

legography

by Luigi Priori
Shelly Corbett
Julien Ballester



legography / *lɛgəʊgrəfi* / **NOUN**

A form of photography that includes minifigures in various settings and situations in a full-size human environment or not.

We just consider it as a way of having fun with a camera and some minifigures



**Stop keeping your minifigures
in plastic bags...**



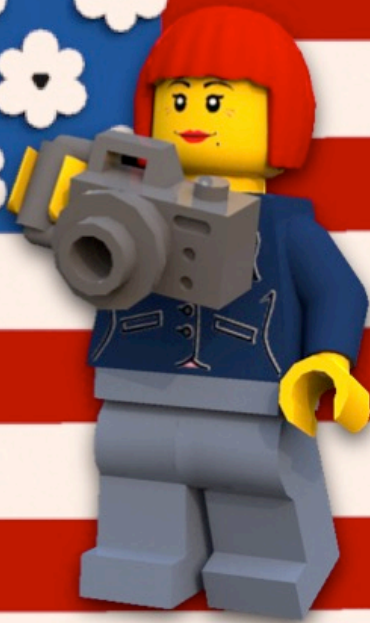
... and let them have fun!



It's FUN
It's CONTAGIOUS
It's THERAPEUTIC

Why don't you give it a try?

Shelly Corbett



**My name is Shelly
and I am a toy photographer**



Not only a legographer...



