



#HTBARP

WERKSCHAU

no.3

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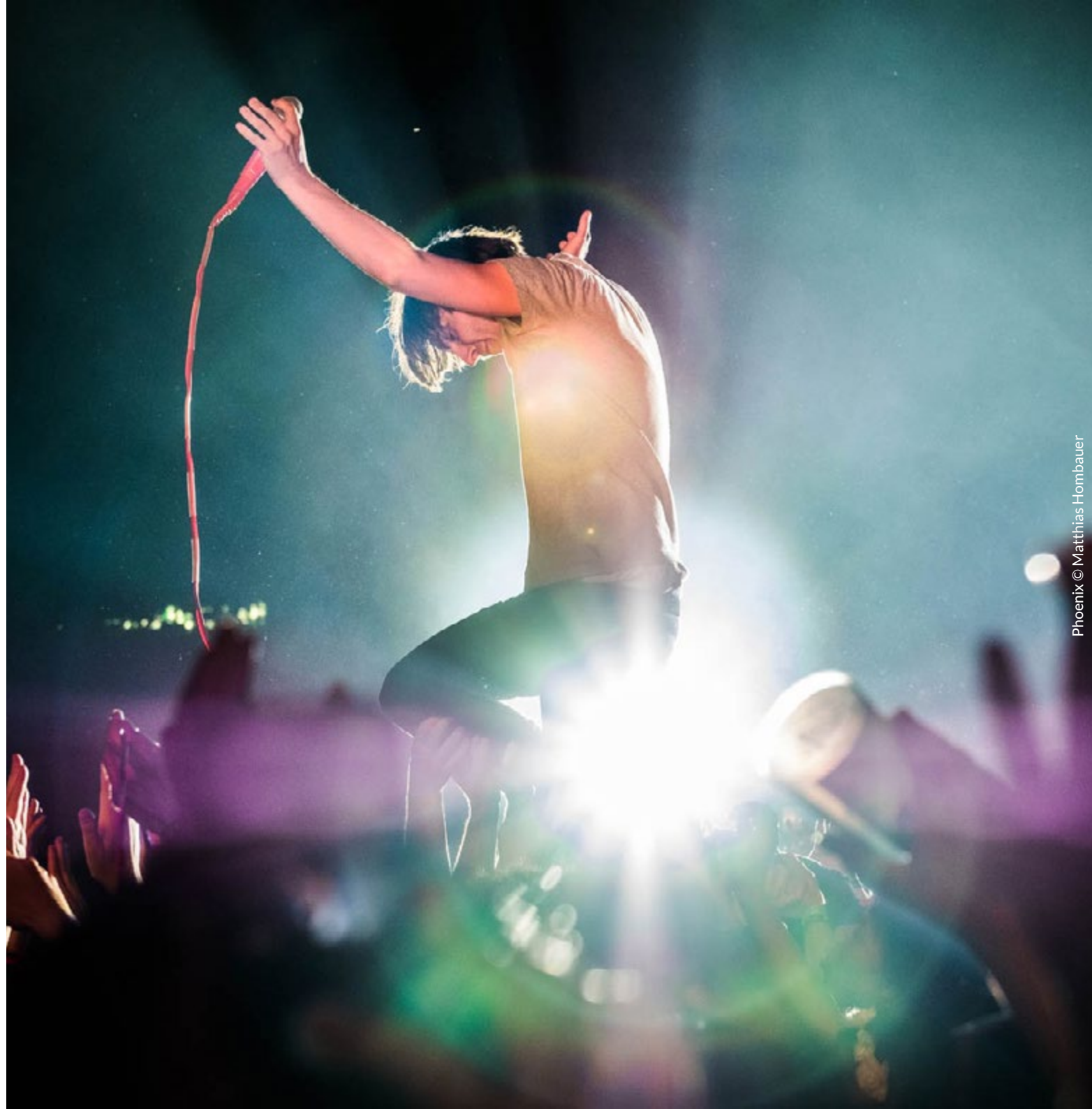
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EDITORIAL

Here it is! The third issue of #htbarp Werkschau!

What started as a small idea has become a worldwide phenomenon! When we first published issue one back in October 2016, have never dreamt it would be such a success. After 2 issues, the Werkschau was downloaded more than 3000 times! People from all around the world shared our publication online. Meanwhile, we've reached a total of 160, 000+ concert photos in our Instagram gallery and people are adding great new gig photos every day. The #htbarp community is becoming the go-to source for people seeking to connect and learn from like-minded people and I'm more than happy that you are all such great supporters of my project. Let's keep it moving!

This issue features an interview with Katarina Benzova. Katarina is a former slovakian model who turned into a music photographer and is touring with bands such as Guns'N'Roses, AC/DC, The Dead Daisies and many more. After years of searching for her true passion she found it in music photography and is now living her dream life. In this interview, Kat will talk about her career shifts and how she got started with concert

photography. She'll reveal her working routines when she is on tour and she will talk about why you should use your gift as photographer to help others.

I hope you enjoy it!

Please see the submission page if you wish to contribute to the next issue.

Follow me on Instagram:
[@matthiashombauer](https://www.instagram.com/matthiashombauer)

Rock on!
Matthias





INTERVIEW WITH...



KAT BENZOVA

“Don't stick with just one thing! You have a skill – use it to help.”

Matthias: Thanks for your time, Kat! How are you doing?

Kat: I'm doing great! Thank you for having me.

Matthias: I'm so excited to have you here since you're probably the coolest rock photographer nowadays. So before we talk about your remarkable career as a concert photographer, let's start from the beginning – where do you come from and how did you start out your first profession which was an international fashion model.

Kat: I'm from Slovakia. I started modeling when I was 13 or 14 just because I was one of those kids that was super tall,

super skinny and my mom's friend kept bother me all the time that I should try modeling, But I was a dancer since I was 4 years old and I was more into sports and I found modeling pretty dumb. I was more like a tomboy, not a girly girl. I think there was some sort of contest close to my town for Elite Model Look and she sent me in, she told me that I gotta try. So I went there and I ended up signing a contract with Elite Model Management that was, at that time, the biggest model agency in the world. I started to travel when I was 14 years old around the world – to Paris, Milan, New York, I spent a lot of time in Tokyo and everywhere in the world so that's how basically it all started.

Matthias: We once talked at the Rolling Stones concert in Vienna about your crazy story on how you got started as a concert photographer. I was thinking how cool is this! So tell us the story about this memorable Guns N Roses gig in Vienna.

