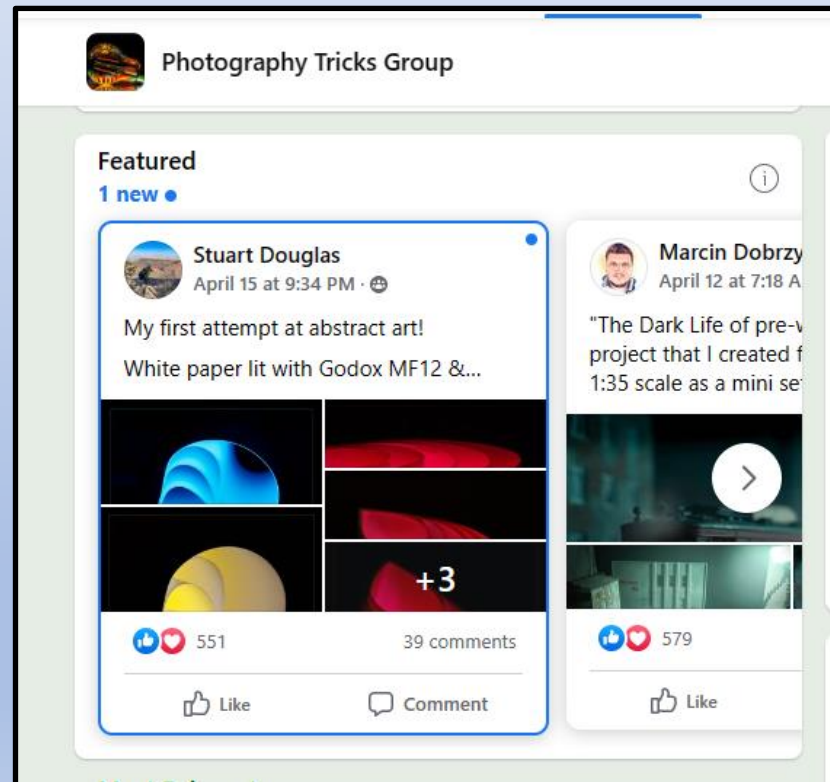




Pilchuck Camera Club

May 11 2023: Garage Photography Projects

Inspiration: Facebook



Publications



The Workshop: My Garage



Things To Photograph

Someday I'm actually going to photograph all of the items that I've collected.

Glassware

Blacklight Plastic

Miscellaneous



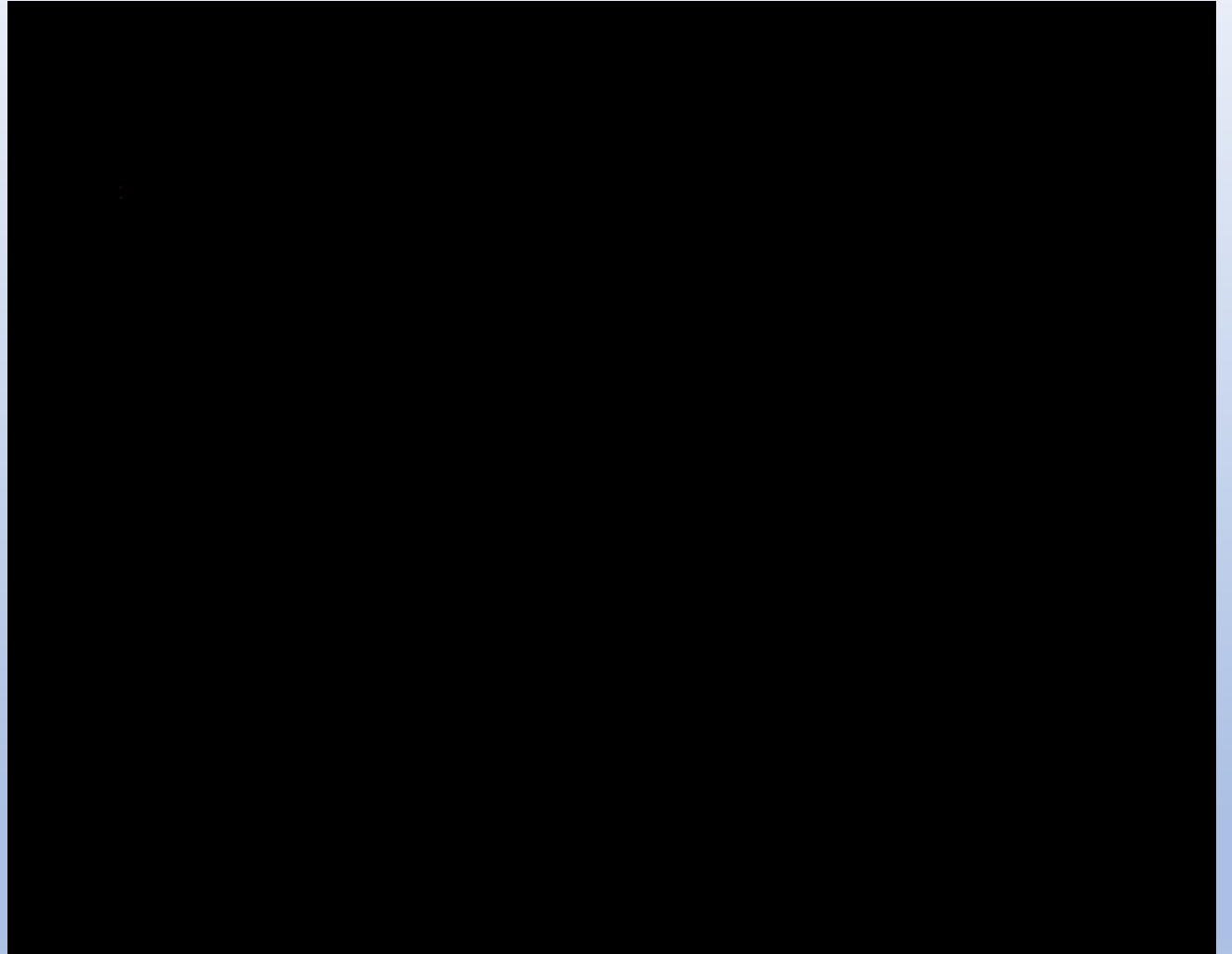
Working Environment:

Mostly you're working in the dark.
The garage window is blacked out.

Sometimes I put a trouble light in the far corner of the garage giving a small amount of illumination that doesn't impact the image so I can see what I'm doing.

Flashlight always handy.

Don't trip over wires and tripods.



Recommendation:

Tripod and Cable Release

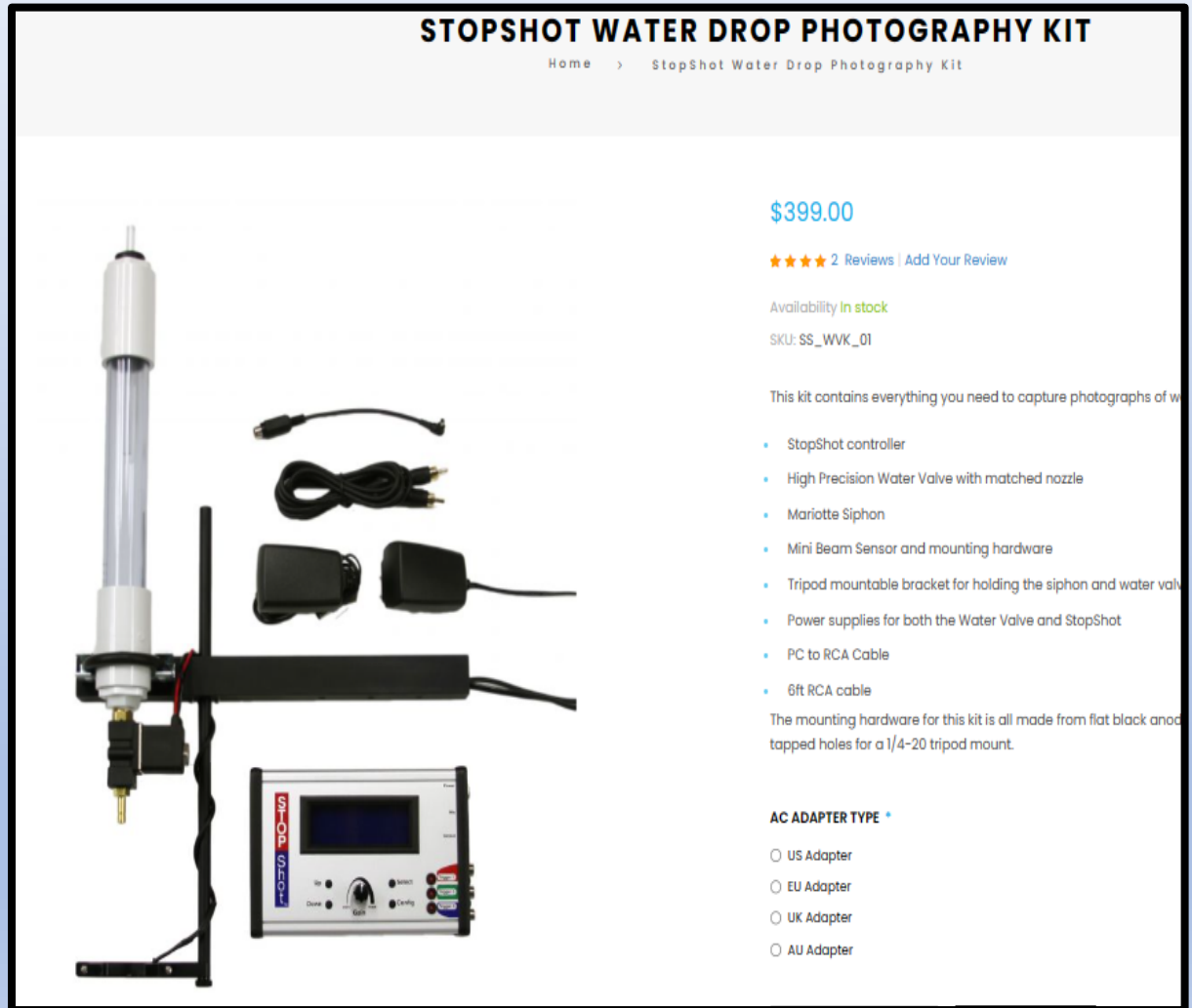
Macro Lens or
Medium Telephoto Zoom

Drop Splash Photography:



Cognisys Stopshot Water Drop Kit (\$399.00):

- This is the system I'm using.
- Original parts purchased by Jim Basinger and subsequently acquired by me.
- Jim only bought the parts he needed, not the entire kit.
- I've replaced the tube and valve and constructed my own stand.



Drop Splash Setup:

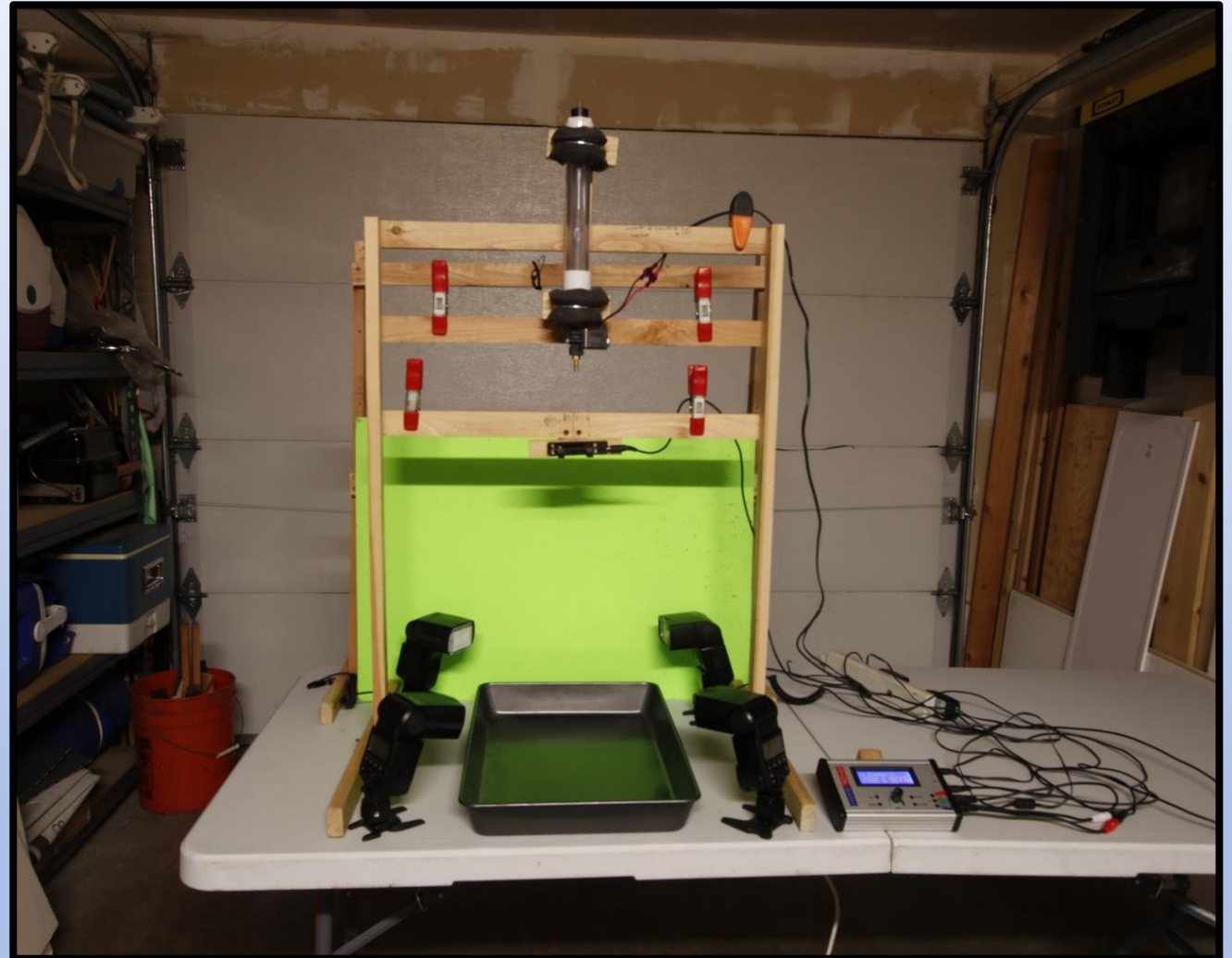
The column holds the drop fluid – the pan a pool of water, milk or other fluid

The controller releases the drops timed so that the second drop falls milliseconds after the first one

The drops pass through the sensor which triggers the flash units – up to 4, 2 fired by wire, 2 by slave

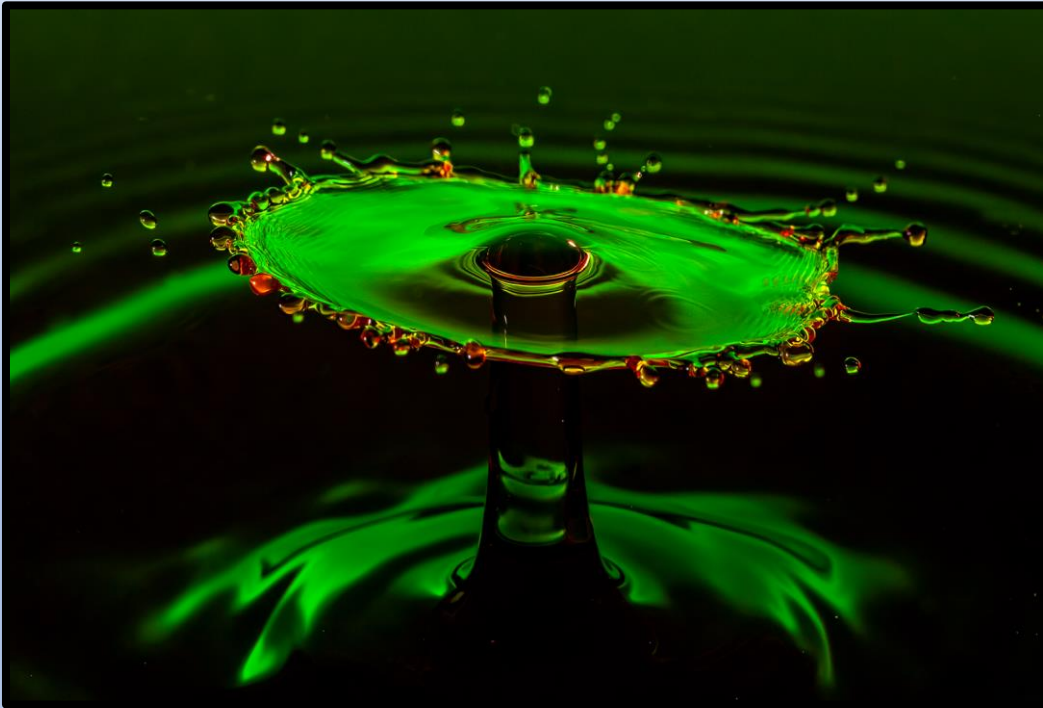
In the dark:

1. Open camera on bulb (pre focused)
2. Start the control unit (times pre set)
3. Drops fall – flash(s) triggered
4. Close shutter.
5. Repeat, Repeat, Repeat



Sample Splash Images (2 Drop Collisions):

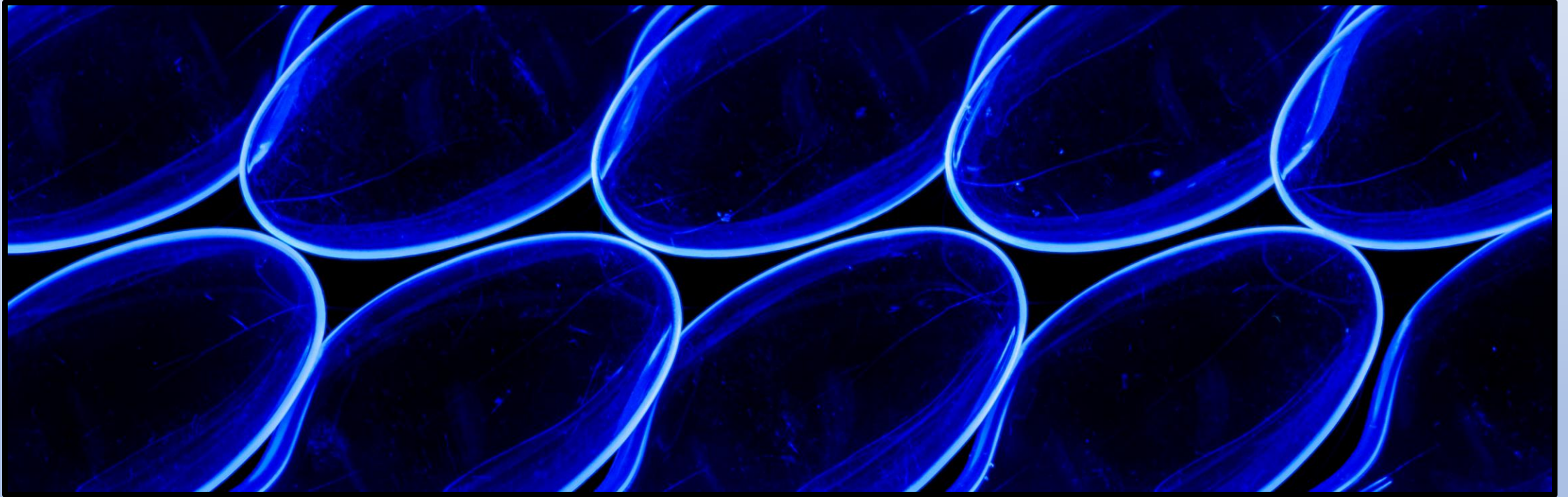
Water Drops Into Water



Water Into Heavy Cream



Blacklight Photography:



Blacklight Setup:

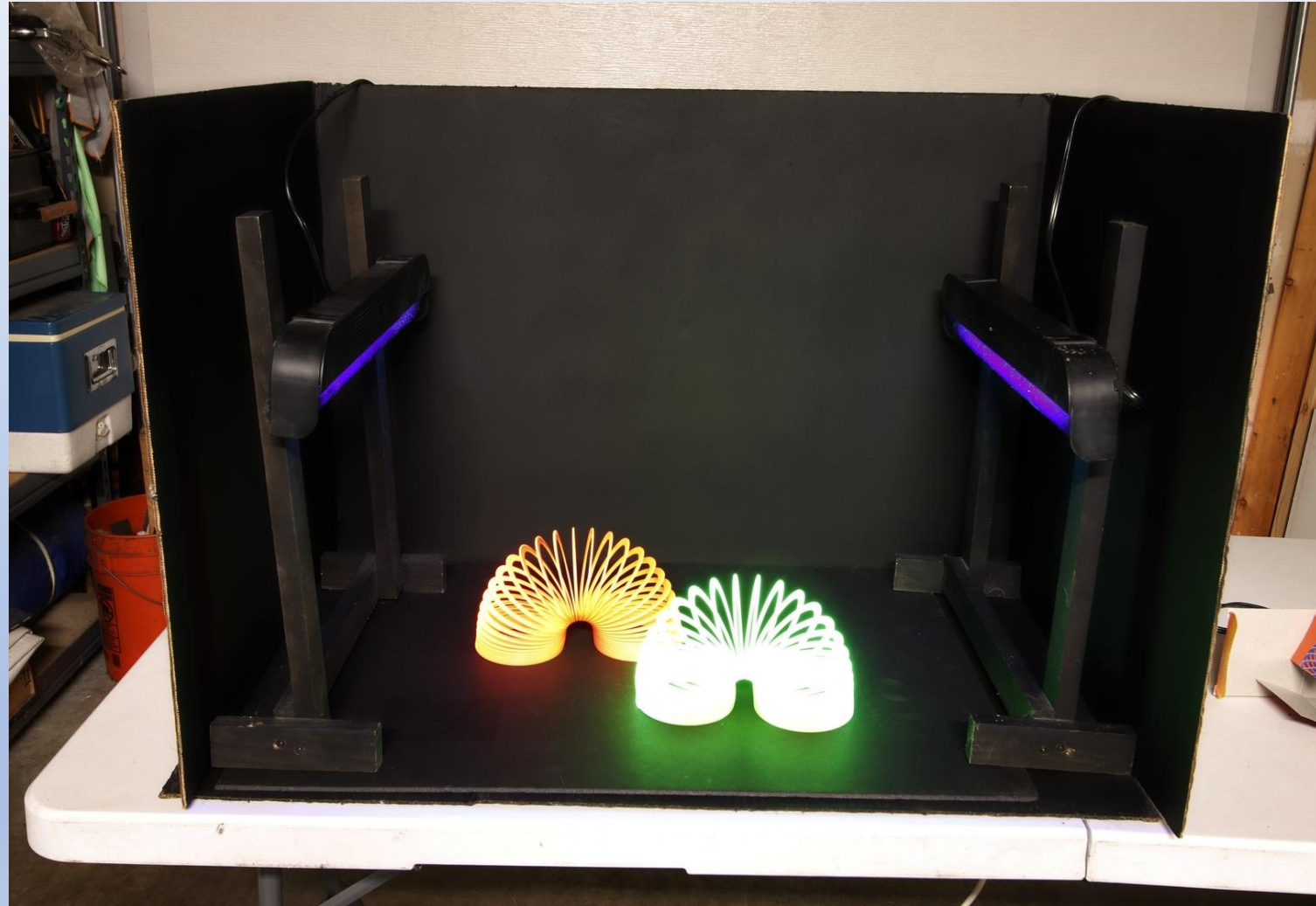
Painted Cardboard (Flat Black)
On Three Sides and Floor
(Poster board is shiny /
reflective)

