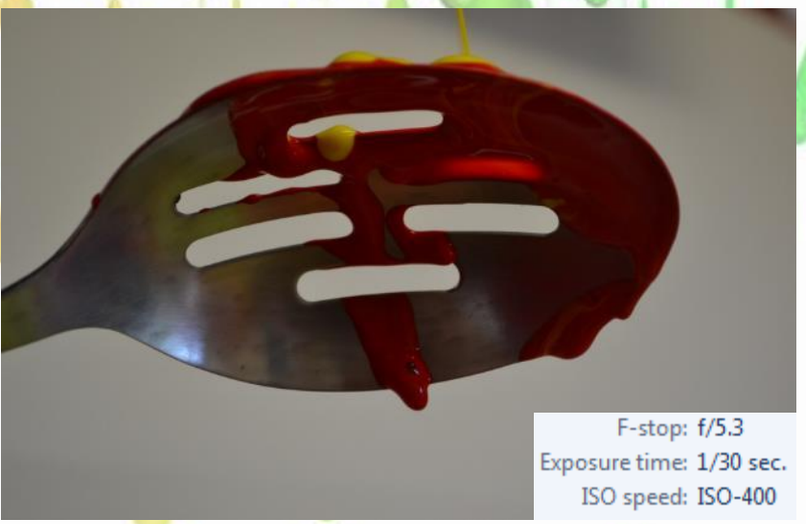
Motion

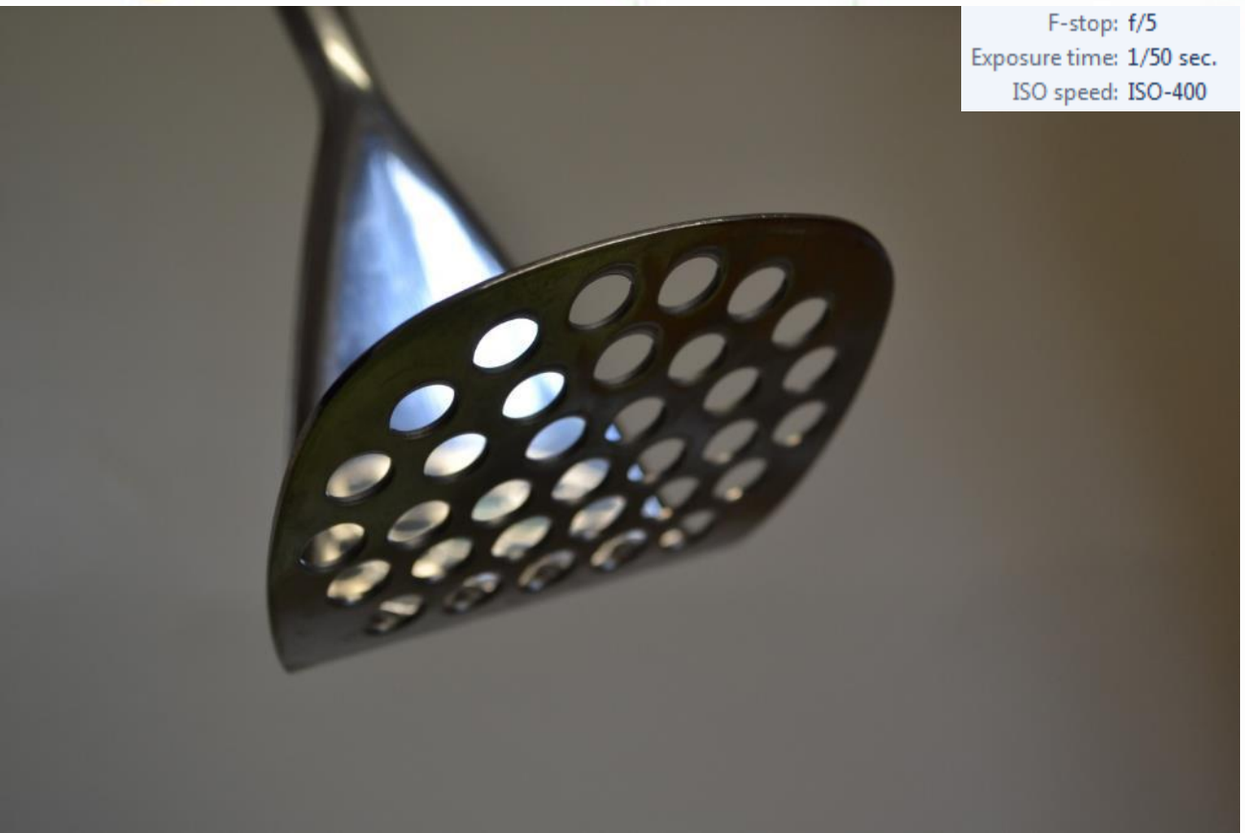
Unit 3

Bethan Thomas

For my next shoot I wanted to incorporate paint, as I thought my previous shoot was very strong and I loved my final images that I produced. However instead of having the paint on some material, I wanted to experiment and take photographs of paint dropping. I decided to make the paint fall through some interesting objects such as a sieve and a fork. When I came to doing this shoot I had to think about the positioning of the paint falling and the angles of the objects. As I was planning to do this shoot up against a white wall I had to think about my lighting I had to ensure I did not get any shadows from the persons arm who holds the fork or knife with the paint dripping off it. I also had to think about the colours of paint I used and what kind of paint as some are thicker then others and I had to think about what paint would flow best off of the appliances I was going to use. During this shoot I realized that the photographs which I was producing were not coming out as well as I hoped. I decided to use a lamp facing all of the light on the paint. This improved the images greatly as it made the paint shine and look more eye-catching. the oncoming two slides are the images that worked the best.

Below are some images I took before editing





Shoot photos

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

F-stop: f/5
Exposure time: 1/80 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

F-stop: f/5
Exposure time: 1/80 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

F-stop: f/5
Exposure time: 1/80 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

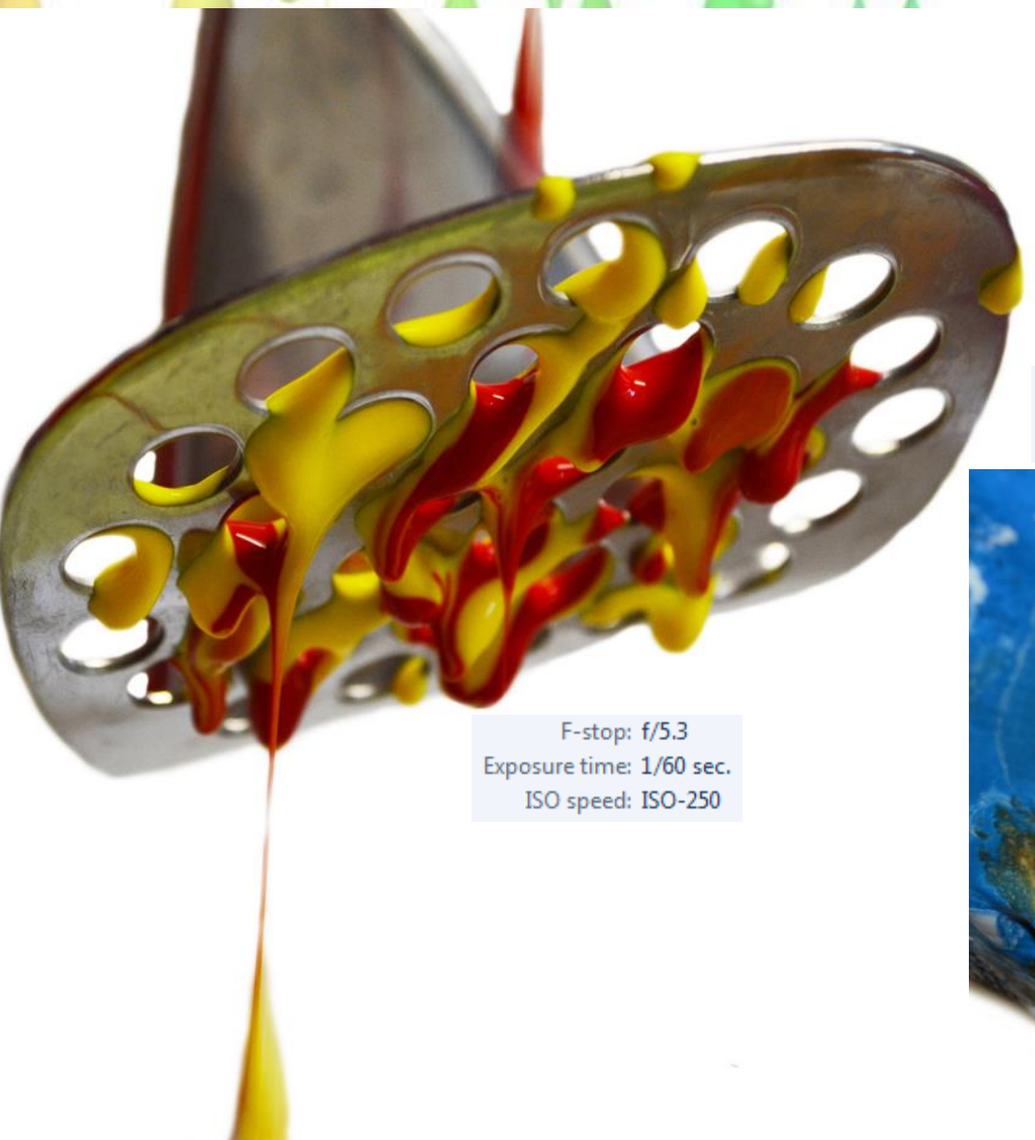
F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

F-stop: f/5
Exposure time: 1/100 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

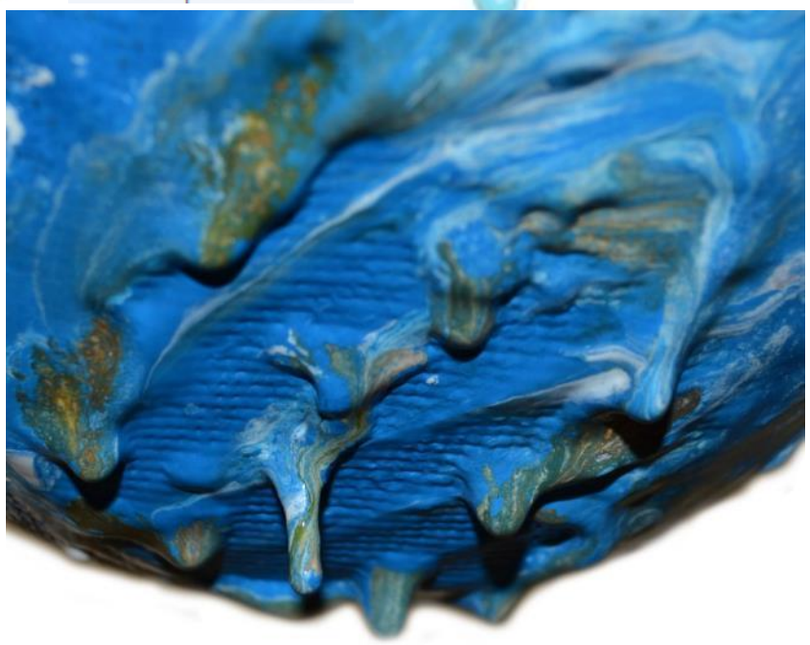
F-stop: f/4.8
Exposure time: 1/40 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