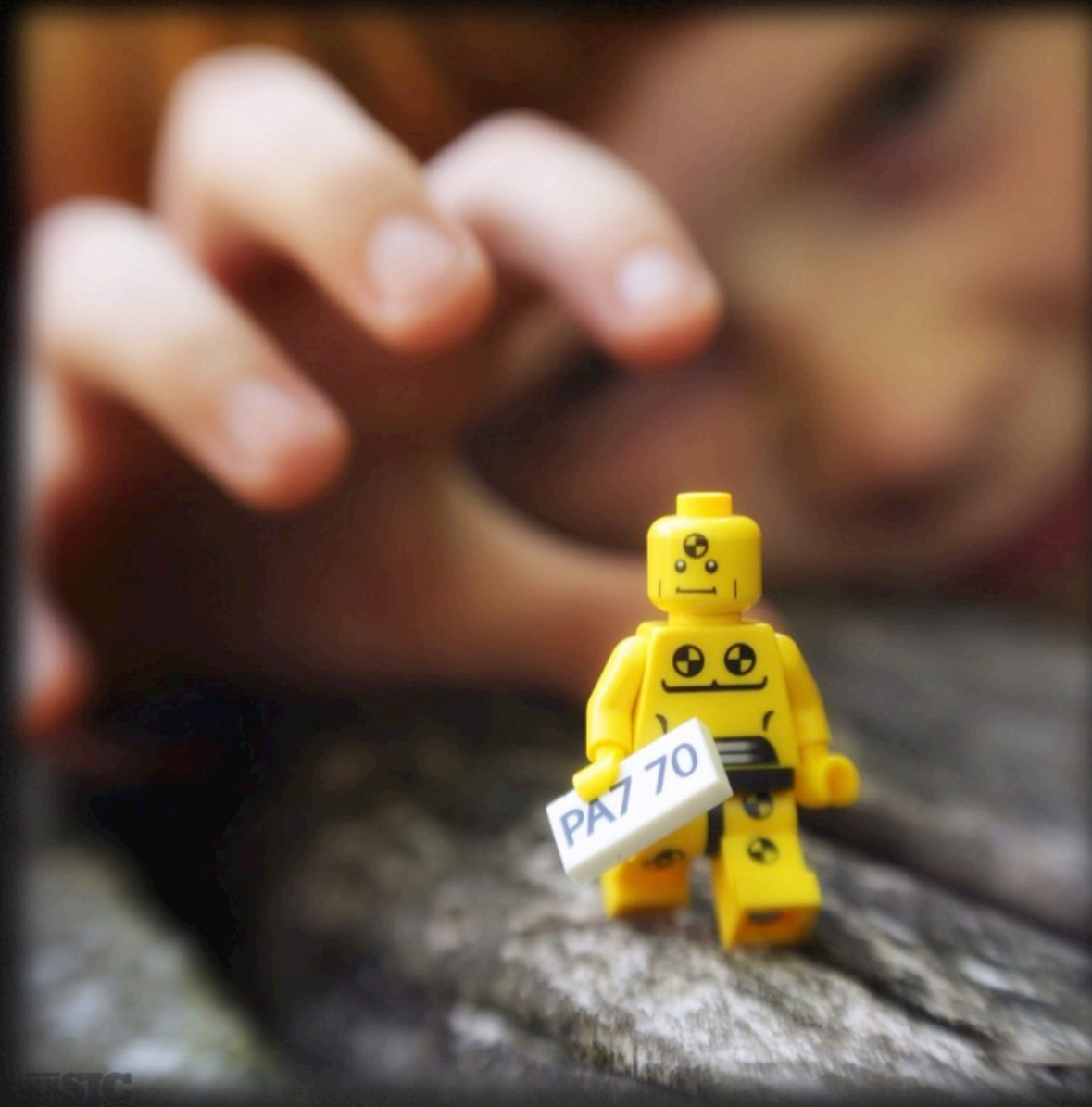
I used to take photos like this



**And I am kind of proud how
awful my first photo is**



**This is a recent recreation
of that image**



During the six years between these two photos

- ✓ I founded Brickcentral (an Instagram feature)
- ✓ I co-founded Stuck in Plastic
- ✓ I curated two shows for the Bryan Ohno
Gallery in Seattle
- ✓ I co-founded the TOY PHOTOGRAPHERS blog



Builds I created for past projects





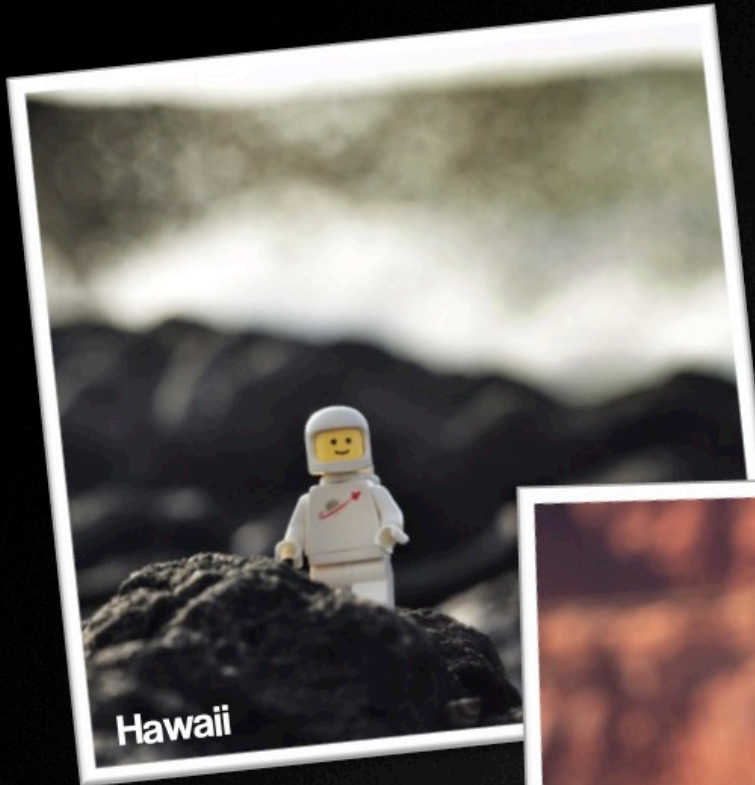
**You can create elaborate set ups indoors
or take your photos outdoors like I do**



Being a toy photographer is also a great way to meet people



I enjoy taking my toys in vacation with me





I love to tell story that are both short...



... and long



TIPS & TOOLS

TIPS:

Practice - Get low - Have fun

TOOLS:

**Extra light - Bounce card - Extra lenses
or filters - Knee protection - tack, wire,
small hand tools**

Extra light



Bounce card



Extra lenses or filters



To start in toy photography

A great suggestion could be set 5004932



**It has everything you need to
begin your legography adventures**



Luigi Priori



I love to photograph and I love to hike



I changed the subject of my photos



One of my first photos



Creating stories

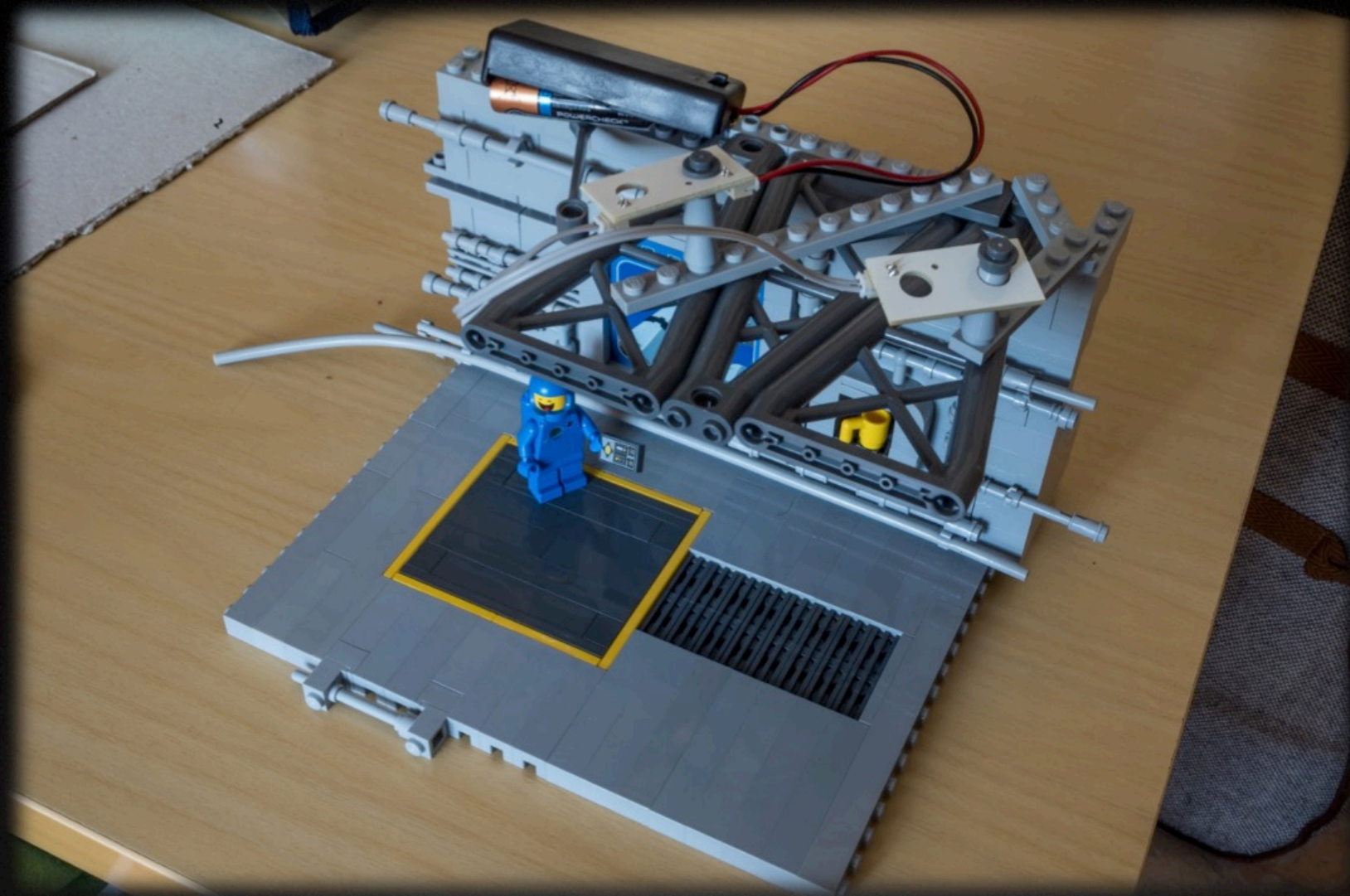
It all started from this brick



This is the first photo of Benny I took...



(this is how I took it)



