EST. 2016

THE

WEDDING SCHOOL

ACHIEVING PROPER EXPOSURE

WHAT IS EXPOSURE

- You've allowed the perfect amount of light to become exposed to the sensor
- You can either change your aperture, letting more or less light in…
- …or change your shutter speed, which controls how long the sensor is exposed to that light
- Correct exposure is reaching the proper combination of aperture and shutter speed
- Combine that with ISO, your sensitivity to light

WHY CAN'T MY CAMERA DO IT FOR ME?

- The camera doesn't know what you want
- Your camera will always try to create a bell-shaped histogram
- Sometimes that's great, and that's what you want
- Sometimes it's not
- The camera doesn't know what to do with harsh light and strong shadows, so it is going to constantly try to equalize everything. What would happen if you let it make all the decisions for you?

Histogram

Info

Date: 10/25/13
Time: 4:50:20 PM
Latitude:
Longitude:
Model: NIKON D3S
Serial #: 2020339
Firmware: Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 4.1 (Macintosh)
Frame #: 363662
Lens (mm): 200
ISO: 220
Aperture: 4
Shutter: 1/400
Exp. Comp.: -1.3
Flash Comp.:
Program: Aperture Priority
Focus Mode:
White Bal.:
ICC Profile: sRGB IEC61966-2.1

Crop

Copy | Remove | Paste | Settings...

Settings: Unconstrained, Grid:off Shield:off

Zoom

Zoom:

x: ¼ ½ ¾ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Lock scrolling

Histogram

Highlights & Shadows

Off

Info

Date: 5/31/14
Time: 4:23:39 PM
Latitude:
Longitude:
Model: NIKON D4
Serial #: 2022260
Firmware: Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 5.4 (Macintosh)
Frame #: 203019
Lens (mm): 24
ISO: 560
Aperture: 4
Shutter: 1/250
Exp. Comp.: -4.0
Flash Comp.:
Program: Aperture Priority
Focus Mode:
White Bal.:
ICC Profile: sRGB IEC61966-2.1

Crop

Copy | Remove | Paste | Settings...

Settings: Unconstrained, Grid:off Shield:off

Zoom

Zoom:

x: ¼ ½ ¾ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Lock scrolling

Histogram

Highlights & Shadows

Off

Info

Date: 1/1/16
Time: 12:30:12 PM
Latitude: N40°49.747'
Longitude: W73°26.910'
Model: NIKON D750
Serial #: 3041949
Firmware: Adobe Photoshop CC 2015 (Macintosh)
Frame #: 74304
Lens (mm): 116
ISO: 900
Aperture: 4
Shutter: 1/400
Exp. Comp.: -2.0
Flash Comp.:
Program: Aperture Priority
Focus Mode:
White Bal.:
ICC Profile: Adobe RGB (1998)

Crop

Copy | Remove
Paste | Settings...

Settings: Unconstrained, Grid:off Shield:off

Zoom

Zoom:

