfortable. Ignoring these details, may result in somewhat uncomfortable session for the client. The goal in this third approach should be the correction of your subject, by posing and lighting, and empowering the best features of your client.



Photo by Jesús Bernardo

“The Happy Husband”

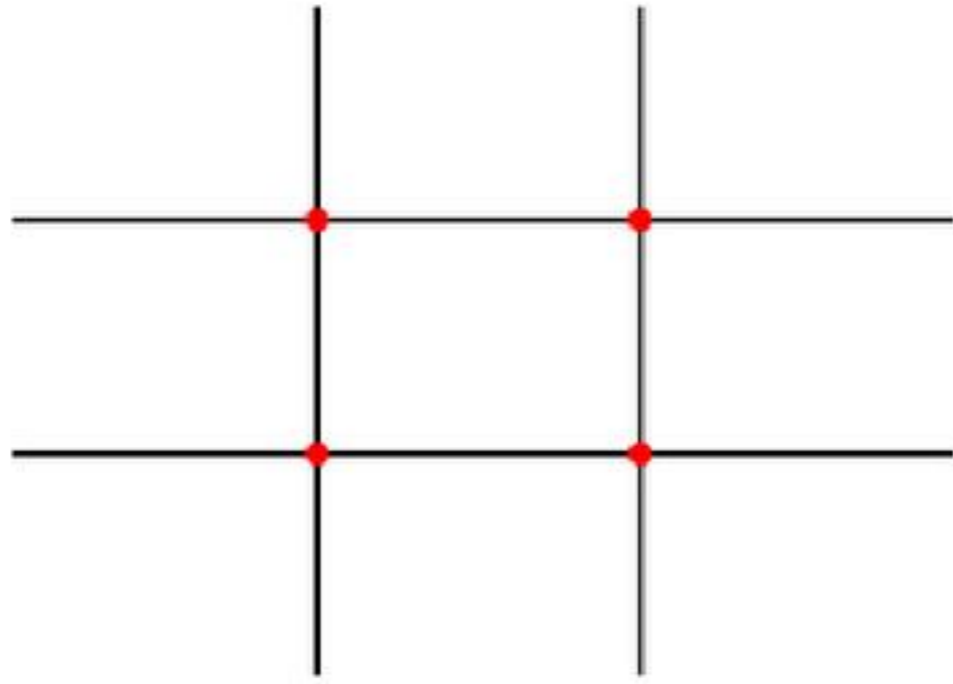
An impeccable job and a pleased client, will not necessarily result into a happy husband. If boudoir images are for a husband's gift, asking the right questions about his personality, character and interests, will give you an idea of what kind of images will be more relevant to him. This could be the difference between success and failure.

Knowing your client's hubby personality, before the photo shoot, will help you complement your shooting plan or “mood board” and further ensure the success of it. I try to say, that the focus of a photoshoot, planned for a liberal husband, will not get the same results, if it's directed to a conservative husband.



Basics


The Rules of Thirds

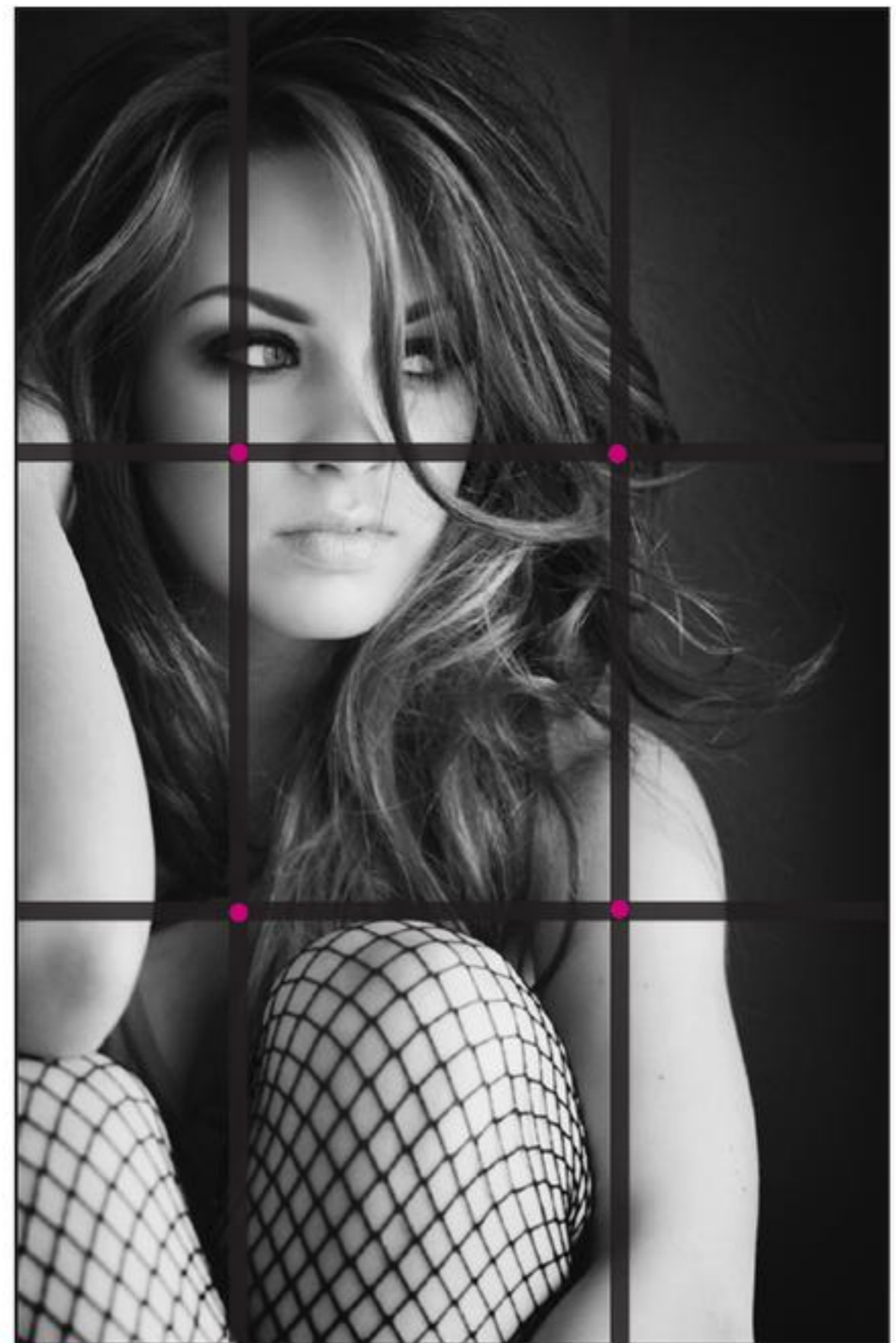



The interest points or power areas are represented by red dots. That does not mean you are not free to create, by learning these guidelines, until become parts of the way you think, will give you the knowledge to how and when break them.

Boudoir, as any other photography field is guided by the rules of thirds. We don't use this guidelines only when doing full body shoot, but also when we want to compose, lips, boobies, booty, pelvic areas and faces. The use of these guidelines will help you to create great compositions.



 Photo by Jessie Hanning Gliesman



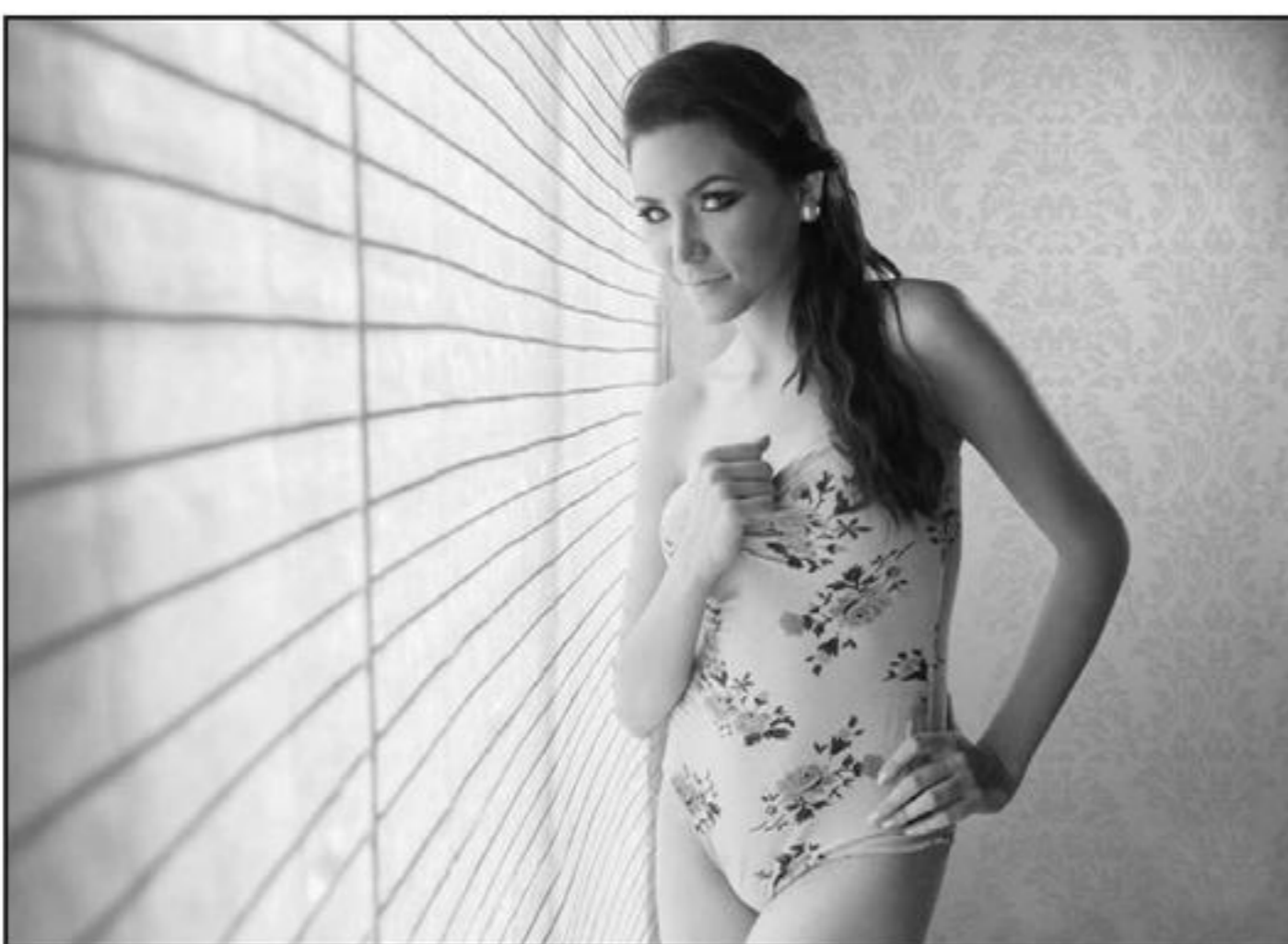
 Photo by Kat Gill

Contrast


When you read the word contrast, maybe your first thought is about lights and shadows. While the lights and shadows are part of an image, is also everything related to it. Understanding contrast, will take your work to the next level. The following list are some examples of how contrast could be applied to a photograph. Think of them, when composing your images.

