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# ARTSCAPE DANIELS LAUNCHPAD

Photography Studio Handbook



**Digital Media Lab**  
Photography Studio Handbook  
Updated July 2020

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## Overview

The Photography Studio has a 5.6 metre / 18 ft wide cycloramic wall and the capacity for no-seam paper backdrops providing flexibility in the types of projects it can accommodate. With an acoustic ceiling and select acoustic walls the room is also designed to double as a film studio when needed. A pipe grid has been provided in the ceiling for hanging lighting, speakers and props. Immediately adjacent to the Photography Studio is the Wardrobe room. This room is set up for three hair and make-up stations, a changing room and wardrobe/prop storage.

The Digital Media Labs studios are in high demand, therefore a constant inflow of users use the equipment differently, causing occasional troubleshooting demands. It is possible that additional time for troubleshooting may occur at the beginning of the booked session. Our technicians are highly trained and will do their best to get equipment back and running as quickly as possible.



## Room Interconnectivity

Every room has a connection panel with XLR Connections that go to the Recording Studio's Patchbay. These can then be patched into the Recording Studio's preamp. Some of these connections are set up in a way that they can also be used in line level, not only mic level signals. This means that they can be connected with audio flowing in both directions: From the Recording Studio to the Panels, or from the Panels to the Recording Studio. These XLR connections also contain a TRS input inside of them as well, so they can be used as both.



## Photography Studio Panels

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Towards the end of our 68 Microphone Patchpoint is the Photography Studio Panel. This panel has the same connections as illustrated on the previous pages. Although this may see the least use given the Photography Studio less than ideal acoustic treatment, it may be useful for a multi-room event.



# Strobes & Air Remotes

## Strobe Safety

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### Strobe Lighting Kits

The photography studio comes equipped with a Profoto D2 strobe kit and many additional light-shaping tools and attachments. The strobe kit features three strobe heads and accompanying power cords. There is also a smaller travel kit available with two rechargeable battery operated strobe heads: Profoto B10 kit.

### Safety Tips

Strobe lights are notorious for emitting highly concentrated flashes of light. The Profoto D2 strobe heads yield a maximum of 500 - 1,000 watt-seconds in a single burst. For this reason there are a few safety precautions to consider.

1. Strobe heads get really HOT! Please consider wearing gloves when adjusting or adding/removing light shaping tools from the strobe heads. When the modeling light is kept on, the strobe head heats up a lot quicker. Avoid touching the metal ring or glass covering of the strobe light.
2. Use sandbags on C-stands and secure the cables with gaffers tape to reduce tripping hazards or potential damages. It is important to note that the higher a strobe light is, the more sandbags will be needed to distribute the weight.
3. When working with a team or photographing subjects with strobe lights, create a safe word for strobe trigger testing. Acute flashes of light may cause temporary visual impairment and even headaches. Before you test the flash let your crew know with a word like 'TEST' or 'CLEAR'. Give your subject ample time to break or rest their eyes in between photos.



## Syncing Remotes

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The Profoto Strobe kits include a selection of accessories and air remotes that acts as a transmitter and receiver to facilitate the connection between the strobe heads and the camera's shutter. Each trigger is battery operated and infrared sensitive, for syncing the two devices using a channel and grouping system. Our studio comes equipped with (1) TTL- S for sony cameras only, and (1) Air Remote, working universally for all cameras with a hot-shoe mount. There is an additional strobe accessory called the Profoto A1. This is an external flash device that may also be used to trigger the large strobe heads via the hot-shoe mount attachment.



**Profoto TTL - S (Sony)**





**Profoto Air Remote (Universal)**



**Profoto - A1 (Universal)**



# Studio Equipment

## Equipment Kit

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The Photography Studio has a designated equipment kit. Please note that equipment may no longer be swapped between studios. You are welcome to bring your own equipment to work with, but please be mindful of separating your equipment from ours to ensure a safe return to zero-state. When possible, use gaff tape to temporarily label any equipment you might be mixing with ours.

### **MAXIMUM STUDIO CAPACITY**

- **3 PERSONS**

Following provincial guidelines on physical distancing, this studio has a strict capacity to ensure safety.

