PSC Student & Graduate Photography Studies College (Melbourne)
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PSC has built a leading reputation for producing high quality, creative and award winning students and graduates and is the first choice for many students looking for a specialised, creative and industry relevant learning experience.

This ‘Focus’ guide provides you with the opportunity to hear directly from our full time students and graduates. It reveals in detailed interviews their motivations, experiences, journeys of discovery, passions, hopes and dreams.

Join us in celebrating their unique stories and the transformative power of education.

Jenny Heron
Director Communications & Students
Name: Trent Pace  
Originally from: Wangaratta  
School: Wangaratta High School  
Current year level at PSC: Level 1, first year  

Q: When did you get into photography?  
I started getting into photography in high school when I took it as a subject. I really enjoyed taking photos so I decided to pursue my interests further. I bought my own camera had lots of fun dressing up my friends and getting them to pose for me while I took their photo. I also discovered that I was very interested in fashion and I loved that I could combine these two interests into creating fashion photography. By the end of high school I had decided that I wanted to be a fashion photographer.

Q: How did you come across PSC?  
When I was in year 11, my photography class was brought to PSC for a tour. I was impressed by the facilities here and by the quality of student work that was on display.

Q: What did you expect?  
I expected that when I first started here we would quickly get into taking photos and learning new skills. I was right in my expectation but I was also very surprised by how much we were taught so quickly. It was great because I couldn’t wait to start taking photos.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?  
I have really enjoyed learning new skills and being able to apply them to my photography to better my photos. It’s been a great positive environment and I’ve also made some great friends.

Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?  
As I’ve only recently begun my course, I have not done any photography jobs as yet.

Q: What’s your dream job?  
I would absolutely love to be a fashion photographer for Vogue magazine.

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?  
I’d love to be living in New York City as a working fashion photographer.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?  
Have fun with the photos your taking and make sure to explore different styles to find out what best suits you.
Name: Rose Ayliffe
Originally from: Kangaroo Island, South Australia
School: Kingscote Area School
Current year level at PSC: Level 1, first year

Q: When did you get into photography?
I realised photography was my real passion whilst studying Fashion Design. I found I was more interested in photographing my creations than making them!

Q: How did you come across PSC?
I typed ‘top five photography colleges in Australia’ into Google and up popped PSC!

Q: What did you expect?
I came to PSC expecting to be taught the fundamentals of photography. I also hoped to be challenged and encouraged to take risks in my image making. So far it has been all this and more.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?
I have really enjoyed being inspired each and every day. Every class teaches me something new and brings me one step closer to becoming a professional photographer.

Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?
Nothing yet, but hope to as I become more experienced.

Q: What’s your dream job?
My dream job would be shooting for iconic fashion magazines such as Harpers Bazaar and Vogue.

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?
Hopefully in ten years time I will be seeing my images on the pages of fashion forward magazines. I also hope to be using my photography skills to help various voluntary organisations whose focus is primarily on environmental issues.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?
Open your mind to the information offered to you. Write it all down, re-read it, research it and let it inspire you.
Level 1 2011
First Year

**Name:** Brooke Daly  
**Originally from:** Hillside  
**School:** Mowbray College  
**Current year level:** Level 1

**Q: When did you get into photography?**
I first got into photography when I was about 15. I was given my own camera and I just started taking pictures of everything, and I haven’t been able to stop since.

**Q: How did you come across PSC?**
I first got into photography when I was about 15. I was given my own camera and I just started taking pictures of everything, and I haven’t been able to stop since.

**Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?**
Getting to know everyone has made me feel really comfortable and the tutors have helped a lot in making me feel more confident.

**Q: What’s your dream job?**
My dream job would be to be able to travel the world taking pictures of beautiful things and getting paid a lot of money! Working for a magazine like National Geographic or owning my own gallery would also be heaven.

**Name:** Benjamin Frazer  
**Originally from:** Melbourne  
**School:** Melbourne Rudolph Steiner School  
**Current year level:** Level 1

**Q: When did you get into photography?**
Whilst stumbling through the Turkish countryside, I became frustrated with my iPhone’s inability to truly capture the scenery!

**Q: How did you come across PSC?**
Wedding photographers that I work with recommended it as being a driven college that engaged with the students on a personal level.

**Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?**
The learning environment and the lecturers’ interest in each student. There’s a welcoming, almost exclusive feel to it that attracts me.

**Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?**
I assist a photographer John Warren with weddings once or twice a fortnight. I have also shot a few bands which have been interesting and fun, and just recently completed my first solo wedding. I also did a shoot for a soon to be launched Melbourne based music magazine which was fantastic.

**Q: What’s your dream job?**
Vogue Italia. The locations, women and ideas are always enticing. It’s often quirky and somewhat challenging in it’s portrayal of fashion, but at the same time it is old school traditional and simplistic. I think they are very intelligent designs and shoots. Also wouldn’t mind a bit of Rolling Stone work, but apparently there’s a bit of competition for those positions.

**Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?**
Somewhere tropical.

**Q: What advice do you have for future students?**
Email everyone you know who’s ever had anything to do with your passion. If you like the work of a Melbourne based photographer, email them. Chances are they’ll have a shoot coming up and they may need a runner, and then all of a sudden your shoe laces are in the door, then your foot is in! The main thing to remember is to never let the door close.
Name: Caterina Fizzano  
Originally from: A medical science career  
Current year level at PSC: Level 3 – Second Year

Q: When did you get into photography?  
I have been interested in photography since secondary school.

Q: How did you come across PSC?  
Internet searches for photography courses revealed PSC. When I decided to tour the college I was blown away by the high standard of student work all over the walls. It was really exciting to see the possibilities.

Q: What did you expect?  
I expected PSC to be a place where students are supported, challenged and inspired to produce work beyond their own expectations.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?  
The variety of project briefs has made this an interesting and exciting time. Seeing your work and the work of your peers develop and grow over time is really encouraging as well.

Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?  
Some weddings and corporate work – as well as some fashion shoots for fun and experience. They have all been fantastic learning experiences – I have so much more to learn!!

Q: What’s your dream job?  
A job where I am paid to be a photographer. The end.

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?:  
Anywhere in the world, feeling grateful and fortunate to be doing what I love. And loving it.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?  
Practice, practice, practice. Look at work you love and work out what you love about it. Be brave.
Name: Nick Addison
Originally from: A medical science career
School: Southwood (Tintern Schools)
Current year level at PSC: Level 3 – Second Year

Q: When did you get into photography?
My photographic journey started when I was given my first DSLR for my seventeenth birthday. I started learning the features of my camera through trial and error, however it wasn’t until later that year when I visited Vietnam that I developed a passion for capturing the world around me.

Q: How did you come across PSC?
I initially found out about PSC through my school when I was looking for somewhere to study after year 12. I went along to one of PSC’s open days and I was impressed with the amazing facilities and the friendliness and passion of the teachers.

Q: What did you expect?
I didn’t really know what to expect, however my gut feeling was that I was in the right place for what I wanted to do… take photos and to become a quality photographer.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?
I really enjoyed the practical components of the classes. We are able to explore the city in class and have the benefit of instant feedback from the teachers.

Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?
During my time at PSC I have had a range of photographic jobs. I have assisted a number Melbourne based photographers. I believe this has helped me apply the knowledge that I have learnt at PSC in an industry environment. I also shoot nightlife photography at a few different Melbourne nightclub venues. In addition I also do other one off jobs ranging from promotional shoots to Music festivals.

Q: What’s your dream job?
My dream job would to be a successful lifestyle and advertising photographer that travels the world.

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?:
Ten years is a long time, however I wish to be an established professional photographer either in Australia or overseas still learning and refining my craft.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?
Don’t be afraid to make mistakes; learn from them and keep taking photos.
Name: Jordan Bollen  
Originally from: Geelong  
School: Oberon High School, Belmont  
Current year level: Level 4  
Q: When did you get into photography?  
I first discovered photography while experimenting with the film cameras at school, but I really found a passion for it after my family got a digital camera. The digital camera really made photography accessible to me. I found myself going out taking photos just for fun and have never looked back.  
Q: How did you come across PSC?  
I came across PSC while doing research in the careers room at school.  
Q: What did you expect?  
I was unsure what to expect, but I knew PSC was going to be different to most other universities. I was expecting a unique environment and an exciting course, and that’s exactly what I got.  
Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?  
I have enjoyed working through the semester long major folio project. It’s great to develop an idea, work through the problems, refine your skills and have a polished series of images that you are really proud of at the end of the semester.  
Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?  
I have had assisting jobs with other photographers, which has been good experience for me.  
Q: What’s your dream job?  
My dream job would be travelling the world as a social documentary photographer for a big name magazine or agency.  
Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?  
Travelling the world as a social documentary photographer for a big name magazine or agency of course!  
Q: What advice do you have for future students?  
Work hard, push yourself, but enjoy it make the most of it. You really do get out what you put in with a course like this, so you have to put in the effort.

