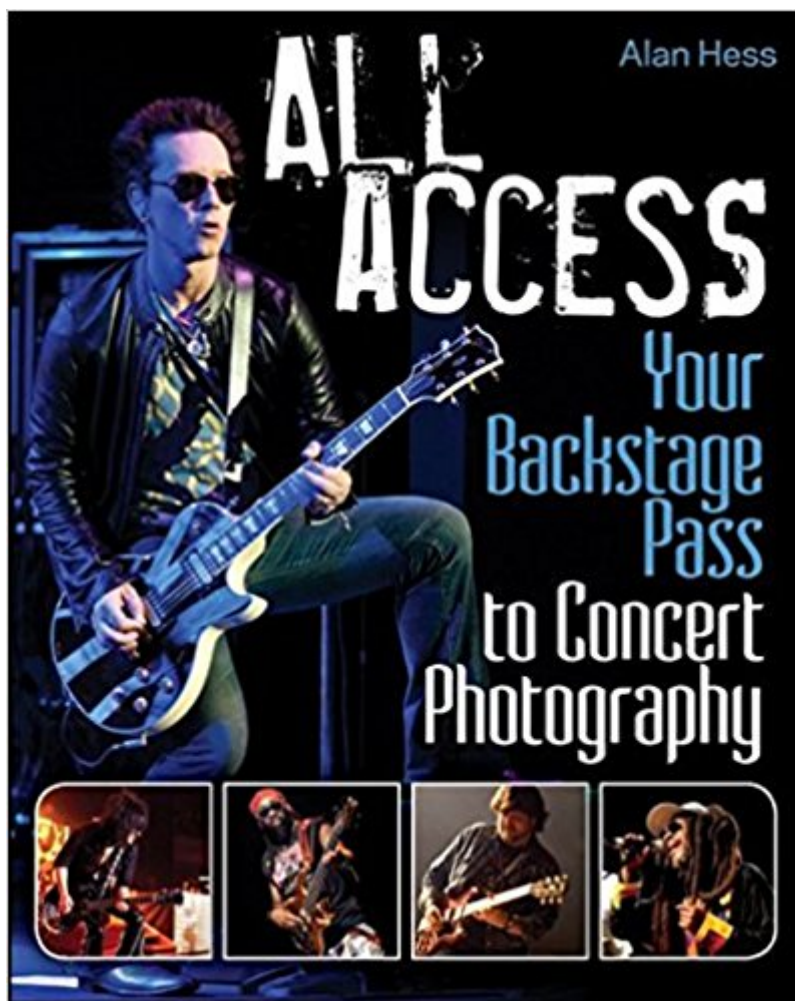


The book was found

# All Access: Your Backstage Pass To Concert Photography



## Synopsis

Advice, inspiration, and insight for taking remarkable concert photos Concert photography poses a unique set of challenges to photographers, including night or low-light, inconsistent stage lighting, a moving subject matter, limitations on vantage point, complex exposure situations, and no chance for re-takes. Compounded with those hurdles is a lack of resources on this subject?until now. All Access: Your Backstage Pass to Concert Photography fills this gap and provides you with all the information you need to know, from choosing the right gear and camera settings to negotiating rights to publish or share photos as well as how to best edit your photos in post-production. Reveals essential techniques and valuable best practices for dealing with the unique challenges of concert photography Features more than 200 stunning concert photographs to inspire you and illustrate the tips and techniques the author describes Written by experienced author and well-known concert photographer Alan Hess All Access: Your Backstage Pass to Concert Photography is an ideal resource if you are determined to learn the skills necessary to capture clear, well-composed, and professional-level concert photos.

## Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Wiley; 1 edition (February 7, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9781118172902

ISBN-13: 978-1118172902

ASIN: 1118172906

Product Dimensions: 7.3 x 0.7 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 53 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #620,060 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #70 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Lifestyle & Events > Celebrations & Events](#) #821

in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Visual Arts > Photography](#) #967 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Digital Photography](#)

## Customer Reviews

From the Author: 5 Tips for Shooting Concerts Alan Hess, Author 1. Learn how to shoot in manual mode. The constant changing lights at a live concert can cause exposure problems that shooting in manual mode can help you overcome. When you use any of the modes other than

manual to control the exposure settings on your camera, the cameras built in light meter has control over some of the settings. For example, when you shoot in aperture priority mode, you set the aperture, but the camera reads the light in the scene and sets the shutter speed. When you use shutter speed priority, you set the shutter speed, but the camera reads the light in the scene and sets the aperture. If the light in the background gets brighter all of a sudden then the camera will pick a faster shutter speed or a smaller aperture and can cause the main part of the image to be underexposed. To really get consistent great concert shots, you need to be able to adjust the shutter speed and aperture yourself using the manual mode of the camera.

2. Use the right metering mode. In the previous tip, I suggest that you use the manual mode to take the photos which ignores the metering mode but even though the camera doesn't use the information, it is very useful to get the correct settings to start with. The best metering mode for most concert photographs is the spot metering mode. The spot metering mode ignores most of the scene in front of the camera and instead only uses a very small area usually centered around the focus point. By just reading the light in this small section and not the whole scene means that the moving lights in the background or the lack of light in the background is ignored.

3. Focus carefully. When shooting in low light as is the norm when shooting concerts, you usually have to use the widest aperture available on the lens. This wide aperture means a shallow depth of field and in the cases when you use a prime lens with a maximum aperture of f/1.4 a very shallow depth of field. This means that you have to be very careful what the focus point of the image is. Make sure that you pick the correct spot for the focus point.

4. Timing is everything. With all photography, you need to make sure that you are capturing the subject at the best possible moment. When it comes to concert photography this usually means that you have to wait until the musician is not hidden behind the microphone or turned away from you. Watch for the interactions between the performer and the audience for those moments that make the show special and do your research. If the performer is known for a special look or action, make sure you capture that.

5. Shoot in bursts. With the ability of today's digital cameras to shoot in continuous mode and the large capacity memory cards being relatively inexpensive there is no reason not to shoot in bursts. That is to take 3,4 or even 5 shots in quick succession instead of just one. This allows you to capture the moment with more certainty and even if the lights are changing you can still get the shot.

Sample Photos from the Author (Click on images to enlarge)

Black and White Photo of Billy Gibbons The smile is what makes this photo of Billy Gibbons so great. It captures the real fun that he was having on stage that night and combined with him looking right at the camera makes it one of my favorites. This was taken in a bar with pretty low lighting with a very red color cast so I converted the image to black and white in post production

using Adobe Lightroom and Nik Silver Efex Pro 2. Copyright Alan Hess      Dave Navarro on Guitar

When photographing guitar players, I always try to get the whole guitar into the frame. In this case I had to lean back and very carefully compose the shot as not to cut the guitar neck or Dave's shoulder on the other side. Be aware of all the action going on in the frame and make sure the elements that you want to show are in focus. The vocalist is behind Dave and you can see him in the background but since there is a very shallow depth of field he is pleasantly out of focus. Copyright Alan Hess      Billy Morrison on Guitar

Many times it is easier to get access to shot concerts in bars or smaller venues. This photo of Billy Morrison was taken when his band Camp Freddy played a series of shows at the Roxy in Los Angeles in late 2011. There was no photo pit so I had to show up early and wait for the show to start. Now while that may not sound very glamorous, the small venue allowed me to capture intimate shots like this one. Copyright Alan Hess

Sound advice for concert photographers Restricted access, dynamic stage lights, crowded pits, and unpredictable performers are the tough stuff of concert photography. Add in the pressure of knowing there are no second chances to get a missed shot, and you've got a full-blown shooting challenge. Veteran concert photographer Alan Hess helps you overcome these challenges and capture the energy of a live show. From credentials and gear to camera settings and venue-specific tips, this book covers everything you need to know to capture shots that rock. This manual for concert photography is laced with advice from photographers, band publicists, and musicians. Find out why this is the best job around. If you've wondered . . .

- How to get the right credentials to photograph a concert
- What are the do's and don'ts of interacting with venue staff and other photographers at a show
- How to deal with colorful stage lights in performance shots
- What's the best gear for concert photography
- How to get the coveted backstage shots of a band
- What it takes to capture concert images that stand apart . . . find the answers here!

