

Post-Production

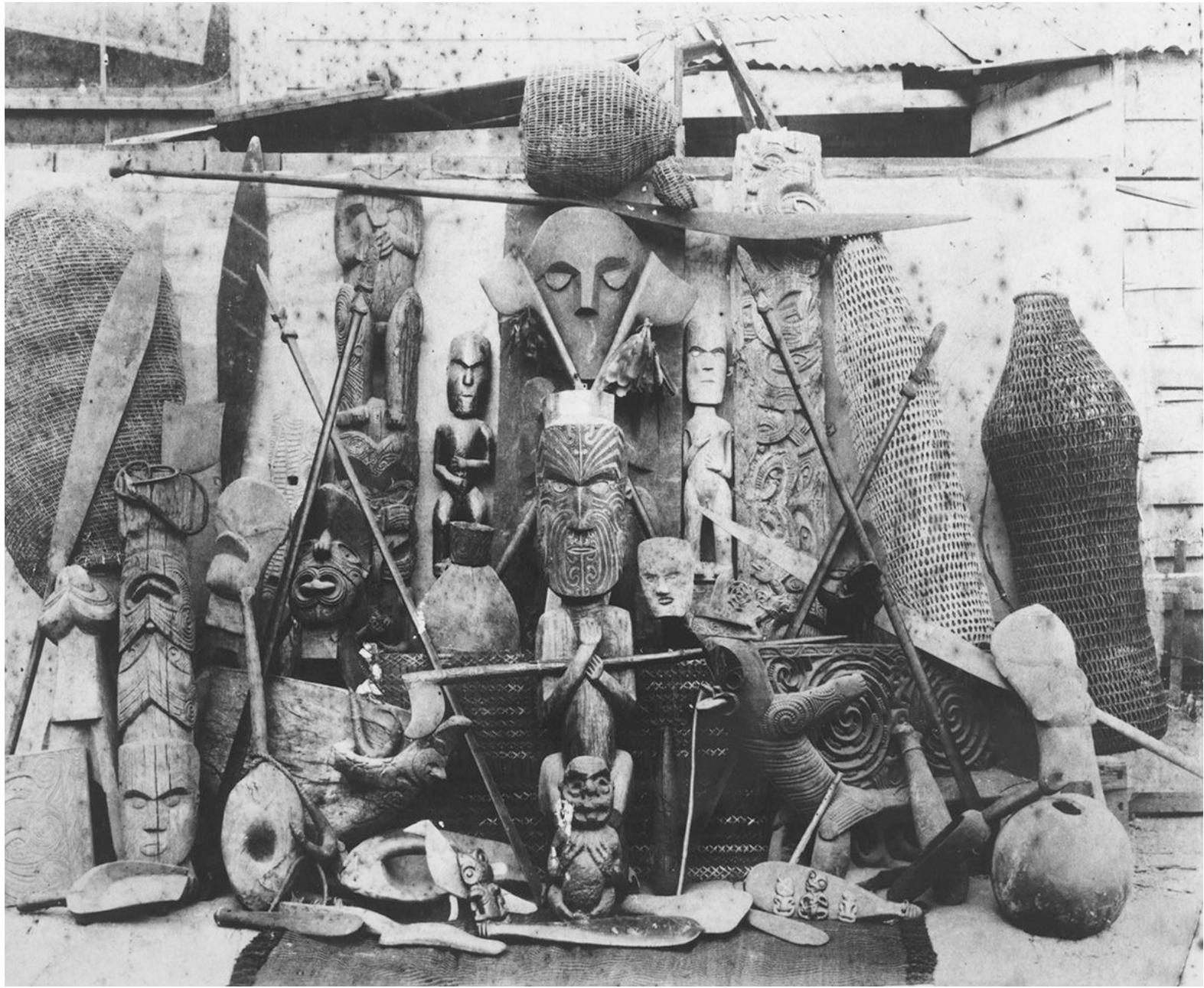
- Remember a well executed photo will save you time in post-production!
- Photoshop the 800lb gorilla of image editing apps by far the biggest and best, but best for one image at a time editing.
- The Bridge (comes with photoshop), Lightroom and Aperture very good standalone apps for filing, sorting, adding metadata and manipulating images. A faster workflow than photoshop.
- Learn how to get the most out of your software, use actions and quick keys for repetitive tasks.