x: ¼ ½ ¾ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

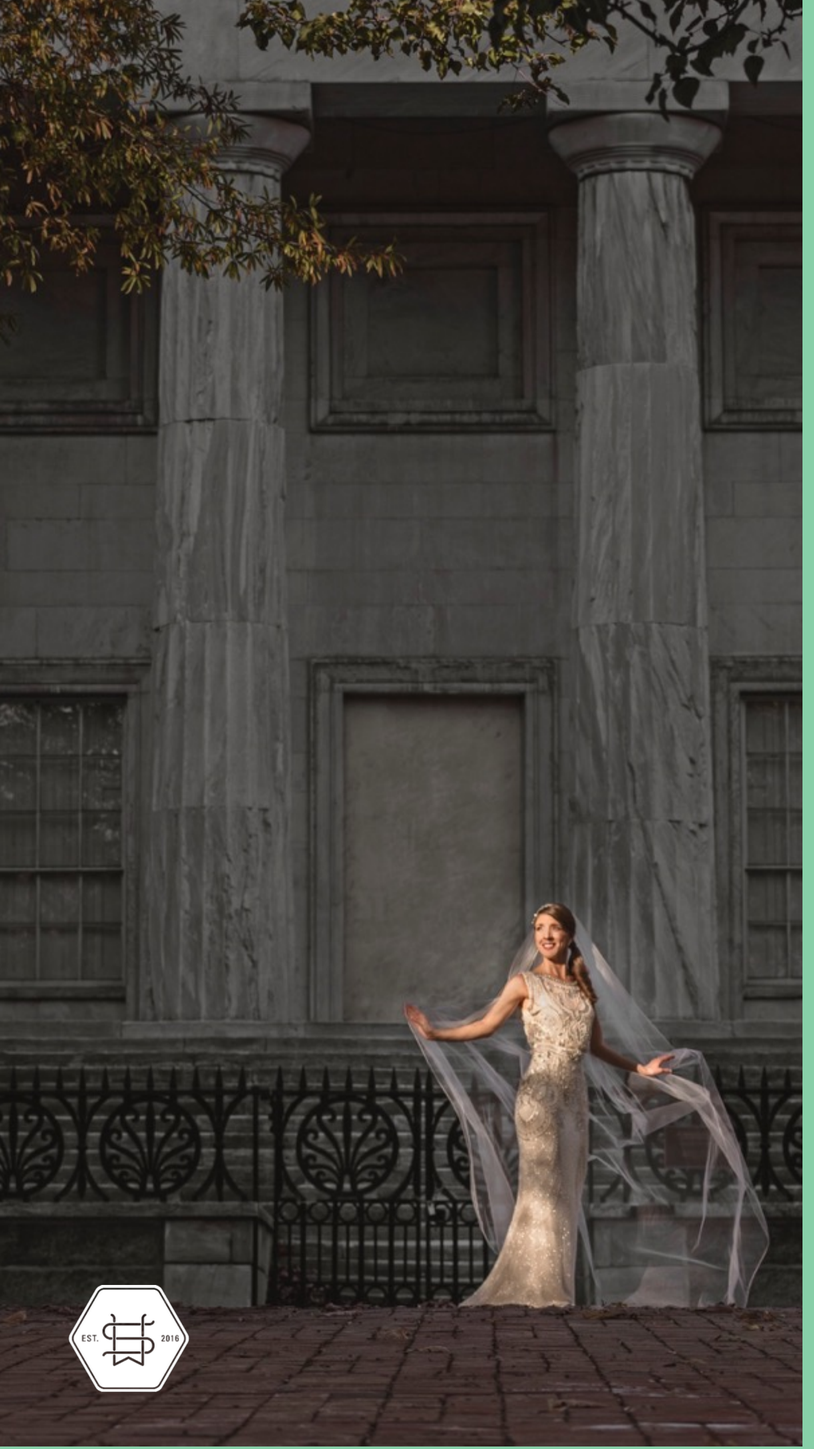
Lock scrolling

Histogram

Highlights & Shadows

Off

WHERE DO YOU START?