Acrylic sheet on floor is OK
too

Two Blacklight lamps to
illuminate all sides of the
object

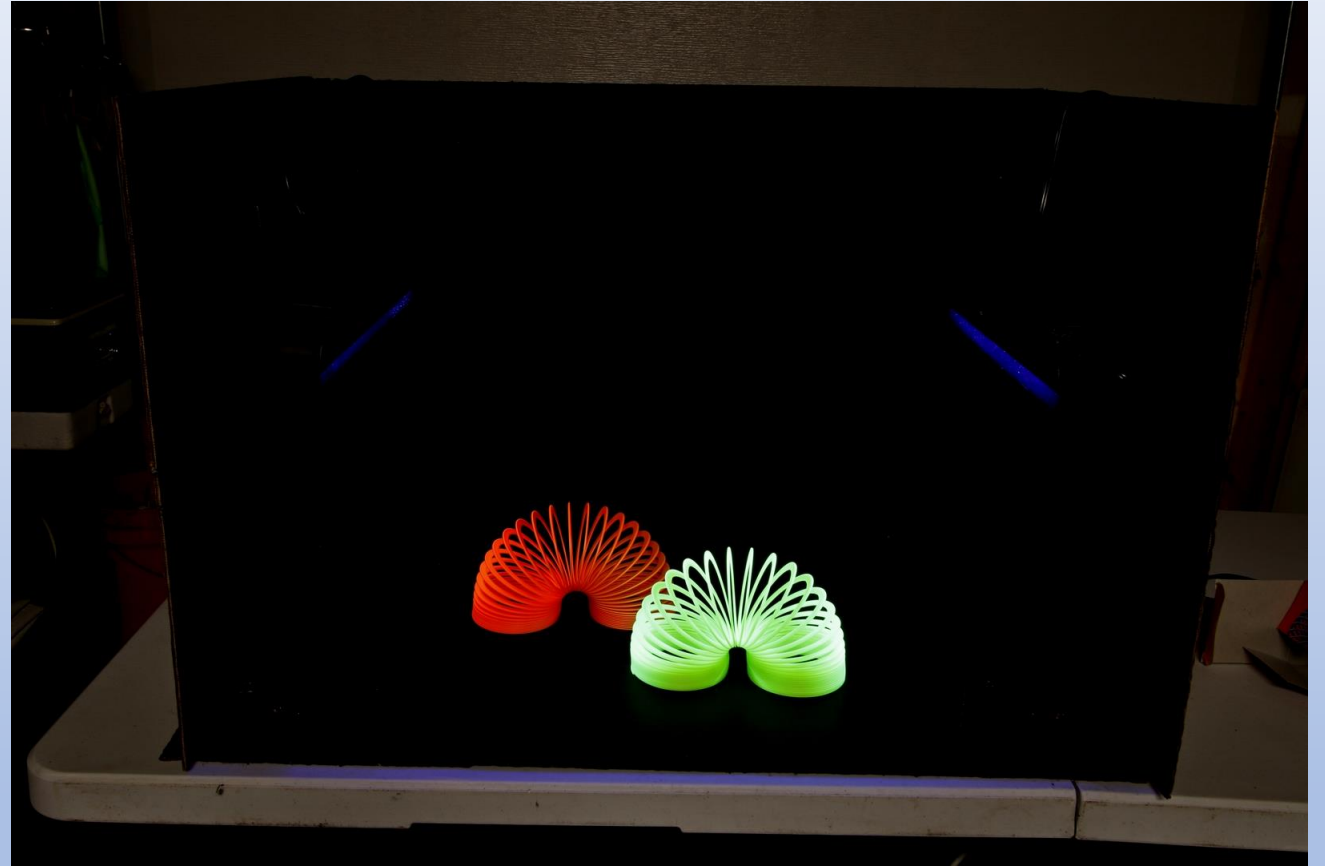
Blacklight reactive objects

A blacklight flashlight is hand
to take into stores to check
possible subjects.



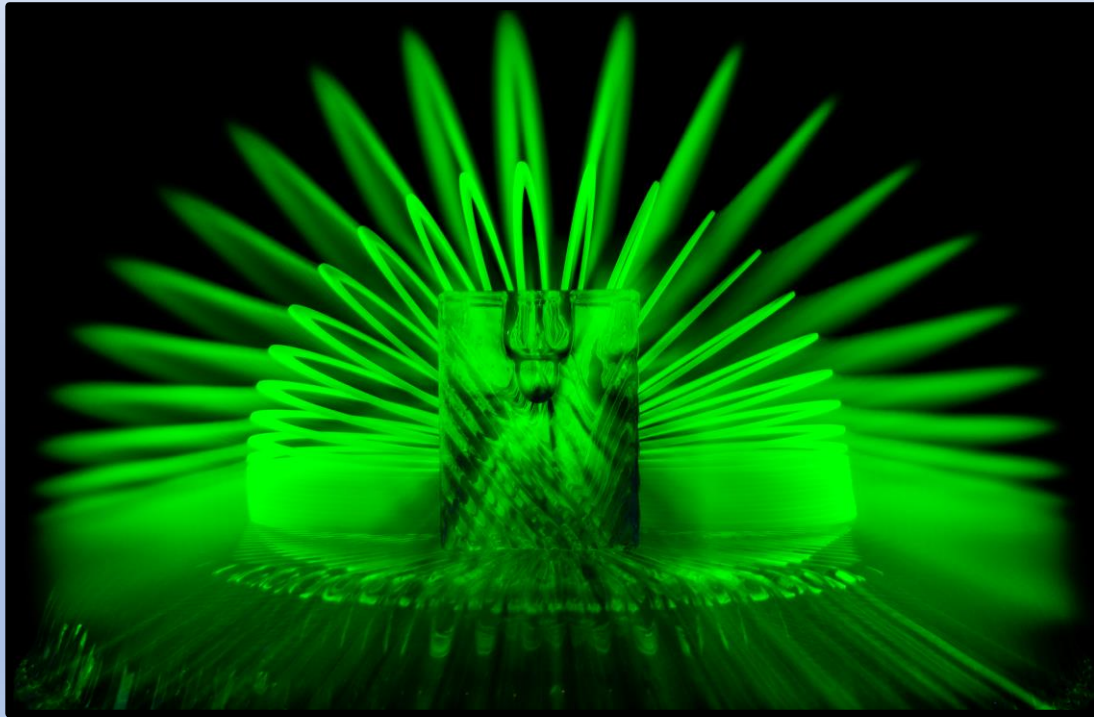
Blacklight Setup:

Better Exposure – Live View is really really helpful.

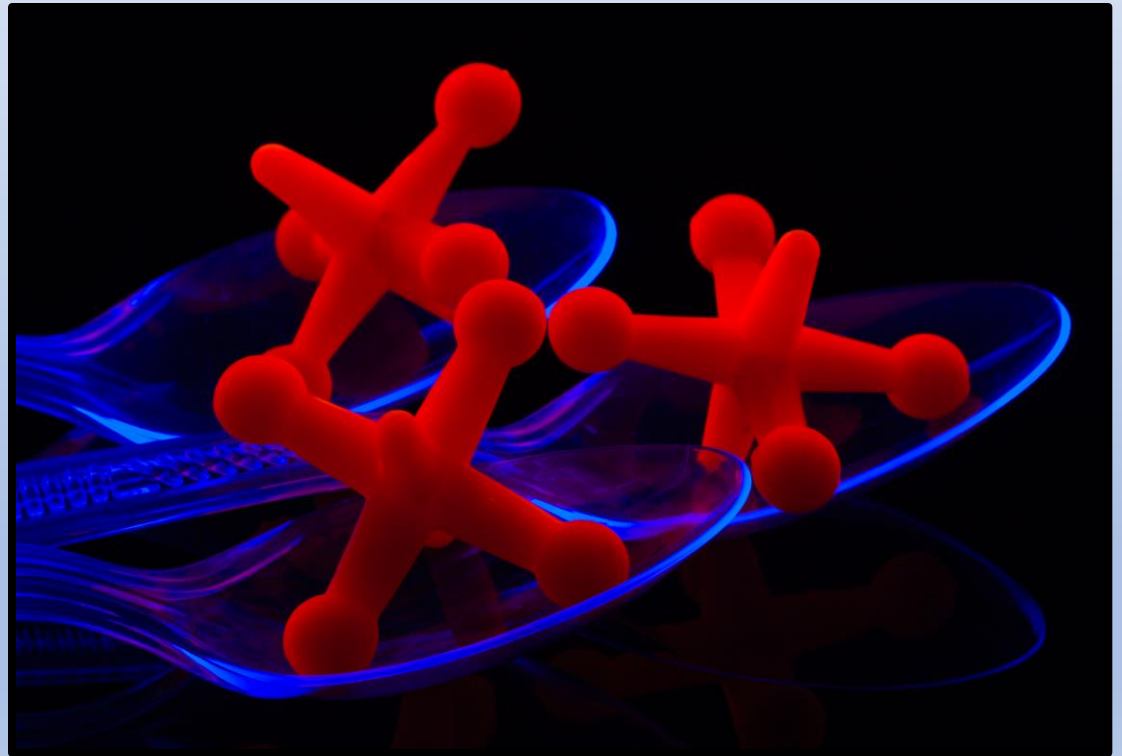


Sample Blacklight Images:

Zoom During Exposure



Spoon Full Of Jacks



Freestanding Key With Shadow:

- White poster board base
- Single 60w bulb for light source
- Key is suspended by wire (I couldn't get it to stand up using clay)
- Cleanup edit in Lightroom
- Wire removed in photoshop
- Nik Silver Effects for B&W
- Manual focus on Key
- ISO 100, f/16, 8 Seconds
- I really wanted a key shaped shadow 😞



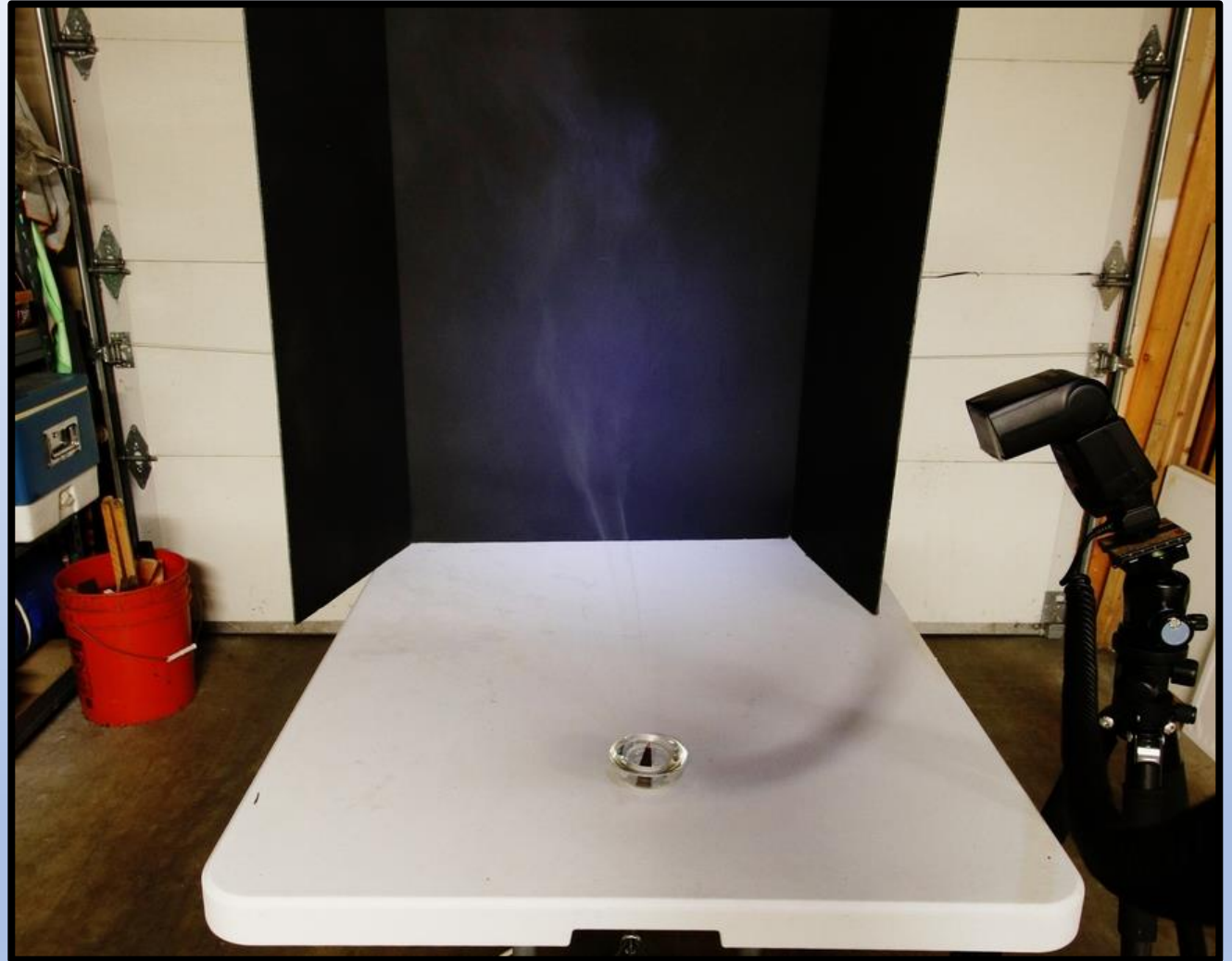
Bubbles:

- Black Background
 - Black Acrylic Base (Mirror is OK too)
 - Water, Dawn, Glycerin
 - Blow Bubbles With Straw
 - Light With Narrow Beam Flashlight
-
- Manual Focus
 - ISO 400, f/8, 4 Seconds



Smoke Photography:

1. Tall Black Background – smoke rises
2. Set farther back than other setups so that it will go pretty black
3. Flash on the side – sometimes 2
4. Colored gels can be used or color in Lightroom / Photoshop
5. I find that cone incense works better than stick incense – all the smoke rises from a single point.
6. Any breeze disturbs the smoke
7. A small flashlight on the smoke can reveal patterns and notify you when to open the shutter
8. Patience and Persistence



Smoke:

- Black Background
- Cone Incense
- Single Flash On the Side
- Manual focus
- ISO 400, f/11, 1/60th
- Live view with small flashlight on the smoke and when shape gets interesting fire the flash. Lots of misses.



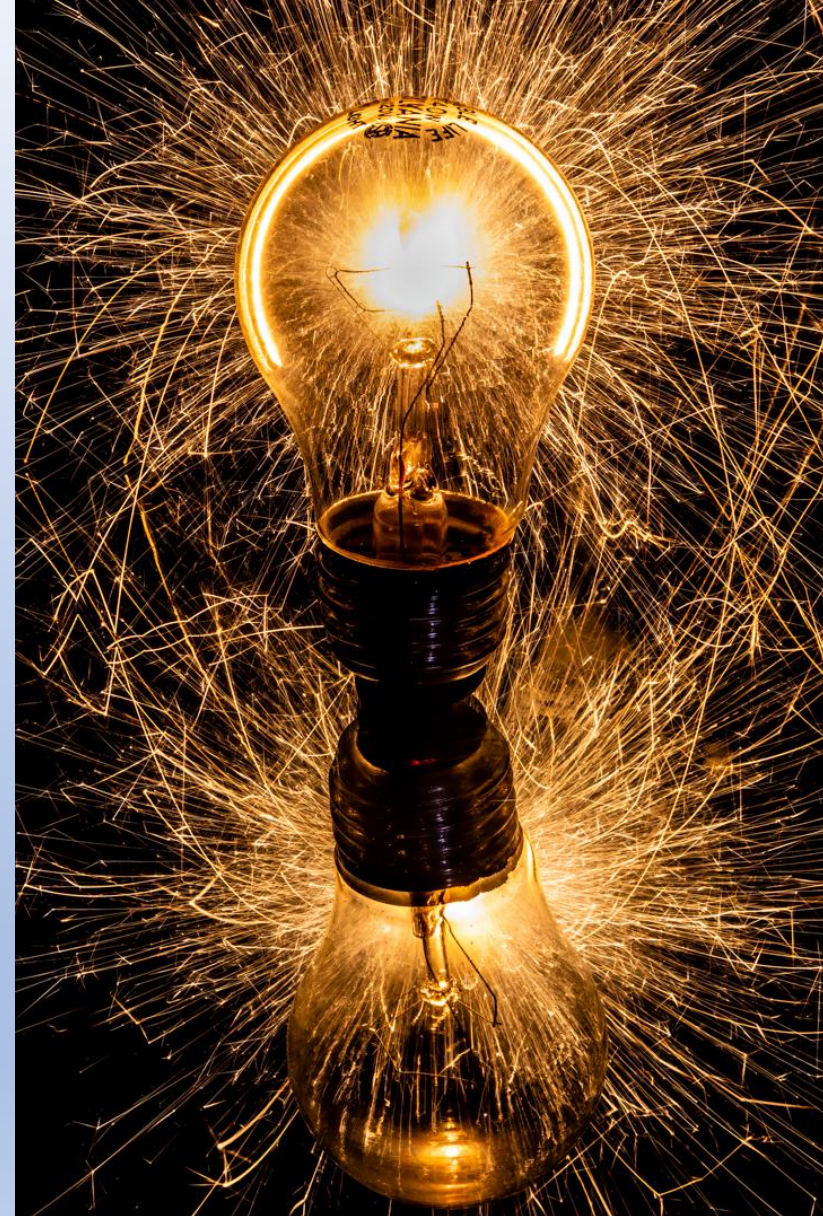
Smoke And Soap Bubble:

- Black Background
- Cone Incense
- Water/Soap/Glycerin for bubble
- Wire loop in the smoke path to hold the bubble
- Blow bubble with straw
- Single Flash On the Side
- Remove the wire in Post with photoshop
- Manual focus
- ISO 400, f/11, 125th Second



Sparkler & Lightbulb:

- Black Background
- Mirror Base
- Clay to hold bulb and sparkler
- Sparkler cut down to height of bulb
- Manual focus on element
- ISO 100, f/22, 2 Seconds
- Burst Mode



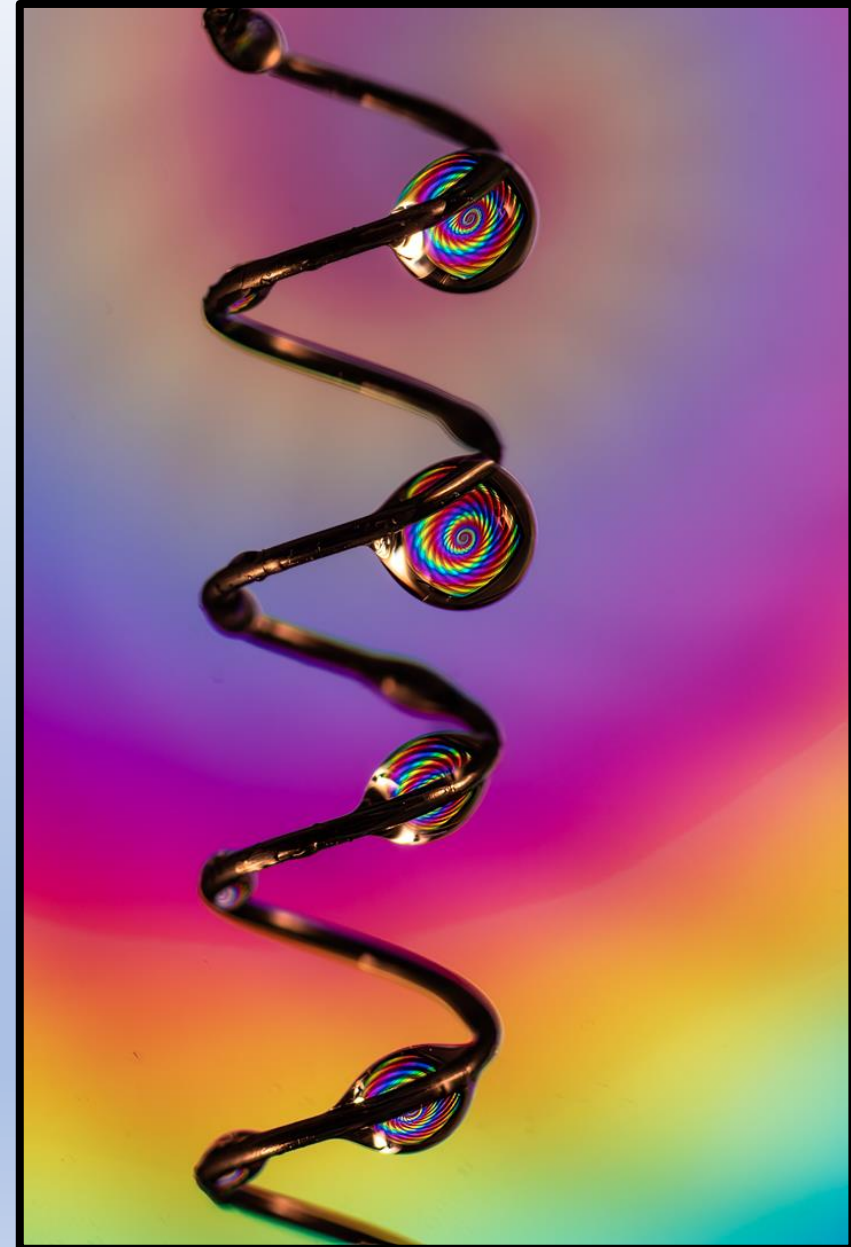
Lightbulb On Tablet:

- Clean Bulb. **No finger prints, no dust**
- Tablet as Bright as you can get
- Manual focus on element
- ISO 100, f/5.6, 32 Seconds
- Lower angles will get you more reflection in the glass of the bulb.
- Other glassware works too.



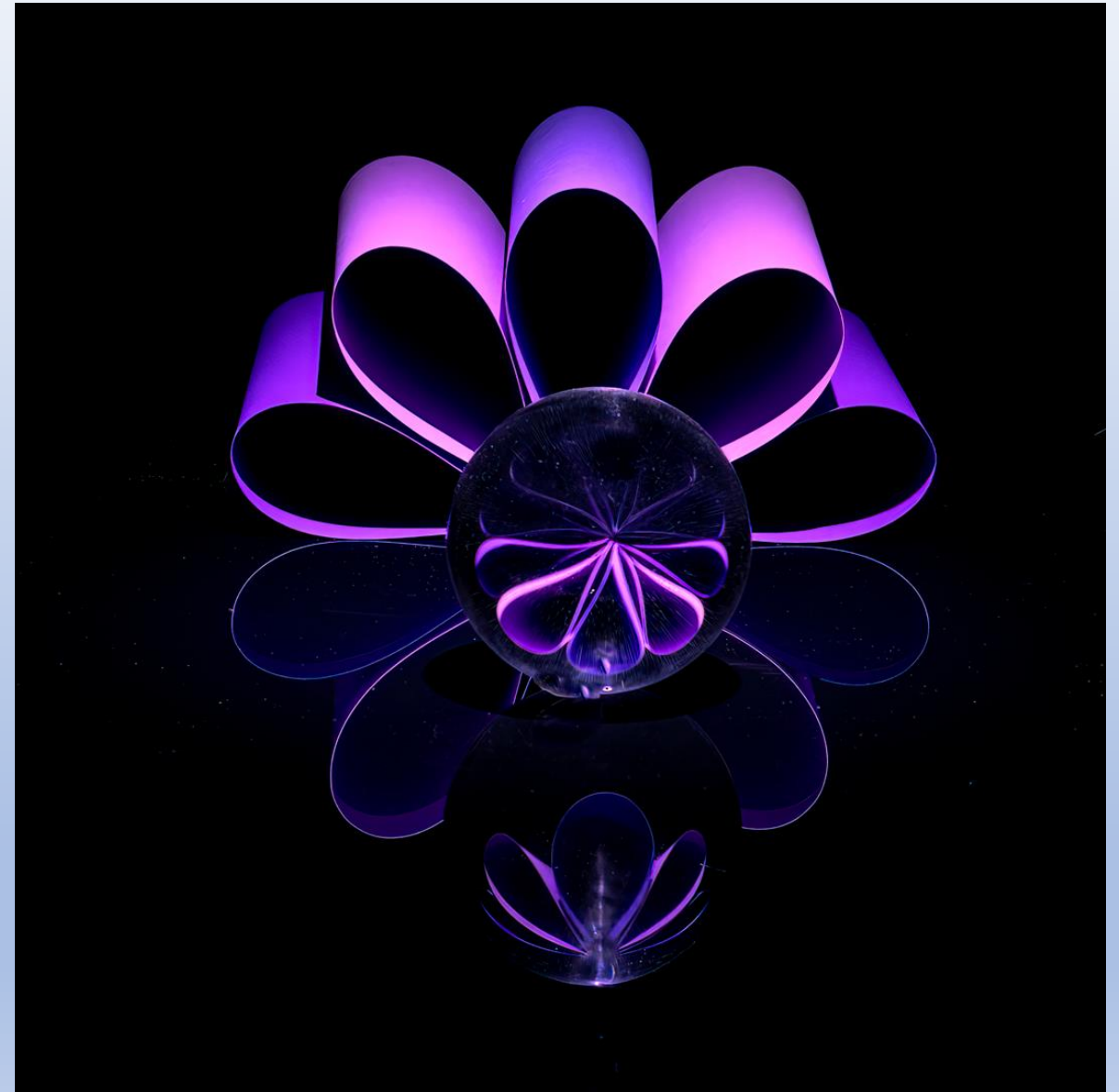
Water Drops As Lens:

- Spring from ball point pen stretched out
- Computer monitor in background
- Water & Glycerin for drops applied with either a spray bottle or syringe. Difficult and frustrating – drops slide down spring and/or fall
- Flashlight on front to light spring
- Manual focus on pattern in drop
- ISO 100, f/8, 0.5 Seconds



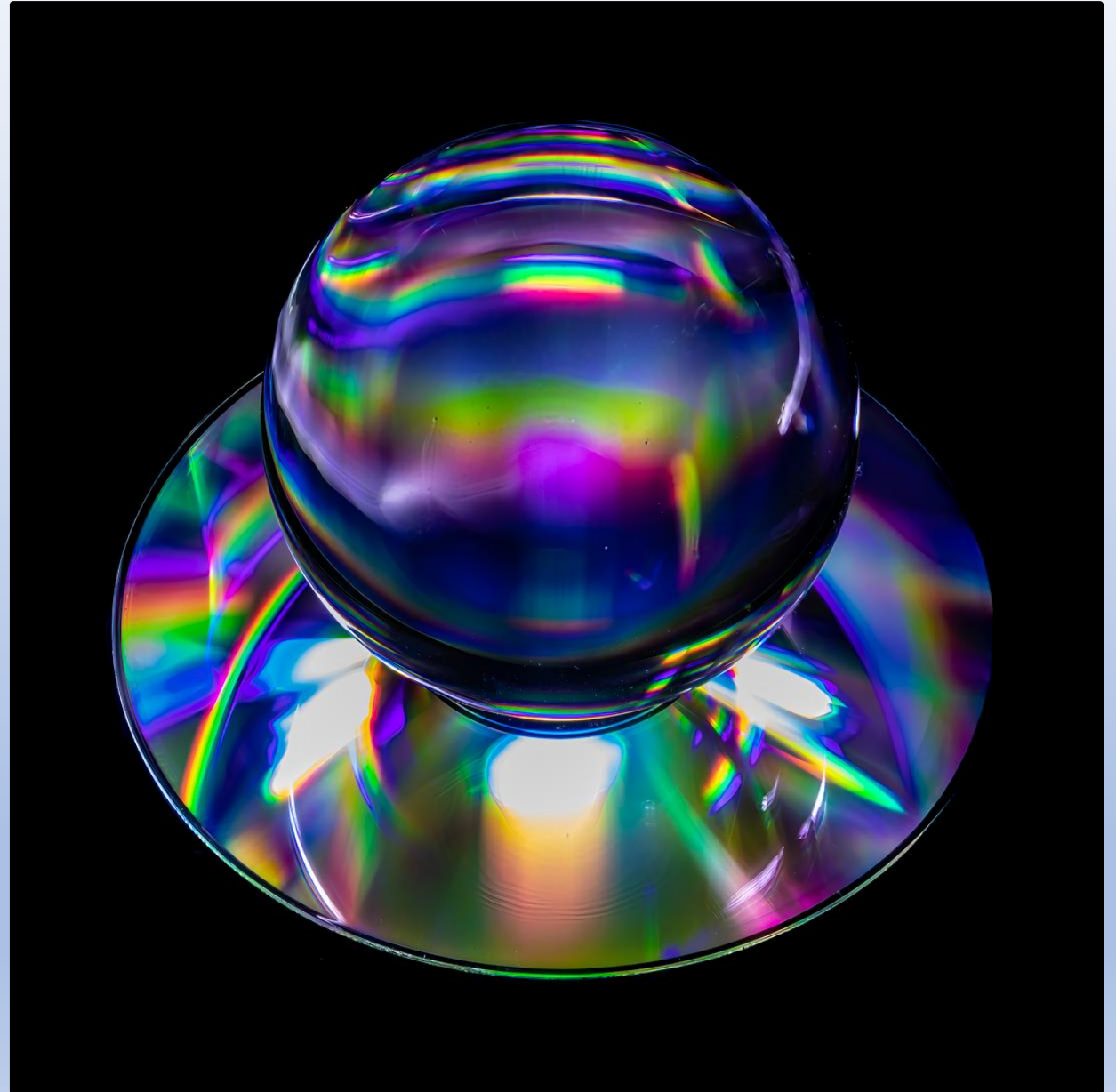
Lens Ball:

- Black Background
- Black Acrylic Base
- 4.5 in x 6.5 in Cardstock, varied colored pack
- Individually folded and stapled.
- Base petals taped so they lay flat. Remaining petals set in place
- Lensball set on small piece of clay
- Hand lit with flashlight
- Manual focus on element
- ISO 100, f/11, 8 Seconds
- **NO DUST ALLOWED**
- **NO FINGER PRINTS**



Lensball & CD:

- Black background
- Black Acrylic Base
- Clean small lensball
- **NEW CD.** If the CD has been burnt you don't get good rainbow
- Small snooted flashlight pointed near base of ball – wave it around
- Manual focus on Ball
- ISO 100, f/22, 15 Seconds



Lensballs & Computer Monitor / Tablet

Ball must be clean

Use your own images or download for backgrounds.
Small sized images don't work well as they lose resolution when you enlarge them

Enlarge and move the images around for desired effect

Double Lensball:

- One lensball placed in front of a larger lensball
- Both on square lensball stands on mirror
- Computer monitor in background
- Manual focus on edge of first ball
- ISO 100, f/16, 3.2 Seconds
- Color adjust in Lightroom



