

MAKING MAGIC

LIGHT PAINTING PHOTOGRAPHY

- On Camera Light Source
- Off Camera Light Source
- Kinetic Light Painting

Light Painting Types

On Camera

The light source is in front of the camera and is visible in the photographs. This is the traditional light drawing imagery you are used to seeing. The artist is often in the shot moving the light source around the subject.

Off Camera

Light source is off to the side of the image and not in front of the camera. It is being used to illuminate and color the subject. The artist may be behind the camera or may be moving the light source during the shot to illuminate the subject. It is reflected light, not direct.

Kinetic

Kinetic light painting involves a stationary light source such as street lights, the moon or the stars. The camera is moving instead in a pan, tilt or spin motion to capture the light in a kinetic, dynamic way.



Image by Lauren DalSanto, alum of PHS Visual Art program

What is Light Painting

The Use of Long Exposure Photography (Slow Shutter Speeds) to record the movement and color of light in a still image.

Resources & Links

Jeanne Bjork's Class Website

<http://phsvisualartdept.weebly.com/digital-photography-2-light-painters.html>

[Light Painting Lesson Plan](#)

[Published Article in SchoolArts Magazine October 2017](#)

[Light Painting Website for Techniques and History](#)

<https://lightpaintingbrushes.com/pages/light-painting-techniques>

<http://lightpaintingphotography.com/light-painting-history/>

Flow Arts

Some of my students were doing flow arts already. Using light painting techniques combined with the movements they already knew from Flow Arts resulted in interesting imagery.

The term "flow arts" encompasses the emerging movement-based artforms that integrate dance and creative exploration of movement with skill-based prop manipulation. The Flow Arts draw from a multitude of ancient and modern movement disciplines from Maori poi spinning to modern firedancing, from martial arts and taichi to circus arts and hula hooping.

<https://www.flowtoys.com/flow/>

Common forms of Flow Arts include Poi & Staff spinning, hula hoop (or "hooping"), juggling, sphere manipulation (or "contact juggling"), and fan dance. New props and expressions are emerging all the time as flow artists cross pollinate with martial arts, yoga, circus, belly dance, and beyond.

Taken from: <https://flowartsinstitute.com/about-us/what-is-flow-arts/>

Image at right by: PHS Art Alumni Sophia Buss

Light Painting with Cell Phones Apps and Articles

<https://www.gizmodo.com.au/2015/08/how-to-use-your-phone-to-get-started-painting-with-light/>

[Slow Shutter](#)

[NightCap](#)

[Camera FV5 Lite \(Android\)](#)

[Magic Shutter](#)

[Light Paint](#)

[Dr. Light \(Android\)](#)

[Pablo](#)

Teachers Doing Light Painting

[David Gran](#)

<http://carrotrevolution.com/lightpainting/>

<http://www.schoolartsdigital.com/i/472129-april-2015/30>

[Matt Cauthron](#)

<https://edex.adobe.com/resource/eddaa29120/>

<http://www.schoolartsdigital.com/i/147445-dec-2010/19>

[Kelly Clark Moncure](#)

<http://moncurephoto.weebly.com/class-assignments-2017--2018/category/light-painting-assignment>

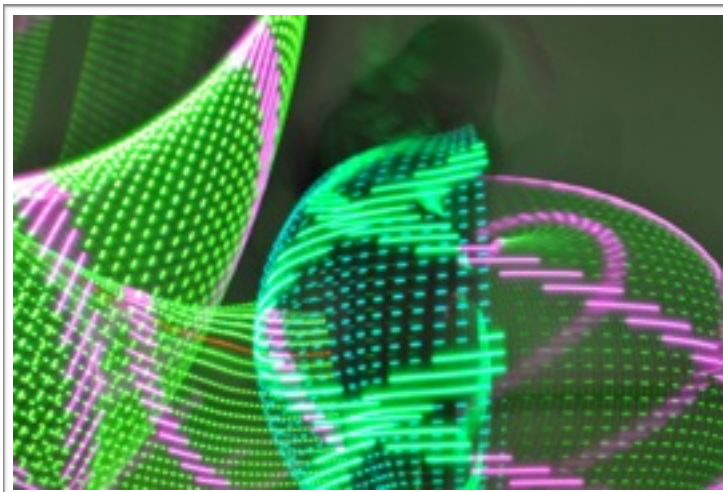
Places to Buy Lights and Flow Toys

<https://www.flowtoys.com/flowlight/>

<https://www.emazinglights.com>

<https://lightpaintingbrushes.com>

<https://flowartsinstitute.com/about-us/what-is-flow-arts/> <https://www.flowtoys.com/flow/>