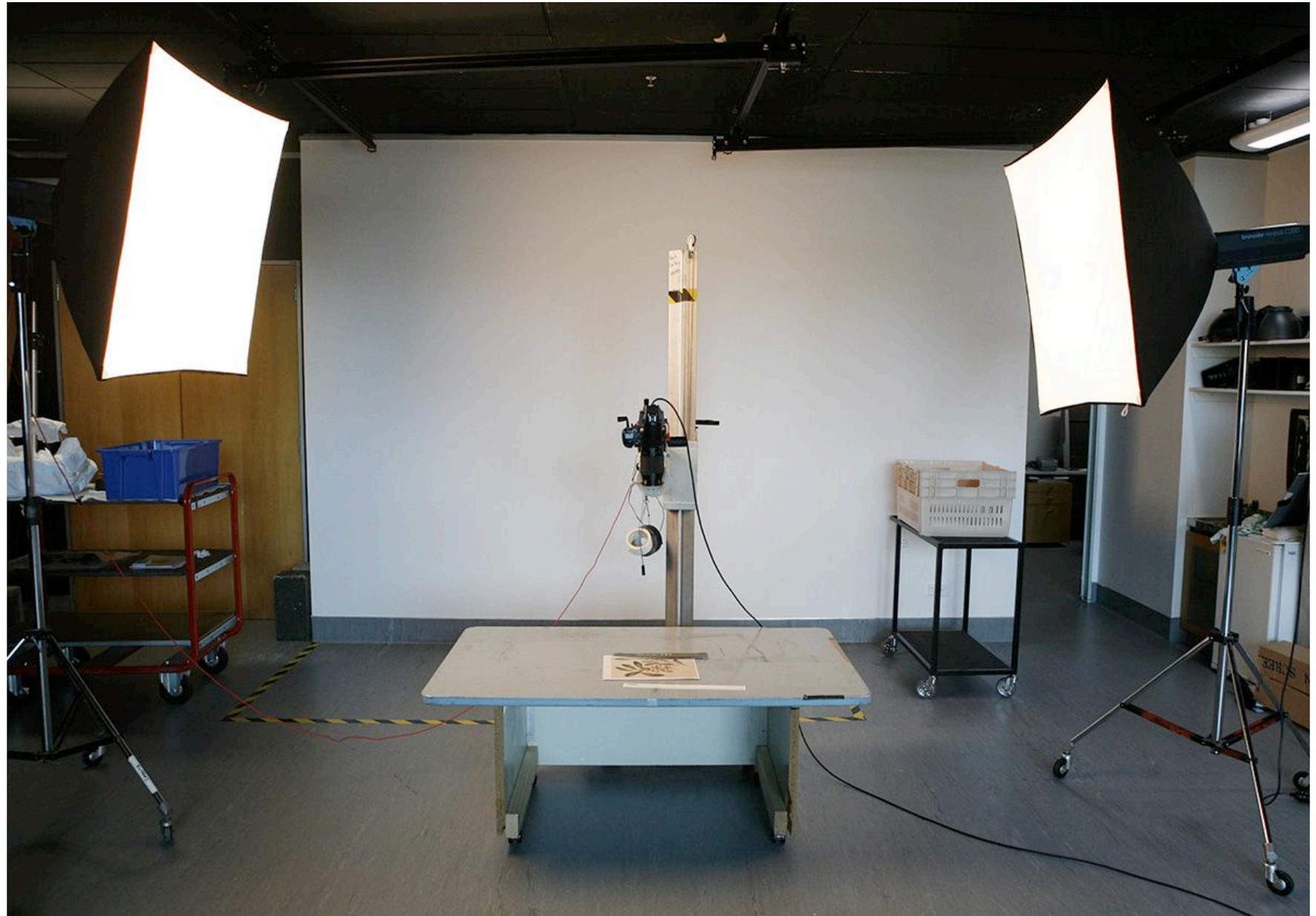
Taking Photo's

What are they for?