Kat: So after my tries of being a swim instructor I moved back to Slovakia and didn't know what's next. I was depressed, felt really down and didn't know how to move forward so I started to do a lot of meditation and working on myself and letting destiny do its own thing. You need to clear your head and everything. That's what I did and a friend of mine that I knew from Japan called me and said that his friend is a manager of Guns N Roses and they're playing in Vienna and if I wanted to come see the show. I said it 's been cool and it was close so I took my pocket camera and went to the show. I

met everyone and they were super cool and I took some photos during the show from the side of the stage. I didn't expect anything from that, I just loved doing it because it was the first concert I ever shot and I started to like it! I love shooting people and all these moving lights and energy, it was so cool for me! So I did that, then went home and the manager was like “Hey, we're having a show in Prague so if you want you can come to that show and take some photos”, so I went again and that was the time I met Axl and backstage we were talking about that art and photography and all that stuff and I told him that I took some photos of their previous show and the guys from the band liked them, they started to follow me on facebook. Then he told me that they're actually looking for a photographer right now and I said “Oh, then hire me as your photographer!” as a complete joke cause I'd also had a couple of drinks but he replied “You know what? That's actually not a bad idea!” So I went home and after a couple of days the management contacted me if I wanted to fly to Spain for two shows and I thought “You must be kidding me! This can't be happening!”. But it happened and I went and they hired me!

Matthias:: You started your concert photography career as the official Guns N Roses photographer?

Kat: Yes!

Matthias: So, therefore, you're the coolest concert photographer I know of.

Kat: I do know that a lot of photographers hate me because of that because I didn't go through the 'normal' road of working my way to that.



Matthias: What was the biggest challenge you faced when you got the job?

Kat: I guess probably the technical stuff because if you have a vision – you have a vision. If you have an eye for something – that's not a challenge, that's fun. So probably just learning how to work with the lights during the show and how to work my camera – just learning everything around. It's a big production so how to move around without being in anyone's way, when to stay away, when to shoot, when not to shoot – talking about backstage stuff. Just to be a part of the dynamic of the big machine that is the concert.

Matthias: Were you afraid that you made the right decisions staring your career as a music photographer if you think back – is it what you were looking for, your dream job or do you have doubts sometimes?

Kat: I love doing what I'm doing! I love my job. I don't think I want to be touring for the rest of my life but I definitely want to do photography for the rest of my life. In one way or another – whether it's music, later I would love to move into portraits of musicians and more album covers and more creative work than shooting concerts all the time. I want to create the best mixture of everything. It's exhausting and you don't have time for anything else when it comes to your life or any other career movements. That's the only thing I regret of just jumping right away into touring – more than one band is on a tour and you go with them, they tour for 10 years and they kind of depend on whether you're gonna be there.

Matthias: Tell me how is a typical day on tour with Guns N Roses?

Kat: Let's say it's a stadium tour, traveling in a private jet and show day! Usually, I wake up in the morning, have a breakfast, go to the gym cause you have to stay healthy on the road. Then I go back to my room, start editing something from the day before because I do photography and video so just editing takes up most of my time. Then we get in a van, go to the stadium, have a soundcheck and then depends on how

far the stadium is from the hotel and how the traffic situation is. The band stays at the stadium until the show time or they go to the hotel and come back later. I always stay after the soundcheck because I shoot during it, then I work on my editing from previous days. Then I shoot fans as they're running into the venue, doing a few interviews and photos and stuff for social media. Then just shooting some band stuff backstage, hanging out, have a dinner and then there's the show that usually would last or 2-3 hours, then hop on the van and straight to the hotel!

Matthias: That sounds pretty exhausting!

Kat: Yeah, and you have no off time unless we have two days off in a row and that happens about 3 times per tour because when everybody's having days off it's an editing day for me.

Matthias: And you're also working for AC/DC, how did this happen?

Kat: This happened exactly a year ago, I'm doing the Guns N Roses reunion show and Axl told me the good news that he's joining AC/DC, and asked me whether I'd want to join them as well. He'd already spoken to them and they were all fine with it. I immediately accepted and was so excited about it! AC/DC was on my list of bands that I want to shoot. So I accepted and did a European tour with them last summer and it was unbelievable. Then I was supposed to do a US tour with them but just because last year it was super crazy

– it was Guns N Roses, AC/DC, Guns N Roses, AC/DC, that was the entire year. So when I was supposed to go on the US tour with AC/DC, I had a partially torn rotator cuff in my shoulder and I had to do a lot of physiotherapies and I had to rest – I couldn't be lifting cameras or my suitcases or anything like that. So saying no was one of the hardest things that I had to do because it was only three weeks and I could choose – if I'm gonna do that I can completely tear my rotator cuff and I wouldn't be able to shoot at all or take this time off, recover and then go back on the Guns N Roses tour.

Matthias: Would you say you have a unique style? From what I've seen all your photos are black and white, so is there any reason for this?

Kat: I shoot a lot of colour as well, especially because a lot of times I need



to do commercial photography – stuff that goes to magazines but my favourite is black and white and it's just because I

think it captures the emotion better and there's so much stuff happening during the show – there's pyro and confetti and fire and lights and running that people get distracted from what's actually happening – the beauty of the music at least for me. And that is captured much better in a black and white photo and with any of these rockstar bands, for example, Guns N Roses – black and white is more rock n roll and it captures that raw atmosphere even better.

Matthias: And for your post-production, are you using Photoshop or Lightroom?

Kat: Lightroom.

Matthias: What makes an awesome concert photo for you?

Kat: Capturing the show the way that if somebody's looking at the photo at the other side of the world, they're hearing the music. They'll feel as if they're there. And when some of my fans write to me and say that they love the photos because they feel as though they are there. That's exactly what I want – you want to capture something more than just a photo, you want people to feel it how I feel it when I'm there.

Matthias: You're not only taking photos but also making movies, tell me a little bit more about it. Do you film with your DSLR camera, are these more like short movies?

Kat: When I was working for Dead Daisies, it was a new band that was just

starting out so they wanted something else for their social media and they asked if I could do video and when I told them no, they asked if I could learn it and I agreed. So I started to learn how to edit the videos and with Dead Daisies, it became a normal thing to get a video out after every show and backstage and we started to create all these little series that were like a tour bus diary. It was a lot of fun but it was also a lot of work because your brain works completely different when you're taking video from when you're taking photos because with filming you have to think ahead about a direction where you want your video to be so it's hard for me to do both and then Guns N Roses saw those videos and asked if I could do it for them as well.

Matthias: So let's talk about other projects you're working on right now.

Matthias: So this is an on-going campaign?

Kat: Yeah! And there are different projects! But this is a tip I'd like to give to young photographers – don't stick with just one thing! You have a skill – use it to help. Even when I'm on tour sometimes I go to animal shelters to take photos of animals so they can put them on their website because every shelter will tell you that better picture of the animal – the animal will find a home sooner. These are the little things that as a photographer you can do and donate your time. I also do a lot of auctions. Every year for a different charity where I donate my prints and the money from

sales go to different projects.