Name: Kate Smethurst  
Originally from: Boston, Massachusetts USA  
School: Elon University, North Carolina, USA  
Current year level: Level 4  
Q: When did you get into photography?  
I realised I was seriously interested in photography after graduating from college back in the US.  
Q: How did you come across PSC?  
I moved from Perth to Melbourne and landed a job at PSC. After 2 years working at PSC and being inspired by the tutors and all of the students work, I applied to be a student and was thankfully accepted.  
Q: What did you expect?  
I knew there would be a lot of hard work and effort required but that the end result would enable me to have the career I have envisioned for myself.  
Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?  
All of the tutors seem to know all of the students and it personalises the experience. I am also really enjoying the PIC project as it allows us to experience working with a client and meeting a brief, and at the same time, giving back and helping the community.  
Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?  
I have been fortunate to be working with Jane Poynter a wedding photographer and PSC tutor. I have assisted her on numerous weddings and some commercial jobs. I have now started booking my own weddings through her and am loving every second of it!  
Q: What’s your dream job?:  
I’d like to one day own my own business and studio and work as a commercial and wedding photographer.  
Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?  
Ten years from now I’d ideally like to be living back in the US with my own successful photography business.  
Q: What advice do you have for future students?  
Experiment as much as you can in school. Push yourself to do things at college that you’re not comfortable with. You can learn something from every experience. And, if you have the opportunity to work for a photographer while you’re in college, jump at it. On the job experience and learning from a photographer in the field, combined with what we’re learning in the classroom is invaluable.
Name: Taylor-ferne Morris  
Originally from: Melbourne  
School: The Australian Ballet School  
Current year level at PSC: Level 5, Commercial Specialisation  

Q: When did you get into photography?  
I started getting into photography halfway through year 12. I was dancing full time and asked for a DSLR for my 18th birthday, just as a bit of fun. However not long after that I got severely injured and as I now had to change career paths I immersed myself in the photographic world.

Q: How did you come across PSC?  
I started looking up photography colleges/university courses on the internet after I got injured. I stumbled across PSC so I asked a photographer (Meredith O’Shea) who had often taken dance photos of me and found out she had graduated from PSC.

Q: What did you expect?  
I had no idea what to expect!! It was a whole other world to me.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?  
I have loved EVERY minute of studying at PSC! From the amazing teachers to having the opportunity to be able to push myself to achieve things I did think I was capable of doing and have everyone support me the whole way!

Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?  
I have been extremely lucky to have had a few jobs during my time at PSC.

- Melbourne Spring Fashion Week (2010)  
- Melbourne Gala Night (2010)  
- Fashion Journal Magazine (2011-2012) on-going  
- Fashion Aid (2011)  
- Verve Store, Look Book Shoots (Winter, Spring & Summer) 2011- on-going  
- B Free Underwear (2011)  
- Alkii (Jewelry) Product and Brand Shoots (2011-on-going)  
- Alyssn, Look Book Shoots (2011-On-going)  
- Tik Tok Designs, Product Shoots (2011-on-going)  
- Factory X, As product photographer (Shooting for brands such as Alannah Hill, Gorman, Friends Of Couture, Dangerfield and Jack London)  

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?  
Still loving what I do!!! ...... and maybe owning my own studio.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?  
Don’t forget to have FUN! That’s not to say you don’t give it 150% but don’t forget to enjoy yourself!! Also really put your self out there, DON’T be shy!

Q: What’s your dream job?  
My dream job is to be a successful fashion, beauty and advertising photographer for big brands. I would love to have something published in Vogue but that’s a huge dream! I have also had this dream to have my own magazine but let’s not get too ahead of myself here!
Name: Mariah Ellen Sliwczynski  
Originally from: Mt. Macedon Ranges  
School: Mowbray College  
Current year level at PSC: Level 5, Photojournalism Specialisation

Q: When did you get into photography?  
I originally picked up my first camera in high school. I was encouraged to take photographs in both media and art. It was here I learnt to process film in the dark room. I think my fascination started here because still to this day I have so much respect for analogue photography and the process one has to go through to develop an image.