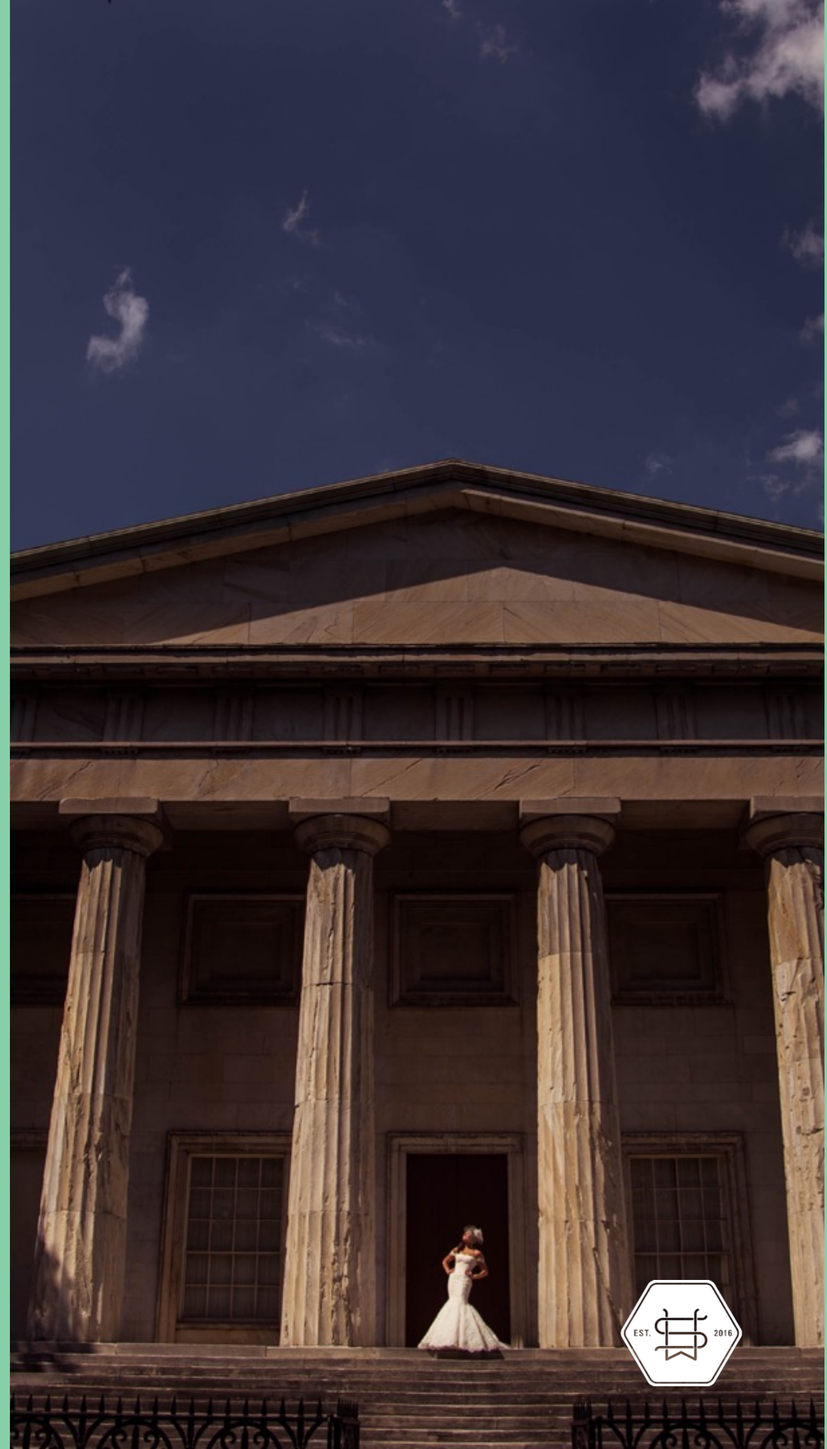


MANUAL? AP?

- I suggest learning on manual
- I prefer aperture priority and the exposure compensation dial, unless I'm using a flash
- Why? Because I've learned to trust myself and my instincts
- What do you want out of your final image?
- What lighting conditions are you working in?
- What part of your image do you want exposed correctly?