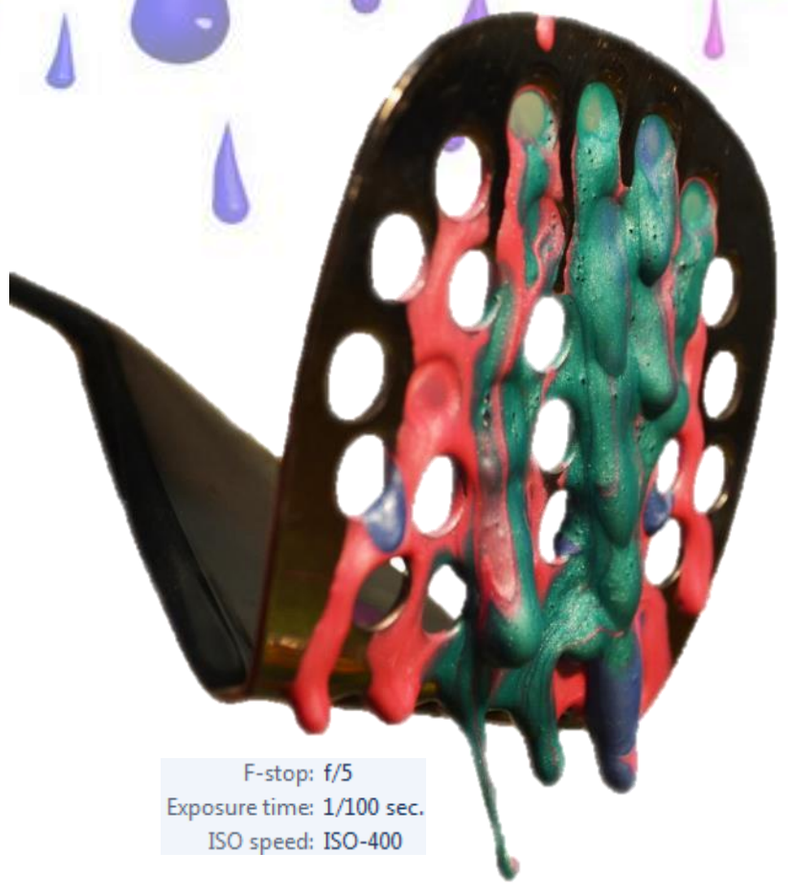
F-stop: f/5.3
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-250



F-stop: f/5.3
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-250

F-stop: f/4
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-125





F-stop: f/5
Exposure time: 1/100 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-400

Development from previous shoot

I decided to do these pictures as I wanted to focus more on the dropping of the paint, the motion. These images however did not work as well as I hoped. I anticipated to do this shoot outside, but due to it being winter the images would not have come out bright enough nor with the right texture so instead I did it using studio lighting, inside. Making sure the final images had a white background I white card and to ensure they had good glossy texture I used a flash gun. I also used a pallet knife for the paint to drop off, however it has such a short surface area that it was difficult to make a large amount of paint to drop off it. The issue I had with using a flash gun was that I only had one opportunity to catch the drop happening, as the flash gun had to reboot itself. When editing these images I increased the contrast and brightness, making the images stand out more.

F-stop: f/16
Exposure time: 1/200 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-200

I enjoyed doing this shoot however there were many improvements and developments which need to be made before my next shoot. This shoot was a good base shoot for me working more with paint, and it made me figure out what worked well and what didn't work so well. As you can see on the previous slides I used kitchen utensils on which I poured paint onto and then I captured the paint dripping off. The pictures that came out the best for this shoot was the knife ones. The pattern of the paint which had all mixed together on the flat blade came out so well, and gives off an almost shine, and shimmery finish. To go with this I captured the paint dropping off the knives which proved very difficult as they would fall quickly and would go out of focus also quickly. This taught me that to do these kind of shoots I need to have my shutter speed very fast, to stop the blur.

To develop from this shoot I am going to focus more on the actual paint dropping, not having the object of which it is dropping off in the frame. I think by doing this it will set the focus all on the paint, which I want. I can now take away many things from this shoot. I have found out that using more then one colour is much more interesting and comes out well, giving more texture and is much more striking. I am now also going to focus on much thicker and bigger paint drops, producing different shapes as these would look nice once lined up against one another. The image directly above has a nice shine to it, and this I created by using a flash gun and this has a much nicer effect, so I will be using a flash gun on my next shoot.

From this point onwards a lot of my work will have a hint of a scientific edge to it as I this will be a very interesting route to take.

There are many scientific photographers on which I could look at, however Fabian Oefner's work has a great balance between the scientific side and the movement using liquids.

I find it very interesting how these two subjects can fit so well together. Images of scientific work also pose many questions. Most of them you cannot tell what the photograph is of and where its taken, and I find these kind of questions makes the images more engaging.

As I was researching photographers I came across some very interesting work from Fabian Oefner. As I looked at more and more of this work I realised a pattern. Fabian Oefner combines science with photography, in some cases doing experiments and then shooting them. A certain ted talk in which this photographer was heavily involved in, has inspired me greatly to try and experiment with some of his work.

Science & Photography

The three pictures on the left at the bottom are all images which are connected to science. They are shot by different photographers and all have a very different approach with what and how they photograph. The bottom two are particularly relevant to my project and are ones which I may consider to try and shoot in a similar way.

F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

Contact sheet

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/640 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/640 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/640 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

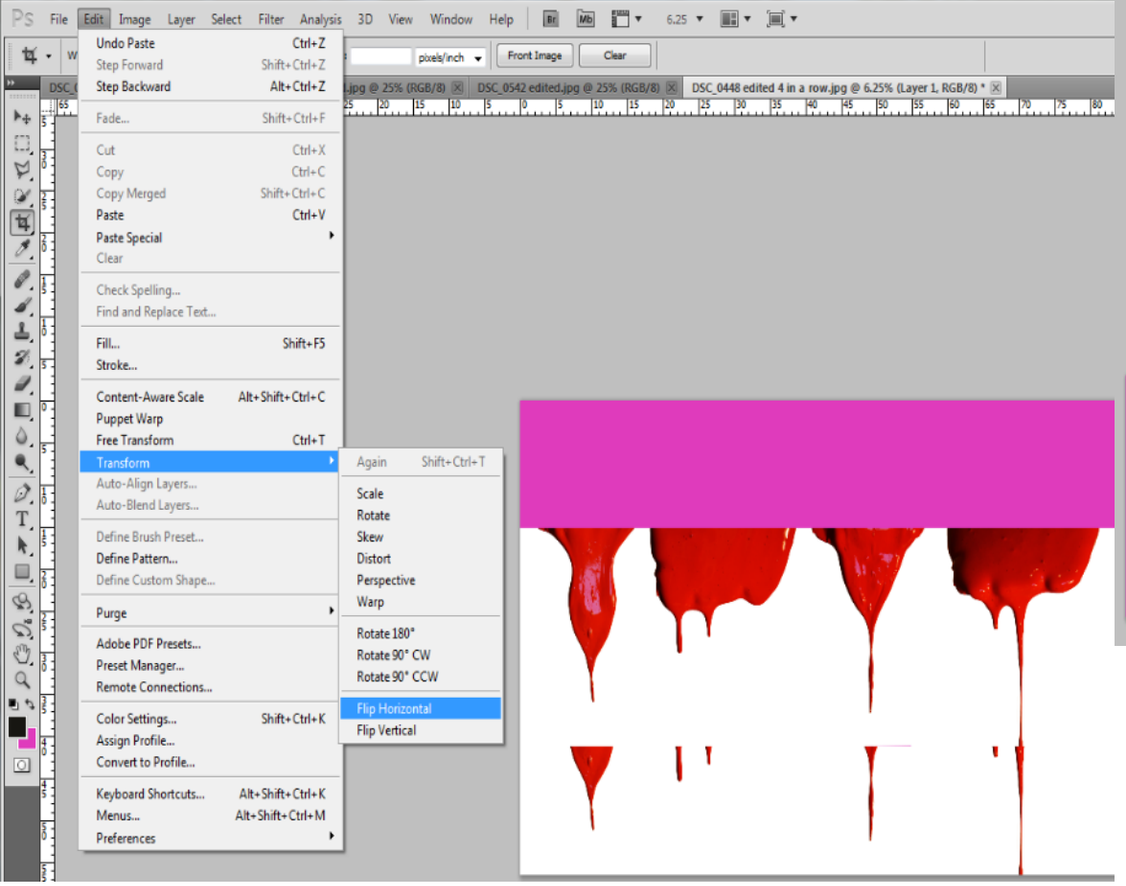
F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/640 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

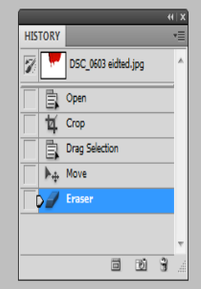
F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

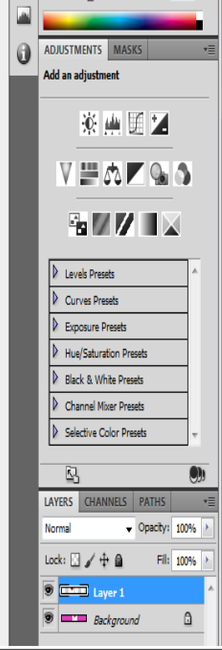
F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

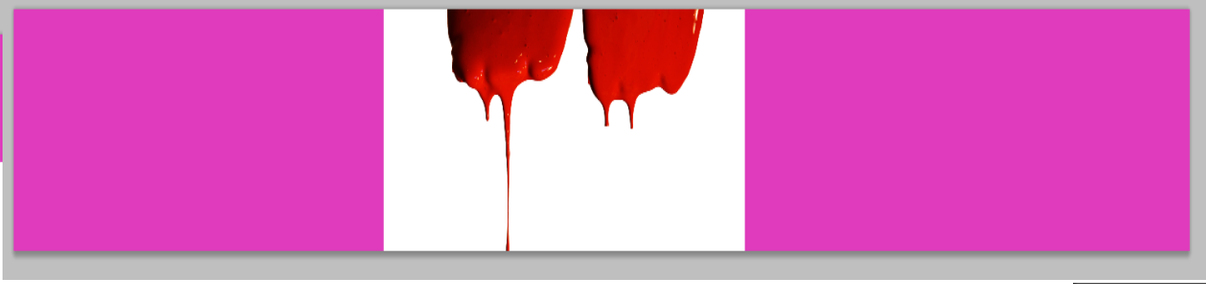
F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