<b>CAMERAS</b>	<b>1x</b> Sony a7 III with MC-11 EF Adapter
<b>LENSES</b>	<b>1x</b> Sigma 24mm F/1.4 <b>1x</b> Sigma 50mm F/1.4 <b>1x</b> Sigma 105mm F/1.4 <b>1x</b> Sigma 24-105mm F/4
<b>SUPPORT</b>	<b>1x</b> Manfrotto 058B Tripod with 3-way head
<b>GRIP</b>	<b>2x</b> C-Stand <b>1x</b> Rolling Combo Stand <b>3x</b> Baby Light Stand



**LIGHTING**

**1x** Profoto B10 kit with 2x heads  
**1x** Profoto D2 kit with 1x 1000 w/s and 2x 500 w/s heads  
**1x** Profoto TTL-S Sony Air Remote  
**1x** Chimera Octa Plus 5  
**1x** Chimera Super Pro X Medium Silver Soft Box  
**1x** Chimera Small Soft Box  
**1x** Profoto Grid Set (5°, 10°, 20°)

**ELECTRIC**

**3x** 25' AC Quad

**OTHER**

**2x** 64GB SD Cards  
**2x** Sony FZ100 Battery  
**1x** Apple Box Set

**INCLUDED IN THIS BOOKING**

- There is no dedicated technician included with this studio booking. Please enquire at the DML office if you require help or have any questions.
- The Green Room (change room) is not included with this booking, but it can be booked separately for an additional fee.



## Backdrop Support

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### **Wall-Mounted Backdrop**

The Photography Studio has a stationary wall-mounted backdrop support system that is attached to the very top of the curved wall. The triple hook wall mounted set is able to hold two large seamless rolls at a time. The aluminum pole attachments may carry seamless paper rolls up to 9ft. (2.7m) long. To make use of this backdrop support, you must request its use with a technician in advance and bring your own seamless paper rolls. Be sure to arrive early so that our technicians may assist you in a timely manner.

### **Portable Cross Bar**

The Manfrotto portable cross bar is part of the Photography Studio equipment kit and may be used with the supporting Manfrotto light stands. The cross bar is a very versatile tool to be used with seamless backdrops, fabric backdrops and other hanging materials. The pole extends from 44 inches (3.6 ft) to 117 inches (9.75ft) and can carry a maximum load weight of 8lbs when fully extended and 15lbs when retracted to its smallest size.



### **Sony a7 III**

Our studio includes the use of 1 or 2 Sony a7 III's. The Sony a7 III is primarily a stills-oriented mirrorless camera. However, Sony has created robust video settings, making it an effective camera for capturing short-form content. The Sony a7 III benefits from fast *autofocus* features and low-light performance. The Sony a7 III is able to record in UHD-4K with high dynamic range, with the choice of S-Log and Cine gamuts providing some room for manipulation in post production.

One downside of using the Sony a7 III is the complicated menu interface, which can drastically add to setup time in order to reduce error. The amount of turnover the DML cameras receive means that often, camera settings, custom buttons and configurations are set up in different ways that need to be configured by the user every booking. Advanced users are also able to save camera configurations to an SD card, which drastically reduces setup time.

### **Lenses**

Please do not touch the glass directly with your fingers, t-shirt, or any other material besides a dedicated lens cloth. In the event of even a minor abrasion to the lens, please notify a DML Studio Technician. Do not attempt to clean camera lenses or touch the interior camera components without the approval/supervision of a Studio Technician. Before attempting to attach one of our Sigma lenses to your camera, please ensure you have the correct adapter mounted. If you are unsure about this, ask a Studio Tech in the DML.



## Power Supply

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The photo lab has a multi-input AC power supply unit with various outputs. Please power down and unplug all lights, extension cords/power strips and supporting electronic equipment before restarting or powering off/on the main unit.

### **Cable Handling**

Ensure cables are flat on the ground, not hanging, where they can be a tripping hazard to both members and guests using the studio. All cables running from a distance longer than 2 feet (.5 meters) must be secured to the ground with gaffers tape. Make sure cables are as out of the way as they can be and that everyone in the studio (including guests) are aware of the potential tripping hazards.

Do not mix and match cables with other brands of lighting equipment as the voltages may vary and cause long-term issues. If a cable is not long enough to reach a microphone and/or snake, request a longer cable at the DML office or move the instrument closer.



# Tethered Shooting

## Mobile Tethering

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### **Imaging Edge Mobile**

This app can be found and downloaded on either google play or the Apple app store. It connects directly to the Sony A7III via a QR code produced by the cameras 'Ctrl w/ smartphone' option.

[INSERT SONY CAM MENU FLOW]

### **Profoto App**

Profoto has designed their own unique app which features mobile shooting ability exclusively for the B10 Travel Kit (2 strobes onsite), and strobe triggering for the D2 Studio Kit (3 strobes onsite). Through the smart remote control you can use the app to view and change any setting on your connected product(s) with a simple swipe. And when a new firmware update is available for a Profoto product with smart connectivity, you can easily perform the update from the app.