The book itself is great, and perfect for a beginner. For someone that has actually been doing concert shoots for a few years, it was just reaffirmation of stuff I learned the hard way, on my own. [...] is some of my work, and [photos.terrymercer.com/concerts](http://photos.terrymercer.com/concerts) is the link to hundreds of Country Artists and thousands of images I've shot over the last 4 years. The one thing I didn't really get out of this book, which I was hoping to... is WHERE & HOW TO MAKE MORE MONEY. It's all above the photography, the venue relationships, dealing with the artists, and the common sense stuff. It really is a great book, but aimed more for those that don't already have venue relationship, haven't already been 'doing it' in the real world. It really could have saved me a whole lot of time had I read

it before jumping into concert shoots. And he's 1000% correct, having SECURITY & the venue manager/owner on your side is key to making anything happen. And following the rules of the artist's manager/label is key to ever having the opportunity to shooting that artist again in the future.

I am just learning about this field and this book has really helped encourage me to join it! Great personal examples and from others in the field. Mentions settings to start with which is helpful too!

Great book for people interested in capturing live shows. Many great tips, suggestions and practical reference guide. I only occasionally shoot concerts and this book is my mental check list a few days before the assignment.

As someone who loves music and photography I have always dreamed of becoming a "concert photographer" but wasn't really sure how to get started. This book was able to answer a lot of questions for me. I love the way Alan explains things and shares his personal experiences with the reader. The "Pro Tip" sections are great and gave me even more insight to what goes on in the business.

This is the book you been waiting for. Go buy it right now. Alan Hess is awesome and does a good job conveying all he has to offer in Concert Photography.

Excellent guide for those who are interested in concert photography, or like me for those who have one important opportunity and want to make the most of it.

This is a great book for anyone interested in breaking into concert photography. It is an easy read with some sound advice from the technical aspects of concert photography to proper concert photography etiquette.

I'm already a band photographer but I wanted to see if there were any extra tips I could use. It's a very well written and concise book and would be especially useful for those just starting out or who are thinking of upgrading to a SLR. I'm glad to have this book in my library!

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photography, digital pictures, portrait photography, landscape photography) Photography Business: Sell That Photo!: 10 Simple Ways To Make Big Bucks Selling Your Photography Online (how to sell photography, freelance photography, ... to start on online photography business) Best Seat in the House: Your Backstage Pass Through My WWE Journey Runnin' with the Devil: A Backstage Pass to the Wild Times, Loud Rock, and the Down and Dirty Truth Behind the Making of Van Halen They Call Me Supermensch: A Backstage Pass to the Amazing Worlds of Film, Food, and Rock'n'Roll Anya and the Shy Guy (Backstage Pass) 98 Degrees (Backstage Pass) Backstage Pass: 10 Things to Consider When Becoming a Touring Music Tech Backstage Pass: Sinners on Tour Series, Book 1 Photography: DSLR Photography Made Easy: Simple Tips on How You Can Get Visually Stunning Images Using Your DSLR (Photography, Digital Photography, Creativity, ... Digital, Portrait, Landscape, Photoshop) Photography: Complete Guide to Taking Stunning, Beautiful Digital Pictures (photography, stunning digital, great pictures, digital photography, portrait ... landscape photography, good pictures) Photography Business: 4 Manuscripts - Adventure Sports Photography, Portrait Parties, Music Business Photography, Real Estate Photography 601 Words You Need to Know to Pass Your Exam (Barron's 601 Words You Need to Know to Pass Your Exam) The Complete Filmmaker's Guide to Film Festivals: Your All Access Pass to launching your film on the festival circuit DSLR Photography for Beginners: Take 10 Times Better Pictures in 48 Hours or Less! Best Way to Learn Digital Photography, Master Your DSLR Camera & Improve Your Digital SLR Photography Skills Claim 1: A Method To Pass The Patent Bar Exam On Your First Try: How to Study, Prepare, and Pass the USPTO Patent Bar Exam Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: B-flat Trumpet 1 (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: Trombone 1 (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band: Ensemble Development for Advanced Concert Band - B-flat Trumpet 3

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