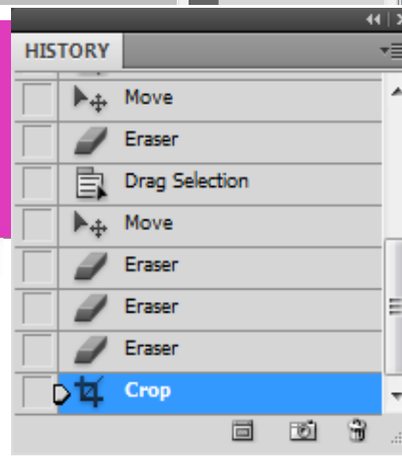
F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800



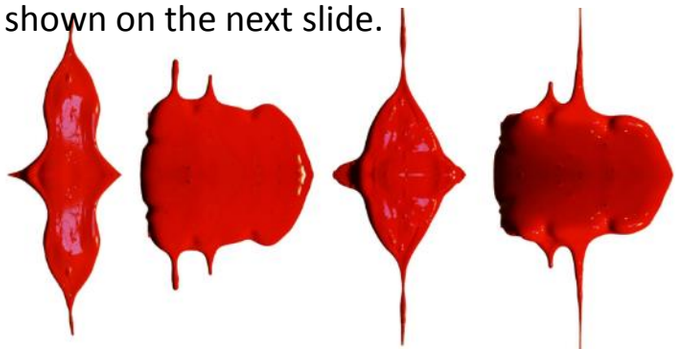


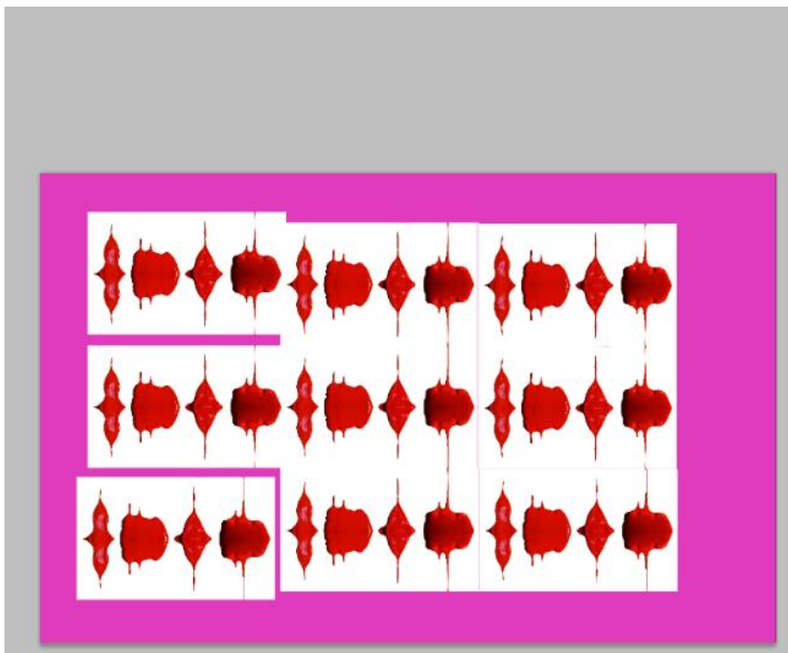


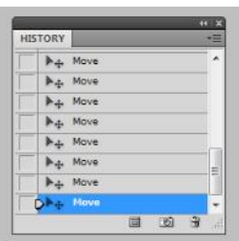


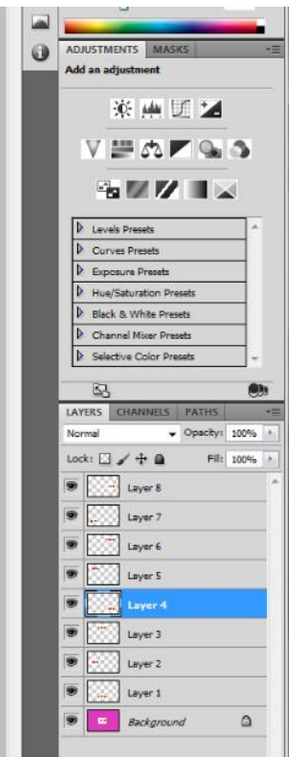


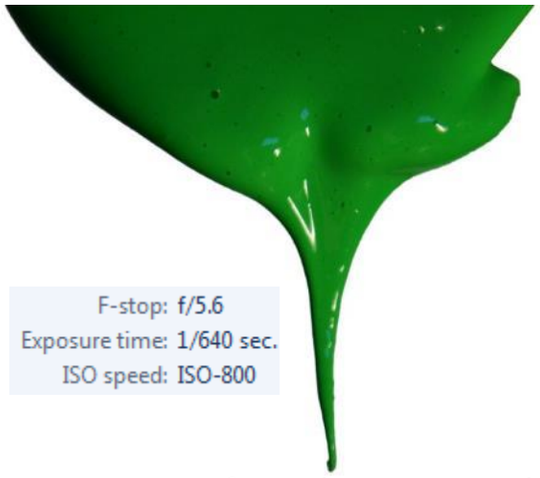
The previous shoot has inspired me to keep focusing on the paint falling, however I am now using thicker acrylic paint. This allowed me to captured a bigger dropping motion, shown here on the right hand side. These images were a lot better and I put them on photo shop, making sure the background was white and there was some contrast to the red of the paint. After doing this I was playing around on photo shop and I decided I wanted to cope the image of the four drops in a row, and I was going to flip one of the images horizontally and rotate it 180 degrees. After doing this I ended up with the image directly below which I became very fond of. I found these images became almost scientific in a way, looking like a visual of a sound wave. I then wanted to take this idea further and by doing the same thing I wanted to copy the image of the picture directly below and then multiply it further, making a grid of 9, this final image is show in a few slides time and I do think this came out very well, the red being very vibrant and the drops of paint working very nicely with one another. I also did this shoot, using green paint which also worked nicely and these images are shown on the next slide.

