



Sony a7 Series: From Snapshots to Great Shots

By Brian Smith

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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

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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

From reader reviews:

Angel Huitt:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite reserve and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the publication entitled *Sony a7 Series: From Snapshots to Great*

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Shirley Davenport:

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