Matthias: That's awesome! So let's do a short Q&A. I'll ask you 7 short questions and please answer them as quick as possible. Nikon or Canon?

Kat: Canon.

Matthias: If you could choose only one lens for concert photography, which one will it be?

Kat: 24-70.

Matthias: Your favorite record of all time?

Kat: There's too many! David Bowie - The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars.

Matthias: Is there any music photographer you admire?

Kat: Danny Clinch.

Matthias: Water or beer?

Kat: Beer.

Matthias: Which band is still on your concert photography to do list?

Kat: So many! The Who, Iggy Pop, Florence and the Machine, I want to shoot more Rolling Stones!

Matthias: Good luck! So, as the last question – what are your must-have tips for someone who wants to start out as a concert photographer?

Kat: Just go for it! Don't be afraid that you're gonna be turned down because you will. There's a part of this job you'll be turned down so many times that this one time it's going to work you don't know where it will take you. Go to the venues, talk to the managers, do your research! It's a lot of work and start shooting anything. Go to local concerts, go anywhere. Just shoot and practice and send your stuff out! Don't be afraid.



Find Kat Benzova on:

Instagram: [@katbenzova_rockphoto](https://www.instagram.com/katbenzova_rockphoto)
www.katarinabenzova.com



Arcade fire © Matthias Hombauer



THE 4 SECRETS TO BECOMING A ROCKSTAR PHOTOGRAPHER TODAY

[Click here to join the free exclusive Training](#)

Paul Miles, Australia

Kiss were the most influential band of my youth. I have always loved listening to their songs and looking at photos of them, with make-up and unmasked. So shooting Ace Frehley as he played an arena concert here in Melbourne was a special moment for me this year. This photo makes me think how difficult it would have been for Ace to get ALL of his face-paint off, back in the day.

Gear used:
Canon EOS 1000D, Canon EF-S55-250mm

Camera settings:
231mm | f/5.6 | 1/85s | ISO 1600

<http://Paul-Miles.com>
@ PaulMilesPhotography

#1 tip for beginners:

Photography is a journey, so keep exploring and enjoy being in the moment
- don't worry about whether you have the best gear; just focus on access, composition, and practice, practice, practice!





John Raptis, Australia

My first 'big' shoot of a major band happened in 2010. It was at this show that I realised that I had some ability and the dream of becoming a rock photographer, was starting to get very, very real.

Gear used:
Canon 5DMKII, Canon 24-105 f/4

Camera settings:
28mm | f/9 | 1/80 | ISO 1600

<http://johnraptisphotography.com>
@Hellblazer

#1 tip for beginners:
Practice, practice and when you are done practicing, practice some more.

Bradley Todd, United States

I've been a fan of Motley Crue since I took the cellophane off their Shout At The Devil album back in 1983. I caught the band's "Final Tour" four times, and it was an insane spectacle...tons of pyro, an upside down drum roller coaster, and a flame thrower bass guitar?! In a show of many highlights, the flame thrower bass solo and subsequent explosion was my favorite. I got this shot at the 4th and final show I attended, and am happy to have this memento that perfectly encapsulates the band's wild career and ending.

Gear used:
Sony a6000, E PZ 16-50

Camera settings:
16mm | f5.6 | 1/200 | ISO 640

<http://www.facebook.com/bradleytoddphtography>
@ bradleytoddphtography

#1 tip for beginners:
Develop a voracious appetite for learning all aspects of the craft, always striving to improve your work.





Yuni Situmorang, United Kingdom

This was my first Cassia gig, it was about over a year ago. This is one of my favourite photos ever -- so far anyway -- because I like how calm Rob looks in this photo but at the same time you can see drips of sweat that shows the emotion (somewhat) during the show. If people can feel that through this photo, I honestly couldn't be happier and more satisfied. They're still one of my favourite bands to shoot.

Gear used:
Canon 600D, Canon 40mm f/2.8 STM

Camera settings:
40mm | f/3.2 | 1/160 | ISO 1250

<http://www.heyitsyuni.com>
@ hey_itsyuni

#1 tip for beginners:

Do a little bit of research before you shoot. Get to know the band/ musician's music a little bit. Catch the moments and don't get too caught up with technicalities. Keep challenging yourself and don't worry about making mistakes; we learn from them. :)

Mike Kvackay, United States

I have always been drawn to mosh pits. Rap and hip-hop shows can be hit or miss when it comes down to crowd. Machine Gun Kelly sold out a small venue in Denver and the energy was electric.

Gear used:
Canon 7D Mark 2, Sigma 17-50 f/2.8

Camera settings:
f/2.8 | 1/800s | ISO 1600

<http://mikekvackay.com>
@ mkvackay

#1 tip for beginners:
It's better to beg for forgiveness than ask for permission.



Marcus Jamieson - Pond, United Kingdom

I started to shoot bands seriously a year ago and Outlya were the 266th band I've photographed in 2017. The band played the first support slot for Bad Sounds at The Scala in London in November. This photo is of the lead singer/keyboard player Will Bloomfield, who was thanking the crowd for coming early enough to see them play.

Gear used:
Canon 5D Mk1, Canon 85mm f/1.8 USM

Camera settings:
85mm | f/1.8 | 1/80s | ISO1600

<http://www.jampondphotography.com/gigs>
@ jampondphotography

#1 tip for beginners:
Always focus on the eyes - and get a good set of ear plugs.



Tim McLaughlin, United States

This picture is taken at one of the larger music venues in Indianapolis Indiana (USA), The Vogue Theater. This night featured five local original music acts, and band in this photo is called Pinky and the Basters. The guitarist, Chris Sarber (L), puts together a group in January and the members will play one of each members band's songs and write three or four new songs. The band will play together for one year and he'll start the process over again the following January. This year he brought on David Bailey to play drums and Nathan Gray to play bass.

The Indianapolis music scene is good about collaboration and reinvention.

Gear used:

Nikon D7100, Tokina 12-24mm F/4

Camera settings:

12mm | f/4 | 1/200 | ISO 4000

@ haplessguitarphotography

#1 tip for beginners:

You are there to try and get the shot, but EVERYONE is there to see the band. Don't forget that!





Robin Shaffer, United States

In March of 2017, Chronixx came to Denver. Chronology tour was a crazy success, with Jah 9 as the opening act. The place was jammed, the crowd was lit, and there was no pit.

Gear used:
Nikon D5, Nikon 24-70 f2.8E ED

Camera settings:
55mm | f/2.8 | 1/160s | ISO 2000

@ rocknrobins_

#1 tip for beginners:
Like Wayne Gretzky said, you miss 100% of the shots you don't take.