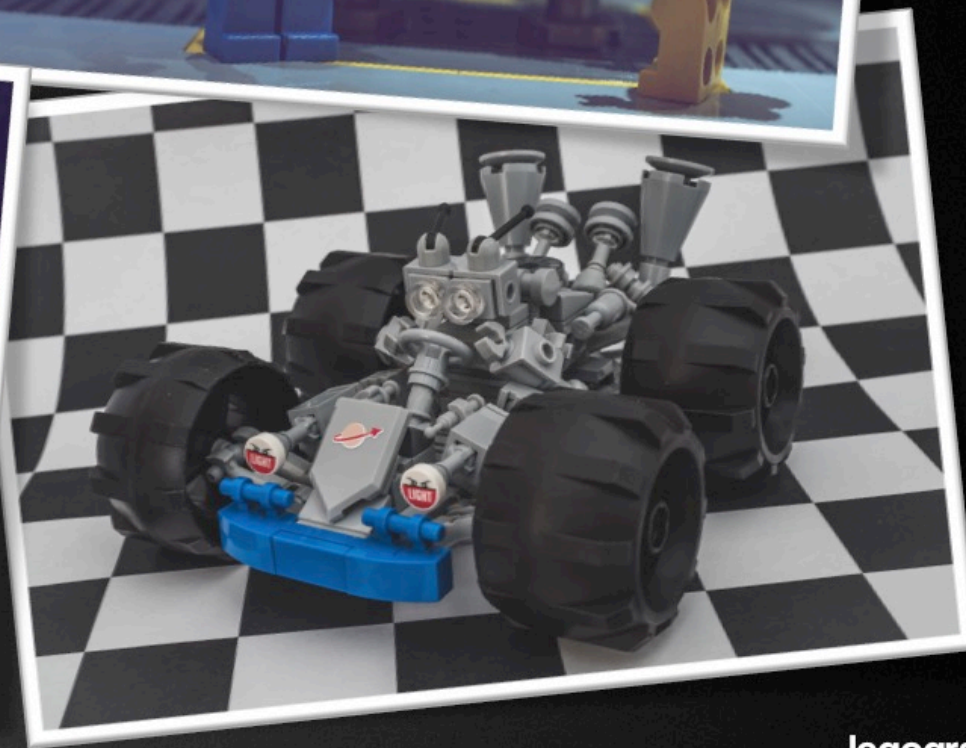
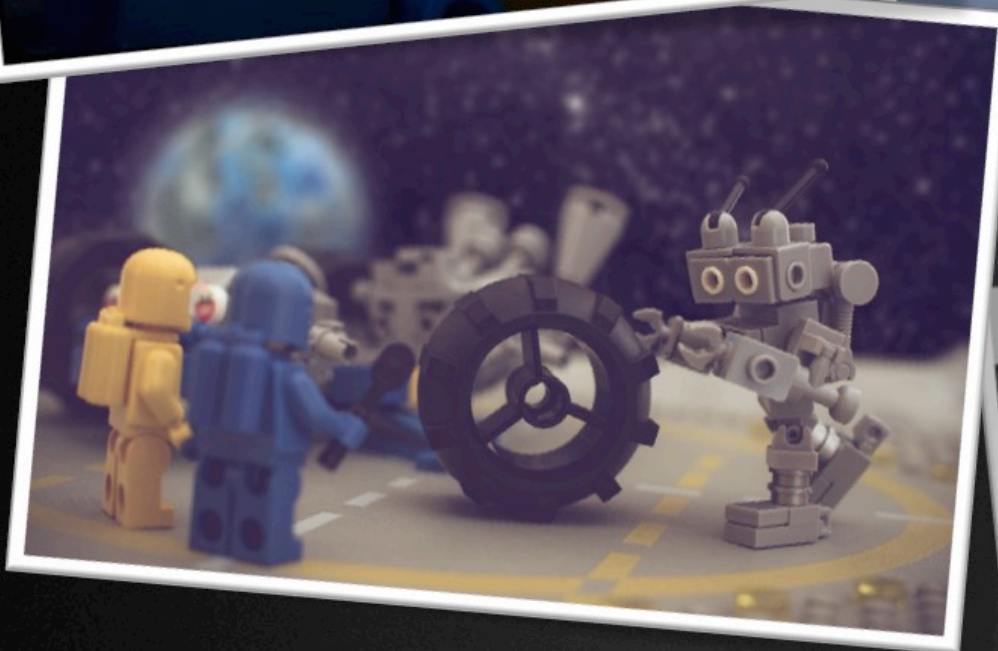
My "studio"