Q: How did you come across PSC?  
My year 12 media teacher suggested the college to me.

Q: What did you expect?  
To be perfectly honest, I didn’t exactly know what to expect other than terrific facilities and teachers. I’ve since been pleasantly surprised throughout my time here.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?  
I have enjoyed all of our guest speakers (Michael Coyne in particular), and the PIC project in second year. I also enjoy our weekly major classes (mine being photojournalism).

Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?  
Throughout the last two years I’ve worked on promoting bands, shooting both live and on location as well as other events. Fortunately, I have also been able to shoot the cinematography for a few small independent short films.

Q: What’s your dream job?  
My dream job would involve some sort of travel. I would love to work as a photojournalist for ‘Colors’ magazine as I love and have so much respect for their compassionate sense of storytelling.

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?:  
That’s definitely a hard question. I just hope that I’ll be in a position where I can still take photographs whether that is professionally or just for pleasure. I hope the drive to make great imagery will still be there in 10 years... Of course I would love to be working overseas somewhere.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?  
My advice for future students is to make the best of every situation given. Definitely challenge what’s given to you, though make sure you understand it first. Use every facility and teacher for the next three years because it will help you grow as a photographer.
Name: Daan Hoffmann  
Originally from: The Netherlands  
School: Homeschooled
Current year level at PSC: Level 5, Art Specialisation

Q: When did you get into photography?
I injured myself mountain biking in 2005 so I couldn’t take part anymore. I had to make myself useful somehow, so started taking pictures of everyone instead.

Q: How did you come across PSC?
A photography magazine had a list of photography institutions for tertiary education, and PSC was rated highest. The fantastic staff showed me around and when I saw the work on the walls I knew this was the place I had to end up.

Q: What did you expect?
To have knowledgeable teachers push my boundaries and open my world to corners of photography I wasn’t aware of.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?
The discovery of photographic skills and conceptual growth amongst likeminded peers. I also relish the opportunity to get inspiration from the work that fellow students produce, the range of work created is astounding and you can learn something from each and every picture.

Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?
My images have been used on an automotive website, and I’ve had some pictures published by a mountain biking magazine. I’ve also done some freelance landscape work for prints in private homes or businesses.

Q: What’s your dream job?
Ideally I’d want to be somewhere where I can work in the outdoors daily, to get paid to be surrounded by flora and fauna every day would be fantastic. Really though, getting paid for what you love would be fantastic, no matter in what setting.

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?
I would like to have travelled extensively, to have explored the world and to be able to share it through my images. I’d like to have my work help animals in some way, to be able to give something back to defenceless creatures.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?
Make the most of every opportunity your teachers throw at you, the word ‘student’ opens doors like you wouldn’t believe. Absorb all the teachings you can, some of Australia’s best professionals will be guiding you and it’s a great opportunity.
Level 5 2011
Third Year

Name: Sarah Lynch
Originally from: Melbourne
School: Star of the Sea College
Current year level at PSC: Level 6

Q: When did you get into photography?
I was on an around the world trip, and literally could not stop taking photos or thinking about taking photos.

Q: How did you come across PSC?
I was looking for photography courses and came across PSC’s website and instantly knew that I wanted to go to PSC.

Q: What did you expect?
I expected to be pushed, both creatively and technically, which I certainly have been!

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?
I really enjoyed the visual and conceptual development class, it pushed me to think outside the box conceptually and really helped me to focus on my personal style and where I wanted to go with photography.

Q: What photography jobs have you done during your studies at PSC?
I have worked as a sports photographer since the end of first year for a events management company that specialises in triathlons.

Q: What’s your dream job?
My dream job would be to work as a documentary photographer, covering stories that focused on environmental issues as well as human and animal rights.

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?:
I hope to be documenting the impacts that climate change has had on both planet and people, as well as animal rights issues that are still current in 10 years time.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?
Listen to your tutors and try to push yourself conceptually. Most importantly, I would say to photograph the things that you are passionate about.