Kerrie Geier, Australia

Shooting Future Islands, when they played a small club gig in Adelaide, Australia during the summer of 2015, was the most fun I have ever had in a photo pit. Samuel T. Herring is absolutely incredible on stage and it was a truly wonderful experience getting to capture him up close. I love this shot because it conveys the energy and theatrics of his performance, and it takes me back to the moment, which is what live music photography is all about.

Gear used:
Canon 6D, Canon 16-35 f2.8 L USM II

Camera settings:
16mm | f/2.8 | 1/400s | ISO 1000

<http://scotopiclux.com>
@ scotopic.lux.photo

#1 tip for beginners:

You can't replicate the conditions of a gig, so get out and shoot as many as you can. Hone your skills in pubs and clubs with whatever gear you have and you will shine when you move up to good gear and bigger shows.





Ondrej Koscik, Slovakia

This photo encapsulates all I love about photographing music. With Nadja, we are both very fortunate to be friends with Longital. They have been inspiring us for years through their music and personal advice. With their help we became the official photographers of the Pohoda Festival, where they performed a unique show and the singer Shina is making magic here.

Gear used:
Nikon D7000, Nikkor 85 f/1.8

Camera settings:
85mm | f/5 | 1/200s | ISO 640

<http://koscik.photos>
@ koscik.photos

#1 tip for beginners:
Don't forget to be awesome!

Paul Dowd, Australia

This photo was captured earlier this year at the Fremantle Falls Music and Arts Festival here in Perth, Australia. I watched some footage from a previous show so I had an idea of the shot I wanted to try and catch, the lighting was fairly challenging but there was a second or two when the lights hit the right spot and I fired off a quick burst of shots. I think it really captures a London Grammar show.

Gear used:

Canon 5D mkIII, Canon 70-200 f/2.8L IS II USM

Camera settings:

90mm | f/2.8 | 1/160s | ISO 160

@ the_gig_pig

#1 tip for beginners:

My number 1 tip for beginners would be to ask for what you want. You'll be surprised how many bands and venues will grant you access just by making contact and telling them who you are and what you do.





David Zeck, United States

This photo was taken my second time shooting a show. It was Anthrax and Killswitch Engage, I read up a bunch online and watched a bunch of youtube videos and went to shoot it. I was taking a shot of Scott Ian when i saw Joey spread his hands out and immediatly rushed over to get the shot, this is the result.

Gear used:
Canon 80D, Canon 24-70 f/2.8 USM II

Camera settings:
24mm | f/2.8 | 1/160s | ISO 2000

@ Sdz_Photo

#1 tip for beginners:
Practice, learn your camera and just go shoot. Shoot as much as you can, local shows, friends anything you can and don't get discouraged when you're turned down. Every photographer gets turned down, it's just part of what we do.

Irene Serrano, Spain

This photograph is very special for me because it is a band that I follow many years ago and to have it in front of me to be able to capture them was very unbelievable. I remember we had to do 2 shots to shoot because we were many photographers at this festival, I was afraid of not being able to capture that moment of energy. I entered the second half, I breathed I watched him and I managed to take all his effusiveness in a photo.

Gear used:

Canon 5D Mark III, Tamron 24-70mm F/2.8 Di VC USD

Camera settings:

162mm | f/2.8 | 1/400s | ISO 200

<http://www.ireneserranophotography.com>

@ ireneserranophotography

#1 tip for beginners:

Don't shoot like crazy, leave a few seconds to observe the lights and movements and then, shoot.





Annette Holloway, United States

This photo of Skillet's lead singer, John Cooper, represents much of what I seek to capture in a concert: energy, emotion, action, light, and stage elements, such as cryogenics. Having an engineering background, I can't help but find new ways to also incorporate the LED screens, instruments, guitar spins, air time, pyrotechnics, and more.

With Skillet's ever-changing theatrical performances, I always find something new and exciting to photograph, and enjoy the challenge of pulling it all together artistically.

Gear used:

Canon 5D Mark III, Canon EF 70-200mm f/2.8L IS II USM

Camera settings:

70mm | f/2.8 | 1/800s | ISO 3200

<http://AnnetteHolloway.com>

@ AnnetteHollowayPhotos

#1 tip for beginners:

Photograph a rock concert like a sporting event by being vigilant and anticipating the action.

Catarina Olausson, Sweden

I went to the concert without knowing what to expect and I had a blast. It is always fun to shoot an artist that is also an entertainer and puts up a good show and Rob Zombie delivers. What could go wrong with a man in a fringe jacket?

Gear used:
Panasonic LUMIX DMC-FZ200

Camera settings:
22.2mm | f/2.8 | 1/1000s | ISO 400

www.evatarinaolaussonphotography.com
@ e.c.o.photography

#1 tip for beginners:
Don't be afraid, you don't need to use a professional camera to start with
(I use a bridge camera) and don't forget to have fun!





Jordo Haines, Canada

This photo was taken at the last show of Rosewood Annie's tour in Hamilton, Ontario. All tour I watched and captured vocalist, Kirk Wayne lean on, stand on, and jump off the kick drum from the audience's point of view. Seeing a little space between the kit and the back wall, I decided that I wouldn't let myself live it down if I didn't try to sneak my way behind the drums and get a shot of her screaming from a view that nobody but the drummer, Trevor Day ever sees. I am so glad that I did.

Gear used:
Nikon D750, Nikon 24-120 f/4 VR G

Camera settings:
40mm | f/4 | 1/125s | ISO 6400

@jordohaines

#1 tip for beginners:
Don't be afraid to move with the band, get close, climb some shit, or get low; it's where the interesting shots are.

Raul Soria Jr., United States

This shot of Nekromantix frontman, Kim Nekroman was taken during the Sailor Jerry Festival in Downtown Honolulu, Hawaii at a venue called NextDoor. The harsh lighting conditions in the venue were extremely challenging. With the chaos of a mosh pit behind me and no separation between the audience and myself, I got nailed more than a few times by swinging fists and legs while I waited patiently for my shot.

Gear used:
Canon 5D MKII, Canon 50mm f/1.4

Camera settings:
50mm | 1/200s | ISO 2500

<http://awakenthemosh.net/>
@ awakenthemosh

#1 tip for beginners:
NEVER EVER leave home without your 50mm. It'll force you to think on your feet and also save your butt in tough situations.





Keneth Baluba Sporsheim, Norway

Till Lindemann always makes funny faces. Love to catch them.

Gear used:
Pentax K-1, D-FA* 70-200mm F/2.8

Camera settings:
123mm | f2.8 | 1/400s | ISO 500

<http://www.metalhammer.no>
@ kenspo

#1 tip for beginners:
NEVER give up!