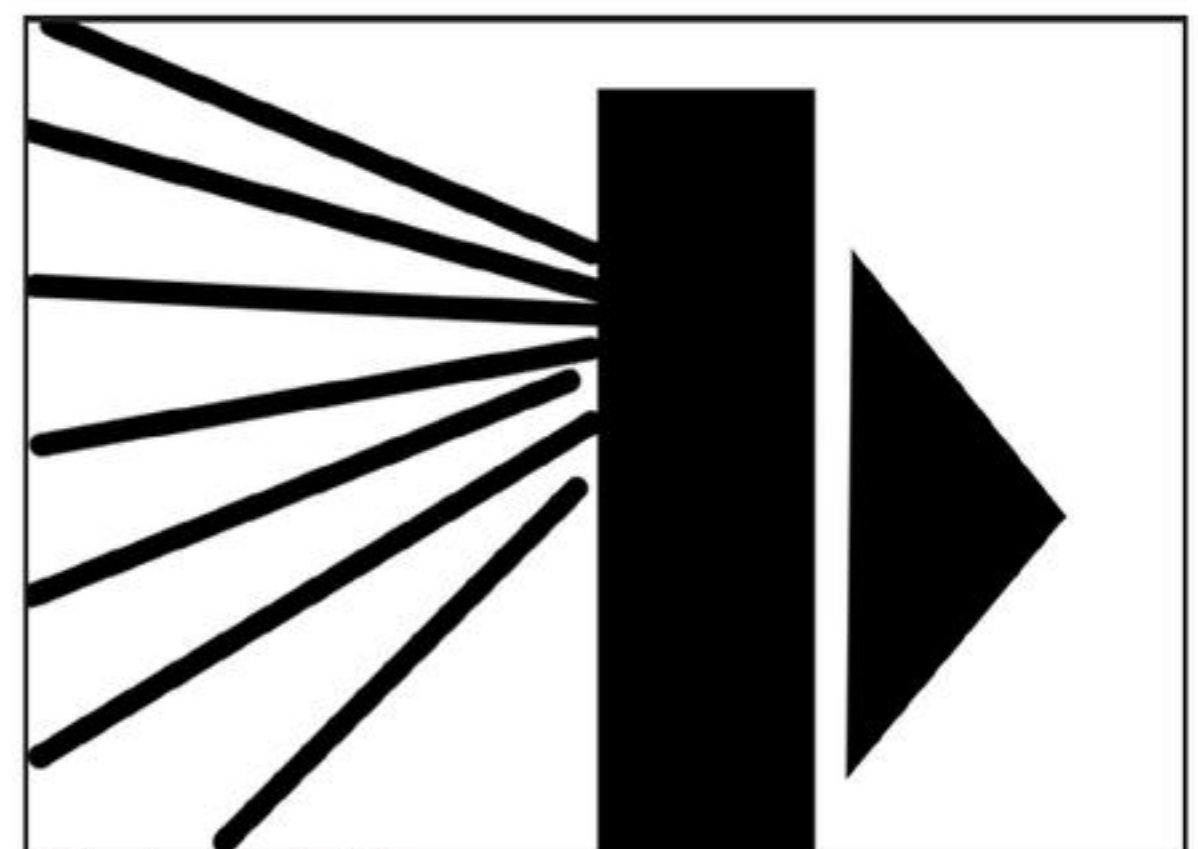
Point/ Line	Wide / narrow	Black / White	Strong / Weak
Plane / Volume	Still / moving	Continuous / intermittent	High / Low
Big / Small	Light / Heavy	A lot / little	Diagonal / Circular
Soft / Wrinkled	Thick / Thin	Liquid / Solid	Horizontal / Vertical
Long / Short	Light / Dark	Sweet / Sour	
Hard / Soft	Transparent / Opaque	Straight / Curved	

Each outstanding picture is well contrasted and balanced. Not just in a post-process way, but in how it's communicated the visual elements.



Horizontal / Vertical Contrast

 Jesús Bernardo



Object concepts View

The horizontal / vertical contrast, allow us to aim the eye to a specific point. The horizontal lines (diagonals blinds) draw a visual trace towards woman, who form a strong vertical line, that stops motion



Eyes

In addition to the basic photography guidelines: Theme, Focus Attention and Simplify, the following tips about eyes, will give you more control over your final work.

All emotions are expressed by eyes. In Boudoir photography the client's eyes are used to communicate or direct. When we want the viewer feels a connection with the subject, gaze has to say everything. It has to carry the message.

The following these tips will give you an idea of how to direct the client's eyes.

To suggest action: direct eyes somewhat upwards.

To suggest flirtatious: direct eyes somewhat sideways

To a sexy suggestive look: Direct eyes upwards at an angle somewhat less than the lens.

Eyes aimed away from your lens, will help you to lead the viewer through the scene. Some suggestions are: staring out a window, looking to one side or looking at herself. Explore the possibilities.

Photo by Jesús Bernardo

Lips



Lips itself, are the essence of seduction. In photographs where the subject is not smiling, a barely open lips, will always give a touch of sensuality.

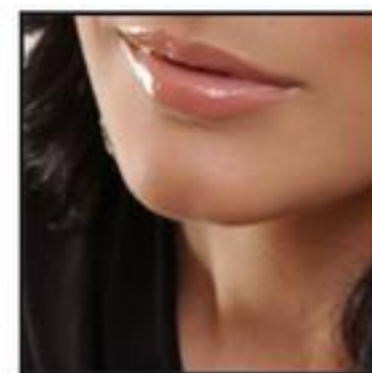
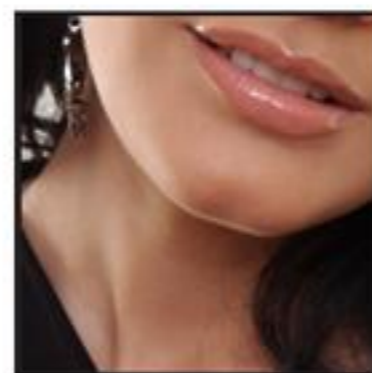


Photo by Jesús Bernardo

The shooting day



Mood Board Sample

The Mood Board

As defined in wikipedia "A mood board is a type of poster design that may consist of images, text, and samples of objects in a composition of the choice of the mood board creator. Designers and others use mood boards to develop their design concepts and to communicate to other members of the design team. Mood boards are often used by graphic designers to enable a person to illustrate visually the direction of style which they are pursuing. However, mood boards can also be used to visually explain a certain style of writing, or an imaginary setting for a storyline. In short, mood boards are not limited to visual subjects, but serve as a visual tool to quickly inform others of the overall 'feel' (or 'flow') that a designer is trying to achieve. Creating mood boards in a digital form may be easier and quicker, but physical objects often tend to have a higher impact on people because of the more complete palette of sensations physical mood boards offer, in contrast with the black & white or color-prints of a digital mood board".

In Boudoir Photography - mood boards can be a useful tool for newbies as well as for experienced photographers. Also a mood board will help your client understand a pose concept, or a "specific mood" you want to achieve. You will not look unprofessional if you carry with an idea notebook, instead the client will feel that her session was exclusively planned.

Creating the right mood

In a boudoir photo session, the mood you establishes, is very important for the success of it. If shooting day, is the first time you'll going to meet your client, create a bond with her, before start shooting. Leverages the makeup period to discuss topics not related to the session, such as: How is the college? or work? or any positive topic of the day. Once communication channels are opened, ask about the colors of clothes she bring for the session, and with which one she wants to start. If client asks you to pick which one to start, choose the most reserved or less showy and leave the one you think is best, for the second change. Many times, you will find your client tense, in her initials "shots", after a while, she will feel more confident, and you will like to use her best clothes when that happen.

During the Photoshoot

During a photoshoot is very important to positively encourage your client. Many of them will be nervous and worried about whether or not they are doing well. Always show your client some photos so she can see by herself how good she's doing it. Use the right words to encourage your client, but remember they are private people and language used with them, should vary from what is used in a professional model session.

When suggesting poses, the best way is by modeling. That is, if you want a smiling client, smile at her, if you want she place her hand on her waist, place your hand on your waist and so on. No matter whether you're male or female avoid touching your client or get into their comfort zone. As far as possible have an assistant to help you in case were necessary. This will help you to keep your professional attitude. Caring for your reputation, it's very important for your future marketing.

Lights, Camera, Action...!



Equipment

There is an old adage that said “*is not the arrow, but the Indian*” Although it is true that a great photographer, regardless of his camera, can make outstanding works, it is equally true that the best equipment will make your work more easy.

Which camera you’ll decide to use, it will be up to your taste and budget. Boudoir photography can be considered it as a “Studio Portrait” in terms of equipment choices. So you can use the studio equipment guidelines to fill out your shopping cart.

Medium and large format cameras are used in Studios to deliver crisp and outstanding images.

I’m not saying that you’ll need a medium or large format camera to be a boudoir photographer. Today, most cameras are equipped with full frame sensors up to 36MP, with great management of dynamic range. This can deliver outstanding pictures in almost every environment situation.

No matter which camera you’ll decide to use, just be sure to select the highest quality lens for it. Best recommended lenses for portraits (Boudoir as well) that you must have in your bag are: a fast 85mm or 50mm and a wide angle 24-70mm.



Lights are the essence of photography. What really gives the wow punch in a photograph, is actually how the lights were used in the scene. The trick to be one of a kind photographer is mastering lights. Lights can be directed in any way you want. The use of reflectors, diffuser, softbox and all created modifiers, will allow you achieved outstanding results.

Artificial lights are made in terms of quality, power and colors (Kelvin degrees). Almost any light can be used for Boudoir. The use of more advanced lights, modifiers, and equipment, will be necessary if you want to create a specific mood, like seen on Playboy.

Reflectors and diffusers help to bring light to the areas where you need it and will help you to achieve a soft light look.