Name: David Lowry
Originally from: Bathurst NSW
School: Kelso High School
Current year level at PSC: Level 6

Q: When did you get into photography?
I took up photography as a hobby about 6 months before starting the course at the age of 26.

Q: How did you come across PSC?
After deciding to study I came across PSC in Australian Photography magazine. From there I conducted further research on the internet before making my final decision where I was going to study.

Q: What did you expect?
What I didn’t expect was such small and intimate class sizes that made it much more possible for one on one interaction with tutors. This definitely helped a lot with my personal work undertaken throughout my time at PSC.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most at PSC?
I found the avenues made available to students regarding our choice of major specialisation in our final year to be great and beneficial. By subjected us to the many facets of the photography industry, it made our choice of specialisation in our final year much easier.

Q: What’s your dream job?
Ideally, I would like to earn enough money to support myself as an artist.

Q: Where do you think you’ll be in ten years from now?:
Hopefully by that time I will be an established artist and still enjoying the creation process as much as I do now.

Q: What advice do you have for future students?
Utilise all facilities made available to you through PSC. Experiment as much as possible with your own work and push through your comfort zone to make new experiences possible.
Name: Liane Hurvitz – Commercial

Q: When did your passion for photography begin?

Ever since I was young I had always wanted to be in the creative field. Working with colour and creating visual works was always my strongest point at school. I always wanted to know how to create images in a professional way. Thus Photography just fell into place when I left school.

Q: How did you find out about the course at PSC?

I was introduced to PSC at the AGE VCE Careers Expo. Having seen other photography courses PSC’s fantastic vibe got me. I went along to the open day and that made me realise that PSC was where I wanted to study.

Q: What was your greatest challenge while studying?

The greatest challenge was creating work that I was proud of. The course was a roller coaster of self discovery. A 3 year road of finding out why you love photography why you wanted to be a photographer and most importantly what drive your desires. It was the continual pressure to succeed in the course that was the most challenging yet the most rewarding. Most daunting was starting new folios and ideas however by the end the recognition of the work made it all worth it.

Q: Share some thoughts about your teachers and mentors.

I loved all the PSC teachers. Their perspectives, insights, knowledge and guidance was fantastic. Their friendly and vibrant vibe made PSC a great environment to be part of. I felt like they pushed me and drove me to be the best photographer and student I could be. While the mentor program gave me hands on experience in the industry, I was also able to meet some well recognised photographers and individuals in the industry. Often grabbing a coffee on the side it was a great way to meet new and interesting people.

Q: What inspires you in your photographic practice?

My passion lies within advertising photography. Whether it be a billboard or a fashion editorial in a magazine I am continually surrounded by inspiration. Continually feeding myself visually helps me be inspired in my own projects. Viewing my favourite photographers work constantly allows me to be driven by their creativity. Of course art, music and film is a great way to draw inspiration, its really just about feeding what your soul enjoys. Seeing how far I have come with my skills is also a major driving factor. Viewing your work being exhibited is one of the most inspiring part of the profession.

Q: Describe what you’re doing now.

At the moment I am continually expanding my folio, working with teams of makeup artists stylies and models. I intend to further my studies in the next few months.

Q: What advice would give to future students?

Aim high to achieve high. Ensure that you never doubt yourself and allow for critique to be a tool for growth. Be passionate about everything you do and whatever projects you decide to take on make sure you are doing it for the enjoyment. If you love what you do you will never work a day in your life.

Photograph by Liane Hurvitz
**Name:** Thomas Brooke – Commercial

**Q: When did your passion for photography begin?**

My passion for photography arose from a trip to Port Douglas at the age of 15 when I saw Peter Jarver’s photography gallery. He was a landscape photographer who captured many storms with spectacular lightning over open land that looked incredible. I decided almost instantly that I would become a photographer and travel the world taking photos. I have never looked back.

**Q: How did you find out about the course at PSC?**

My photography teacher, Ms Murphy at High School knew my addiction and passion for photography very well. She would give me the PSC flyers when they came in the mail; she also spoke very highly of PSC and how it would really benefit me. The flyers would get me even more excited to start proper study.

**Q: What was your greatest challenge while studying?**

Although I wouldn't say I had any great challenges during the course, I do wish I had prepared my time a bit better. I think its easy to forget that time slips away very quickly. There were some points where a few assignments would bundle up causing a bit of panic. Also make sure you keep some money aside, as printing and folios are an extra expense.