MATRIX METERING

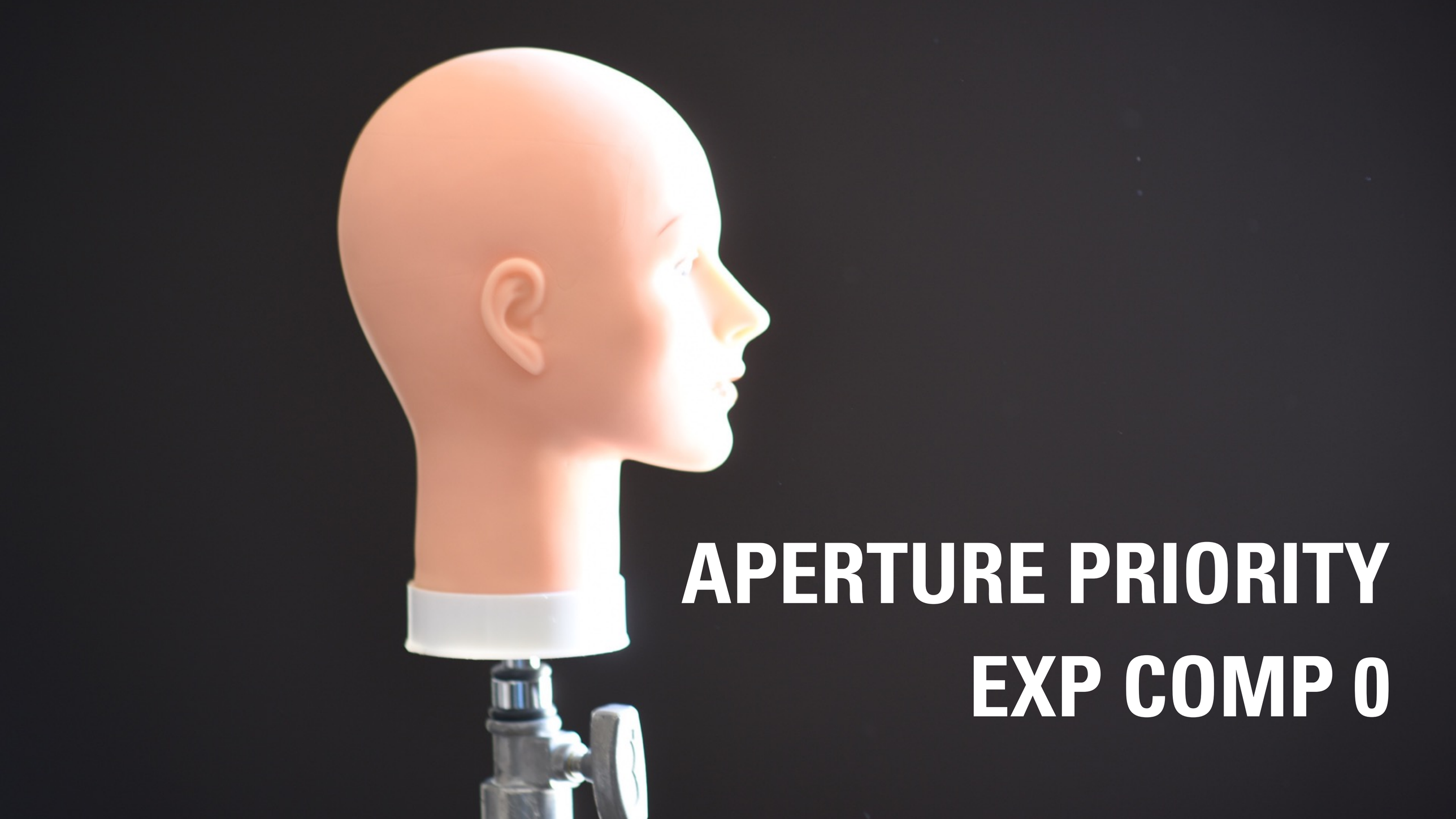
- It doesn't matter how you meter, because your goal is to be smarter than your meter!
- In matrix metering, the camera is analyzing the entire frame
- This is a good thing, also a bad thing
- The camera has no clue what you want when you're using bright light and dark shadows
- If you're struggling, try spot metering for awhile