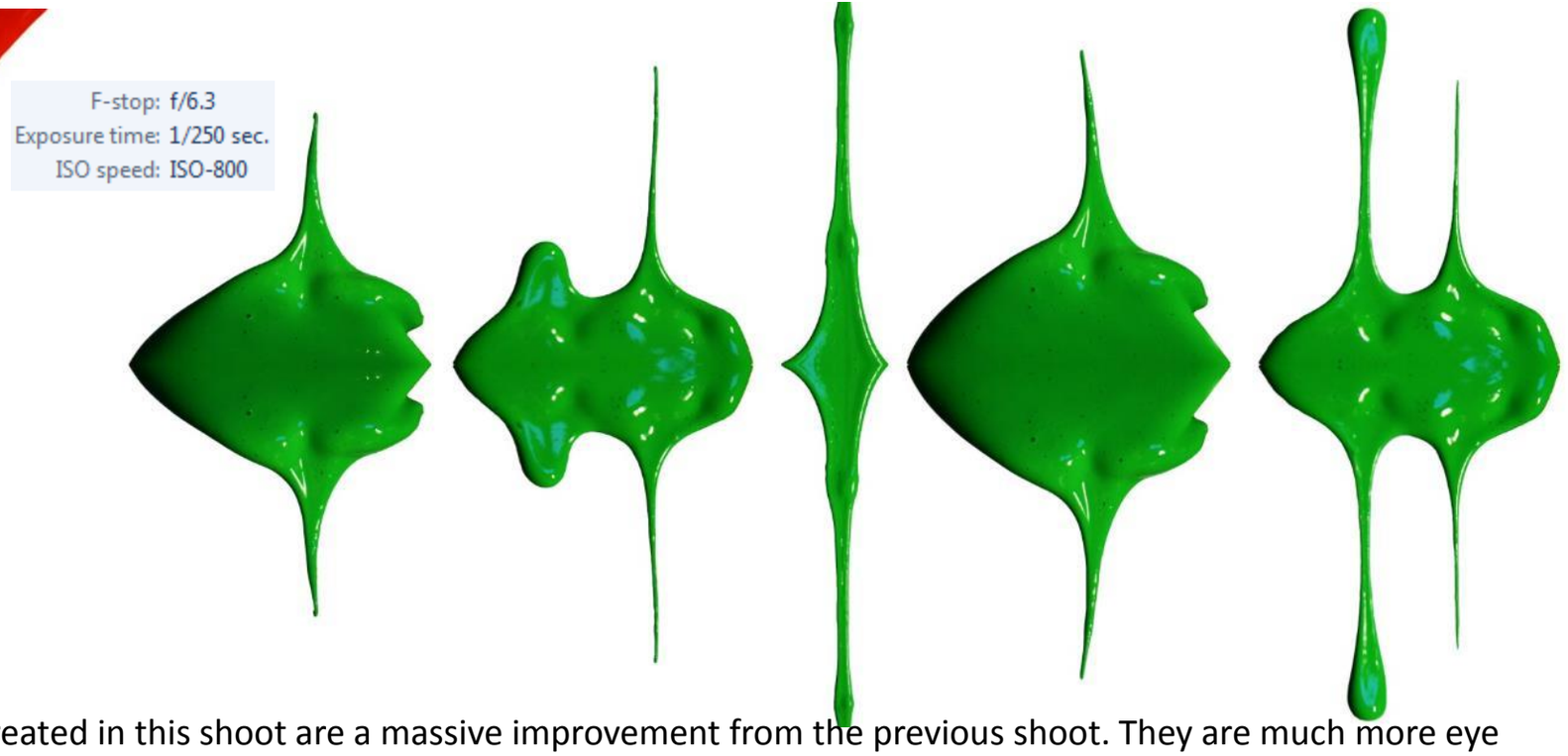






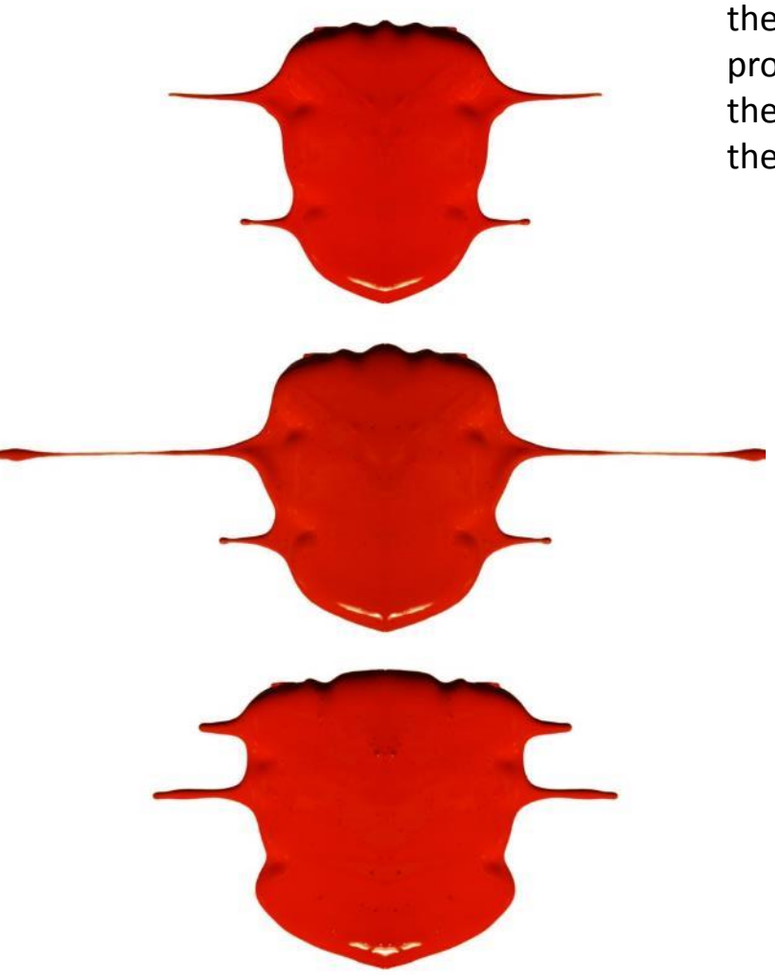


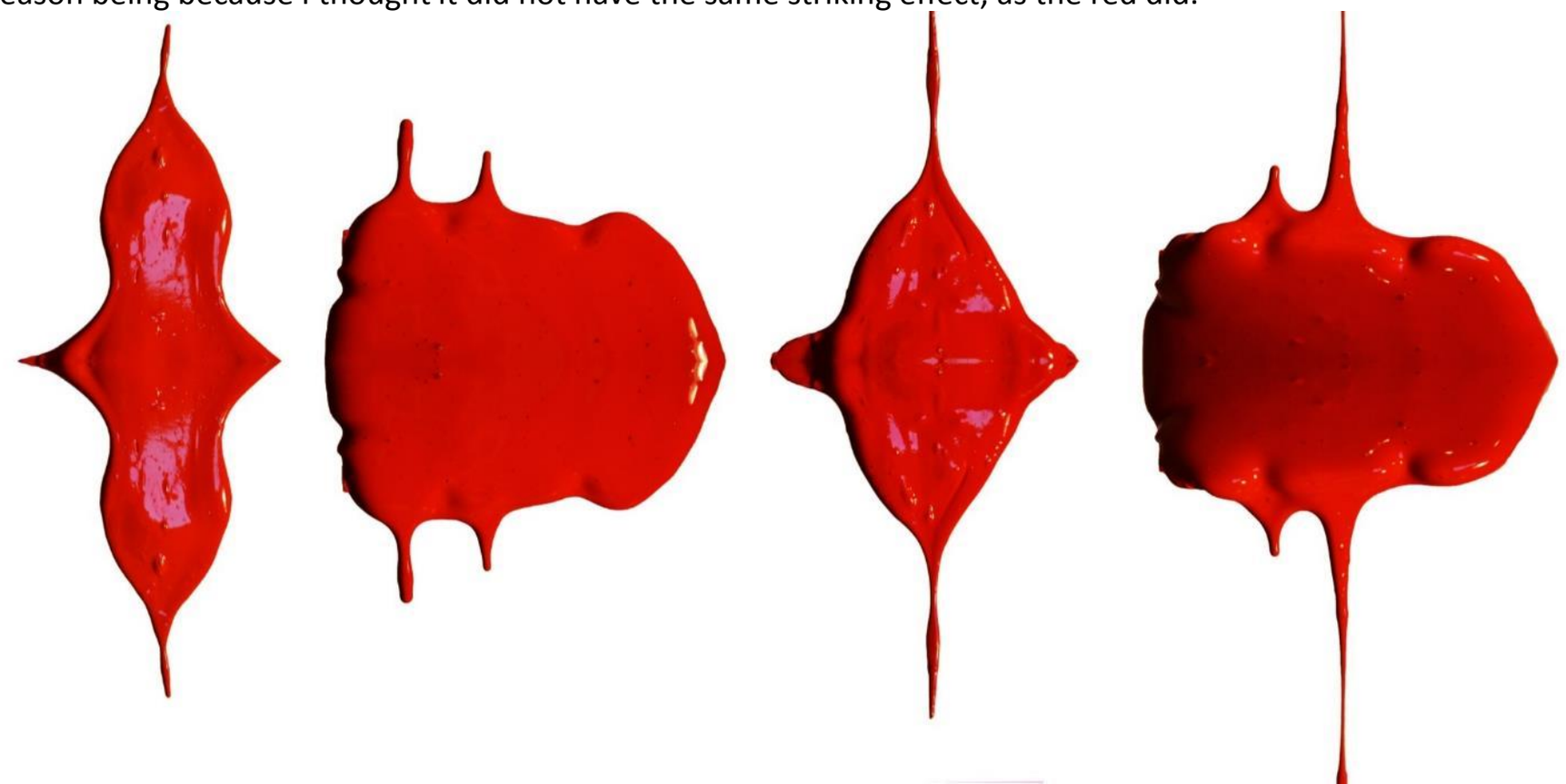




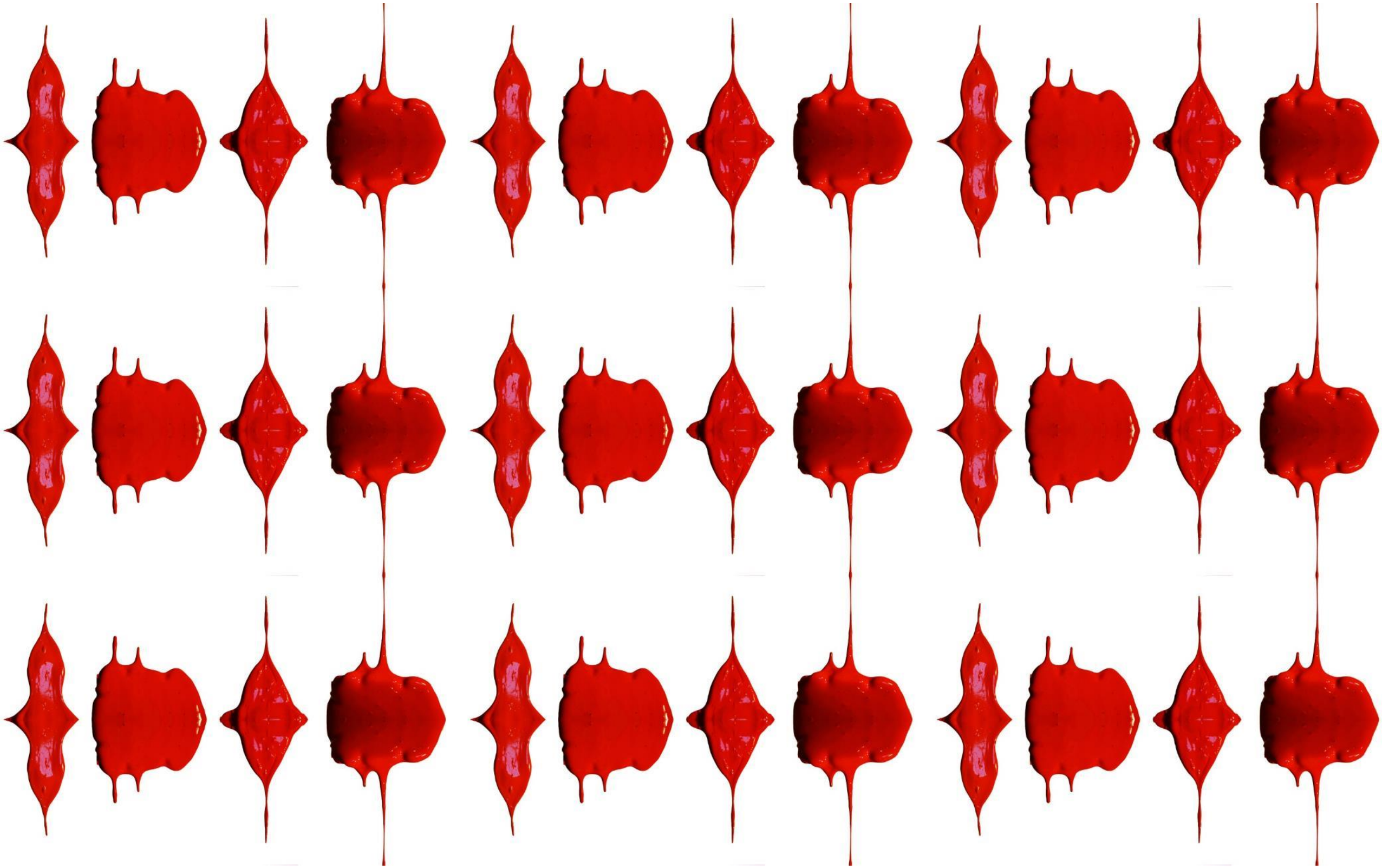
To move on from the previous shoot I wanted to focus on the actual movement of the dropping paint. This is shown in the single and separate images above