Telmo Pinto, Portugal

The end of the day was approaching and behold, Miguel and his band appear on stage. It was a remarkable performance at NOS Primavera Sound festival in my hometown, Oporto. This photograph was taken in the middle of an enthusiastic crowd with my heavy lens Sigma 70-200mm 2.8, so i could say that it was not an easy one.

Gear used:
Canon EOS 700D, Sigma 70-200mm f/2.8 EX DG OS

Camera settings:
147mm | f/6.3 | 1/100s | ISO 200

@ telmojgp

#1 tip for beginners:
Start shooting in the small venues will give you experience, confidence and also amazing photos.





Pauline Di Silvestro, Belgium

The Kenneths were supporting the legendary Descendents on their exclusive UK date at the O2 Forum in Kentish Town, London. I had never heard of them before, and I was so surprised by their energy and their presence on stage. The Kenneths delivered a 30min-long set of raw punk with a powerful and honest message. By the end of the set, I was the only photographer in the pit, and the singer jumped in the crowd to play his solo. And, as always in photography, I was at the right place, at the right time!

Gear used:
Nikon D7200, Nikkor 35mm f/1.8

Camera settings:
f/2.8 | 1/640s | ISO 6400

<http://www.paultergeistphotography.com>
@ paultergeist.be

#1 tip for beginners:
To be at the right place at the right time, you have to be at as many place as possible for as long as you can!

Carmen O'Hagan, United States

This photo of Matt Bellamy of Muse was a Hail Mary shot I nabbed towards the very end of the third song of their set. I had failed to get what I wanted from the first two trips he took down the catwalk and as soon as I saw him walking that way again I lifted my camera and just started firing. This was from an amphitheater show in Nashville and the lights in the background are from one of the city's bridges, so I love the connection to the city in the shot. I feel like this captured him in the perfect rockstar pose, lifting his guitar, bathed in the spotlight on the catwalk.

Gear used:

Canon 70D, Sigma 17-70mm f/2.8-4

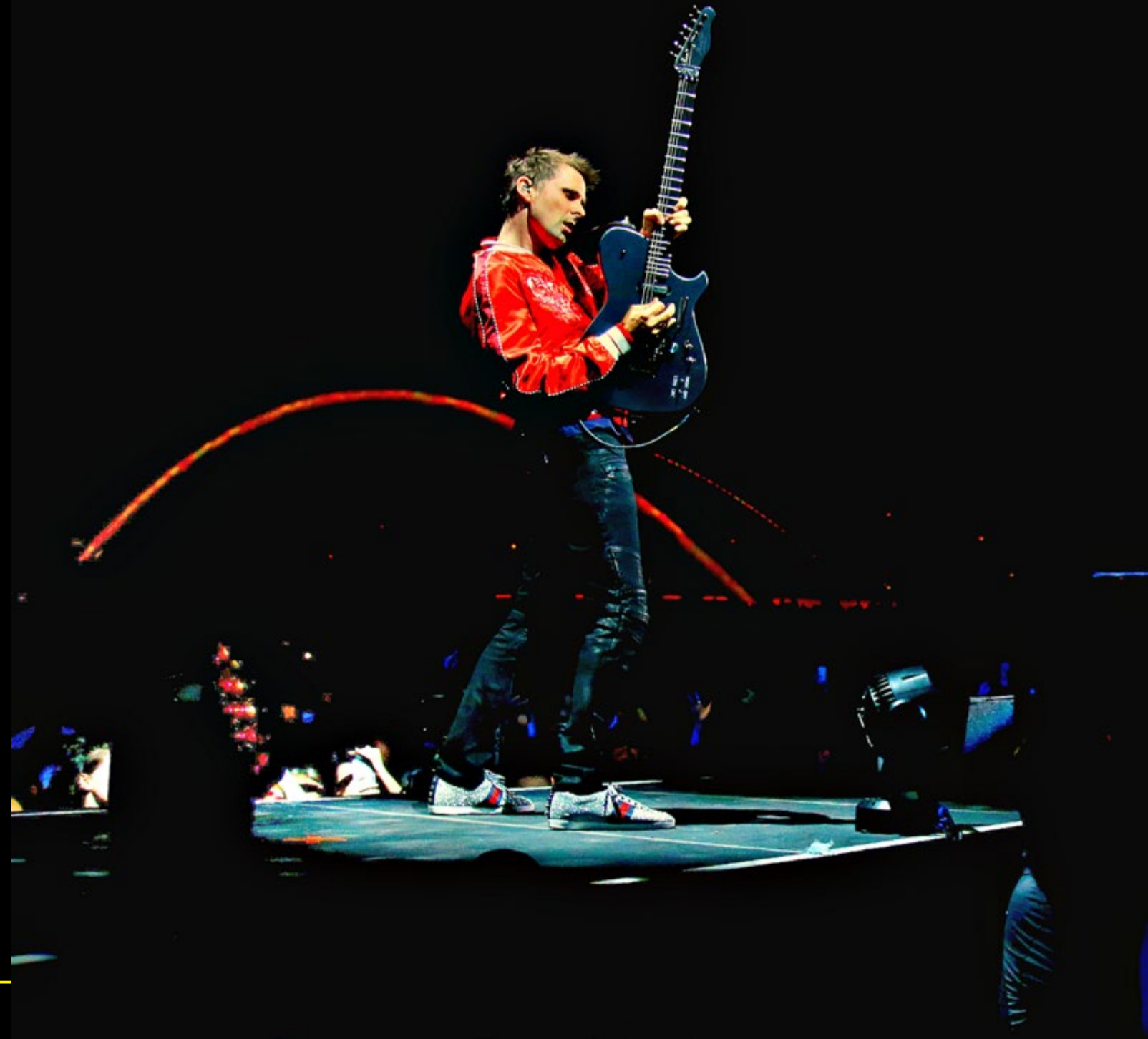
Camera settings:

17mm | f/2.8 | 1/5000s | ISO 3200

<http://carmenohagan.wixsite.com/mysite>
@ photosbycmo

#1 tip for beginners:

Don't worry about the latest models, just buy the gear you can afford and learn to work with it.





Trevor Foyston, United States

Twenty one pilots is a band I have wanted to shoot for a long time. My media pass would not allow me into the photo pit so i shot from the sound board area. I feel like this shot is a good example of the lights and colors that dominated the show. I am becoming a very large fan of LED walls and the things that they bring to a show.

Gear used:
Nikon D500, Nikkor gen1 70-200 F2.8

Camera settings:
F2.8 | 1/400 | ISO 1000

@ t2_media

#1 tip for beginners:
Make mistakes. it only helps your art and form. not to mention sometimes the mistake can be an awesome shot! HAVE FUN!!