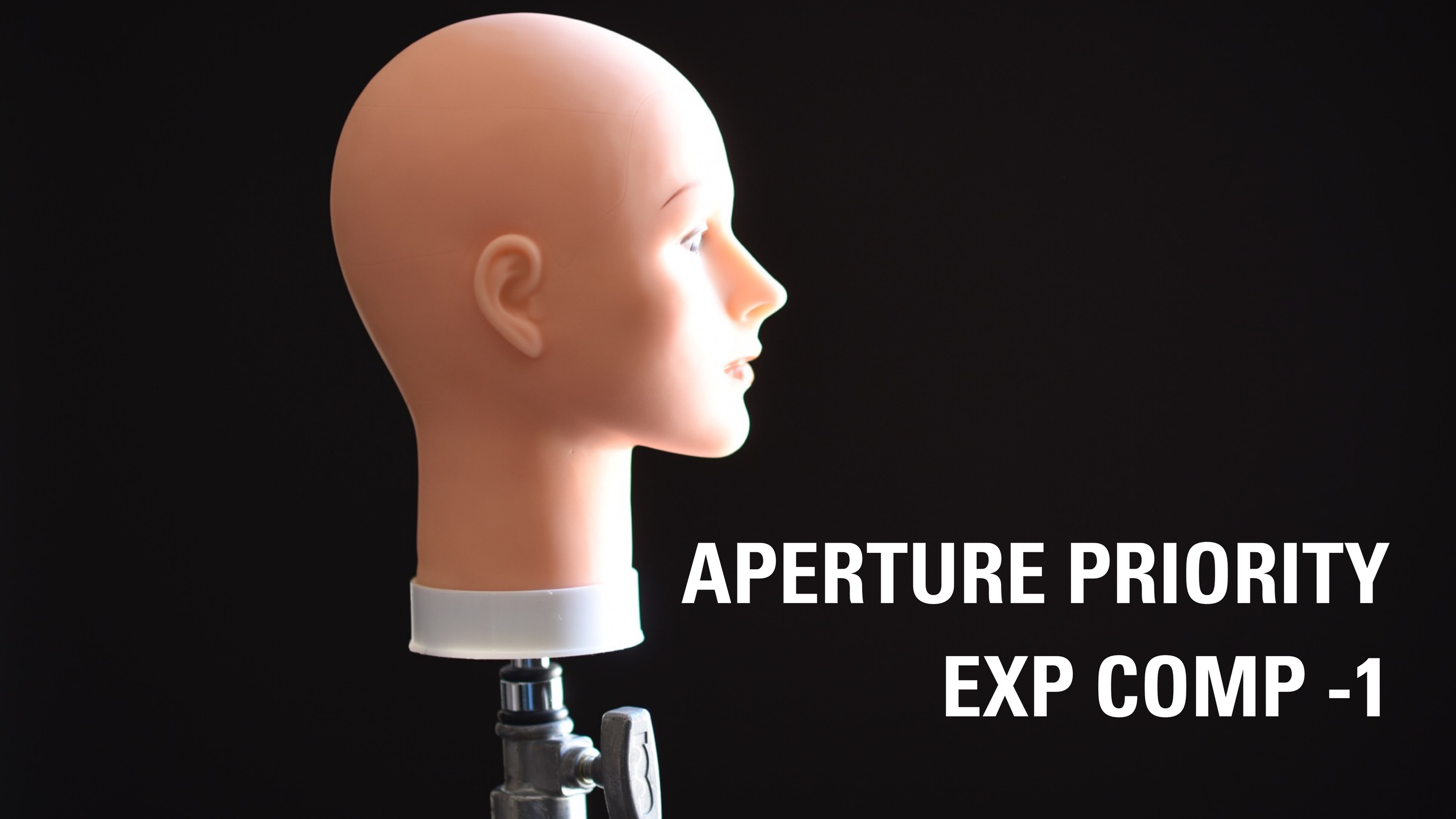


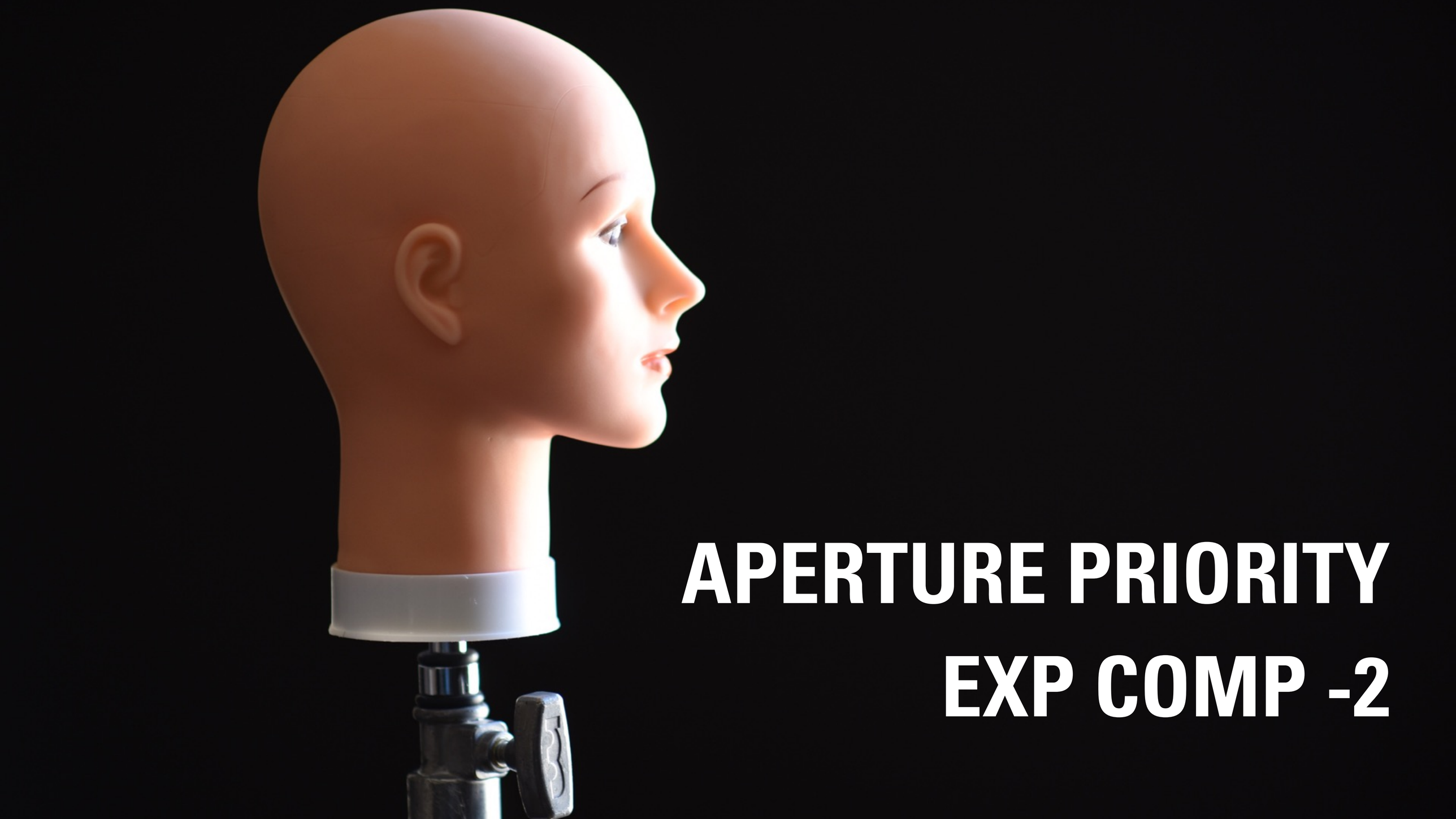
TO RECAP

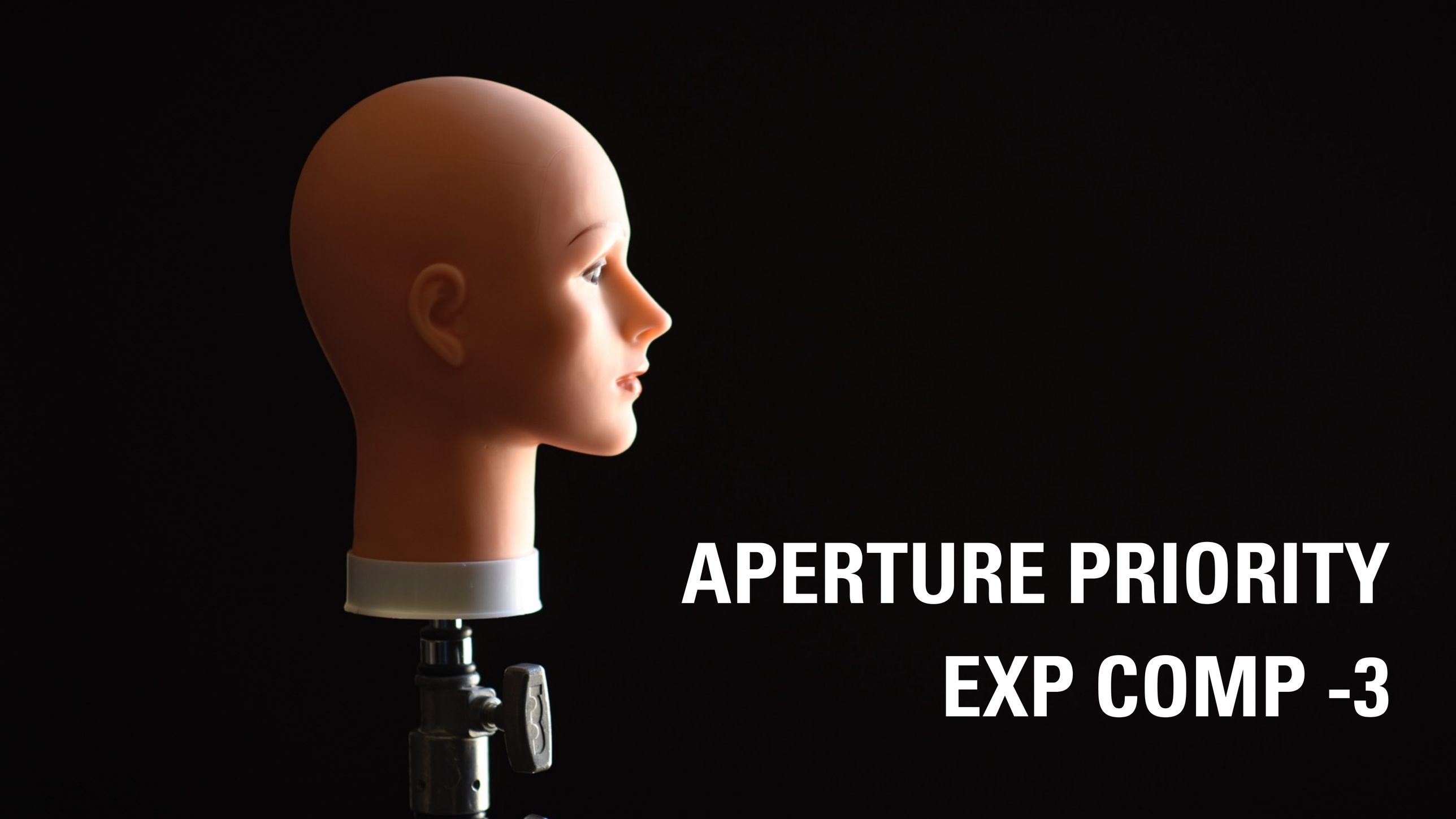
EXPOSE FOR THE FACE

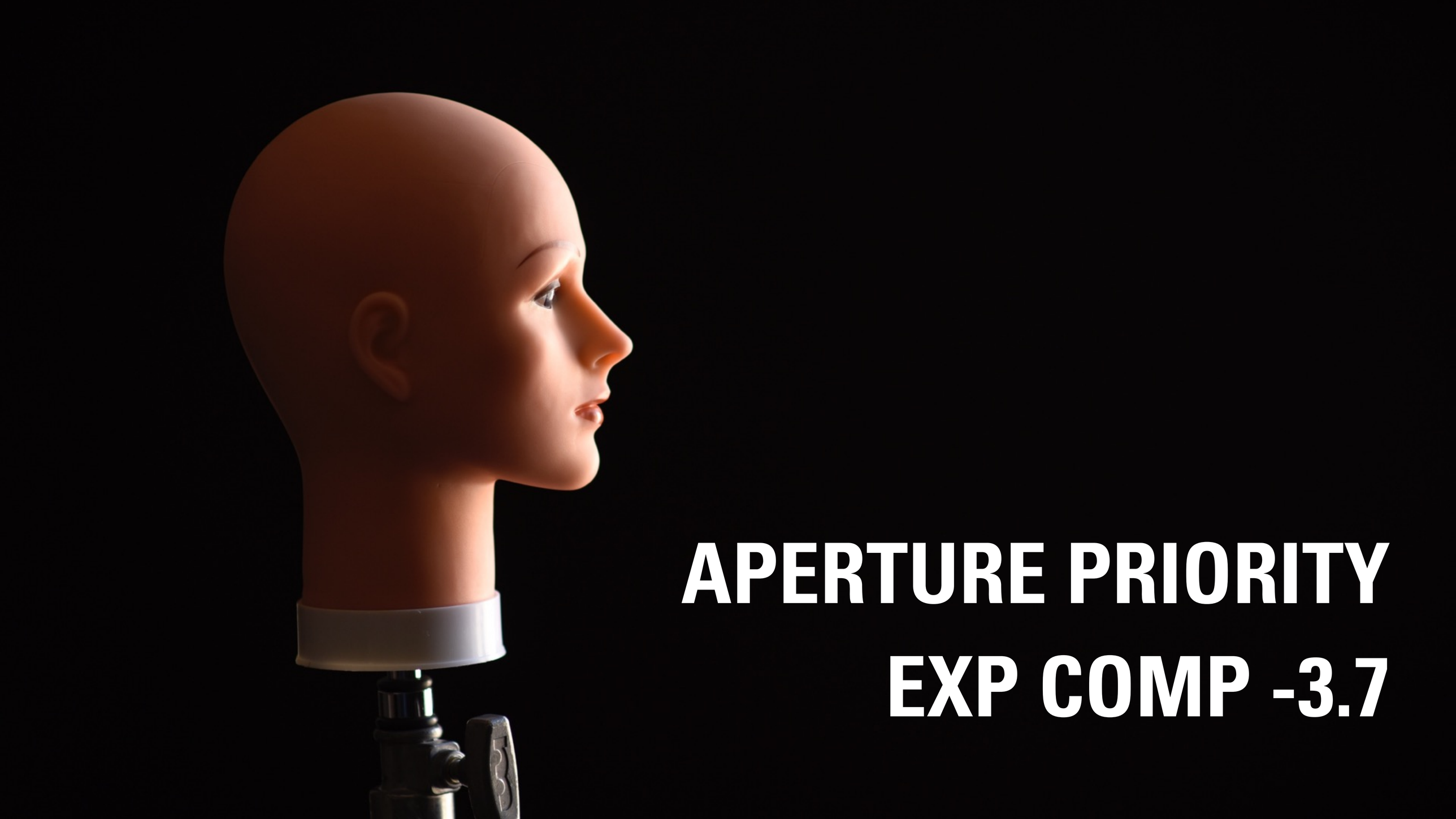
- The whole face, if it’s full-on into the sunshine
- If you have a halo of light around the face, expose for the cheek or parts of the skin that the light touches
- The rest of the image will be darker. That’s okay. Don’t be afraid of that.
- The only way to get a bright face and a dark background is for there to be more light on the face and less light on the background