... and this is one of the latest photos



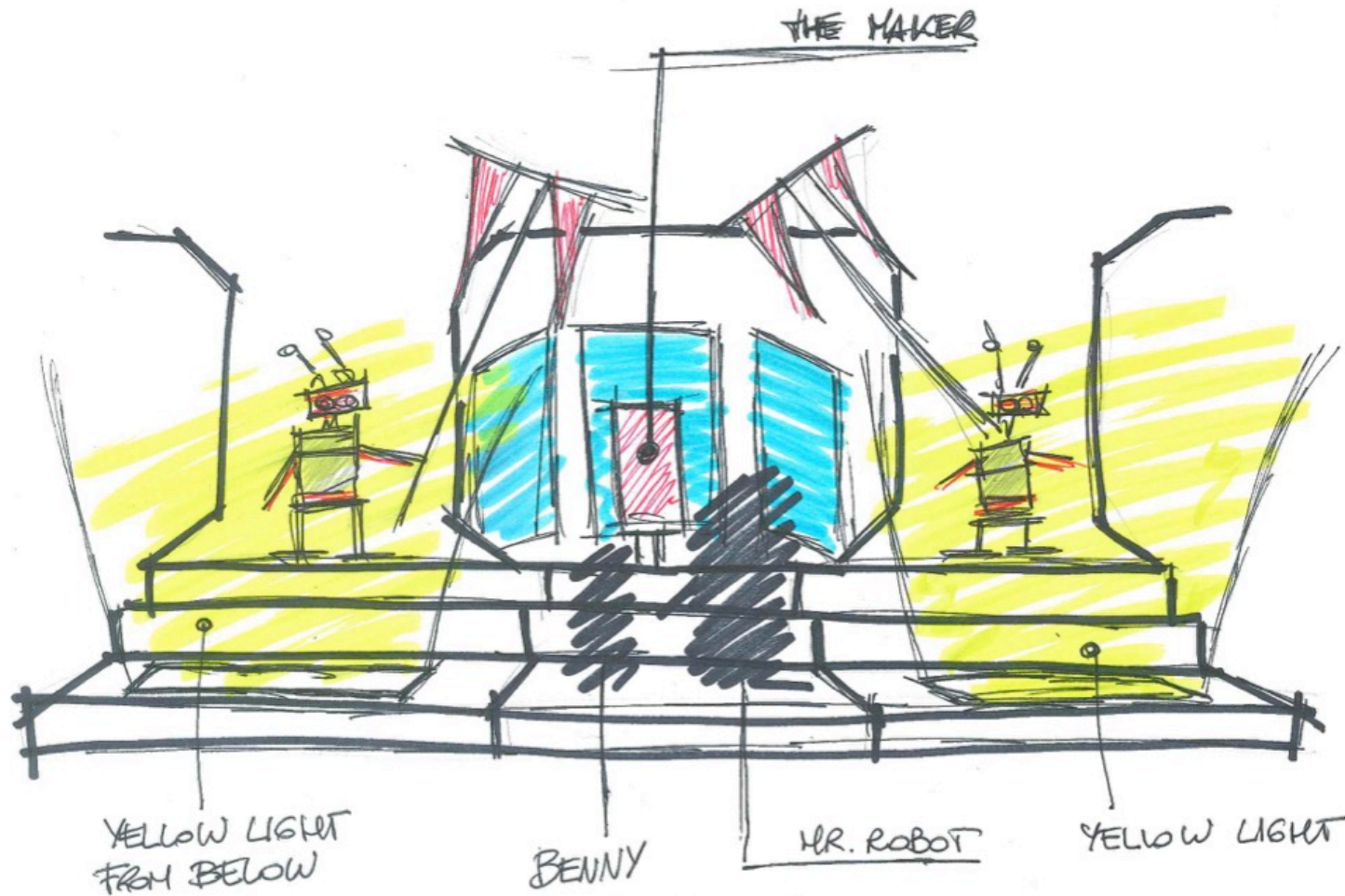
Photographing a building process



“Meeting the Maker”