Rikard Lantz, Sweden

Jimmie Strimell of the band Dead By April at Adrenaline Cruise 2017. Such a great performer and a pleasure to shoot. The stage on the boat is quite low and in my opinion it is great for those wide lenses to get that majestic feel without too much distortion.

Gear used:
Nikon D7100, Tokina AT-X 11-16 f / 2.8 PRO DX II

Camera settings:
11mm | f/2.8 | 1/160 | ISO 1250

@ imgby.snaxx

#1 tip for beginners:
Feel the music in your heart and capture it with your eye.





Bob Linneman, United States

This was taken during the annual MMR*B*Q Music Festival in Camden, NJ. Zakk Wylde is like a bucking bronco when he performs (perfect for photographers). During the songs, Zakk would stand on the big speakers at each side of the stage and go crazy, so once I saw the rhythm of the performance, I lined up perfectly for this shot.

Gear used:
Nikon D750

Camera settings:
48mm | 1/400sec | f/2.8 | ISO 6400

<http://brockswellphotography.com>
@ brockswell

#1 tip for beginners:
I found that photography is like a puzzle, the pieces are out there, you just have to figure out how to put it all together.

Uli Bechstein, Germany

This is one of the greatest female blues singer i've ever heard. I saw she with her band in a club in Dortmund (Germany).

Gear used:
Olympus OMD EM 1, Zuko 40-150/2,8 Pro

Camera settings:
40mm | f3,5 | 1/100s | ISO 3200

<http://www.metal-impressions.de>
@ u.bechstein_photography

#1 tip for beginners:
Dont give up to follow your dream and try to find your own style in the front row!



Niels Vinck, Netherlands

I shot Converge a couple of times, but this show in 2016 at the Roadburn Festival (Tilburg, NL) was very special to me because they played a “Jane Doe” full set. Something I did not ever to be expecting to happen ever. A lot came together with this shot. My favourite band, my favourite moment, my favourite festival and this photo.

Gear used:
Canon 5D Mk II, Canon L 24-70mm f2.8 USM I

Camera settings:
46mm | f2.8 | 1/125sec | ISO 1600

<http://www.nielsvinck.nl>
@ nielsvinck

#1 tip for beginners:
Work within a concept and try to make it your own.



Oliver Frank, Hungary

Fortunately at this show there wasn't a rule against taking photos from elsewhere after we had to leave the pit, so, I went to the back to get some wide shots of the hall and the audience. And then, suddenly they switched on some gorgeous lights for a ballad... Luckily I also had my 28-300 zoom lens at hand, that I normally rarely use at shows, so I switched to that one and managed to capture this moment in all its glory from far-far away.

Gear used:

Canon 6D, Tamron 28-300mm f/3.5-6.3 Di VC PZD

Camera settings:

300mm | f/6.3 | 1/200s | ISO 2000

<http://infinitebeat.hu/>

@ infinitebeatphoto

#1 tip for beginners:

Decide early on what you want to do: develop a unique style on your own and use that for all your work or remain flexible and always change your shooting and post-processing style to fit the given show and band as much as possible.





Jim Wilkinson, United States

I've been a fan of John 5 and work with Marilyn Manson, and his solo work. I had seen him with Manson, but never had the chance to see him out on one of his solo tours. Thankfully, I happen to be friends with his publicist and she asked if I'd like to go shoot his show. Without hesitation, I jumped at the chance, and was completely impressed with the show, and his mastery of his guitar.

Gear used:

Camera settings:

#1 tip for beginners:

Aleksander Espelid, Norway

This is one of those photos where you just find yourself at the right spot at the exact right time! Simone is really energetic on stage making for a really fun show.

Gear used:
Nikon D750, Nikon 24-70 f/2.8

Camera settings:
24 mm | f/4.5 | 1/400 | ISO 2000

<http://www.aleksanderespelid.com>
@ AleksanderEspelid

#1 tip for beginners:
Do not be afraid to try and fail, and always experiment. Concert photography is not an exact science.





Cristina Jorgensen, Australia

When I photographed the band from the pit I saw at the back of the stage a surfboard, I found this odd and thought something might happen with it. After I finished photographing from the pit I went to the back of The Triffid and took some shots of the beautiful aeroplane hanger ceiling. Next thing I knew Joel, their bassist was up on the surfboard, bass guitar and all. I didn't even hesitate to move myself around the crowd to get the best shot.

Gear used:
Nikon D750, Sigma 15mm f2.8 Fisheye

Camera settings:
15mm | f/2.8 | 1/400s | ISO 4000

<http://istinajorgensenphotography.com>
@ crissycruejorgensen

#1 tip for beginners:
Get to know people in your local music scene. People who work or run venues, people who run music blogs or websites, other music photographers and musicians.

Peter Detje, Germany

I shot A Day To Remember on their European Tour in February. I took some steps to the right and suddenly Jeremy stood right in front of me and looked directly in my lens. Right place, right time. Sometimes it's as simple as that.

Gear used:
Canon 6D, Tamron 24-70 f/2.8

Camera settings:
24 mm | f/3.2 | 1/320s | ISO 2000

<http://www.lostrealistphotography.com>
@ lost_realist_photography

#1 tip for beginners:
Shoot whenever you get the chance!





Naomi Dryden, United Kingdom

Savages are an all-female rock band from England. Frontwoman Jehnny Beth is beautiful, theatrical, curiously androgynous and yet very sexy, a gift to photograph. I like this photograph because I think it conveys all those things without even having to show her face.

Gear used:
Canon 5D Mark IV, Canon 24-70 f/2.8 USM II

Camera settings:
f/2.8 | 1/200s | ISO 2500

<http://www.naomidrydensmith.com>
@ naomidrydensmith

#1 tip for beginners:
There are loads of really great photographers out there and it's easy to become intimidated - learn everything you can from them but believe in yourself.

Luis Macedo, Portugal

This was the presentation (first show) of the first album - Joan & The White Harts - by this amazing voice, composer and person. Joana already know my work by common musicians friends I shoot in the past. So it was easy to convince her to do a AAA photo story. Love this photo because of the intensity of the feeling that Joana pours in her performance.

Gear used:
Canon 5D Mk2, Canon 24-70 f/2.8 USM

Camera settings:
70 mm | f/2.8 | 1/400s | ISO 6400

<http://LuisMacedoPhoto.com>
@ LuisMacedoPhoto

#1 tip for beginners:
Be Nice to everyone: Musicians, Techs, Managers and Audience...





Kaileeh Harvey, United States

This photo was taken the first time I had a photo pass for Skillet and the first time I was photographing them from the pit. The nervousness I felt before the concert was immediately replaced with excitement! The moment I stepped into the pit, and started photographing the show, was like an incredible adrenaline rush that I don't experience from any other type of photography!