APERTURE PRIORITY
EXP COMP 0


APERTURE PRIORITY
EXP COMP -1


APERTURE PRIORITY
EXP COMP -2


APERTURE PRIORITY
EXP COMP -3

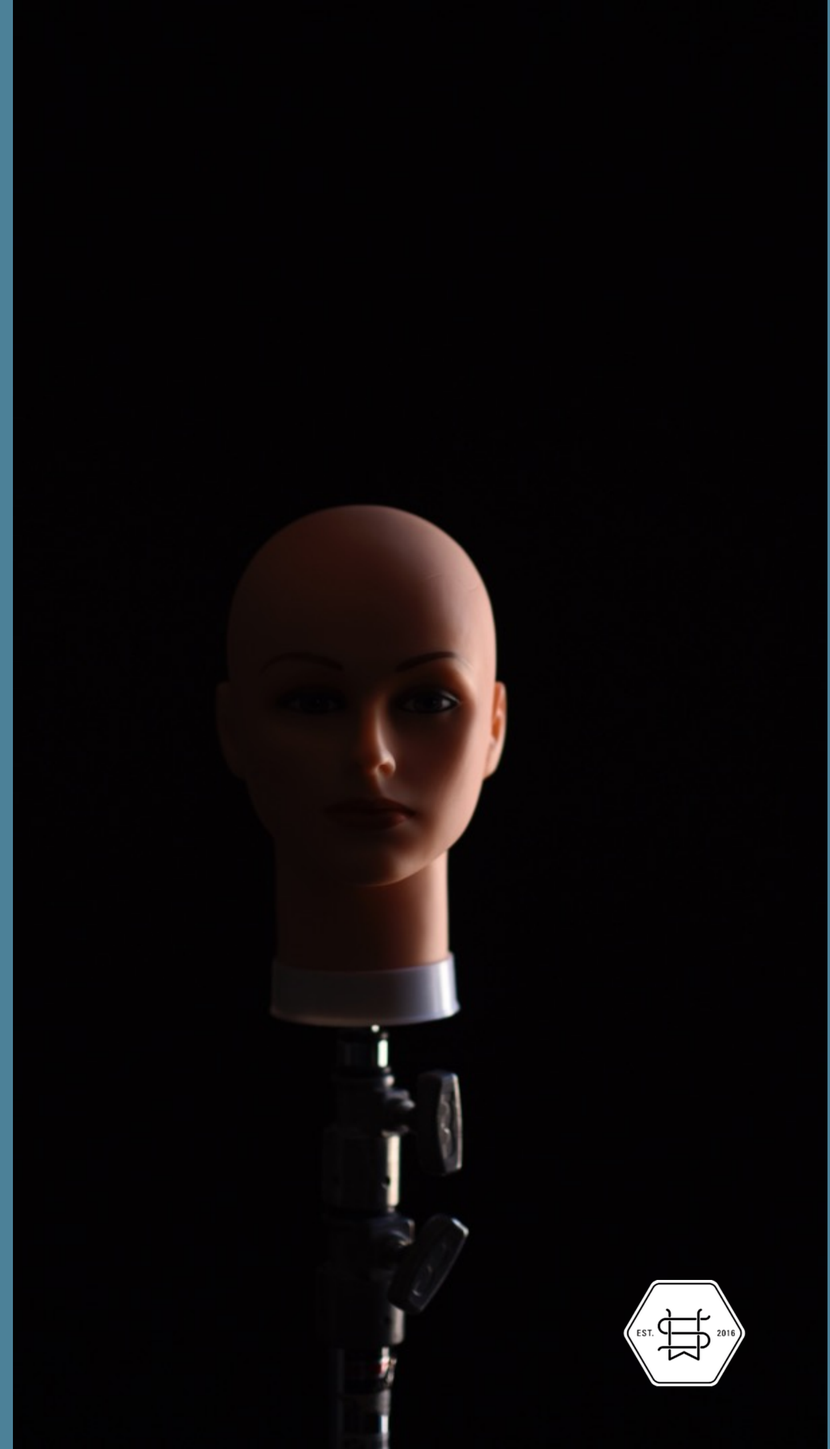

APERTURE PRIORITY
EXP COMP -3.7

THE IMAGE IS OVEREXPOSED

- **Speed up** your shutter speed. This will mean that there is less time that the light is allowed into your camera
- When the number of an aperture gets bigger, the aperture itself smaller, so less light will get to the sensor. As the f-number lowers, the aperture is bigger. So if you're overexposed, **raise** your aperture and let **less** light in
- Change your ISO. If you're overexposed, **lower** your sensitivity to the light

THE IMAGE IS UNDEREXPOSED

- **Slow down** your shutter speed. This will mean that there is MORE time that the light is allowed into your camera
- When the number of an aperture gets bigger, the aperture itself smaller, so less light will get to the sensor. As the f-number lowers, the aperture is bigger. So if you're underexposed, **lower** your aperture and let **more** light in
- Change your ISO. If you're underexposed, **raise** your sensitivity to the light



THE

WEDDING SCHOOL