

Case Study of Light Position— Artistic Garden Face

*Each page will require you to 'click' to engage graphics.



This garden art face is like many found with limited texture and dimension to the face. This piece is illuminated by a natural overcast day—what mood does this image provide?

Lighting at night from above (single down light—MR-16 style source)



Light to right about 45-degrees, and 45-degrees out in front of subject



Light near vertical, slightly in front of subject



Light to right about 45-degrees, just out and in front of subject plane—strong shadow

Lighting at night from below—(single up light—MR-16 style source

4



Light from left lower side, just out and in front of subject plane—strong shadow

5



Light from left lower side, about 45-degrees out in front of subject

6



Light in line with subject, just out and in front of subject plane-- strong shadow

7



Light in line with subject, about 45-degrees out in front of subject— weak shadow/flat look

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



Compare each of these illuminated positions to the day time, natural lighting of our subject. What moods are displayed in each?



Final Points

- ▶ The position of a light fixture or fixtures is critical towards how a display piece feels. **Emotion and Drama are both controlled by Shadow.** It's the mixture of both light and shadow that develops mood.
- ▶ Light positions from Above (aiming down) the subject tend to:
 - ❑ Apply a more 'Natural' look (like the sun or the moon)
 - ❑ Provide for additional spill light below and around the subject
- ▶ Light positions from Below (aiming up) the subject tend to:
 - ❑ Provide for added Drama
 - ❑ Provide for additional spill light in the plantings above and around the subject
- ▶ Light positions from closer to the subject's plane (in-line) and slightly in front tend to:
 - ❑ Provide strong or harsh shadows, which can be very dramatic
 - ❑ Provide a deeper display of emotion—intrigue, fear, tension, etc.



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