

Ryan Makin

London

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Portfolio: @sgd_photography_ [Instagram]

Note: For wedding photography portfolio work, it is available upon request

Personal statement

I am a graduate from the University of Greenwich having studied Computer Security and Digital Forensics. My passion lies in applying myself, being creative and helping out. These foundations are what allowed me to progress as a bartender to head bartender at a upscale restaurant while simultaneously working towards achieving a first class honours degree. These allowed me exceed in desirable skills such as great written and verbal communication, amazing time management and staying consistent in both group and independent work scenarios. Since I was young creativity was an outlet for me which has followed me into my professional life, from inventing new cocktails to problem solving to drawing. Since graduating, the job market for the field I studied for got over saturated whilst businesses were cutting labour costs. This led me to lose an outlet of my creativity. In turn, I discovered a new passion of mine, photography. Since I was a child I was always fascinated by being able to capture a moment in time and keep it as a physical memory. Unfortunately I never got the opportunity to explore this, until now. In February 2025, I made my own photography account to document my progression and act as an early portfolio to show off my unique perspective of the world. The account is @sgd_photography_ and in the 9 months that has passed, I have managed to build a community of 244 people who are interested in the content I post. In the last 90 days with the assistance of an occasional ad being applied to post/ reel (ranging from £3-£9), my page has managed to engage with 29,577 people with my top 3 posts all concurring over 6k views. In this time span, I have become comfortable and confident with Lightroom after experimenting and learning how to edit over 150 images, 110 of which have made it to my portfolio. As well as this, I managed to be one of 50 people who got into a mentorship program with James Frost, a renowned creative who offered us critical industry knowledge and the ways he learnt to grow in the field. This has led me onto the next phase in career where aside from learning Adobe Photoshop, I am seeking to find experience and/ or a job where I can gain even more experience and knowledge to be capable of bringing concepts and ideas other likeminded proactive people and I have, to life.

Key Skills

- Good written and verbal communication skills from presentations, work experiences, and essay writing
- Great time management to ensure I meet deadlines
- Adaptable for both independent and group work
- Passion to learn and improve
- Strive to create an uplifting and productive work environment
- Keen eye to analyse all aspects of a scene to explore different ways of capturing it
- Creative mind to explore unique perspectives for shoots, experimenting with editing to explore new avenues to express my thought process or inspiration and to adapt to a situation in real time to capture a moment before it passes
- Proficient with Lightroom and currently learning Adobe Photoshop
- Thrive and enjoy brainstorming/ collective thinking to think about projects and the best way to make it happen
- Some experience with content creation via my photography Instagram account

Work Experience

James Frost Creative Mentorship

(October 2025)

Wedding Photoshoot

(2025)

Portrait Photoshoots

(2025)

Behind The Scenes (Venue)

(2025)

Head Bartender, 1751 Distillery Bar & Kitchen

(March 2022 -> January, 2025)

Duties include:

- Memorising our menu to ensure efficiency and have the ability to recommend people food/drinks best suited to the customer's preferences
- Delegating tasks based on colleagues' strengths to greatly improve our dynamic and chemistry as a team. Communication is fundamental to achieving this and in turn to delivering the best service possible
- Barista trained
- Applying myself wherever applicable, from daily bar tasks to helping train new bartenders to assisting colleagues/guests whenever needed. This spans outside the bar as I also have waiter experience, so I'll aid floor staff throughout the shift. This interchangeability expands to being delegated waiter shifts from time to time to help cover for people who are ill or if they need more staff
- Some of the head bartender-specific roles include: assisting in the gin-making process with our Gin Distiller, counting stock, being in charge of deliveries, line cleaning, upkeeping cleanliness standards by creating a benchmark in the form of weekly and daily checklists to be completed, pitching ideas from myself and other colleagues to management for potential improvements, ensuring close has happened properly and trying to uphold staff happiness by always being open to talk about any issues, ideas and how they're getting on

Waiter, Formula 1 Grand Prix Silverstone, Summerley Recruitment

(July 2022)

Silverstone was pivotal to excelling as a waiter to know how to cater and deliver a premium service for VIP clients, from seamless transitions between meals to meeting customer needs and making their experience pleasant.

Secretary, Assets for Learning

(February 2020)

This experience greatly improved my telecommunication skills as it was required to collect data and similarly, my observational skills to learn techniques and functionalities so I can apply them to my work and be independent.

Teaching Assistant, Stebon Primary School

(February 2018)

The highlight of this experience was how it developed my adaptability to work with a variety of age groups simultaneously and being able to stimulate a productive and engaging work environment.

Education

University of Greenwich

Computer Security and Forensics Degree: First Class Honours (2021 - 2024)

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form

(2019 - 2021)

A-levels:

- Economics - B
- Computer Science - B
- Psychology - B

Interests

I find myself to be a creative person foundationally, in all aspects of life and this relationship extends to the likes of fashion, styling, modelling, freelancing, social media managing, campaign strategy and me even planning on starting my own clothing brand. That may seem like a lot but I like helping people, so I like to at least be good in things I'm passionate about so I can contribute even if I have a stronger area.

References

Miles Baker (Deputy General Manager at 1751 Distillery Bar & Kitchen) Email: miles.baker@trgplc.com