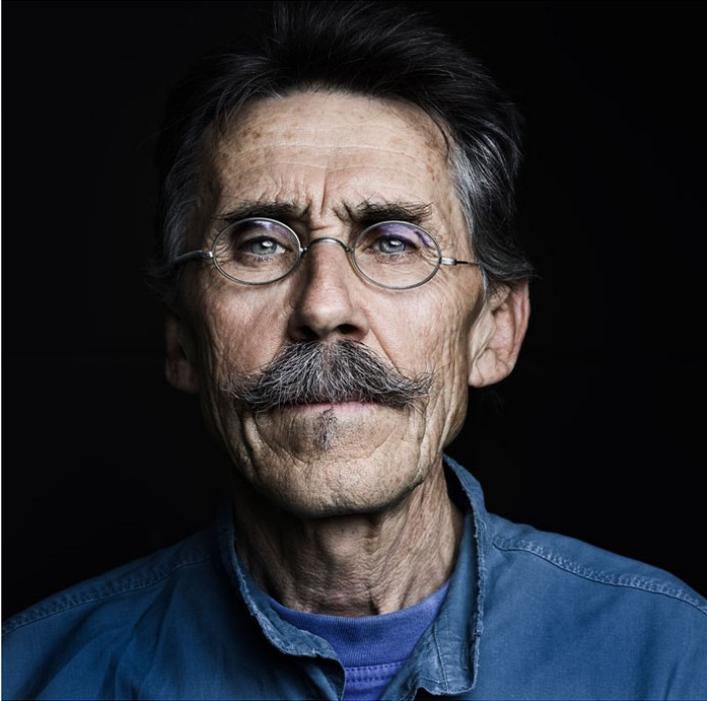


# You Don't Need a Great Studio Space to Shoot Great Portraits



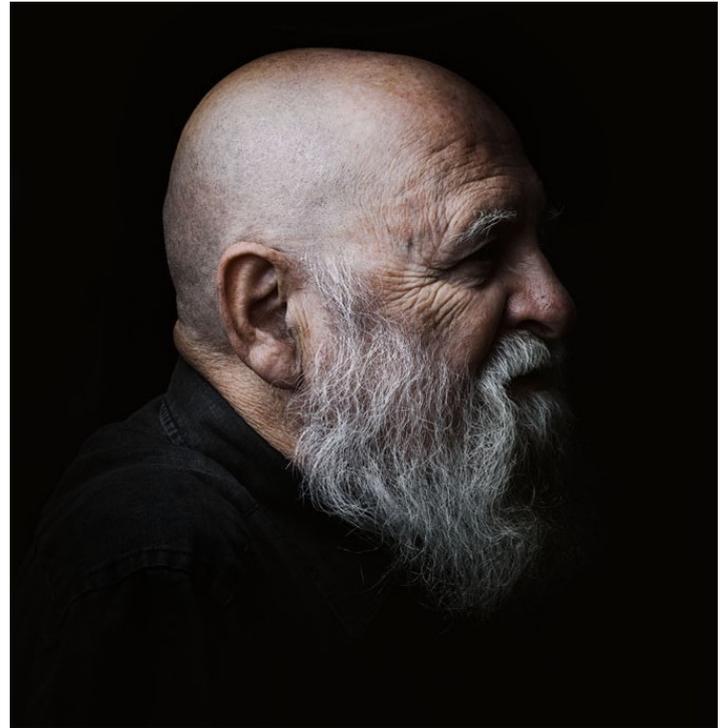
By **Philippe Echaroux** at [petapixel.com](http://petapixel.com)  
Additional Editorial by Grant Gillespie

You may not be surprised to read that the portraits on the next 2 pages were shot by a professional who shoots portraits for a living. You may not even be surprised that they were shot with a medium format camera.

You'll probably never guess that they were shot in a hallway with one flash and a t-shirt for a background. The "studio" setup can be seen on the next page.

Imagine what you could do with one flash (or reflector) and a t-shirt. You won't even need a medium format camera to get an eye-catching shot.

And maybe one day, you can be a brand ambassador for Hasselblad, too.



## The Challenge

My name is Philippe Echaroux, and I'm a French celebrity photographer and an ambassador for Hasselblad and Elinchrom. I recently had to do a portrait shoot at a large studio in Paris, but for this shoot I decided to have a bit of fun.

Challenging yourself as a photographer is always a good thing, so I decided to shoot the portraits I needed to shoot but in an unusual environment.



To see more of Philippe's work including a video of his idea of "street photography" (3 crew, but they run really fast), visit his website in the Further Reading links. The opening shot is enough to make you want to give up photography... or try harder.

## “Studio”

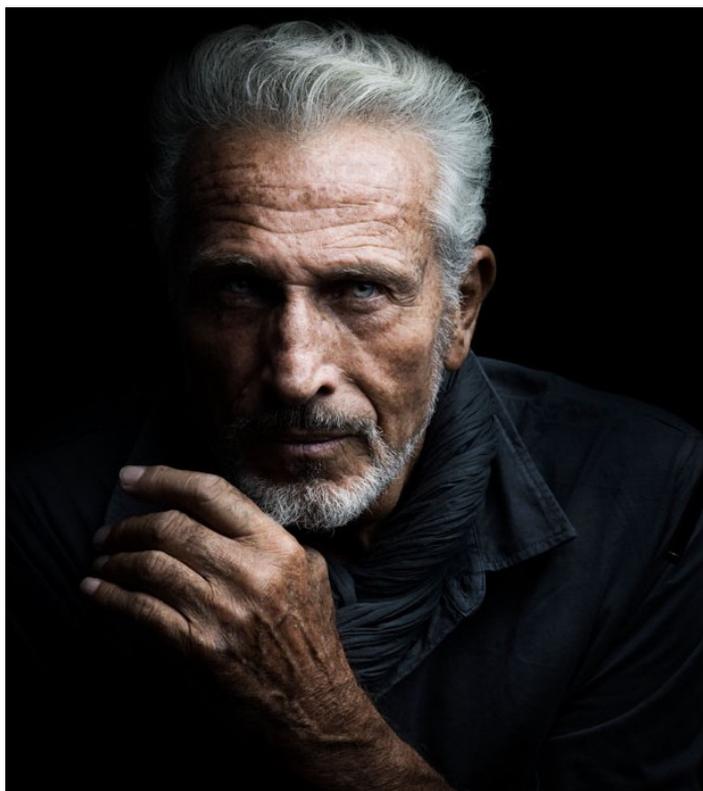
I decided to set up a makeshift studio in the small stairwell right next to the studio doors and elevator.

The space was so cramped that we had to pay attention to people exiting the elevator, since a misstep out of the elevator could easily have knocked over my light.

I put up a black panel onto the wall with some glue stick to minimise the white reflection from the surface. For the background behind each subjects head, I used a small shirt from a woman in the studio.

## Gear

For this shoot, I used my Hasselblad H5D-50c with the HC 100mm f/2.2 lens and my best friend, the Elinchrom ELB 400 portable flash.



## Style

My style of shooting portraits is all about being quick. All the photos in this post were shot in less than 2 minutes. Time was of the essence because people were passing through the area all the time.

In the end, it was a fun challenge for both me and the subjects I photographed. It's good to sometimes step out of your comfort zone, right? ■



FURTHER READING:

<http://www.philippe-echaroux.com>

video <http://www.krop.com/philippecharoux/#/161004/>

<http://petapixel.com/2016/10/20/dont-need-great-studio-space-shoot-great-portraits/>