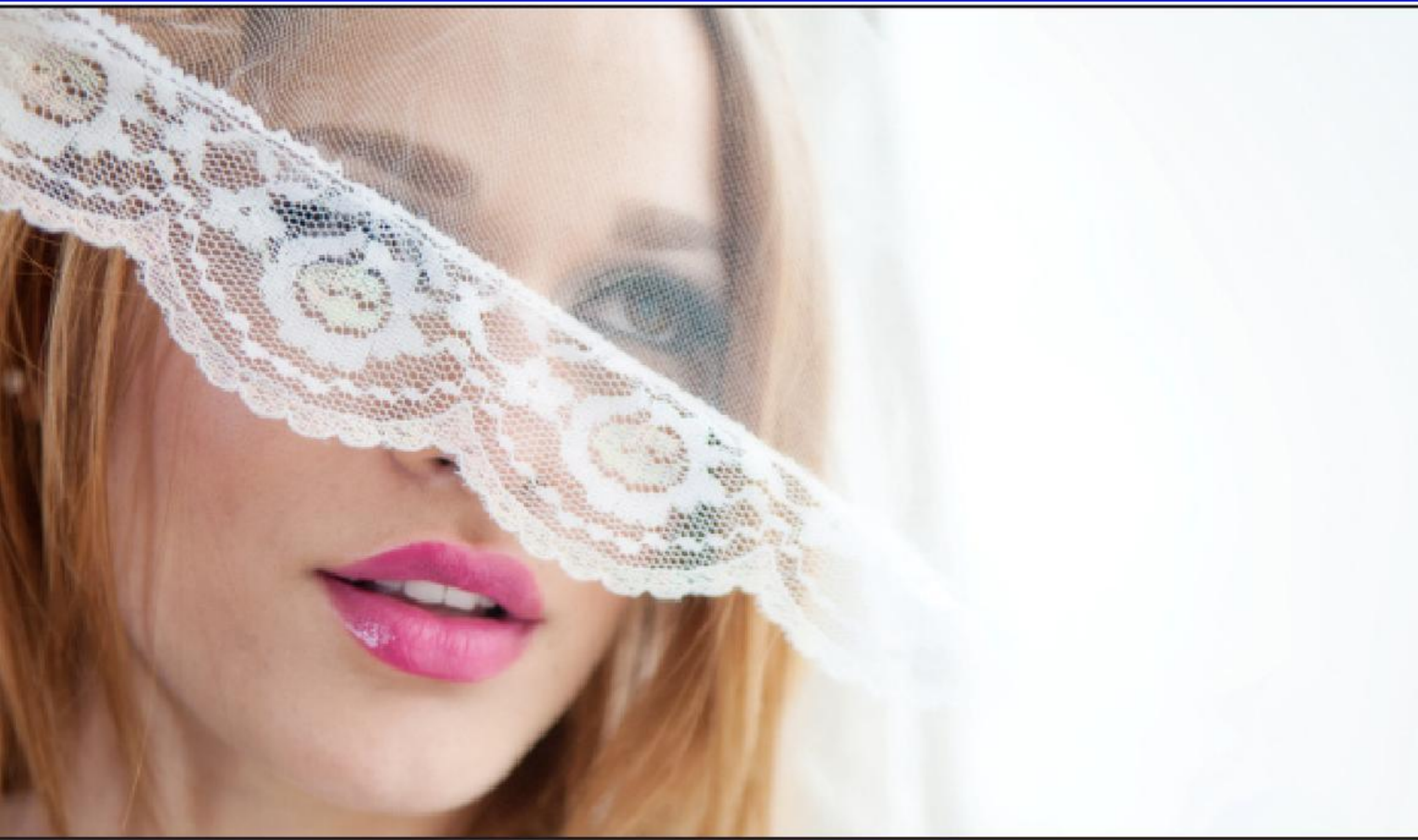
Softbox can be made with different shapes. Each shape has a specific lights distribution purpose

Pro monolights has powerful, precise and constant light quality. Pro monolights are color balanced, so it will help you in the overall white balanced of your pictures

Speedlights units are powerful, reliable and easy to carry.







🇵🇷 Photo by Jesus Bernardo



le Boudoir



In this picture

Visual lines help viewer enjoy the composition. The relaxed theme in this picture, can give us the idea of a woman thinking about her fiancé or having a nap before her mate arrive.

How to achieve it?

Lighting - The use of flat lighting is predominant here. (Low or no contrast between lights and shadows) You can achieve this quality with natural or artificial lights.


Light ratio 1:1 (lights at equal power at equal distance)

C-Data Canon 5D MkII 85mm 1.2 Lens A: f /1.8 I: 125 S: 1/200

A fast lens will be useful to achieve that flat look. You can start with 1.8 to f5. 6 depending on how much bokeh you want to create.

Composition The left arm was used as a frame to emphasize the expression on face. The body is aimed right and up diagonally, creating dynamic lines through the picture.



 Photo by Jessie Hanning Gliesman





In this picture.

Body parts shots, always evoke sensuality and excitement. The buttocks, chest, lips, back and legs, are considered as appealing areas on women. This kind of "shots" helps to highlight the lingerie design, giving an overall "high end" look to the image.

How to achieve it?

Lighting : High key shots with a contrast ratio 1:1 on subject.

Studio setting: use two lights for background and two for your subject. This is called Paramount Lighting. You could also try a "one light butterfly" with the same set for the background

On location: if it's a sunny day, placed your subject in front of a window at least 1.5 meters away. Use large apertures on your lens

C-Data: Canon 5D MkII 50mm 1.2 Lens A: f/1.8 I: 125 S: 1/200

A good start for a nice high key shoot in studio is f/8.

However, you will want to start with a f/2.8 or higher, when using window lighting All will depend how bright is the light outside.

Composition: You can still use the rules of thirds for these kind of shots. The curve from her hip to the thigh, create a relaxed sight loop. That's mean you can look at this picture again and again without getting tired.



Photo by Jessie Hanning Gliesman



Photo by Jessie Hanning Gliesman

This is another sample of how to get lingerie details. This kind of shot will be very appealing for the client's couple.

Lighting

Most of boudoir photos has the look of flat lighting. Flat lighting is beautiful and recommended to start any boudoir session. As a rule of thumb, performs an a facial analysis before determining how to set your lights.

Aperture and Composition

You can use a fast aperture like 1.4 to f4 to get a beautiful "bokeh", so you can focus attention through depth of field. This will let viewers see, where you want they see.



In This Picture.

When a women make the decision to give an unforgettable gift to her hubby, she means unforgettable.

This gorgeous shot, made by Kat Gill shows up what unforgettable mean. From the pose to the beautiful lingerie, makes this shot, the “money shot”

How to achieve it?

Lighting:

On location, you can use the window light as a key light and a reflector to fill the shadows. Always expose in a way that you can keep the ambient scene.

C-Data: Canon 5D 50mm 1.4
Lens A:f/2.0 I: 400
S: 1/160

Composition Although most of the body is shown here, this composition could be considered as a body part shot, instead of 3/4 portrait. Why? There is no face at all. This kind of shoot is useful to make your client looks flirt. Also will helps you the show the outfit details.

In This Picture.

The mix of vertical and diagonal line drawn from the head, right arm, and by the aperture of the “Baby doll” makes this shot, truly lovely.

How to achieve it?

Lighting: This kind of lighting evoke a “over-exposure fashion look”. You can achieve this by over exposure the background, but be sure to use a reflector or strobe to fill the shadows.

C-Data: Canon 5D 50mm 1.4 Lens A: f/2
I: 500 S: 1/160.

Composition In this picture, the head and hip are placed in the upper and lower thirds of the right, so the point of interest are aimed to those parts.





Photo by Kat Gill

In This Picture. ▲

Action, energy, vitality! - The diagonal lines that are formed by the legs, arms and even her body, create a sense of unity and excitement.

How to achieve it?

Lighting: The lighting setup is known as "broadlighting" This image shows some contrast that creates depth and dimension as well as a more romantic look. On location, you can achieve this by placing your subject in front of window or artificial light source, aiming her face 45 degrees towards the light source

C-Data: Canon 5D 50mm 1.4 Lens f/2.5
I: 800 S: 1/160

Composition In this image, subject's face was placed in upper third to right . The legs and arms forms vertical and diagonal lines that converge itself. That gives some dynamism to the composition.

In This Picture.

This photography can be considered as a head / shoulder shot. This kind of shots, helps viewer to concentrate in the upper body.

C-Data: Canon 5D 50mm 1.4 Lens f/1.4

I: 400 S: 1/200

Lighting: A ratio contrast of 2:1, can be achieved by using strobes or window light. The way lights has covered the client's face is called "broad lighting"

Composition By placing boobs on the left upper third and face on the right lower third, create a visual trace that helps to direct viewer.

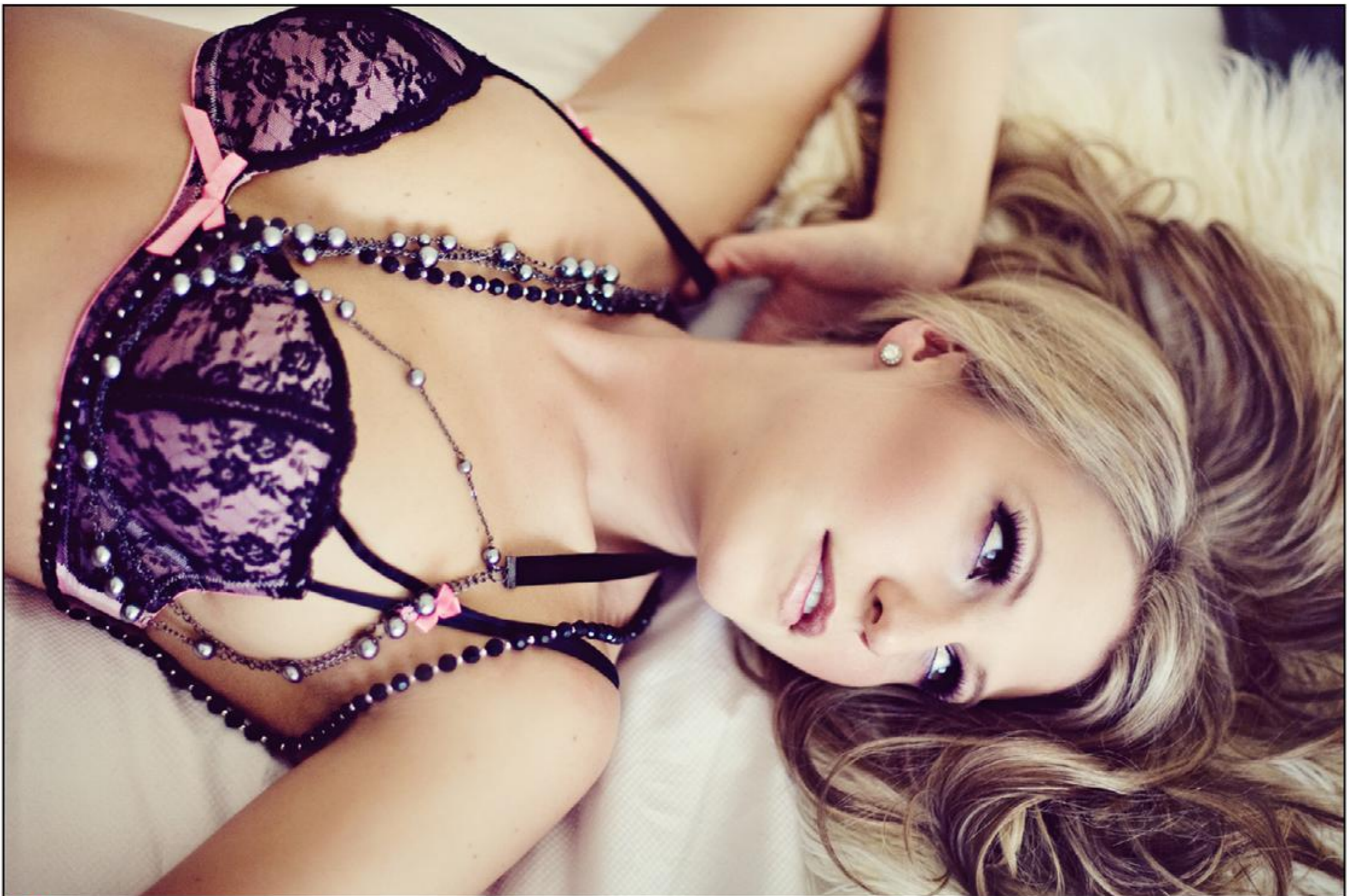


Photo by Kat Gill

In This Picture.

Sometimes, when we see some pictures, our heart starts bumping fast. Not only for the beautiful subject, but also for the beautiful composition and pose. That is exactly what happened here.

How to achieve it?

Lighting:

Window light as backlighting, with a strobe or reflector to fill the shadows, Can create a beautiful overexposed look, while keeping the room scene.