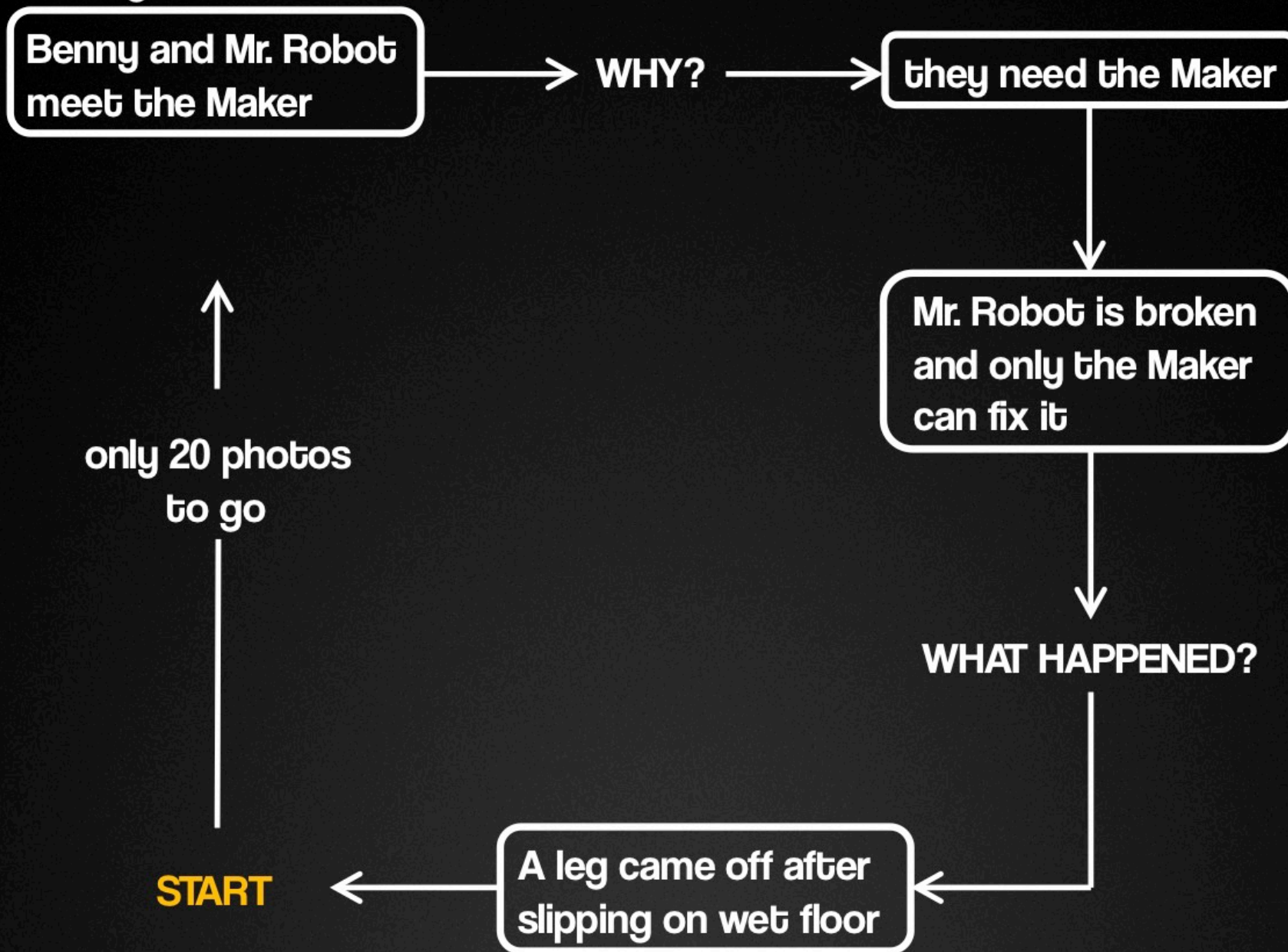


the original sketch of "meeting the Maker"

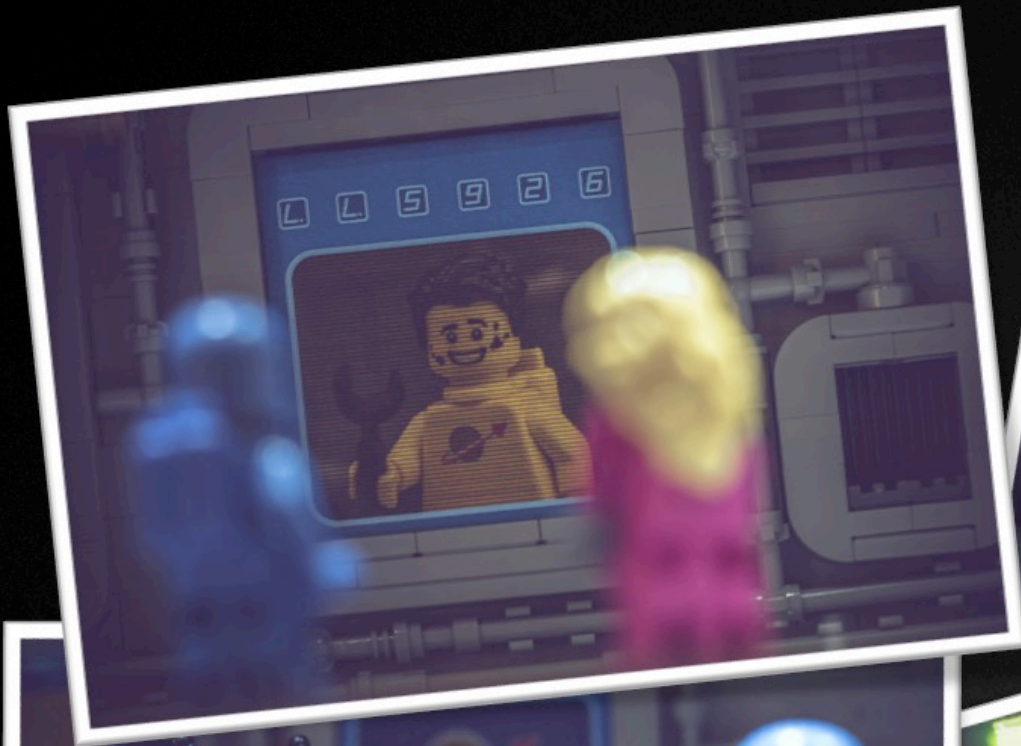


Creating stories

Starting from **THE END**



Creating stories



Creating characters

It all started from this photo



Why just one Bigfoot? Let's make a whole family! The McFoot family.

Meet the McFoots



My characters must have a name. It's like I establish a connection with them.