Gear used:
Nikon D750, Nikon 70-200 f/2.8 AF-S VR II

Camera settings:
200mm | f/2.8 | 1/400s | ISO 900

[https://kristen-kaileeh.smugmug.com/
@ x10_kaileeh](https://kristen-kaileeh.smugmug.com/@x10_kaileeh)

#1 tip for beginners:
Don't get discouraged.

Peter Troest, Denmark

It was a rescheduled show but in the meantime Frank Carter @ The Rattlesnakes played Roskilde and did a crazy gig, so this club was sold out months ahead. Frank allowed flash that night and it was handy in this situation.

Gear used:
Canon 5D Mk III, Canon 16-35 II

Camera settings:
16mm | f/2.8 | 1/100s | ISO 3200

<http://www.petertroest.dk>
@ petertroest

#1 tip for beginners:
Don't be lazy.





Scott Legato, United States

I shot this show here in Detroit (as well as their show in Columbus, OH) for the band. Axl Rose replaced Brian Johnson and had some big shoes to fill. I remember them getting together on stage and everything about it was perfect (Lighting, expressions on their face, ect...) I knew I had something good when I took the shot...

Gear used:
Canon 5D Mark IV, Canon 24-70mm f2.8L II

Camera settings:
1/2000s | ISO 3200

<http://www.RockStarProPhotography.com>
@ RockStarProPhoto

#1 tip for beginners:
DON'T wear backpack in pit, RESPECT the veterans and make sure you have halfway descent gear (If you plan on doing this kind of work, DON'T show up in the pit with a point and shoot (you won't get much respect if you do).

Antti Närhi, Finland

Usually I don't like pictures where the artist is looking at the camera, but given the circumstances (pyros and him being the biggest star in Finland) I felt like it would work. Luckily I had a permission to shoot the whole set, which allowed me to be more patient and wait for the right moment. And yeah, it works.

Gear used:
Fuji X100S

Camera settings:
23mm | f/5.6 | 1/125s | ISO 4000

<http://anttinarhi.com>
@ anttinarhicom

#1 tip for beginners:
The best camera is the one you have with you.





Joana Jesus, Portugal

The best musicians to shoot are those who really fell the music and dance a lot. The guys in Young Fathers were playing with Massive Attack on this day, and everyone gave great shots. This one's my favourite!

Gear used:
Canon 6D, Sigma 70-200 f/2.8 APO EX DG OS HSM

Camera settings:
168mm | f/2.8 | 1/400s | ISO 2500

<http://joanajesusphoto.com/>
@ JoanalsJesus

#1 tip for beginners:
Learn a bit of music! Being a drummer has helped me with the timing of my shots quite a lot.

Robin Looy, Netherlands

It's hard to choose a favorite shot from my 15 year photography database so I choose my favorite shot from this year: Fieldy from the band Korn. I always love to photograph this energetic band and always return home with great shots.

Gear used:
Canon 6D, 24-105 f/4.0

Camera settings:
24mm | f/4.0 | 1/125s | ISO 2000

<http://www.robinlooyphotography.com>
@ bandphotographer

#1 tip for beginners:
Start with small shows, don't think you can shoot headliners right away,
work hard and you will get there eventually.





Luke Spencer, United States

I never thought I would be able to see At The Drive-In live. 16 years after the breakup they announced a reunion and I drove five hours toward Atlanta to see them headline a festival. From the opening notes of "Arcarsenal" I knew what was coming and I knew when Cedric would jump. I aimed, focused, held down that shiny button and hoped for the best.

Gear used:
Nikon D750, Tamron 70-200 f/2.8

Camera settings:
70mm | f/13 | 1/160s | ISO 3200

<http://www.getrocked.net>
@ getrockednet

#1 tip for beginners:
It's always worth saving your raw files, so back everything up and never delete anything.

Svenja Block, United Kingdom

Very pleased with the outcome of this particular photograph of Jaz Coleman (shot at O2 Academy Brixton in London, Nov 2016). It's exactly what I had visualised in my mind pre-gig, considering one of my contact lenses got accidentally knocked out by another photographer during the first song in the pit.

Gear used:

Nikon D3400, Nikon 24-70 f/2.8

Camera settings:

70mm | f/2.8 | 1/320s | ISO 1600

<https://svenjablock.pixieset.com>
@ svenjablock

#1 tip for beginners:

Please use protective lens filters!





David Horrocks, United Kingdom

When I got the approval to shoot Victorious festival back in 2015 I was nervous, I wasn't shooting on a regular basis and I felt I was still learning the trade! The day shoot was great on the first day, however the night drew in quickly and the lighting changed dramatically. The result of this shot made me believe I could produce something worthy of approval from other photographers which gave me a huge smile! Patrick Chukwuemeka Okogwu, better known by his stage name Tinie Tempah, is an English rapper, singer and songwriter.

Gear used:
Nikon D700, Nikon 80-200 f/2.8

Camera settings:
135mm | f/5.6 | 1/250s | ISO 2500

[@djhorrocks](http://www.facebook.com/DavidHorrocksPhotography)

#1 tip for beginners:
Before firing off a whole load of shots, I try to listen to the music beat, watch the lights change and start to understand when the best time is to release the shutter, stage lighting sets can sometimes be like a traffic light, know the best light to use that grabs the best image through your viewfinder, and finally have fun!

Violeta Alvarez, United States

I got the opportunity to photograph the Legendary ZZ Top at the Woodlands Pavilion in Houston, TX while on assignment for the Houston Press. That night there were 5 of us photographing with no room in the photo pit to move around so I stood in one spot to shoot. Luckily, I got some great shots cause the band moved around the stage to engage with their fans. This image will be included in the Smithsonian Rock 'n' Roll: Live and Unseen, a book by Bill Bentley, which is scheduled for publication in October 2017.

Gear used:
Canon 7D, 18-200mm 3.5

Camera settings:
32mm | f/4.0 | 1/125 | ISO 500

<http://www.violetaalvarezphotography.com>
@violetaalvarezphoto

#1 tip for beginners:

Follow your instinct, your heart and absorb the energy around you to capture those electrifying moments. You want the viewer to feel an experience of that instant moment and transport them to make a connection to feel the sensation of the place despite not having been there.





Esteban Herencia, Denmark

A classic punk moment: Manon Søgaard flying like an eagle above the heads of audience and band members. Lots of energy during a concert with X Teenage Rebels at Kulturhuset Viften (Rødovre - Copenhagen) February 14th 2015. The lightning helps most definitely to highlight the expressivity of the singer.