C-Data: Canon 5D 50mm 1.8
Lens A:f/2.5 I: 640 S 1/160

Composition

The triangles Visually formed-by body parts, give a sense of perfection.

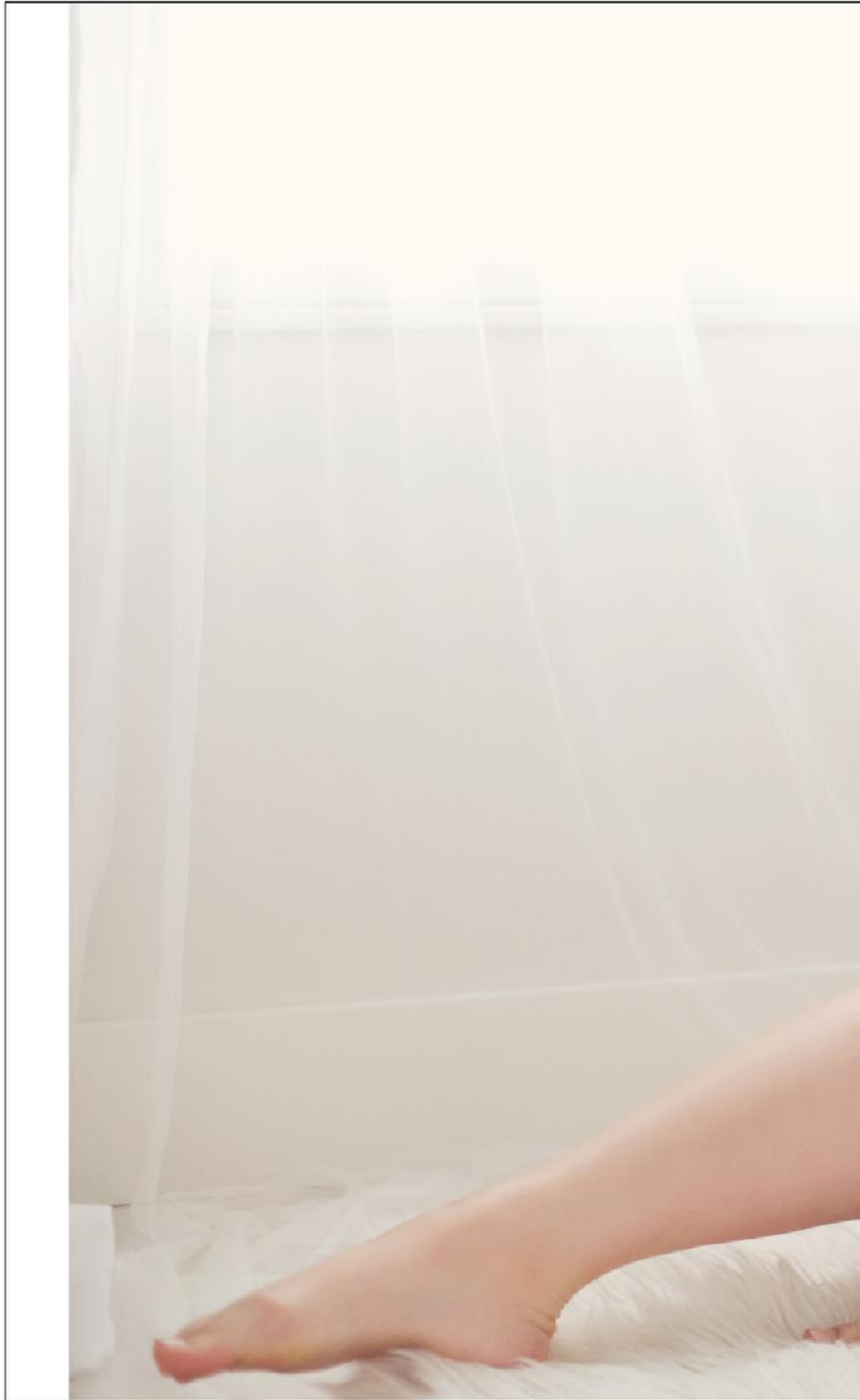




Photo by Kat Gill

The Book of Boudoir



Photo by Kat Gill

In This Picture.

I called this kind of pictures “iconic image” A photograph that easily can be in the “story board” of any romantic movie.

How to achieve it?

Lighting:

Natural light through window, help you keep the scene.

One of the best things you will want to do, in a hotel room boudoir session, is to use window lighting.

C-Data: Canon 5D 50mm 1.8 Lens A:f/2.0 I: 1250 S 1/160

Composition

Two great composition techniques were used here:

Framming *The use of doors to direct the viewer*

Contrast *The use of the darkest elements in the image to keep the viewer’s attention.*



Canon 5D 50mm 1.8 Lens A:f/2.0 I: 640 S: 1/200

🇨🇦 Photo by Kat Gill



Photo by Kat Gill



Photo by Kat Gill



Photo by Kat Gill



Photo by Kat Gill

In This Picture.

There are several ways to use “framing” in Boudoir photography and one of them is by using actual frame for it. “Framing” help you to focus attention on your subject. Even the arms and legs of your clients can be used as a frame to focus attention on a specific body part.

How to achieve it?

Lighting:

Ambient light mixed with strobe or reflectors help keep the room scene, giving more appropriate mood to what a “the boudoir” should be.

C-Data: Canon 5D 50mm 1.4
Lens A:f/2 I: 640 S 1/200

Composition

The rule of thirds is very clear in this picture. The lovely use of “framing” allowed photographer to ensure the attention on her subject.



Photo by Kat Gill



In This Picture.

“Mood Shots” should be a “must” in Boudoir Photography. “Mood Shots” are a type of photographs that suggest a story. For example this picture can suggest us that this beautiful lady is about to receive her husband for a romantic encounter.

How to achieve it?

Lighting:

The ambient light creates a scene that engages us in it. This type of light was commonly used by the painter Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn

C-Data: Nikon D700 85mm
Lens A:f/2.0 I: 320 S: 1/100

Composition

The subject is clearly defined and there is no way that any other element of this picture can be above of her.



In This Picture. ►

The use of props to define a human figure or to keep attention in specific areas, could enhance a picture, turning it into a more interesting one.

How to achieve it?

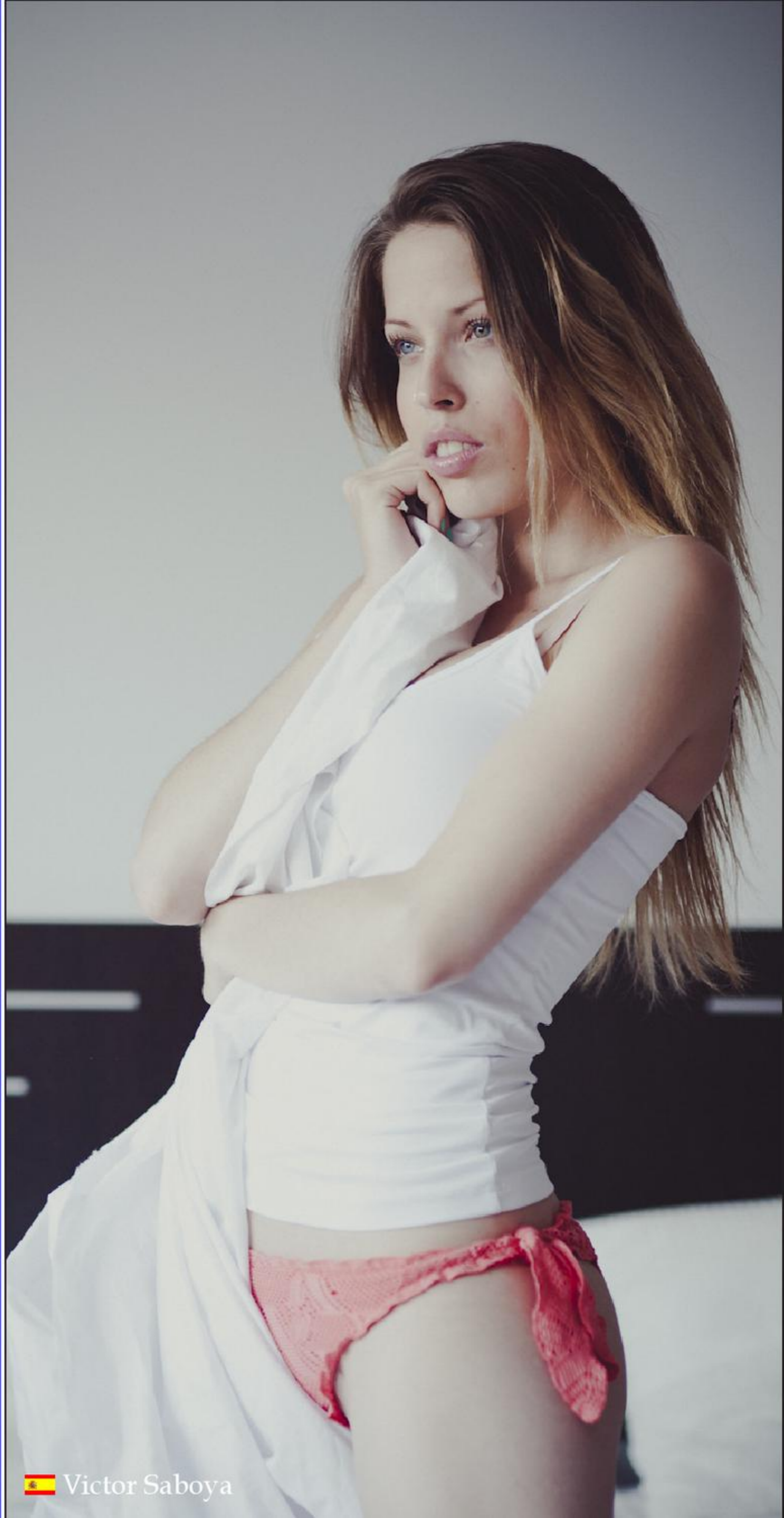
Lighting:

Ambient light.

C-Data: Nikon D700 85mm
Lens A:f/2.5 I: 500 S: 1/60

Composition

The subject filled almost the whole frame, simplifying the scene. The beautiful curves and diagonal lines made by the lady's body, establish a visual pattern. The use of bed sheets, to keep one side of the body exposed, keeps the viewer's eyes on subject.





 Victor Saboya

Cropping is art. When a photographer decides to crop an image, decisions must not only be based on frame proportion. Also should consider the way you want to direct the viewer's attention and how you want to balance the elements within the image. That's the reason why you feel comfortable seeing this beautiful "body part" shot, without getting tired.

In This Picture.

Once you have learned the basic photography skills, the camera and equipment will be for you, what the paint and brush are for a painter. A Boudoir photographer also need to know how to develop a story. He will need to create a scene that says something about his subject.

How to achieve it?