Tips and Advice

- Have fun and experiment
- Don't expect perfection.
- Put students in charge of problem solving and thinking of creative light sources, apps etc.
- Get a good tripod for cell phone or DSLR
- Push students to go beyond the gimmick of light painting by doing more with their images.
- Consider multi-media connections:
 - projection art- Barbara Krueger
 - neon art- Bruce Naumann
 - glow in the dark face paints-Alexa Meade
 - distress and paint into the surface of the print

Artists Who Dabble in Light Painting

Chris Thompson

Hannu Huhtamo

<http://laughingsquid.com/finnish-artist-uses-long-exposure-photography-to-paint-gorgeously-ethereal-illustrations-with-light/>

Jason D. Page

Akinori Goto

Matthew Newman

Brian Hart

Jeremy Jackson

Janne Parviainen

Jadikan-LP

Dana Maltby

Jake Saari

Lichtfaktor

Dennis Calvert

Darren Pearson

TigTab

Hannu Huhtamo

Aaron Bauer



Image by PHS Art Student Alum

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Website: [http://](http://phsvisualartdept.weebly.com)

pksvisualartdept.weebly.com

Mrs. Bjork's Pinboard on Light Painting

Pewaukee High School
Website QR Code



Image at right by Jessica Esser, PHS Art Alumni

Artists Who Dabble in Light Painting

Michael Ross

Dean Chamberlain

Eric Staller

Susan Sims-Hillbrand

Vicki DaSilva

David Lebe

Troy Paiva

Bruno Mesrine

Chanette Manso

Patrick Rochon

Aurora Crowley

Lapp-Pro

JanLeonardo

Lightmark

Arturo Aguiar

Pete Eckert

Trevor Williams

Michael Bosanko

Jason D. Page

Nocturne

Light Painting Links

Light Painting Graffiti Group on Flickr

Light Painting Competition Group on Flickr

Lightpainters Create Their Own Reality Group on Flickr



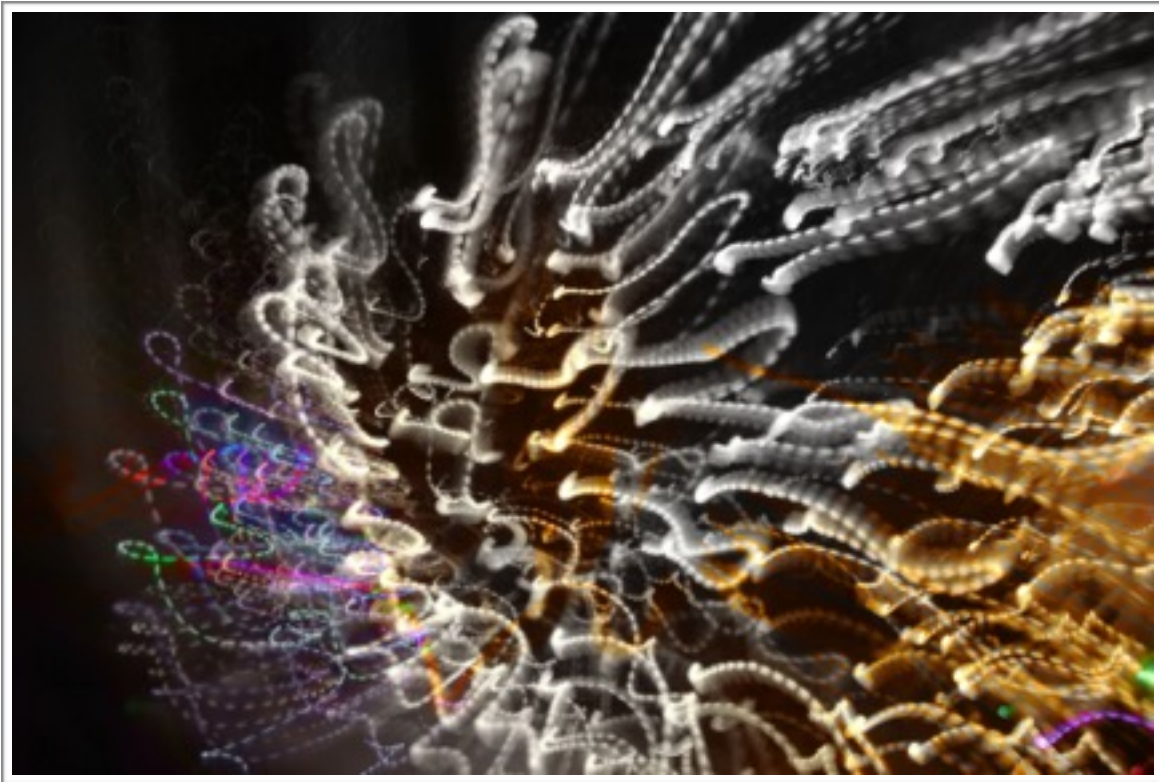


Image by PHS Art Alumni Evie Bayer



Image by PHS Art Alumni Sammy Marz