



AN INTRODUCTION TO NIGHT SKY TIMELAPSE PHOTOGRAPHY

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A TASTE OF TIMELAPSE VIDEO

- Dancing Spirits

GETTING STARTED

- Conceptualizing
 - Story
 - Images
 - Music

NIGHT SKY SUBJECTS

- Open sky
- The Milky Way
- Celestial events
 - Stars, planets, moon, galaxies, comets, etc.
 - Meteor shower, eclipse, etc.
- Night landscape

PLANNING

1. Composition
2. Location
3. Dark sky
4. Moon or moonless?
5. Weather
6. Primary date and backup dates
7. Atmosphere condition
 - a. Cloud
 - b. Fog / Dew point
 - c. Visibility

SAFETY

- Darkness
- Wilderness
- Unexpected weather condition
 - Dress warm and weather-proof!

ETIQUETTE

- Avoid use of light, any light
- If must, dim red-light only
- Communication



EQUIPMENT

- Camera
 - Batteries
 - Memory cards
 - Viewfinder cover
- Lens
- Sturdy tripod
- Timer & release
 - Built-in vs. External
- Flashlight / Headlight (red)
- Optional
 - Motorized camera slider
 - Equatorial mount
 - Portable power
 - Light source for light-painting

CAPTURING

1. Prepare camera

- Long exposure noise reduction
- Shutter delay
- File format (RAW vs. JPG)

2. White balance

3. Aperture

4. Focus

5. Fog prevention

6. Shutter speed

- Trail-less
- The 500 Rule
- Star trail
- Very long exposure
- Continuous shots + image stacking

7. ISO

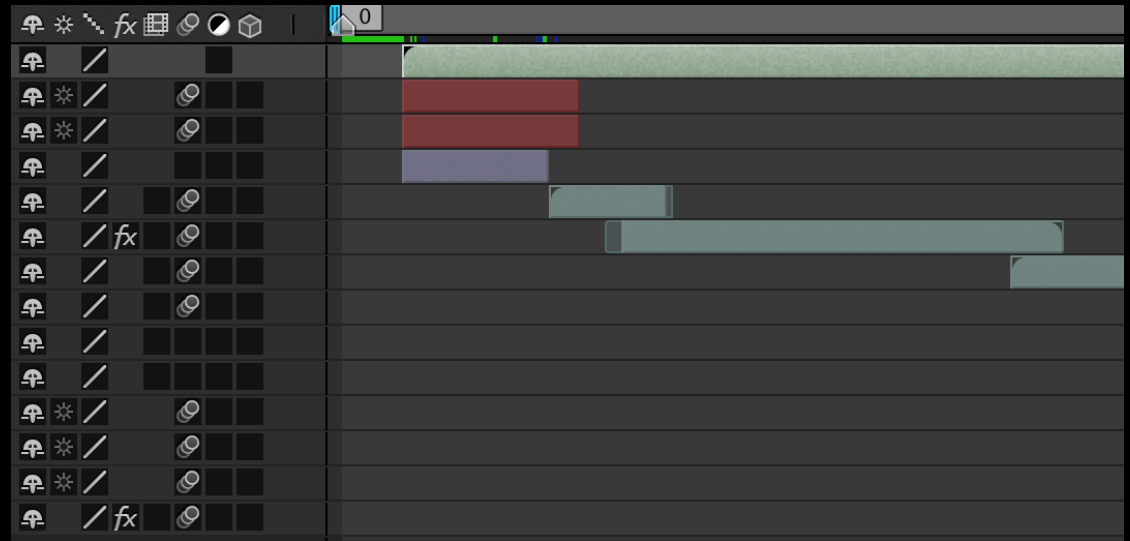
8. Dark frame

IMAGE PROCESSING

- Exposure correction
 - Highlight
 - Shadow
 - Contrast
 - Gradient filters
- Colour correction
 - White balance
 - Saturation/Vibrance
- Detail improvement
 - Noise reduction
 - Sharpening
 - Clarity
- Selective corrections
- Batch processing
 - Advanced techniques

VIDEO ASSEMBLY

- Sequencing
- Music syncing
- Transition
- Pan and zoom
- Rendering



FORGOTTEN SKY

Introduction

The Forgotten Sky project took me a life long dreaming about it and 9 months in making. As the night sky is heavily polluted these days due to air quality and artificial lights, I wonder if anyone still remember how the night sky looks like. I hope through this compilation of timelapse fragments, it can bring back the memory of the night sky you, perhaps, once enjoyed.

Q&A

- Questions?
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