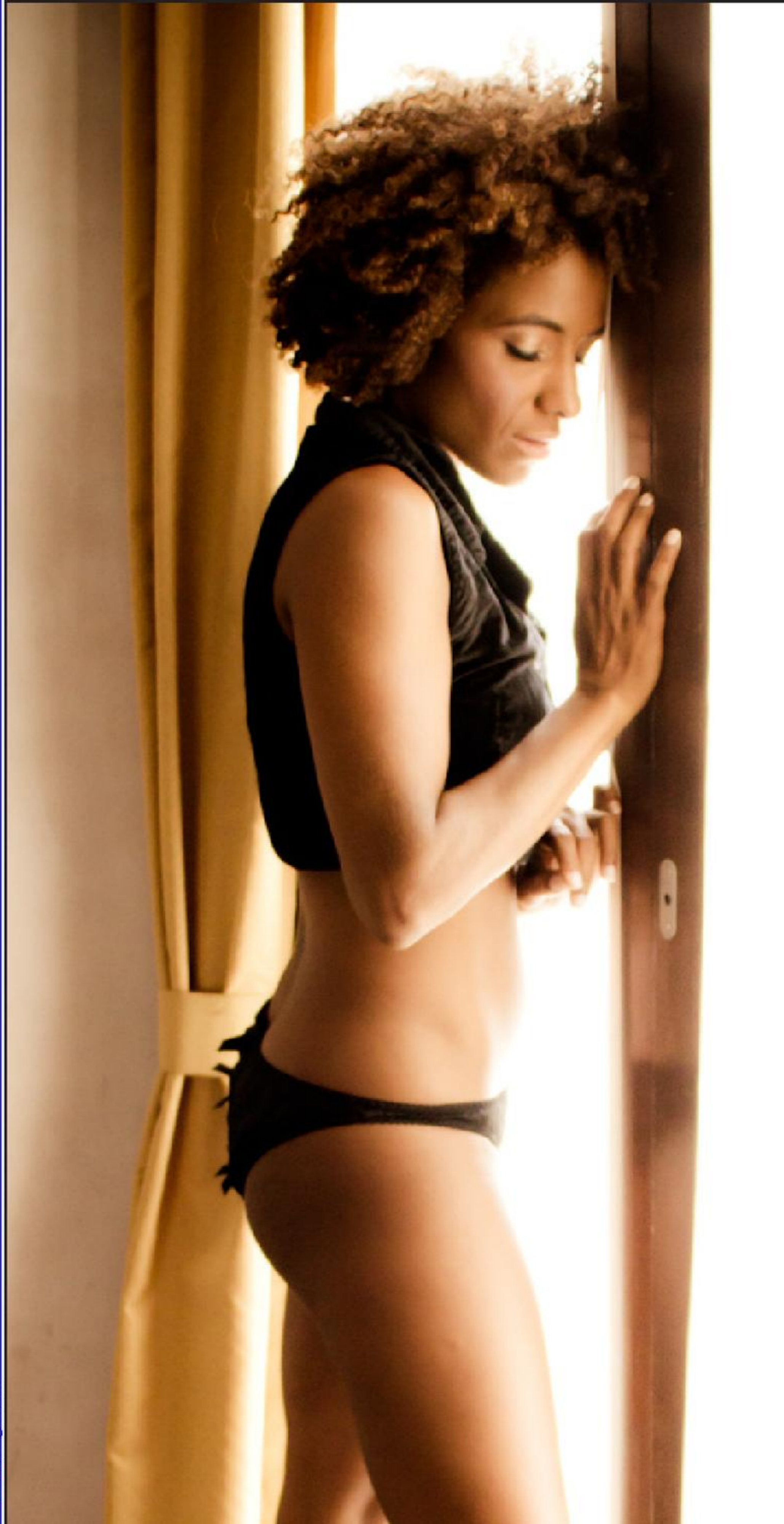
Lighting:

Ambient light.

C-Data: Canon T2i 24-70mm
A:f/2.8 I: 800 S: 1/125

Composition

There is a framing drawn around the main subject, created by the doors curtains and frame. This form a pattern of 3 straight lines through the picture.



In This Picture.

This beautiful composition, flattered with window lighting, should be included in all your Boudoir sessions.

For women, accessories enhance their beauty. Be aware of all items your clients bring with, and include them during the shoot

How to achieve it?

Lighting:

Ambient / Window light.

Composition

This is a lovely body part shoot. Her left bust was placed in the lower right third and the lights falled beautifully through all chest, pointing out the reflective necklace.







In This Picture.

The choice of outfits, will make your client look at their best. When your client is not looking at the lens, our brain start to look for something to make contact (the things relevant to us) Is then when the beautiful corset of this picture, captures our attention. Although there are patterns behind and beside the subject, the framed composition, keeps our eyes where they need to stay.

How to achieve it?


Lighting:

Ambient light with fill. Depends on day and where the sun is, you can achieve this lighting mood without fill flash or reflector

Composition

There is a framing drawn around the main subject, created by door frame. The camera angle gives some dynamics to the whole composition



 Robin Owen







 Ludivine Vigue

Do you ever ask yourself, the whys a woman decides to have some boudoir pictures? What do you think a woman feels when she see herself, beautiful and gorgeous in a photograph? A large percent of clients, seeking for boudoir session, is because of a personal goals. Even when a boudoir session has been booked for a husband gift, many women will seek to have a boudoir experience for the pampering and glamorous time involved in it. You must be aware of this, to be always within client's goals. One of your main goals is to positively impact a client's life, as beautiful as you can.



In This Picture.

In your boudoir shoot plan, this beauty shots must be included. As the eyes are the doors of soul, you'll want to leave a couple of "frames" to make this type of shots, It will also serve you as transition pages in your Boudoir album design.

Lighting:

Ambient light with fill or a couple of monolight will help you to achieve this

kind of mood. Depends on your clients face and skin textures start your session with flat lighting.

Composition

This compositions are based on rule of thirds. The artist placed her subject face in different points of interest.






Brides at Boudoir

Bridal lingerie sets can be really gorgeous. Although there is nothing new with the “Bride Boudoir” name, this kind of photo session should be described as photographs where the bridal lingerie, veils or even bridal dresses are shown. The next pages are just a few samples, to get an idea of how Bridal Boudoir Photos should be looks like...




 Nuno Figueiredo



 Dawn V Gilmore





 Victor Saboya

Couple at Boudoir

The love between couples, is a unique and special love. When two people complement harmoniously, their lives tends to be very happy. Those people usually do most things together, going to movies, wash their cars, shopping, cleaning the house, etc.

Boudoir photography for couples, can be a fun and exciting experience for those types of marriages. Through this kind of pictures, they can celebrate the love they has for each other. Translating it into some beautiful photographs, professionally created. This is an alternative that they will be willing to experience.

Before making your first boudoir couple session, consider all the guidelines that are shown in this book. It is recommended to perform a brief interview with the couple a few days before the session. Ask them about what they expect from their photoshoot, as a well as the outfits t they will bring with them. The idea is to build trust with them, while their answers, will give you an idea of how to plan your photo shoot. Don't forget to be creative, you will be surprised of results.


The following pages show some samples of Boudoir for Couples.

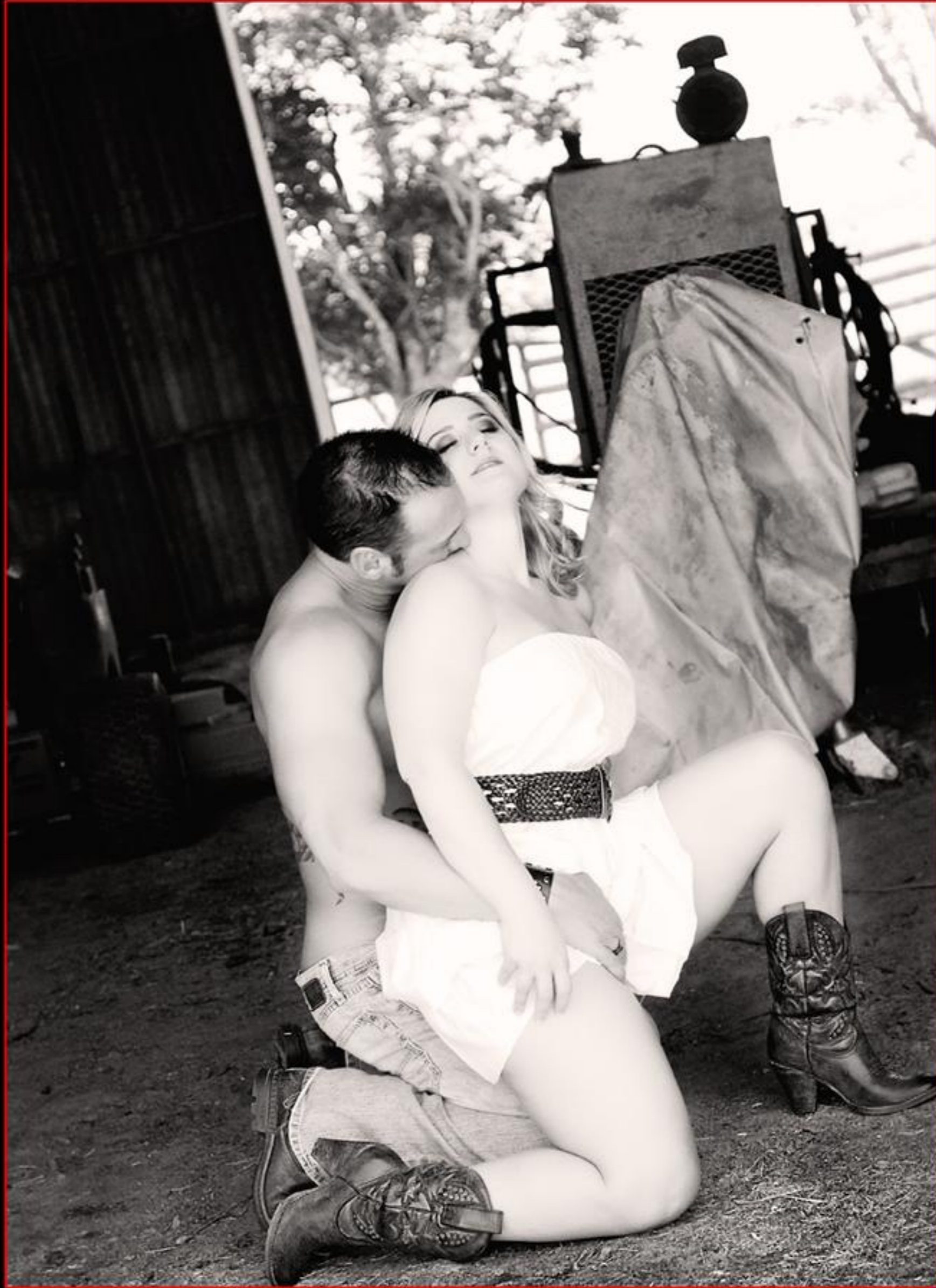




 Jennifer Hass



 Jennifer Hass



 Jennifer Hass




Fine Art “at le Boudoir”

Art is the expression of a world inside the artist . Is the way a man or woman interprets reality. “Fine Art” Boudoir and commissioned sessions, can be a great experience in many ways. It can be an opportunity to take your photography to a whole new level or make your clients become into a memorable icon.




By adding textures and playing with colors intensity, will help you to achieve outstanding results.