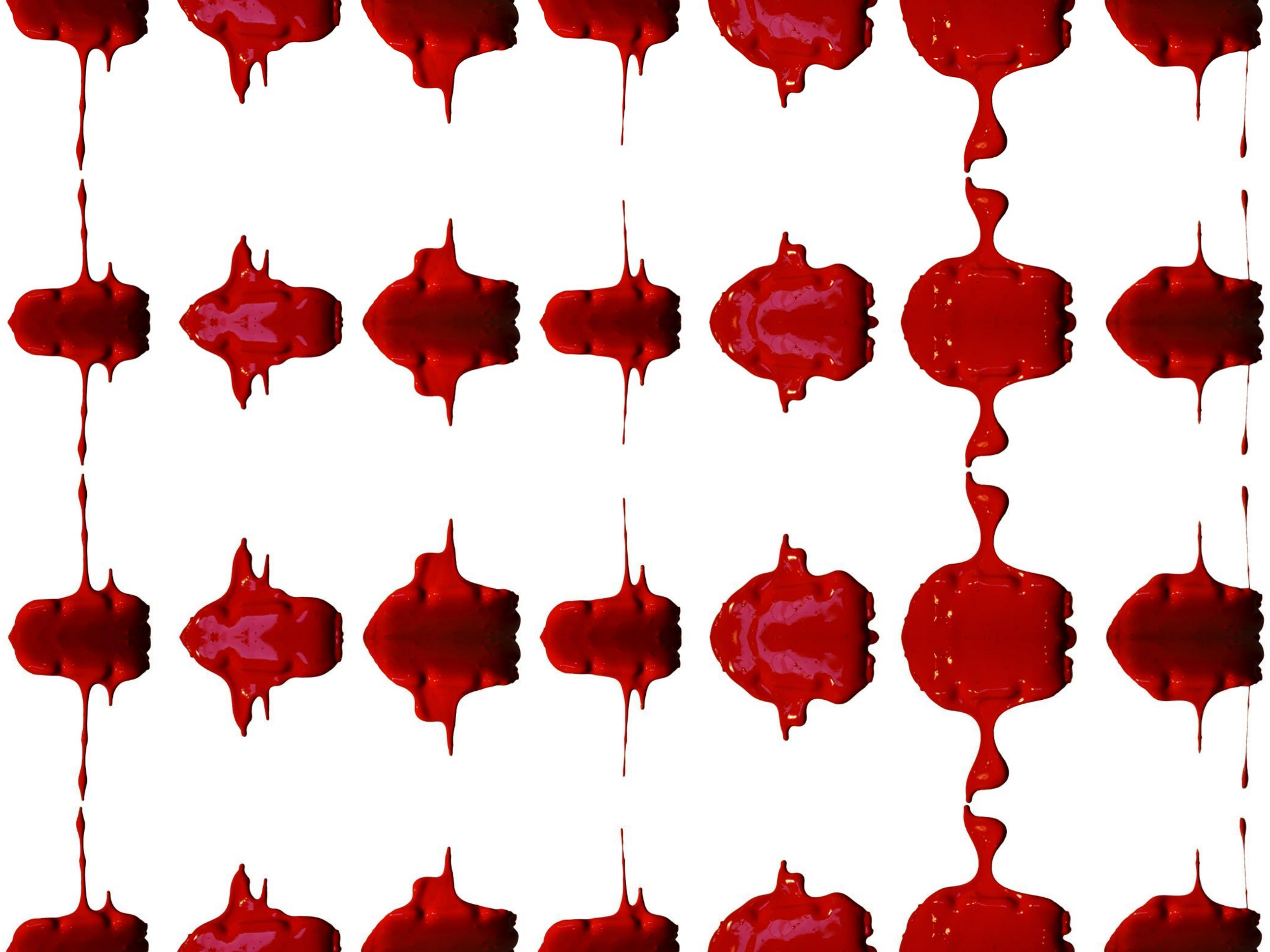
The images I created in this shoot are a massive improvement from the previous shoot. They are much more eye catching, especially the ones where I turned them upside down, mirroring one another. My final pictures I did really like. The mirroring effect worked perfectly and I love the fact that the drop of paint are different size and shapes, all coming together very nicely. As I have mentioned in the previous slide I then made these images into a grid of four, then multiplying the grid of four nine times, making my grid of nine. I created these grids for a different purpose. My project is now taking a scientific turn, combining science and photography. The grids look similar to sound waves, there different shapes and how they are all lined up next to one another. I did not use the green paint for the grids, the reason being because I thought it did not have the same striking effect, as the red did.





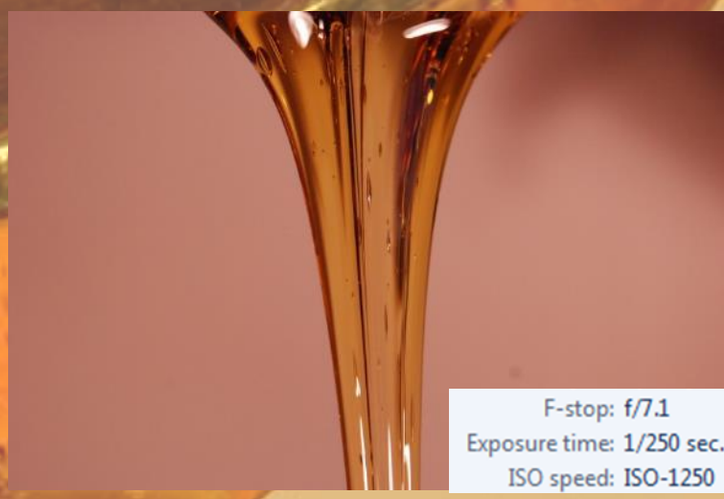
F-stop: f/6.3
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-800

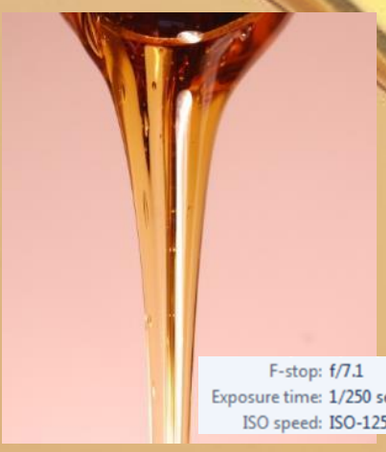


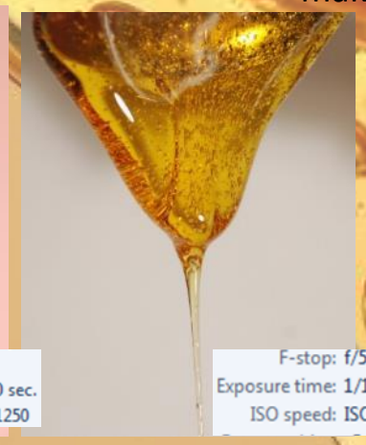


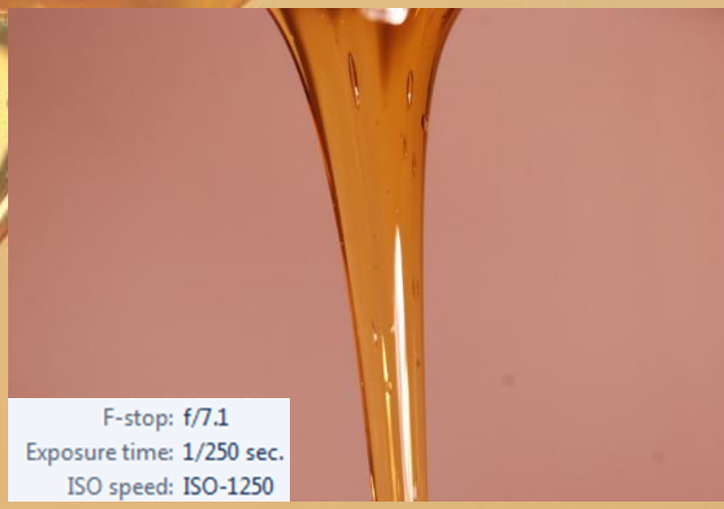
Golden syrup shoot, contact shoot

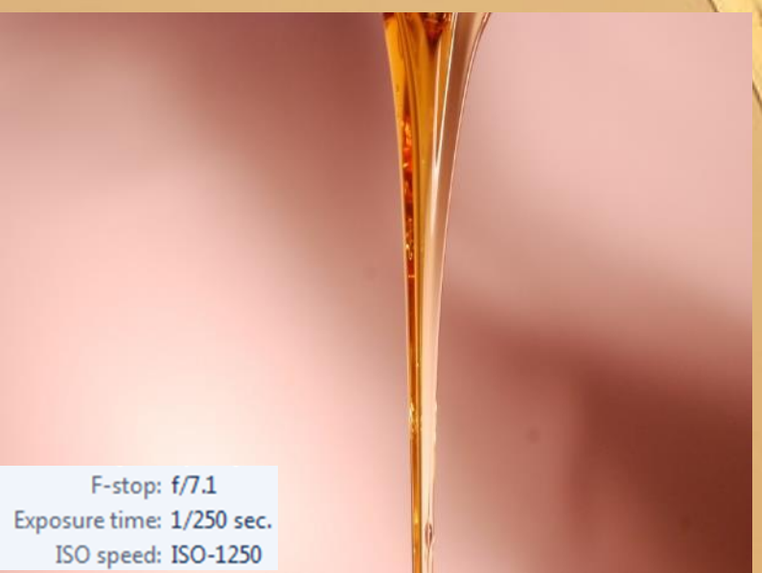
These are just a few images of which I captured whilst doing this shoot. As you can see the lighting in some of these is very different, as I had to play around to see what would give the best effect, making the golden syrup stand out and create good texture.

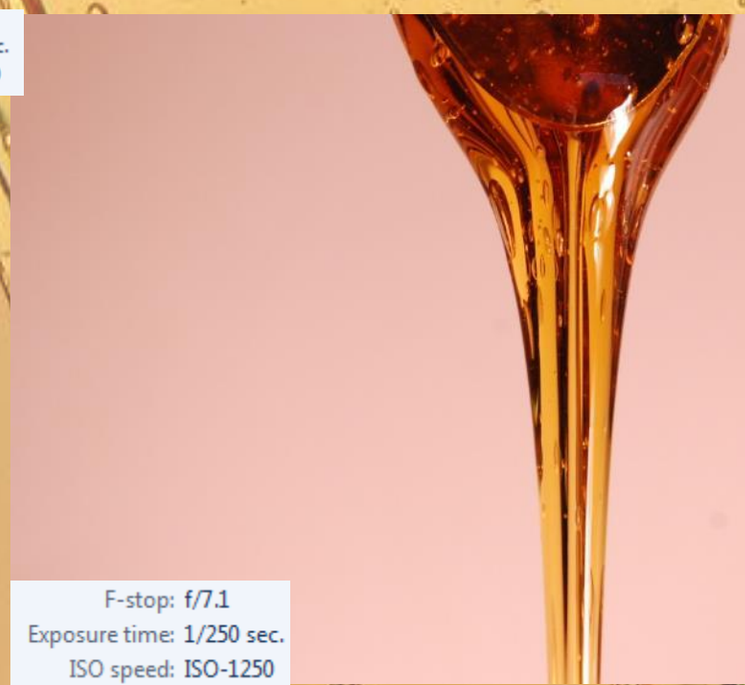










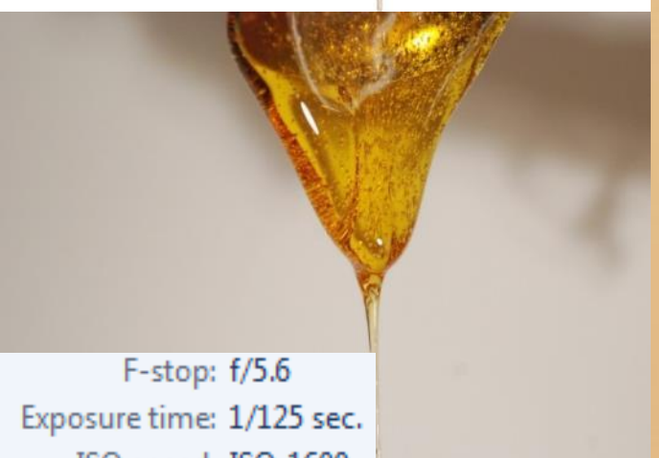


Golden syrup shoot

This shoot is a good lead on from the previous shoot. I have done this shoot in a very similar way, by dropping a certain liquid from a height and then capturing it as it dropped. I decided to use golden syrup, moving it on from the previous shoot as I thought I could capture some interesting photographs, golden syrup having an different kind of texture.