Gear used:
Canon EOS 6D, Tamron SP 24-70mm F/2.8 Di VC USD

Camera settings:
24mm | f/3,5 | 1/320s | ISO 2500

<http://www.ehbfotografia.com>
@ ehb.fotografia

#1 tip for beginners:
Take your camera and try to shoot as many gigs as possible to learn more practically than theoretically - and especially to enjoy what you do!

Luis Ascanio, Mexico

I have always been a huge Deftones fan and this show specially was really challenging. Is not enough to have the 3 song rule, but by the end of the first song a huge storm started (which actually got the show cancelled by the fifth song) so it was a really challenging experience. I really love this close up of Chino Moreno against the rain drops, it really represents to me what happened during the show.

Gear used:

Nikon D7100, Sigma 70-200mm f/2.8 APO EX DG HSM OS FLD

Camera settings:

140 mm | f 2.8 | 1/250s | ISO 2000

<http://www.lascaniophoto.com>

@ lascaniophoto

#1 tip for beginners:

Be patient and humble, practice a lot and be friendly and respectful to everyone.



Arthur Robinson, United States

This image was a happy accident. A man in the front row used his smartphone to grab a picture and used his flash by mistake. It's not the best shot of the night, but it's one of my favorites, and I worked hard to edit it like a 1920's horror flick in order to make it one of my favorites because this photograph fundamentally changed the way I shot. There are all these variables to consider every time you go out on a gig: You might not like the music, the artist may have zero stage presence, the lighting might range from terrible to nonexistent, and so on, and these moments where you have to test your mettle often are the times you discover your best work.

Gear used:
Canon 60D, Sigma 30 f/1.4 USM

Camera settings:
30mm | f/3.2 | 1/250s | ISO 1600

@ itsartwithwords

#1 tip for beginners:

If you die, you're out of business, so take care of your health first and foremost.



Niel McElmon, Canada

Utilizing my first ever official photo pass, I caught this image of the melodic and gritty electronic mastermind Longwalkshortdock back in 2014 at a now defunct festival in Alberta, Canada. As an predominantly electronic music photographer, I've always loved high vibrancy, colorful music imagery which is part of the reason I chose this specific image. I quite often compose and shoot wider angle artist and stage shots which made finding a 1x1 image a fun challenge!

Gear used:
Canon EOS 6D, Canon 70-200 f/2.8L IS USM

Camera settings:
130mm | f/3.2 | 1/60s | ISO 2500

<http://www.concertsocks.com>
@ concertsocks

#1 tip for beginners:
Go to every small club show you can and shoot! Practice, Practice, Practice!





Romain Ballez, Belgium

Turns out finger-pointing isn't so rude after all! This is Orion from the Polish metal band Behemoth. A nice souvenir from the Hellfest, taken back in 2014.

Gear used:
Canon 1Dx, 70-200 f2,8

Camera settings:
125mm | f/3.5 | 1/500s | ISO 200

<http://www.romainballez.com>
@ romainballez

#1 tip for beginners:
Never give up ! Keep doing your thing.

Holger Buecker, Germany

The photo was taken at M'era Luna Festival 2013 during the day. Lord of the Lost are absolutely perfect to shoot as all band members are great in posing like Class Grenayde on this photo. It has won several awards at international photo competitions (color or b&w version).

Gear used:

Canon EOS 5D Mk II, Sigma 70-200 f/2,8 OS HSM

Camera settings:

70mm | f/3,5 | 1/320s | ISO 200

<http://www.facebook.com/music2see>
@ Music2See

#1 tip for beginners:

Don't forget to have an eye on the background as well if possible.





Igor Vidyashev, Canada

This is my first overhead shot of the drummer at the live show, which later become my signature series. I stand behind drummers during the show with my camera armed with fisheye lens pointing down. I gently tap drummer on the shoulder to let him know I'm ready for the shot and it's time to look up straight to the camera. I take about 1-15 shots fast and step down quickly. It takes overall less than 30 seconds to prepare and take shots.

Gear used:
Nikon D750, Nikon 16mm F2.8 Fisheye

Camera settings:
16mm | f/4.5 | 1/800 | ISO 4500

<http://www.rockxposure.com>
@ rockxposure

#1 tip for beginners:
Don't try to copy - better try to be different from others.

Nadja Koscik, Slovakia

I love this picture because it was so hard to shoot. Our friends Longital have invited us to the release party of their latest album, "Divoko" (Wildly). The show was indeed wild and difficult to photograph in a dark club. But when they came out in their wolves' masks, I knew I had to get my manual Mitakon .95 out and do my best.

Gear used:

Sony a7, Mitakon 50 f/0.95

Camera settings:

50mm | f/1.1 | 1/160s | ISO 1000

<http://koscik.photos>

@ koscik.photos

#1 tip for beginners:

Overcame your fears and be out there in the moment.





David Correa, United States

This picture is of Kryz (guitar) and Brad (drums) from the band Third Eye Blind. Growing up listening to Third Eye Blind in my bedroom I never dreamed to be working for them 20 years later. This show was a blast and from security to the photo pit and lighting it was a perfect show.

Gear used:
Nikon D750, Nikon 70-200 f2.8

Camera settings:
122 mm | f/3.2 | 1/640s | ISO 1600

<http://Photopitmedia.com>
@ Photopitmedia

#1 tip for beginners:
Keep shooting low light venues and fast moving bands to hone/sharpen your skills, Even if you are getting hired to shoot bigger venues with excellent lighting. I am not saying don't take big shows, just use every opportunity to hone your skills to be able to capture those "money shots" whether the venue is big or small and has excellent lighting or not-the-best lighting.



SUBMISSIONS

The #htbarp Werkschau features photographers—both emerging and established—from all corners of the world. It doesn't matter if you are just starting out or if you're a professional music photographer with 30 years of experience. It doesn't matter if you have a degree in photography or if you're self-taught.

What matters is your passion for concert photography, and I deeply believe that your passion will be reflected in your music photography work. I am seeking those people who yearn to be in front of the stage, those who won't give up quickly when they're facing challenging lighting conditions, and those who found concert photography to be a new motivation in their lives.

How to submit:

1. Simply tag your concert photos on Instagram with the unique hashtag #htbarp
2. For each new issue of the #htbarp werkschau (four times a year) I am going to curate this gallery and choose 50 photographers.
3. If you're one of the selected photographers, you'll be featured with one of your photos and get the chance to show off your work to a worldwide audience.

Tag your photos! I am so excited to see all of your awesome concert photography work!



Vintage Trouble © Matthias Hombauer



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HOW TO BECOME A ROCKSTAR PHOTOGRAPHER

PODCAST

with **MATTHIAS HOMBAUER**

In each episode, you'll get access all areas to the most influential music photographers of our time where they'll share their secrets, successes and crazy stories from their Rockstar life.

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