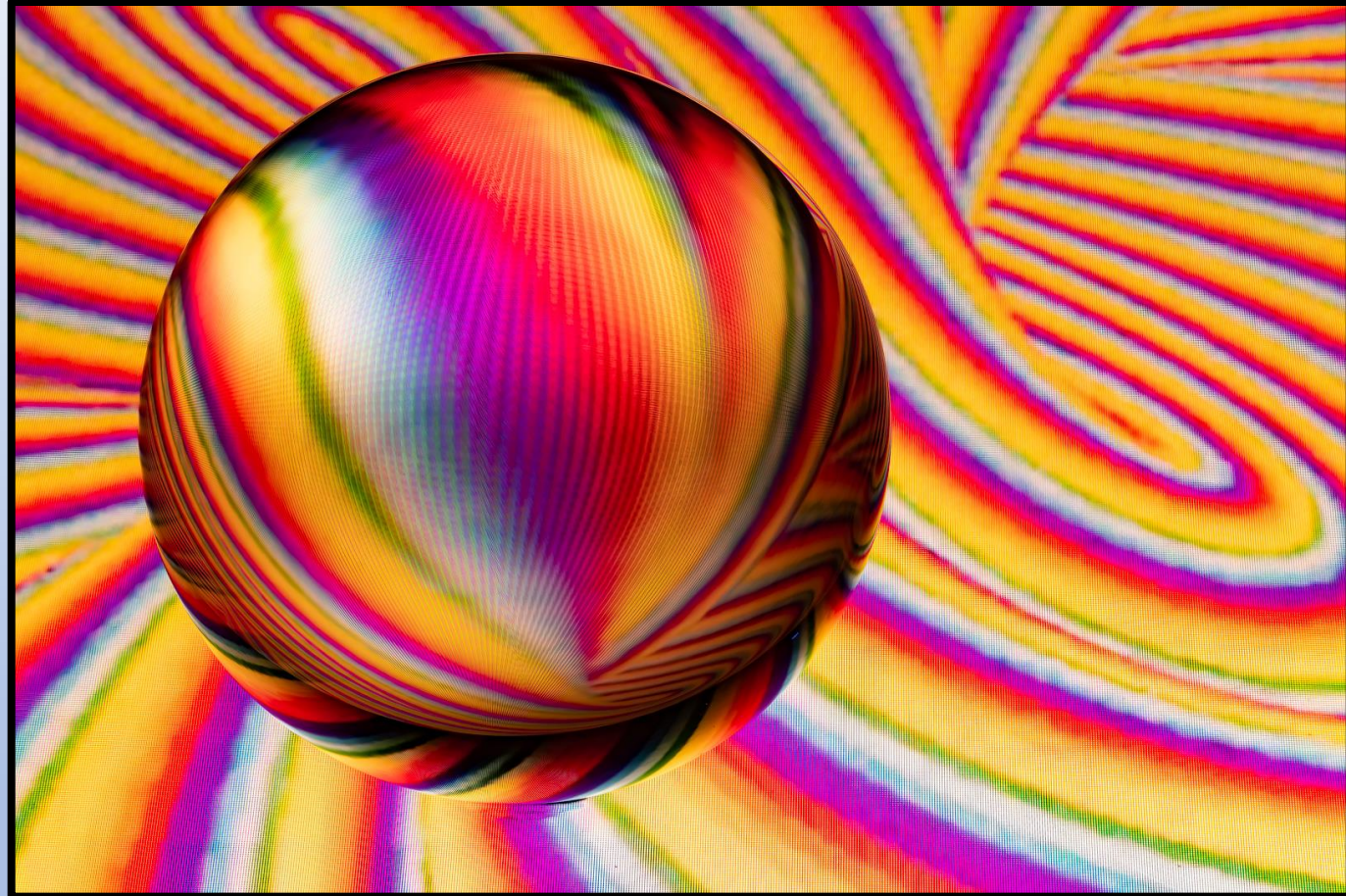
Double Lensball:

- One lensball placed in front of a larger lensball
- Both on square lensball stands on mirror
- Computer monitor in background
- Manual focus on edge of first ball
- ISO 100, f/16, 3.2 Seconds



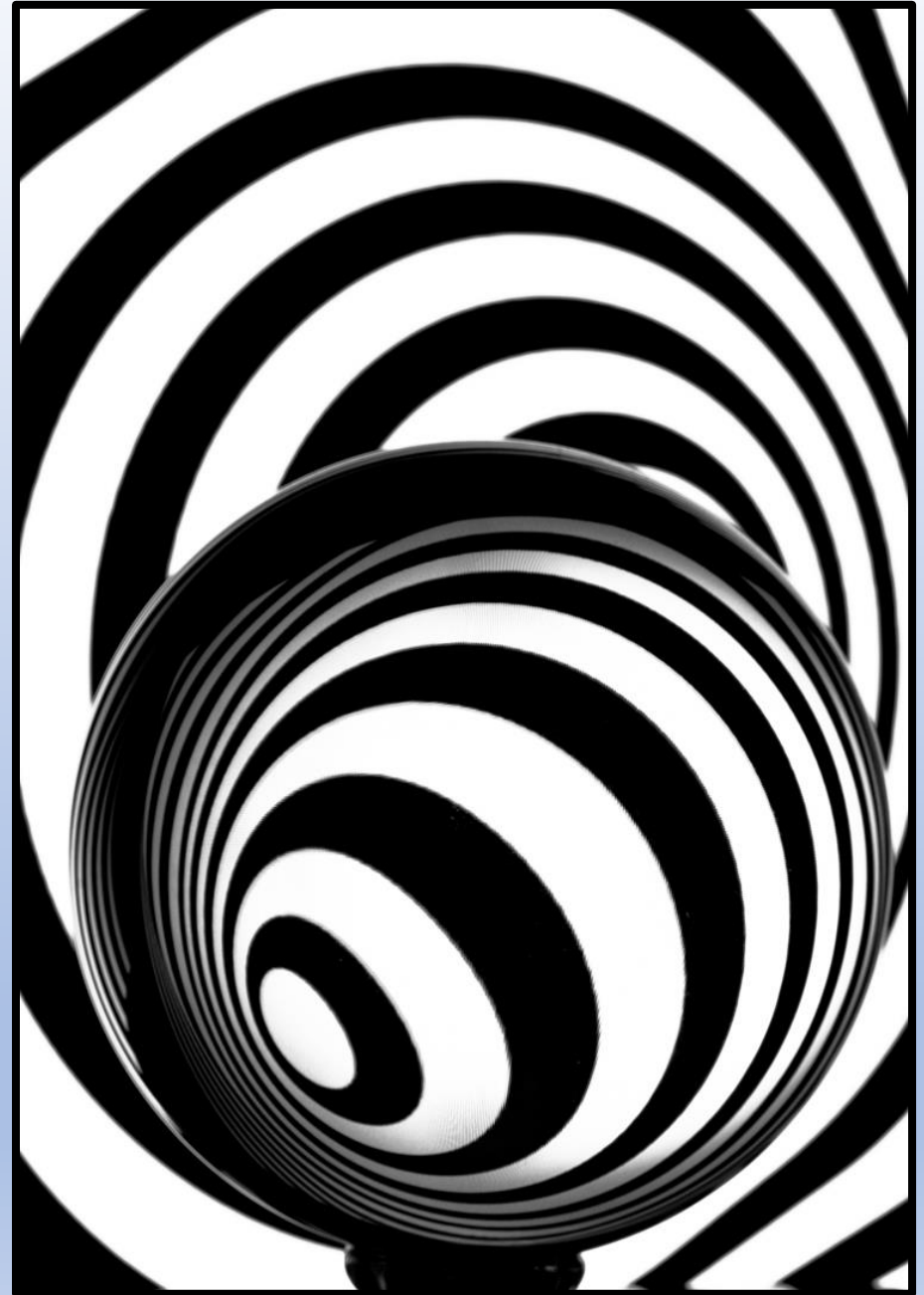
Lensball On Monitor:

- Lensball on miniature lensball stand on computer monitor
- This arrangement gives you more 'lines' in the ball
- Manual focus on edge of ball
- ISO 100, f/22, 6 Seconds
- Larger aperture might have reduced the lines



Lensball Vortex:

- Lensball on square lensball stand
- Vertical monitor behind
- Processed in Nik Silver Effects
- Contrast control helps eliminate light spots on both the background and the lensball



Items Used In This Presentation:

- Clear light bulb
- Bubbles – water/Dawn/glycerin
- Spray bottle
- Single 60ml - All-Purpose Industrial Syringe Kit - \$6.99 (Amazon)
- Lensball Crystal Stand - \$21.97 (Amazon)
- Crystal Ball for Photography 3 Pack - \$36.99 (Amazon)
- 2 Pack Square Crystal Ball Stand - \$8.99 (Amazon)
- Computer monitor - \$14.99 (Goodwill Store)
- Faststone Image Viewer - [FastStone Image Viewer - Powerful and Intuitive Photo Viewer, Editor and Batch Converter](#) FREE
- Background Images – Google topics: Fractals, colored patterns, colored wall papers, etc. (Watch for water marks. Small resolution images don't work well)