



# Sony a7 Series: From Snapshots to Great Shots

By Brian Smith

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## Sony a7 Series: From Snapshots to Great Shots By Brian Smith

While your camera manual explains what the camera can do, it doesn't show exactly how to use the camera to create great images! That's where Sony A7 Series: From Snapshots to Great Shots comes in. Starting with the top ten things users need to know about the camera, author Brian Smith carefully guides readers through the operating features. Readers get practical advice from a pro on which settings to use when, great shooting tips, and end of chapter assignments. This book updates from the Sony A7 / A7R: From Snapshots to Great Shots (2014) for all five Sony a7 series cameras: Sony a7, a7R, a7S, a7II and a7RII.

### CHAPTER 1: THE SONY A7 SERIES TOP TEN LISTS

Set Your JPEG Image Quality \* Configure Your LCD and Viewfinder \* Set Your Autofocus Area and Mode \* Set the Correct White Balance \* Set Your Color Space \* Know How to Override Autofocus \* Review Your Shots

### CHAPTER 2: FIRST THINGS FIRST

Choosing the Right Memory Card \* Formatting Your Memory Card \* Updating a7-Series Firmware \* Cleaning the Sensor \* Using the Right Format: RAW vs. JPEG \* Lenses and Focal Lengths \* Understanding Exposure \* Motion and Depth of Field

### CHAPTER 3: MENU SETTINGS

Camera Settings \* Custom Settings \* Wireless \* Application \* Playback \* Setup

### CHAPTER 4: CUSTOMIZING YOUR CAMERA

Using the Control Wheel to Select an AF Point \* Avoid ISO Surprises \* Setting Up Back-Button AF \* Configuring the Function Menu \* Saving Custom Key Settings \* Saving Custom Shooting Modes

### CHAPTER 5: SHOOTING MODES

Intelligent Auto Mode \* Scene Selection Modes \* Sweep Panorama \* Why You May Never Want to Use the Full Auto Modes Again \* Picture Effects \* P: Program Auto Mode \* S: Shutter Priority Mode \* A: Aperture Priority Mode \* M: Manual Mode \* My Camera Settings

## **CHAPTER 6: PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY**

Auto Portrait Mode \* Using Aperture Priority Mode \* Metering Modes for Portraits \* Using the AE Lock Feature \* Focusing: The Eyes Have It \* Classic Black-and-White Portraits \* The Portrait Creative Style for Better Skin Tones \* Using Face Detection and Registration \* Portraits on the Move \* The Rule of Thirds \* Tips for Shooting Better Portraits

## **CHAPTER 7: MOVING TARGET**

Stop Right There! \* Using Shutter Priority (S) Mode to Stop Motion \* Using Aperture Priority (A) Mode to Isolate Your Subject \* Keep Them in Focus with Continuous AF \* Autofocus Area Selection \* Keeping Up with Continuous Shooting Mode \* Manual Focus for Anticipated Action \* A Sense of Motion \* Tips for Shooting Action

## **CHAPTER 8: LANDSCAPES & STREETSCAPES**

Stop Right There! \* Using Shutter Priority (S) Mode to Stop Motion \* Using Aperture Priority (A) Mode to Isolate Your Subject \* Keep Them in Focus with Continuous AF \* Autofocus Area Selection \* Keeping Up with Continuous Shooting Mode \* Manual Focus for Anticipated Action \* A Sense of Motion \* Tips for Shooting Action

## **CHAPTER 9: MOOD LIGHTING**

Raising the ISO: The Simple Solution \* High ISO Noise Reduction \* Using Fast Glass \* Using OSS Lenses \* Mark II: 5-Axis Sensor-Shift Stabilization \* Focusing in Low Light \* Shooting Long Exposures \* Using Flash \* Compensating for the Flash Exposure \* Flash Modes \* Using an External Flash \* Taming Flash Reflections

## **CHAPTER 10: ADVANCED TECHNIQUES**

Spot Meter for More Exposure Control \* Manual Mode \* Avoiding Lens Flare \* Using the Sun Creatively \* Macro Photography \* High Dynamic Range Photography \* Using Dynamic Range Optimizer \* Wireless Remote Capture App \* Installing and Updating Sony PlayMemories Camera Apps \* Share Photos with Send to Smartphone \* One-Touch Connection with an NFC-Enabled Android Smartphone \* Tethering Your a7-Series Camera

## **CHAPTER 11: LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION**

It's All About the Lenses \* Movie Shooting Modes \* Getting a Shallow Depth of Field \* Giving a Different Look to Your Videos \* Picture Profiles \* Shooting 4K \* Accessories for Video \* Tips for Better Video \* Watching and Editing Your Video

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### Editorial Review

#### From the Back Cover

Now that you've bought a Sony a7 series camera, you need a book that goes beyond a tour of the camera's features to show you exactly how to use the camera to take great pictures. With Sony a7 Series: From Snapshots to Great Shots, you get the perfect blend of photography instruction and camera reference that will take your images to the next level! Beautifully illustrated with large, vibrant photos, this book teaches you how to take control of your photography to get the image you want every time you pick up the camera.

Follow along with your friendly and knowledgeable guide, Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer and author Brian Smith, and you will:

- \* Learn the top ten things you need to know about shooting with the Sony a7 series cameras
- \* Learn to use the camera's advanced camera settings to gain full control over the look and feel of your images
- \* Master the photographic basics of composition, focus, depth of field, and much more
- \* Learn all the best tricks and techniques for getting great action shots, landscapes, and portraits
- \* Find out how to get great photos in low light
- \* Learn the basics behind shooting video with your a7 series camera and start making movies of your own
- \* Understand the nuances of your menu settings and how to customize your camera
- \* Grasp all the concepts and techniques as you go, with assignments at the end of every chapter

#### About the Author

For the past 30 years, Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Brian Smith's bold, iconic portraits of famous celebrities, athletes, and executives have appeared in advertising and graced the covers and pages of such magazines as *LIFE*, *Sports Illustrated*, *ESPN the Magazine*, *Time*, *Forbes*, *New York Times Magazine*, and *British GQ*. Smith won the Pulitzer Prize for his photographs of the Los Angeles Olympics and was a Pulitzer finalist for his photographs of Haiti in turmoil. He's a Sony Artisan of Imagery, Lowepro Lowe Professional, X-Rite Coloratti, and he's president of Editorial Photographers, an organization of the top magazine photographers and newspaper photojournalists from around the world.

### Users Review

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##### **Angel Huitt:**

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### **Shirley Davenport:**

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book could be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled Sony a7 Series: From Snapshots to Great Shots can be great book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

### **Josephine Widman:**

Many people spending their time by playing outside having friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to pay your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, you think reading a book can definitely hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It okay you can have the e-book, getting everywhere you want in your Smart phone. Like Sony a7 Series: From Snapshots to Great Shots which is keeping the e-book version. So, why not try out this book? Let's find.

### **Frankie Lampkins:**

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