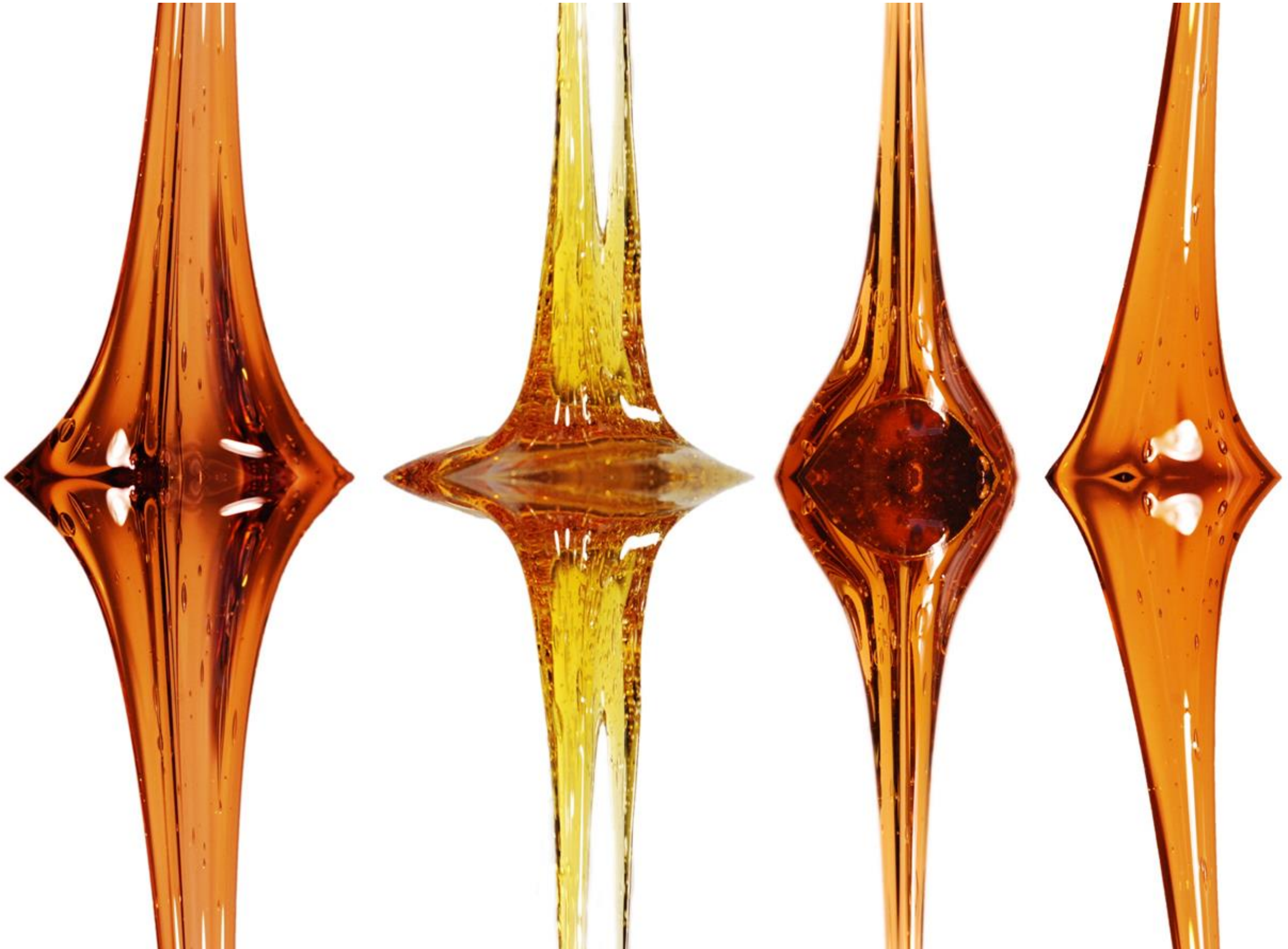
F-stop: f/7.1
Exposure time: 1/250 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-1250

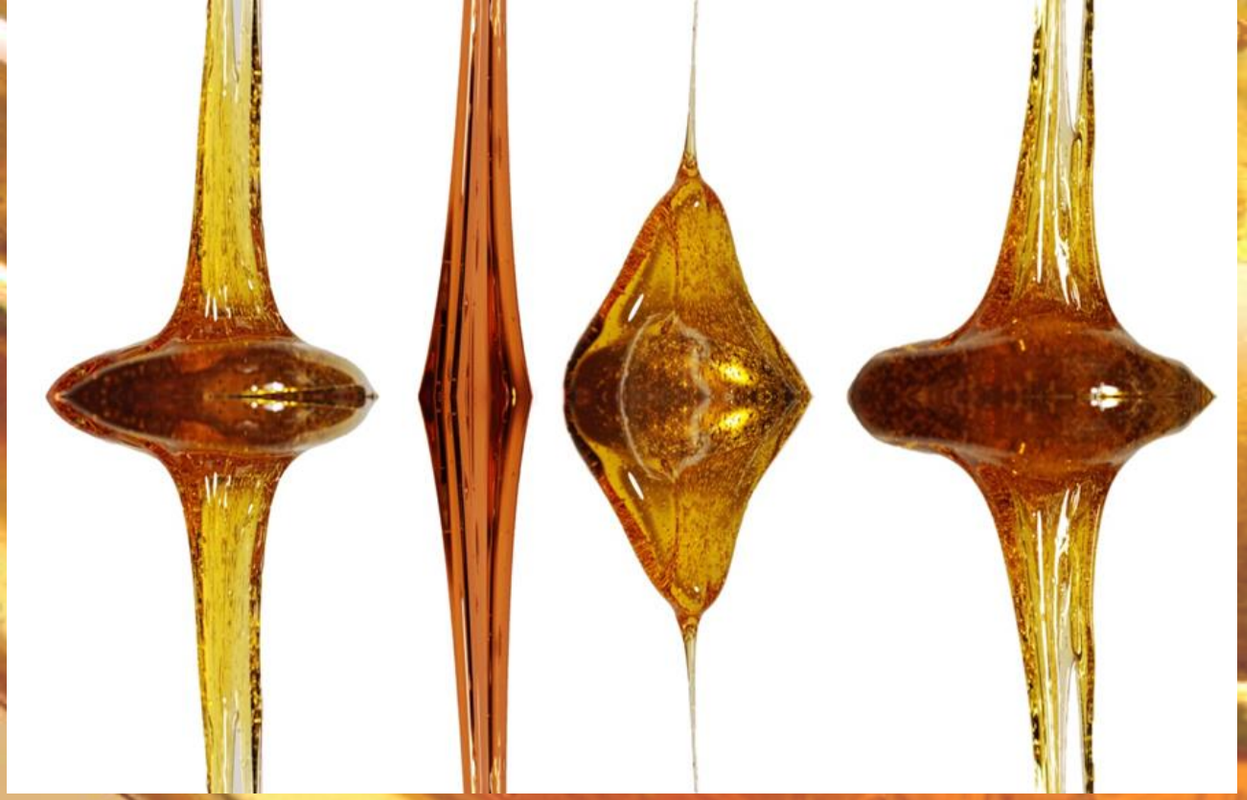
I set up the small studio, having a white background and using studio lighting. My camera settings had a short exposure time, making sure the shutter speed was fast, not catching any blur of the moment of the syrup falling. I aperture was also low. The studio lighting enabled me to have consistent lighting, meaning my camera settings could stay mostly the same throughout the shoot. These lights also help light up the syrup making it have a nice glow to it. By having the background white it meant that the focus would stay on the golden syrup and it would stand out. I did a few test shots to see how the images were coming out. As I did more pictures, the dropping of the golden syrup back into the jar meant that more air bubbles were created, this produced a very nice texture and came out well in the pictures. As the shoot progressed and I came to editing these images, I made the background completely white by using the quick selection tool to select the syrup. I then played around with the smoothness and the feather on the refine edges. I select-inversed the image, making the background selected and the I played around with levels, making the background white. As all of the images that I captured were so different I thought of the idea, like the paint shoot, of putting four different looking drops next to one another. This worked very well as it was interesting to see the different kinds of textures and colours that I had created using the golden syrup. I also then decided to flip the same images upside down and flip it horizontally, creating the images on the bottom right hand corner. I then created another one of these which is shown on the next slide.



F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/125 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-1600

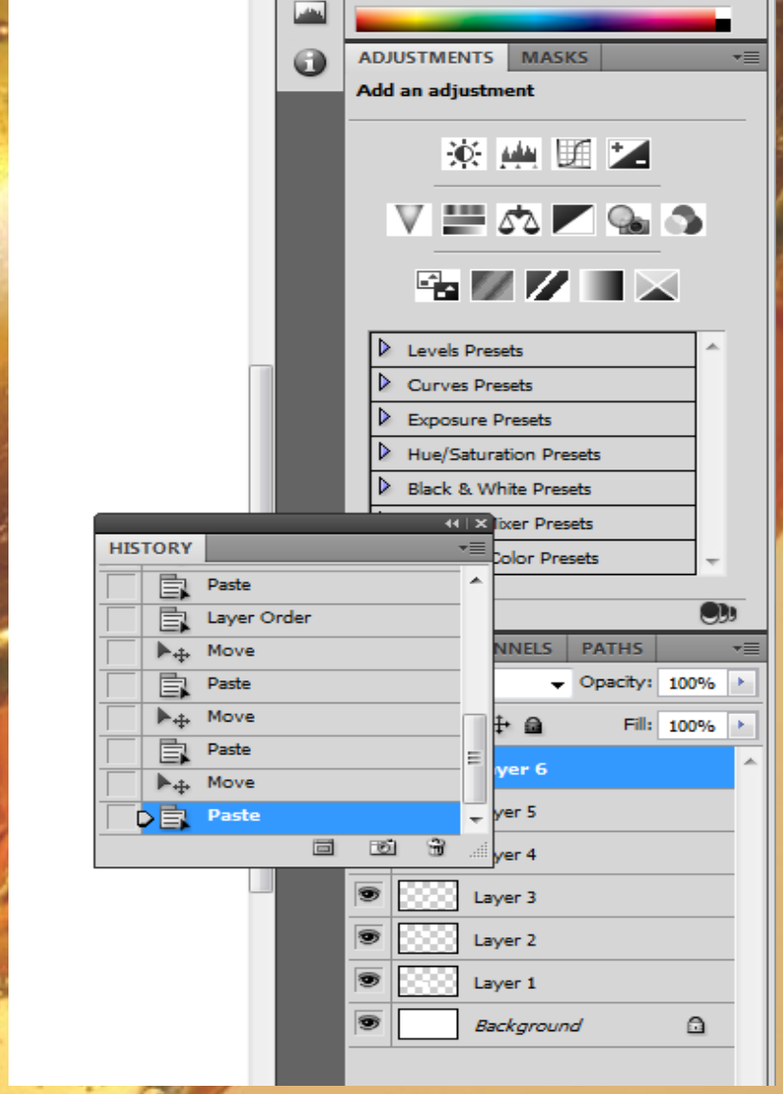
This image is one of my favorites and unlike the paint pictures I prefer it like this, not in a grid of 9. I feel as though if this image were to be printed very big, this is where they would look best. The contrast in the golden colour works very well, also the texture of the golden syrup works very well, compared to the paint which looks almost flat compared to these images.