Morning gossip



Sometimes it could be fun to include human-size elements or even people in a photo



Sometimes it could be fun to include human-size elements or even people in a photo





Julien Ballester



Who is Ballou34?

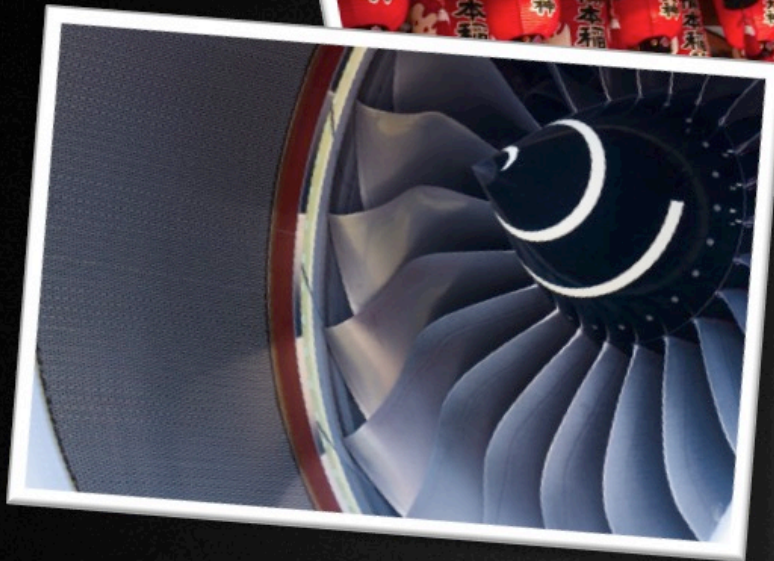


- Julien Ballester
- Paris (France)
- 29 years old
- Aeronautics engineer
- Travels the world for work
- Legographer since 2015
- Member at Stuck In Plastic since 2017

How did I became a « toy photographer »?

Before:

- Self-taught photographer of architecture, landscapes and aircraft (of course!)



How did I became a « toy photographer »?»?

Always:

- Toy collector (designer toys in vinyl or resin – and of course LEGO sets and minifigures)
- Enjoyed the work of other toy photographers

Then:

- I took my first real toy picture in 2014
- Never stopped since 2015



How did I became a « toy photographer »?

Started by taking pictures indoor in my small apartment



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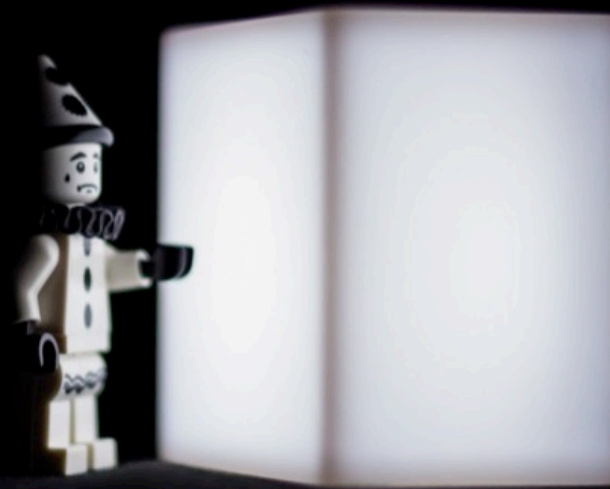