 Jennifer Tallero

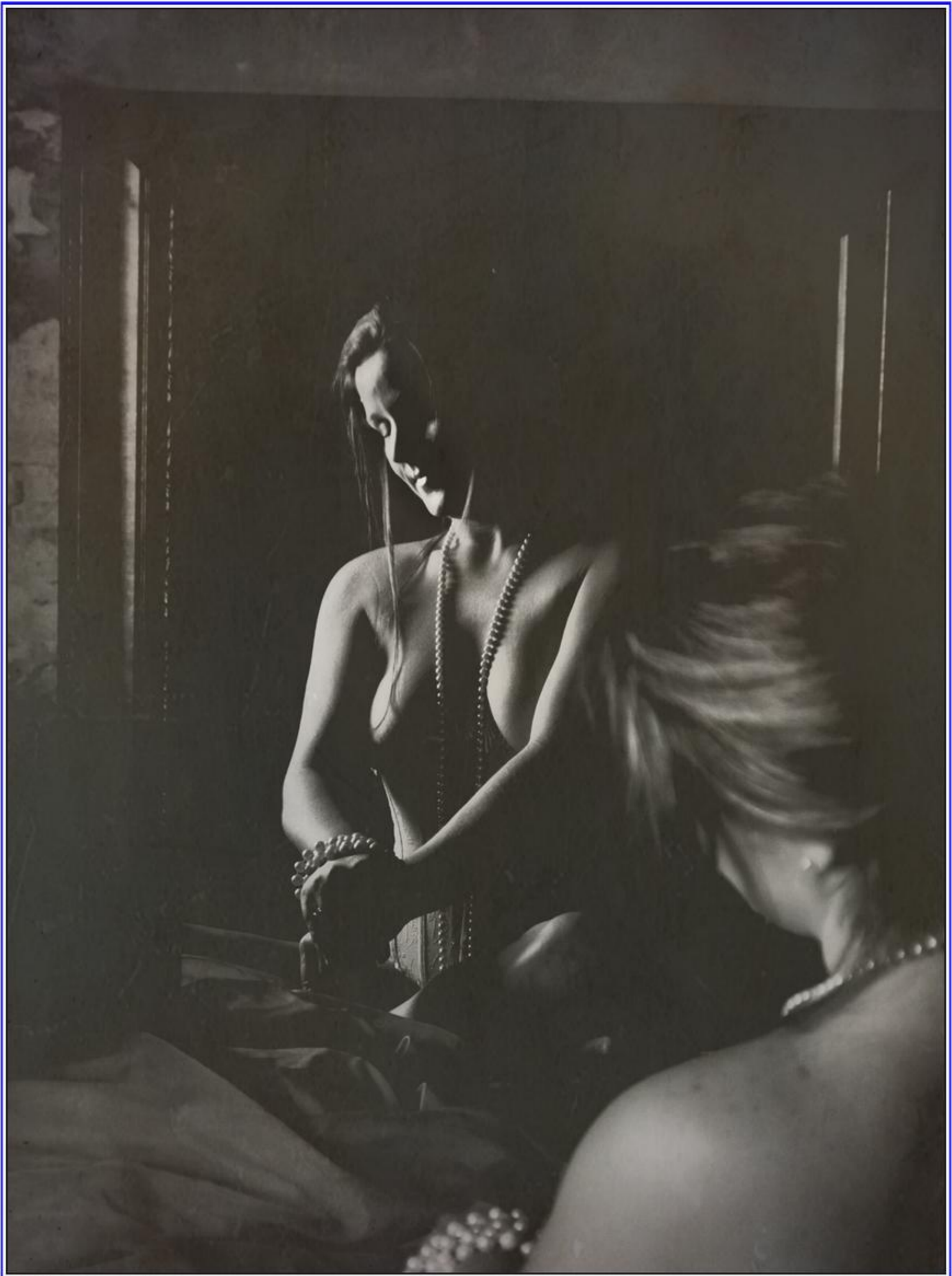



 Jennifer Tallerico




This type of photography should not be seen in a traditional manner, but rather in an inspirational contemplative. The post process makes photographs more displayable and profitable. Fine Art Boudoir Photography can be an alternative to those who love arts , or women who love themselves in a more transcendental manner.






 Jennifer Tallerico




 Jennifer Talerico

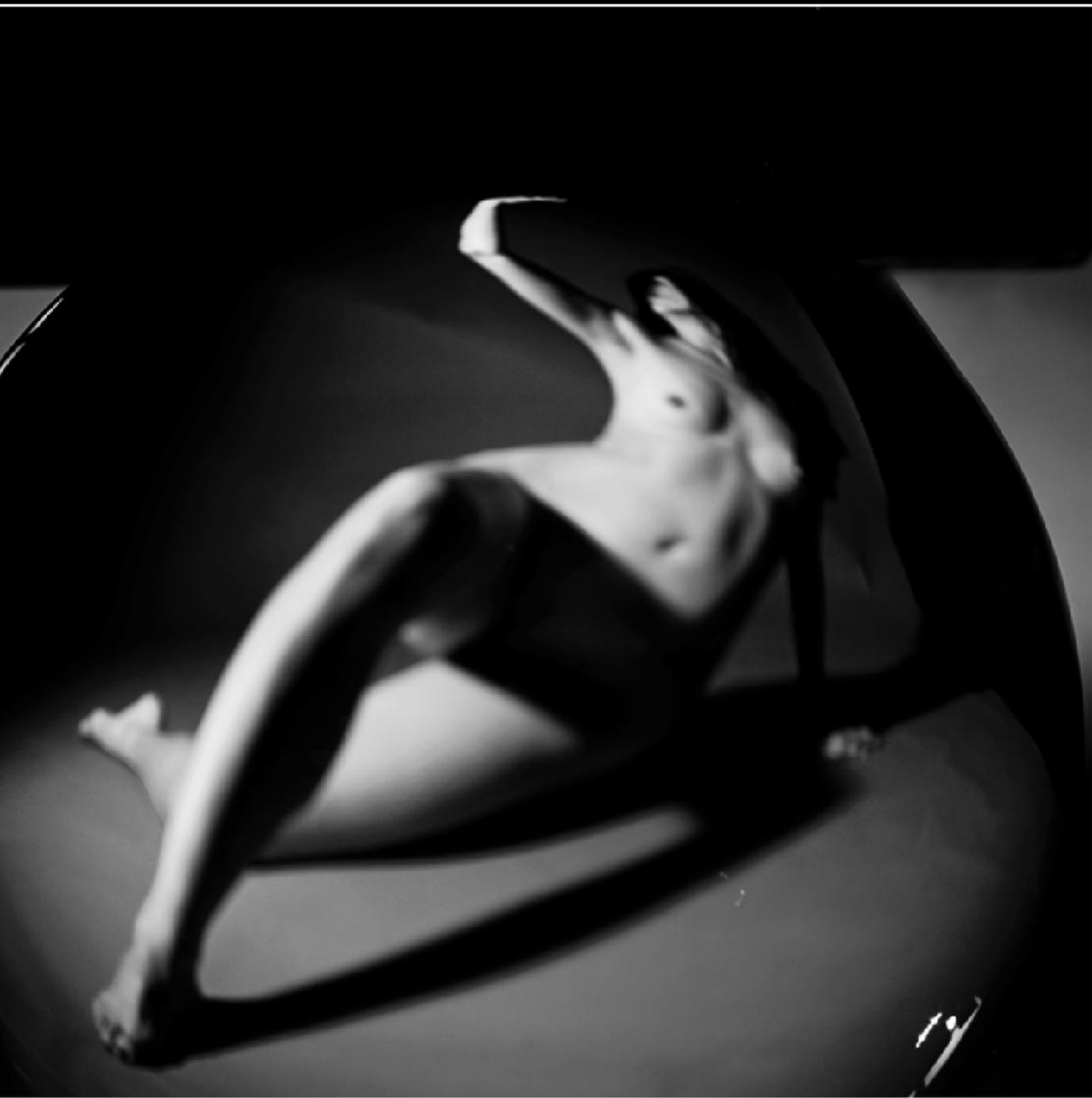


 Jennifer Tallerico




 Susan Eckert

Fine Art Boudoir Photography can also be modern and creative. By adding different kind of elements, you can enhance the emotional reaction of viewers. You can take your boudoir photography to the next level by exploring different approaches, mixing the past with the present, or even the future.



 Susan Eckert




 Susan Eckert

Commissioned photographs can be those who are inspired by an old famous painting, photographs, sculptures or a specific theme created by the client or photographer itself. This requires planning, preparation and the right equipment. Usually, the clients who look for a timeless piece of themselves are willing to pay for it.






 Susan Eckert





 Susan Eckert



 Susan Eckert

In this picture Nuno Figueiredo from Portugal, made an iconic picture with comercial value.

The beauty of Boudoir Photography is that we can make our clients become into a super models

The Glam





amour Boudoir

Our top 10 for Inspiration



Pinterest

Editors Picks



Pinterest





Pinterest



Pinterest





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Pinterest







...tips to improve your Boudoir Photography

Body Shapes in Boudoir

Here is a quick guide that will hopefully, help you get a better idea of what will flatter your client's body the most. Knowing what assets your clients and what parts of their bodies they love most, will help you to help them to showing off



Jennifer Tallero

When suggesting lingerie sets to your clients, is important to know how to advise them. The perfect lingerie must be in accordance to the body type. One good lingerie costumes can look extremely powerful in their photographs, if your client knows how to select the best that fits. The truth is that many clients will not put too much effort into the type of underwear they buy. They take it just for the price or how beautiful it looks on a mannequin or a supermodel poster.

There is no reason to complicate your Boudoir photoshoot with wrong underwear. With these tips, you will learn how to correctly suggest the most suitable underwear to your client's body type.

The Pear Shape (Spoon/Bell/Triangle)

Waist is at least 75% of chest measurement, and hips measurement is at least 110% of chest. Pear shaped women have fuller hips and bottoms, with a smaller bust. The measurements for hips are wider than shoulders. This body type looks great in square neck lines, sexy push up bras, and ruffled shoulders. These pieces will add fullness to your shoulders and bust area, evening out her frame, and creating an hourglass look.

Celebrities that have this body type:
Triangle Celebrities: Lucy Liu, Jennifer Lopez, Beyonce

The Apple Shape (Cone/Inverted Triangle)

Waist at most 75% of chest measurement, and the chest is at least 110% of hips measurement. Apple shaped women tend to have fuller bust, and or mid section. Measurements for shoulders are wider than your hips. An apple shape woman tends to have a smaller bottom, and great slimmer legs. This body type looks great showing off their legs, and wearing items that even out your frame. A great example of lingerie for your client, would be a chemise or babydoll with a tulip cut, or empire waist line. These pieces will add fullness to your hips, evening out her frame, and creating an hourglass look.

Celebrities that have this body type:
Oprah Winfrey, Rosie O'Donnell, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Liz Hurley

The Column Shape (Banana/Rectangular/Ruler)

Waist is at least 75% of chest or hip measurements, which are virtually the same. Straight body types, tend to look long and lean, often described as a "boyish" figure. Keep in mind this does not mean that a woman are petite in the bust cup. They can be either petite in bust, or average. Measurements for shoulders, hips, and waist are all very close to the same.

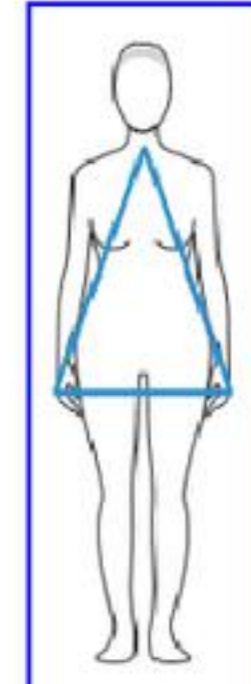
This body type looks great in items that



The Rectangle



The Apple



The Pear



The Full Hour Glass

create a waist line, think of breaking her body up into sections. A great example of lingerie for your client, would be a bra, and garter belt set. The garter belt creates a waist line, while the bra and panties add color and texture to her bust, and hips to create a hourglass look.