**Q: Share some thoughts about your teachers and mentors.**

A lot of the teachers at PSC are great. I learnt a lot from them, especially when I would hassle them after teaching hours. They were always helpful and never annoyed by me always having a million questions and needing opinions when it came to printing and analogue. I am also sure a lot of my friends from PSC would agree when I say that Neil was an incredible teacher, I would be lying if I said he didn't change my whole perception of photography and ways of looking at things. The mentor program and mentors were really good; I gained heaps from it! Including real work in the industry.

**Q: What inspires you in your photographic practice?**

Amazing locations, people and music. Whenever I am feeling stuck and unmotivated I will go for a walk/drive with some great music and just explore places I haven't seen before. Also keeping myself surrounded by exciting and passionate people helps to excite my creativity. In this day and age, just a quick google search or checking some of my favourite blogs can give me loads of inspiration to get shooting.

**Q: Describe what you're doing now.**

I have been working as an assistant for many high-end professional photographers in Melbourne and Sydney. I’m getting the opportunity to work on great campaigns learning all the magic tricks of the industry. I have also recently been doing a lot of work for Johnnie Walker shooting the Races at Flemington and most recently, the Formula 1 Grand Prix in Melbourne. I was also very excited to recently not only get published but also make the front cover for the current edition of Melbourne Home Design + Living magazine. Not to mention a few other exciting shoots passed and coming up. I am keeping very busy.

**Q: What advice would give to future students?**

The best advice I could pass on would be to always ask questions. Keep yourself surrounded by people who are focussed and full of passion. Never lose sight of your goals, people might tell you negative things that knock you back, but if you have the passion to get there. You will.
Name: Sarah Galletta – Art Graduate

Q: When did your passion for photography begin?
In secondary school the first photography class was introduced in Year 10 and immediately I was hooked. We had an awesome dark room and a variety of film cameras to use.

Q: How did you find out about the course at PSC?
A friend at school had visited the college on Open Day and gave me the PSC brochure.

Q: What was your greatest challenge while studying?
Other than time management, I’d have to say finding available friends (models) to help you out with shoots in the studio classes.

Q: Share some thoughts about your teachers and mentors.
They were all pretty awesome and memorable in their own way. Each brought great knowledge and experience to every class.

Q: What inspires you in your photographic practice?
The human body and surrealism are great inspirations to me. But inspiration and motivation also comes from viewing and experiencing Art and Photography wherever possible, whether online, in a book or walking into a gallery.

Q: Describe what you’re doing now.
I have recently exhibited my work at Carbon Black Gallery alongside two other PSC graduates. At the moment I’m about to finish up a TAE course in Training and Assessment, as I have been employed by Hume City Council to teach Photography and Computers.

Name: Josie Lee – Commercial Graduate

Q: When did your passion for photography begin?
My passion for photography began at a very young age. I can remember dressing up my sister and cousins (complete with hair and makeup), and doing photo shoots in the backyard. By 18, I had turned the spare room into a makeshift studio and was collaborating with talent.

Q: How did you find out about the course at PSC?
After Year 11, I chose to move schools because my current secondary school didn’t offer a photography class. Once I moved, my new careers advisor suggested I apply to PSC. I then attended the open day.

Q: What was your greatest challenge while studying?
My greatest challenge was networking. In order to complete a folio of fashion photography, you need to build connections within the industry. Networking requires a lot of time, effort and persistence.

Q: Share some thoughts about your teachers and mentors.
There was always a great support network within PSC, especially during final year. I was fortunate to find a mentor who was very inspiring and willing to share his knowledge with me. I assisted with many fashion shoots throughout final year where I gained valuable hands on experience.

Q: What inspires you in your photographic practice?
Many things inspire me, from stunning locations to the models I photograph. With the rising popularity of digital media, I find nothing more inspiring than seeing the beautiful work of great fashion photographers in print magazines.

Q: Describe what you’re doing now.
I was awarded the AIPP PSC Graduation Award for excellence in commercial photography and now I’m continuously building my portfolio. I have shot for several clients this year and had my work published in fashion magazines.

Q: What advice would you give to future students?
Make the most of your time whilst studying and the resources you have access to. During this time you should be networking with others in the industry. You need to be self-motivated and truly passionate about what you’re shooting.