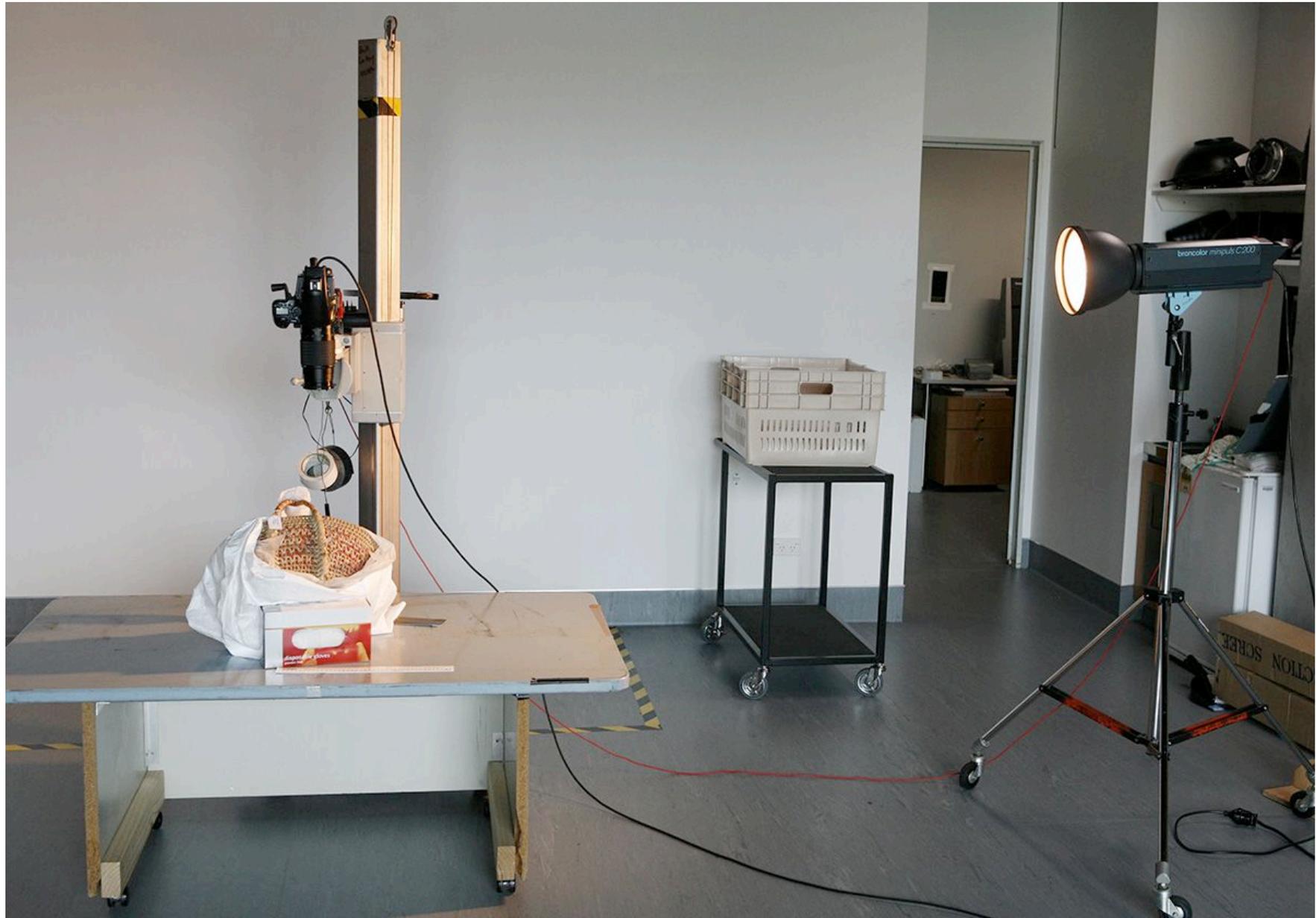
- This may help you determine how to light something and how much time to spend photographing things.
For objects choose neutral/uncluttered backgrounds black grey and white work well. Look at how the object contrasts with a background. Try to light evenly. Use a tripod!
- Windows not in direct sunlight are a good place to set up, try using white cards to “Fill in” on the side furthest from the window.
- Think of the angles that best describe what you are photographing and look at details.
- Learn to “read” the light in pictures.
- Include a scale and or greycard/scale where appropriate.







Copy set-up



Raking light to show texture





Cocoon to diffuse light
For jewelery etc





Other considerations

- Try to photograph in a neutral coloured space.
- Where possible keep items/taonga safe by using shelves and trollies.
- Respect cultural considerations around taonga, enter into dialogue with people who know what these are eg. no food or drink.
- If possible calibrate your computer monitors.

Why use a tripod?

- A tripod will let you, compose accurately and more importantly allow you to obtain sharp images at shutter speeds lower than 1/60th sec. It also means you can obtain greater depth of field when photographing 3d items, and enable you to work in low light.
- If you don't have a tripod try resting the camera on a table, books and using the self-timer, this will help eliminate camera shake.

Auto focus

- Auto focus is good in a lot of instances, and will often allow you to change where the camera will focus (depending on the camera), however when a subject has little or no contrast Auto focus will struggle, in instances like this try, putting a piece of newsprint at the same plane as you are wanting to focus, lock focus by depressing the shutter button halfway, keeping the button depressed remove newsprint, push button fully to take photo.
- Manual focus, by far the best option but often fiddly with “Point and Shoot” digital cameras.

Photographing objects behind Glass

- This can be glazed works or prints, which have been flattened by putting a piece of glass on top of them.
- For these situations use a mask around the camera, the mask can be a piece of matt black board with a hole cut in the middle the same shape as the lens. The size of the mask will be directly related to the size of the work, for really large works black material supported around the camera can be useful.
- The reason for the black is that black reflected in glass equates to no reflections.
- For glass cases try photographing them at an angle and turning of the flash.