Celebrities that have this body type:
Gwyneth Paltrow, Kirsten Dunst, Keira Knightly

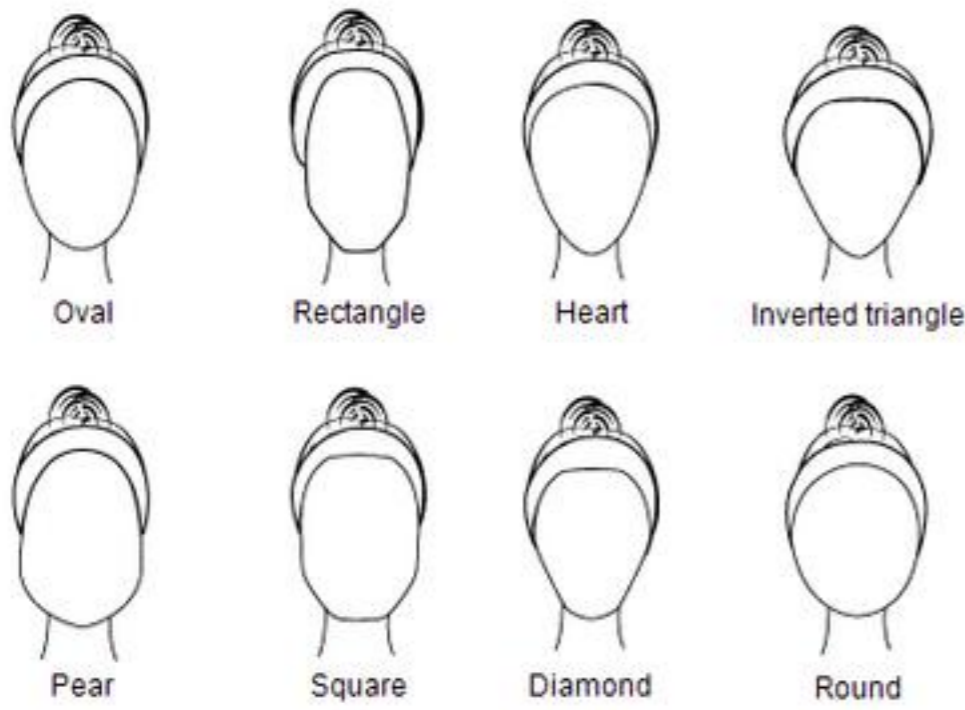
The Hourglass Shape

Waist is less than 75% of chest or hips measurements, which are virtually the same. Hourglass shaped women have defined shoulders, and curvy hips. Measurements for hip and shoulders are inline, with a small to average waist. Note this measurement is from hips to shoulders, a woman can be an hourglass, with a petite bra cup size. While they have the romantic shape, showing it off is key. This body type looks great in items that show off her waist line. A great example of lingerie for your client, would be snug fitting chemises, cropped camisoles and thongs, and teddies.

Celebrities that have this body type:
Marilyn Monroe, Scarlett Johansson, Salma Hayek

Article recovery from: <http://www.aveclamour.com/school-body-type>

Face Types



Knowing how to determine your client's face shape is very important as it helps you to select the best accessories, hair and makeup styles that best fit your client. Your client's facial shape, determines a set of guidelines that will help you to make recommendation during the makeover session.

Knowing about Face Shapes will help you to be aware of:

- Hairstyles and haircuts
- Sunglasses and eyewear
- Jewelry such as earrings and necklaces
- Necklines and print tops
- Hats
- Yes and even makeup techniques

How the Wrong Styling Affects Your Client's Face?

Because face is the first thing we noticed in a picture, the wrong styling in client's face shape can easily make people think: "What's up with that picture?"

If you want to create a fabulous photograph, it really pays to make sure that you know what fits best to your client's face shape. If you think this is overwhelming, one good choice is to contract a Certified Hair and Make Stylist or Style Consultant.



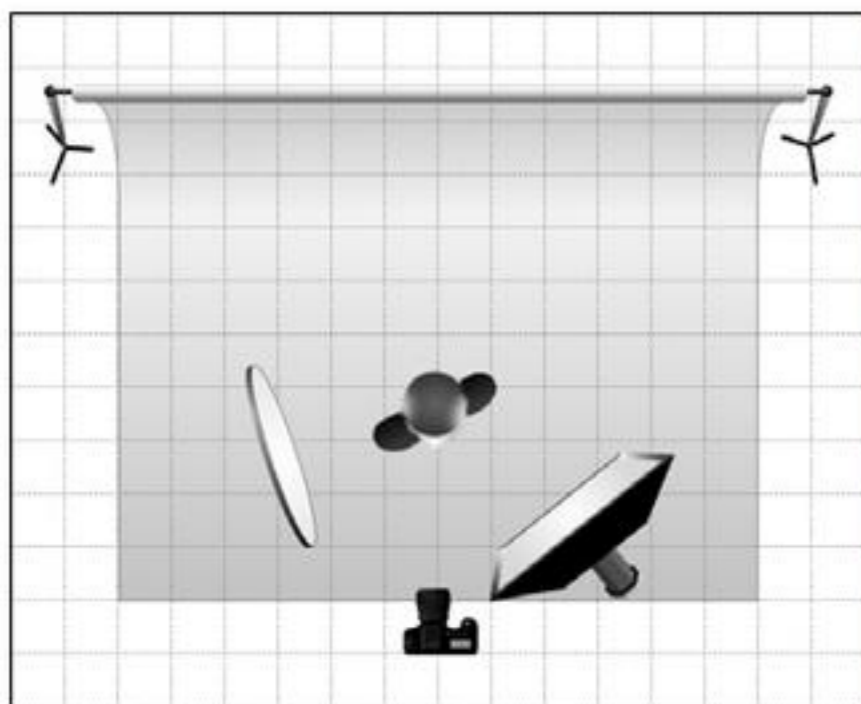
CORRECTIVE TECHNIQUES

Defect	Head Positon	Camera Height	Lighting
Long Nose	Full Face	Lower	Butterfly
Short Nose	Chin slightly down	Higher	Basic
Hook Nose	Full face	Lower	Butterfly
Weak Chin	Chin up	Lower	Butterfly short shadow
Prominent Chin	Leaning Forward	Higher	Basic or Rembrandt
Double Chin	Leaning Forward	Higher	Basic- Main raised
Short Neck	Head up	Lower	Basic
Prominent Forehead	3/4 face chin tilted up	Lower	Rembrandt
Small Eyes	Eyes Looking at higher position	Eye level	Basic 1:1 - Butterfly short shadow
Bulging eyes	3/4 face looking down	Eye level	Rembrandt
Narrow Face	Full face or 3/4 toward front	lower	Butterfly short shadow
Broad Face	3/4 or Profile	Higher	Rembrandt
Facial Blemihes	3/4 keeping major blemishes on shadow side	optional	Basic if blemishes on far side; Rembrandt if on near side
Wrinkles	3/4 - face	optional	Butterfly- flat lighting
Plus Model	3/4 face (dark cloting will be useful)	higher	Rembrandt- dark back-grounds

Recovery from New York Institute of Photography

Useful light setup plans

This is just a few lights setup you can use to shoot boudoir. Notice that despite all plans are studio setup, you can adapt it to almost any location. Main light can be substituted by window light or you can use Speedlight strobes.

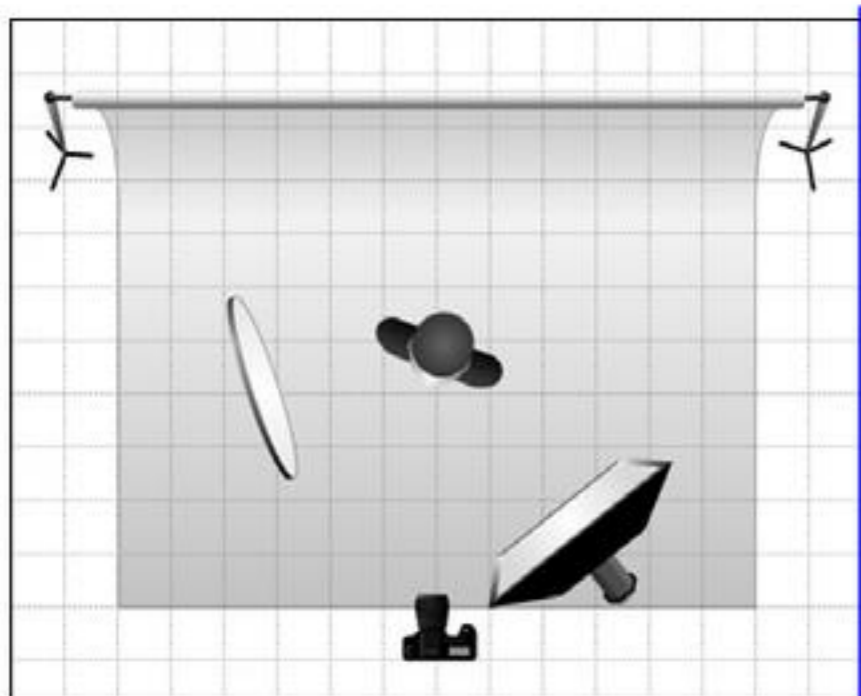
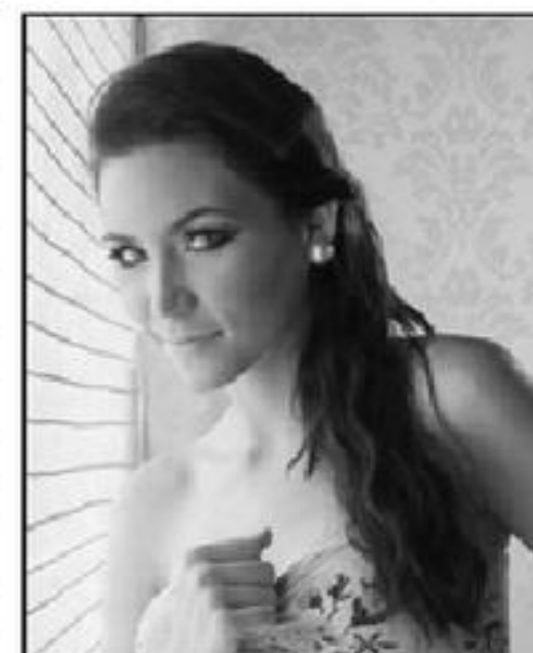
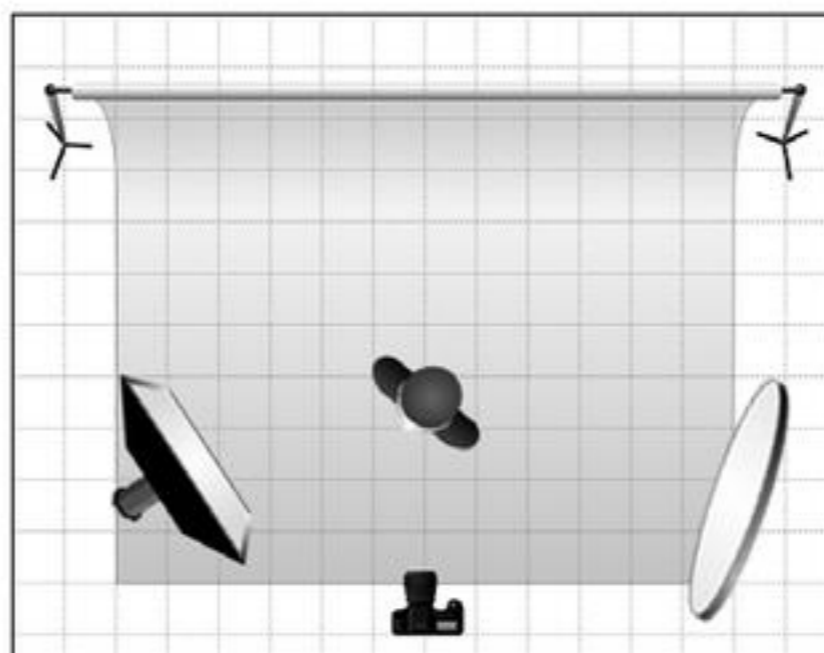


Rembrandt Lighting

Light source moved higher and further left or right of the face. It creates a strong pattern characterized by a small triangle of light that appears under the eye on the shadow side of the face, along with a nose shadow that nearly extends to the corner of the mouth.