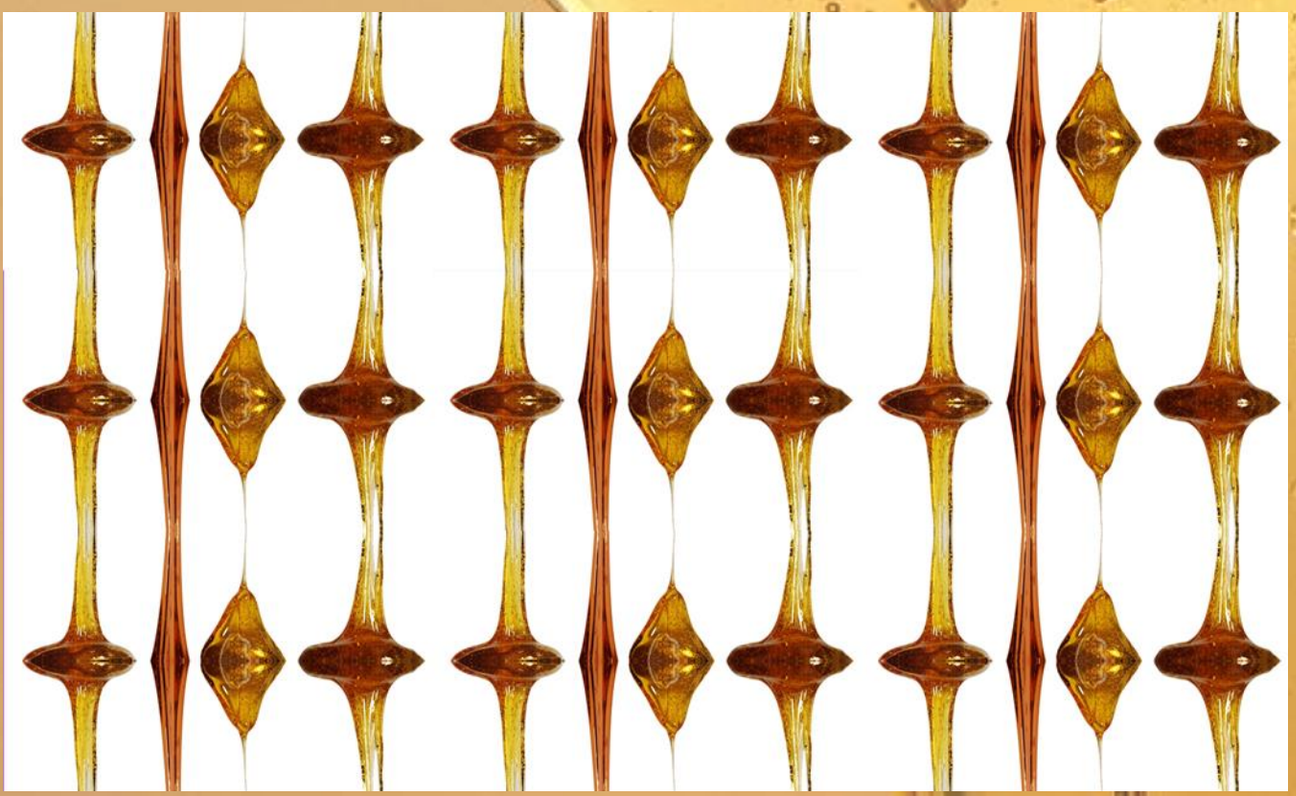


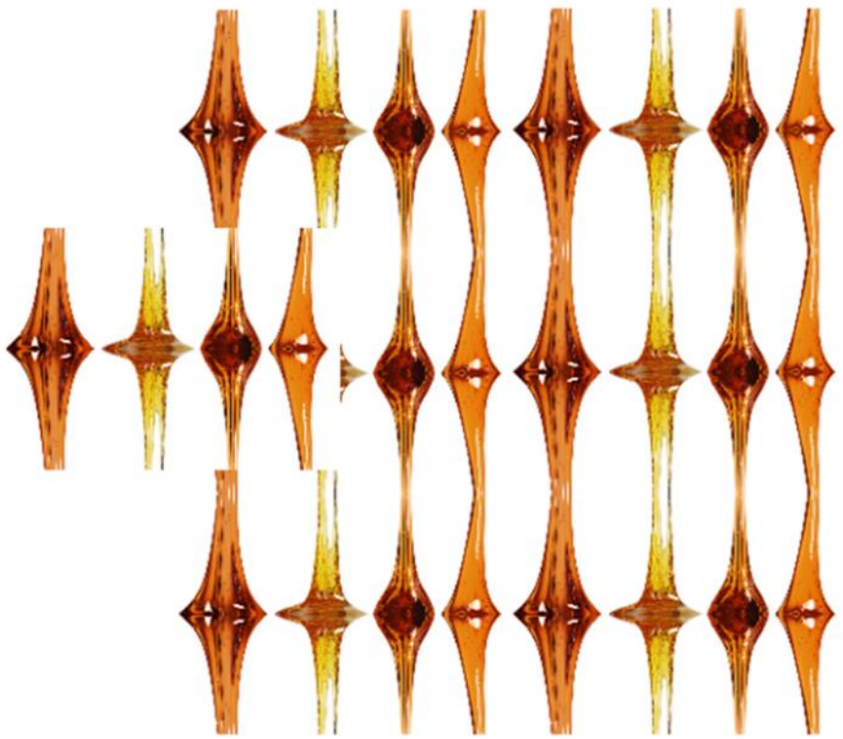


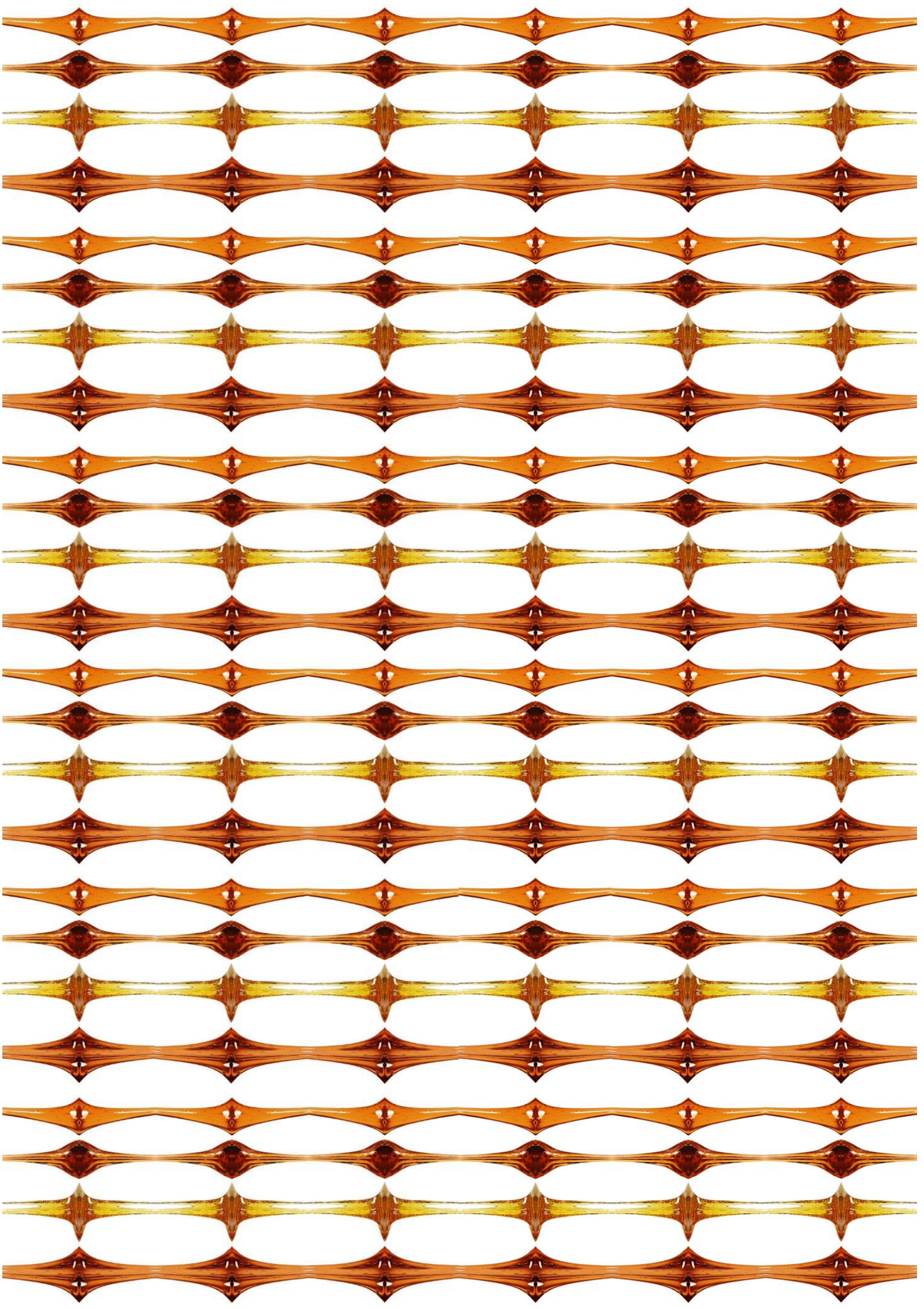
Why and how I created grid of 9

To create the image at the bottom of this slide I used photo shop. I got the original image which is on the left hand side and I cropped it, but instead of cropping it down I cropped extra space around it. This enabled me to be able to copy the images 8 more times and to be able to fit them next to each other, making the same pattern. I loved this effect it now has and like the image on the previous slide I think it would look very good blown up big on a wall, it could almost be wall paper. Below are some screenshots of how I created the grid.









Corrie white has a passion for water drop photography. These ink images on this slide including image ‘A’ which is a water droplet, are all unique and are unedited. Corrie White started taking these pictures by luck of timing. However she now uses the MJKZZ Water Drop Kit. Her images are all very defined and are all perfectly in focus. She uses certain lighting in order for her images to be more interesting and more abstract.

Corrie White

Next photo shoot plan:

For my first shoot I am going to try some of the ink shots. I am going to fill a glass vase with water, making sure I have a white or black background. Similar to Corrie Whites images above I am going to capture ink falling, however I am going to use extension tubes so that I can capture small sections of the ink, in very fine detail. This will challenge my skills of getting the focus right as the ink will always be moving and changing, therefore so will the focus. I will play around with the colours of the ink, mixing them together differentiating the effects.

Black background makes the picture more simple. The black also doesn't remove the attention from the main section of the image. It also gives good contrast with the pastel purple, pink, green and blue.

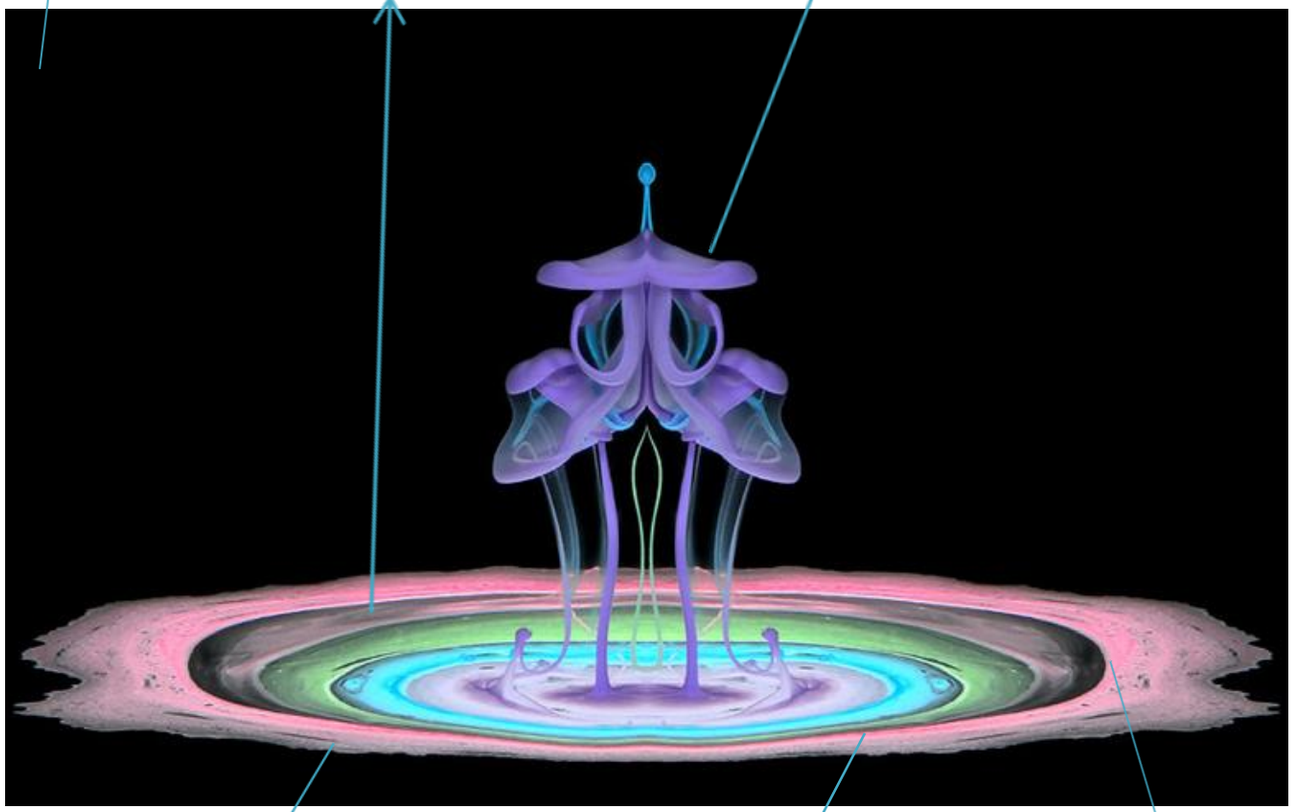
This image looks to the eye to be incredibly symmetrical. This gives the image more excitement and makes it look very neat.

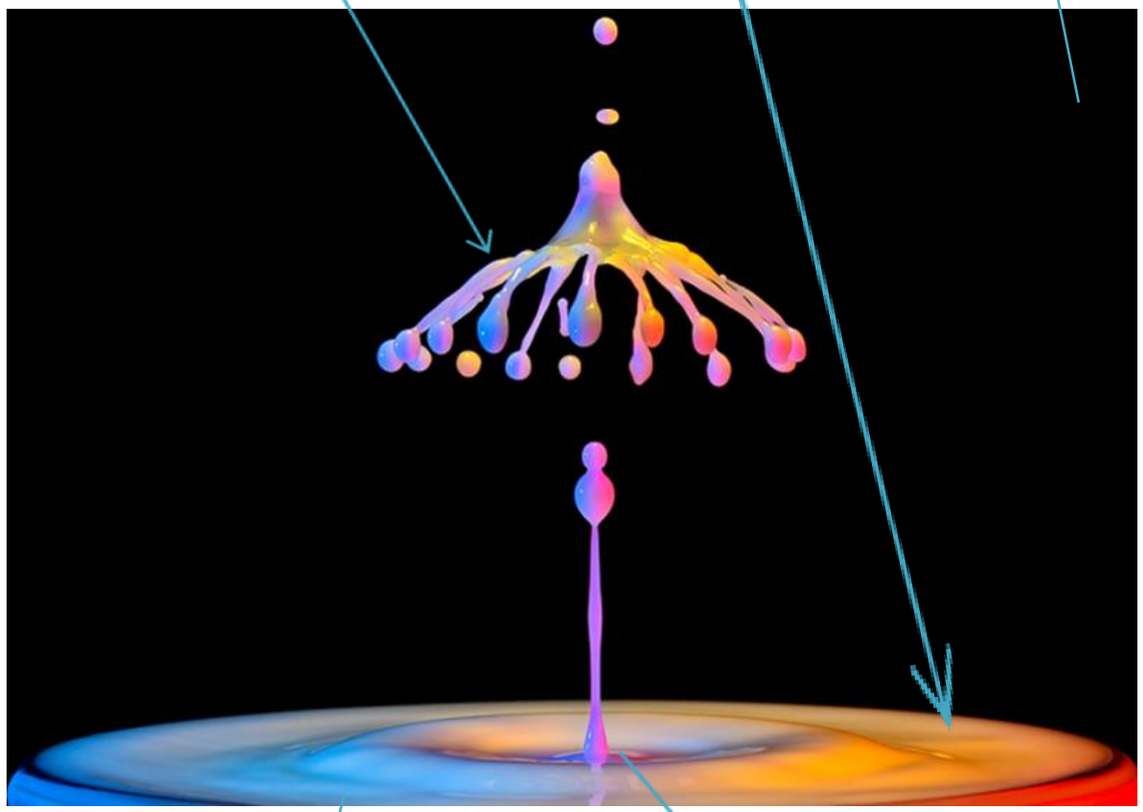
The small ripples which were created when the water was dropped, produces a lovely effect with the light reflecting off it perfectly.

The black background also making the water droplet stand out massively and our full attention is on the drop.

The rim of different colours is very eye-catching and draws you attention to the middle of the image.

The 'crown' produced by this water drop is sensational and is perfectly in focus, with it looking like its different colours. All of these colours fit perfectly with one another.





Picture looks to be turned upside down. This give the effect that the ink is actually moving upwards, which it shouldn't naturally be doing giving the image more edge and individuality.

Pastel colours go well together and do not over power one another, however they are bright enough to stand out perfectly with the dark black background.

The sheer detail in this image make he ink look almost like flowing fabric.

The colour of the water which Corrie White does explain to be lights reflecting on the water, is very striking and the image would not have the same impact if the water was just its normal colour.

The detail in the water drop is amazing and without seeing these kind of images, its hard to believe that that is what water looks like when it is dropped.

These image have inspired me to do similar shoots. I feel as though these images are perfect for my project as they display movement in a frozen way. My photo-shoot to come is inspired by Corrie White and the left hand image. I will do a similar shoot with ink however I will focus more on shooting the ink close up, seeing how much detail I can incorporate.

Evaluation of shoot

The image on the right is a photo I took inspired by Corrie White. This image is from my first shoot of these pictures. When I did this photo and photos similar I used a rectangular glass vase and filled it with water. I then made sure I used a white piece of card so that the background is white. This enabled the ink to be much more prominent and was able to stand out. I used extension tubes on my camera, along with manual focus as I was then able to focus on the areas of which I needed. I got someone to drop the ink in but I made sure that they didn't put a lot in as I wanted to try and capture the ink as it was thinner. When I first started taking these pictures I only used one colour, changing the water after every time. However as I used two colours some of the images came out much better and were more interesting. The image on the right I had previously used yellow, I then used red as well so this is how I got the yellow ink fading away in the background. To finalise these images I used photo shop to enhance the contrast and the red ink using curves, this made the red ink the main focus of the picture. When doing this shoot again I am going to use a mini studio with white background either side of it and behind it. I will also try and use more natural lighting as I lighting I had with these images was very strong and very yellow, meaning in some of the images I got there was a yellow shadow.

This image below was a tester image and as you can see this was when I was trying out my settings on my camera as the background is not white which I wanted it to be. I had to use a fast shutter speed as I didn't want any camera shake. This then meant I had to open up my aperture to let in more light or my images would have been really dark, I put it to 7.1 which was not enough as you can see due to the background being dark. I moved my F-stop to 5.6 this allowed more light to be captured so the background was white, as you will be able to see in the next few slides.

F-stop: f/7.1
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-1600

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
Exposure bias: 0 step

My Images

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-3200

F-stop: f/7.1
Exposure time: 1/20 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-1600

This is one of my favourite images that I took. I like it as the background is white, having no distractions. The colour is bright and vibrant and stand out. It is in focus and you can see the individual parts of the ink. I also like this image as there are very small detailed parts of ink falling from the big cloud. This picture can also be turned around so the ink looks like its falling from any direction. The original photograph is the top picture, the bottom and left hand side I have just turned around so the ink looks like it is falling from another direction. I like this the idea of layering different ink images on top of each other, or next to each other. I feel this will give my pictures more edge and will make them more eye-catching. I could layer different coloured ink pictures onto one another, this could create much more interesting results and could create fascinating patterns and shapes, which could form great final images.

When first looking at this image its hard to see how I did it and what I did it with. The water cannot be seen so it looks like something is just floating. This makes the image more interesting and unusual. I could have mixed in another colour like green for example as this would have contrasted well with one another, however I do like how I just used the colour red as it is much more simple

Dropping only a few drops of ink into the clear water at one time, means the ink comes out like this, much thinner and more delicate and defined.

The brightness of the red, against the clear water and white background makes the ink stand out and the colour has great contrast.

Trying to get these images in focus was very challenging as the ink was always moving, and using autofocus was not an option as it would focus on the wrong parts at the wrong time. This image's focus is perfect, as the main body of the ink is in focus and then the less important stands of the ink on the outside are out of focus and are slightly blurry which adds to the effect.

F-stop: f/5.6
Exposure time: 1/60 sec.
ISO speed: ISO-3200