Short Lighting

Lighting is said to be short when the light source illuminates the side of the head not visible to the camera. It works well with a variety of faces and is often mentioned as the choice for narrowing the face.

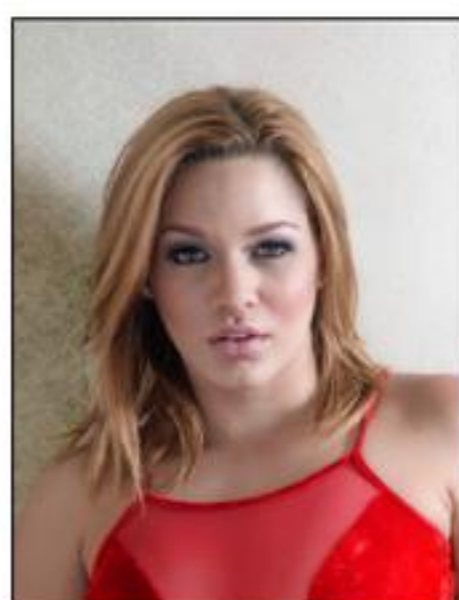
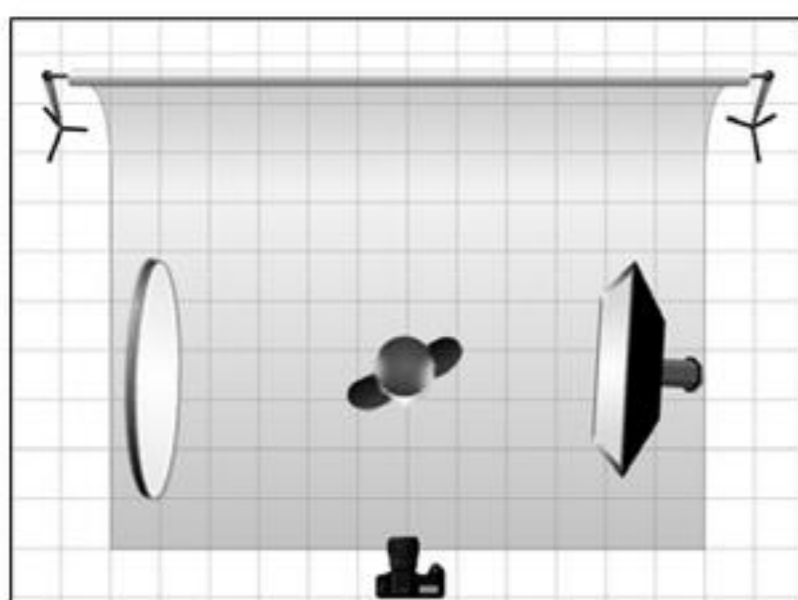
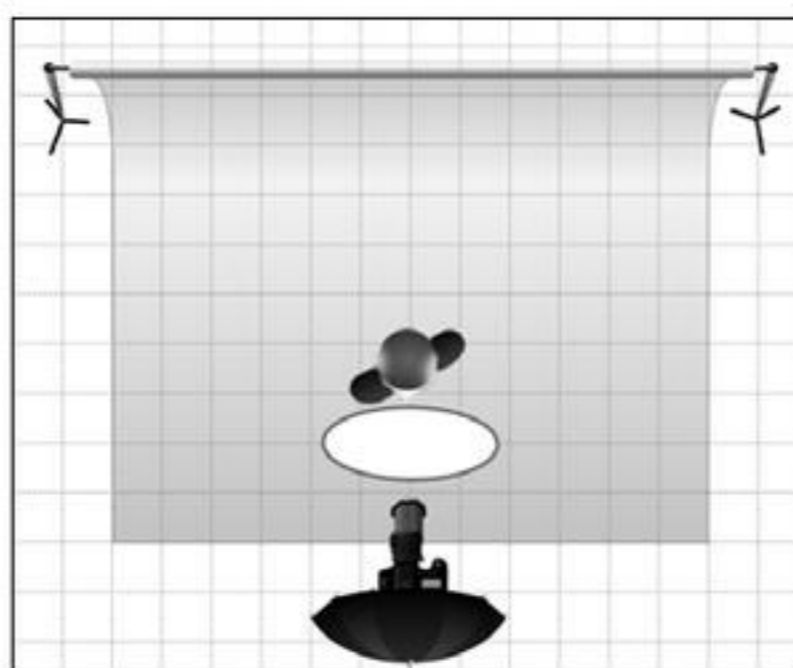


Broad Lighting

Lighting is said to be broad when the light source illuminates the side of the head visible to the camera. The broad-lighting position is very useful, but not so popular as the short position. It is often said that broad lighting makes a face look fuller, as it illuminates both the side and front of the face.

One light Butterfly (very low shadow)

This lighting is characterized by the butterfly-shaped shadow that it casts below the nose. The butterfly pattern can be quite useful for a variety of faces, but is at its best on lean subjects with high and pronounced cheekbones. A frontal source that is positioned at a fairly shallow angle above the camera can minimize the appearance of wrinkles and lines.



Split lighting

It is produced by placing the lighting source to the right or left of the direction in which the subject is facing (typically 90-120 degrees), with the lighting unit at or slightly above face level. Split lighting is useful for narrowing the face and for cloaking facial imperfections in shadow.



David Mecey

5 tips to photograph women Effectively and Successfully

By: Jesus Bernardo

David began working for Playboy® magazine in the fall of 1979, soon after, becoming a staff photographer and moving to Chicago. In 1987, he would take a title change to Contributing Photographer where he would continue with Playboy until 2002. It was after this time he would begin to expand on his photography style to include fashion, beauty, and celebrity work for various editorial and advertising assignments worldwide. As an experienced glamour photographer, we asked David, two questions, which will help to improve your approach with clients.

What would be your top 5 tips to work effectively and successfully, photographing women?

To photograph a female model, my thoughts are these;

- 1) Be cordial, professional, and friendly.
- 2) Win her confidence by sharing your best work with her when you first meet. Ask for her input as to what you are planning for your shoot together, whether or not you utilize the ideas, you are bringing her into the process.
- 3) Always remain calm and poised while photographing her, even in the face of problems that might come up during a shoot.
- 4) Always share your images with her during the shoot in order to help build her confidence and make her feel beautiful seeing how amazing she is looking
- 5) Always have a good makeup/hair person there to do her makeup and help to create the wonderful atmosphere needed in a photo shoot with a woman.

From you perspective, What do you consider an a “must” shot, in a glamour (boudoir) session

I’m not so sure there is a real ‘must’ shot per se, but I always try to get what I call ‘the beauty shot’ during a session. That being a wonderful photograph of the model’s face in many different expressions. It is here that a photographer proves himself at being able to light a face shot and making the model a true beauty during the session.



Photo by: David Mecey



The Gold interview with:

The Boudoir Divas

Tips for growing your business

Which would be your top 3 advice, that would help any photographer to close a contract during an interview with a potential client.

Great question!

First of all, we love to get our potential clients chatting with us over the phone, rather than simply responding via email. When we are on the phone with a potential client, here are 3 things that we try to focus on:

1) We want to answer all of her questions, in a friendly voice - almost as if we are trying to be an instant friend to her. Usually when potential clients call us, they are a little hesitant and nervous about booking a boudoir shoot, so we want to be sure that we are answering all of her questions and helping her feel comfortable!

2) Many women will also have a lot of ex-

cuses or reasons why they SHOULDN'T book a shoot right now. For example, a lot of our potential clients tell us that they want a session, but that they first want to lose 5 or 10 pounds. We always like to encourage women that a boudoir session is all about celebrating their beauty right now!

3) Don't be afraid to finish with a question, asking if she's ready to book. We never want to get off the phone without asking: "So can we get you on the calendar and book your shoot today?"

How do you describe the key of success to any person who just start out in Boudoir Photography business?.

This is a tough question! There are so many factors that go into creating a successful boudoir photography business, that it's difficult to explain it in just a few short sentences. For us, we really believe that we have been able to find success with our bou-

doir business because we created a strong brand, with effective marketing. Combining our branding & marketing with a clear plan and a structured business model has helped launch our business to the place that it is today.

Which would be the "must do shots" during a Boudoir session?

We always try to get a lot of variety with our boudoir shoots, so that our clients have a lot of beautiful images to choose from. We always try to capture at least one image of a woman lying on her back, with her eyes closed. There is something about capturing

that shot, showing off her eyelashes, that all women love. It's one of our must-do shots for boudoir, because it is one that women consistently purchase time and time again.



How would you describe the attributes of a good, male Boudoir Photographer?

We know a lot of talented and successful male boudoir photographers! We have a few tips for male photographers who are looking to break into this niche:

- 1) Get into the brain of a woman, especially with your marketing! You are trying to reach women, so do your best to think like a woman when you are creating your marketing pieces, website, etc. What would a woman want to see, read, and find out about? Include that information in your marketing.
- 2) Learn how to pose and coach women who aren't comfortable in front of a camera. Keep in mind that you are working

with regular, everyday women - and they are going to need a lot of direction! Learn the top poses that work well for all women, of all different body types... and then work on coaching and interacting with women in a way that makes them feel comfortable.

- 3) We have heard that some male photographers feel more comfortable having a female staff member, assistant, or hair/makeup artist present during the photo shoot. This isn't necessary, but it's something that we have heard works well for some.

Any client can ask for nude shots But, Do you recommend that any Pro Boudoir Photographer, use nudes in their portfolios and sell it like Boudoir Photography?

We feel that this is really a decision each individual boudoir photographer needs to make. There are some incredibly talented fine art nude photographers, and we have

seen many boudoir photographers capture some beautiful, classy, and artistic nude images. It's all up to you as the photographer!

Do you think Boudoir photography is another word for Glamour Photography or it is a renewed Photographic Field?

We have heard a lot of people use various terms, and in some cases the styles of photography can be interchangeable. Whether it's boudoir, glamour,

fine art nude, pin-up, or beauty portraiture... the bottom line is, we are capturing the unique beauty that is found in every woman.





Bella Bella
BOUTIQUE






Photo: Erin Clark Zahradka

ROBIN OWEN
p h o t o g r a p h y

The Boudie School...



 Robin Owen

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