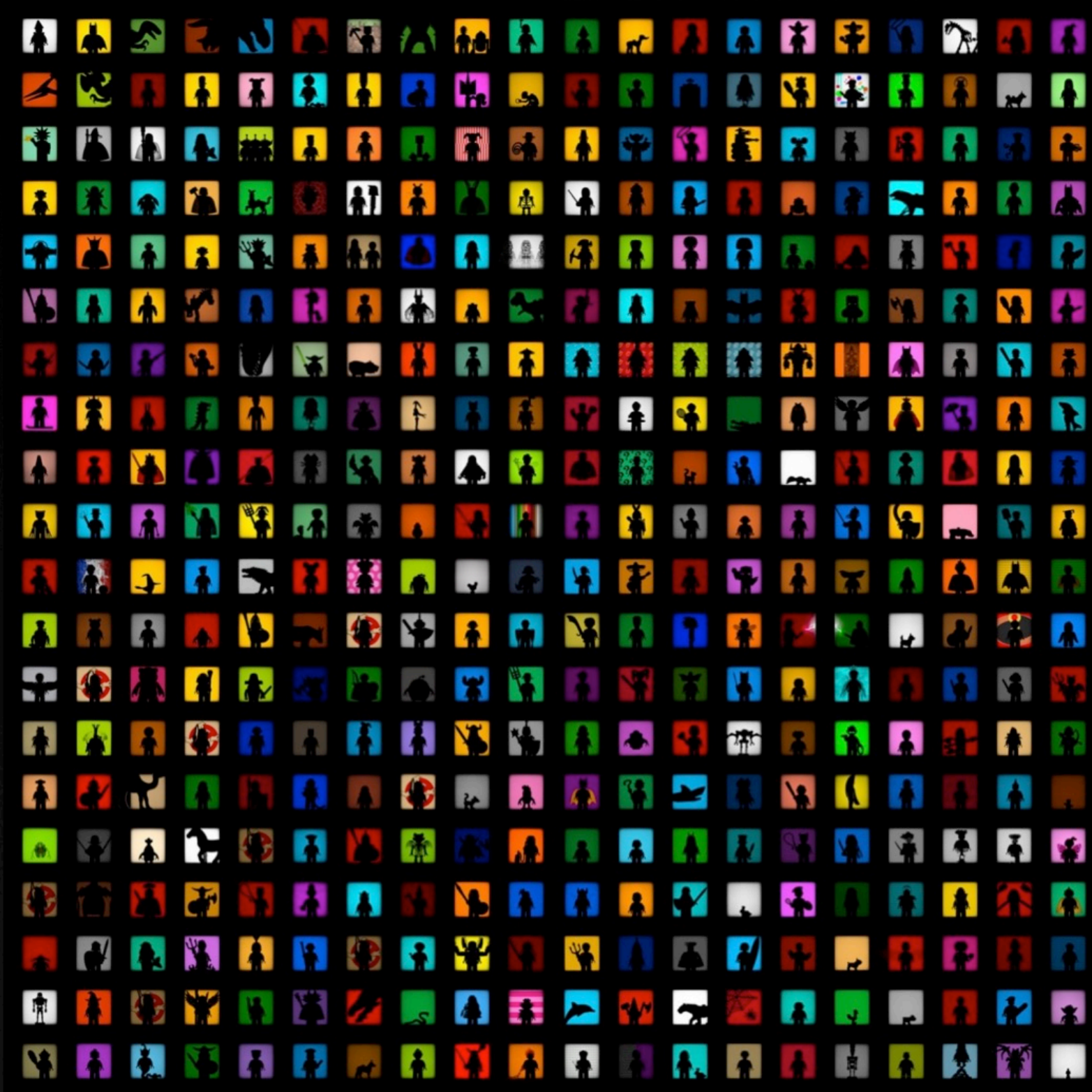


How did I became a « toy photographer »?

In 2015, playing with a cube lamp and a minifigure, I launched a photo series called #100_Shadows.

Initially thought as a 100 picture series of LEGO minifigure silhouettes, it is now composed of more than 400 pictures.





How did I became a « toy photographer »?

Then, I decided to go outside



How did I became a « toy photographer »?

Now, I always travel the world with my camera and a bag full of minifigures





San Francisco (USA)



Hamburg (Germany)



Osaka (Japan)



London (UK)

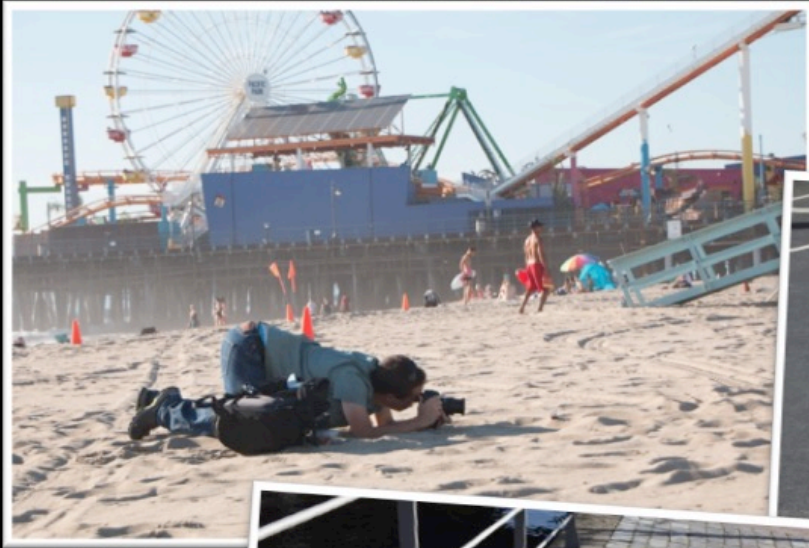


Paris (France)



Los Angeles (USA)

As a toy photographer, you spend a lot of time on the ground



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

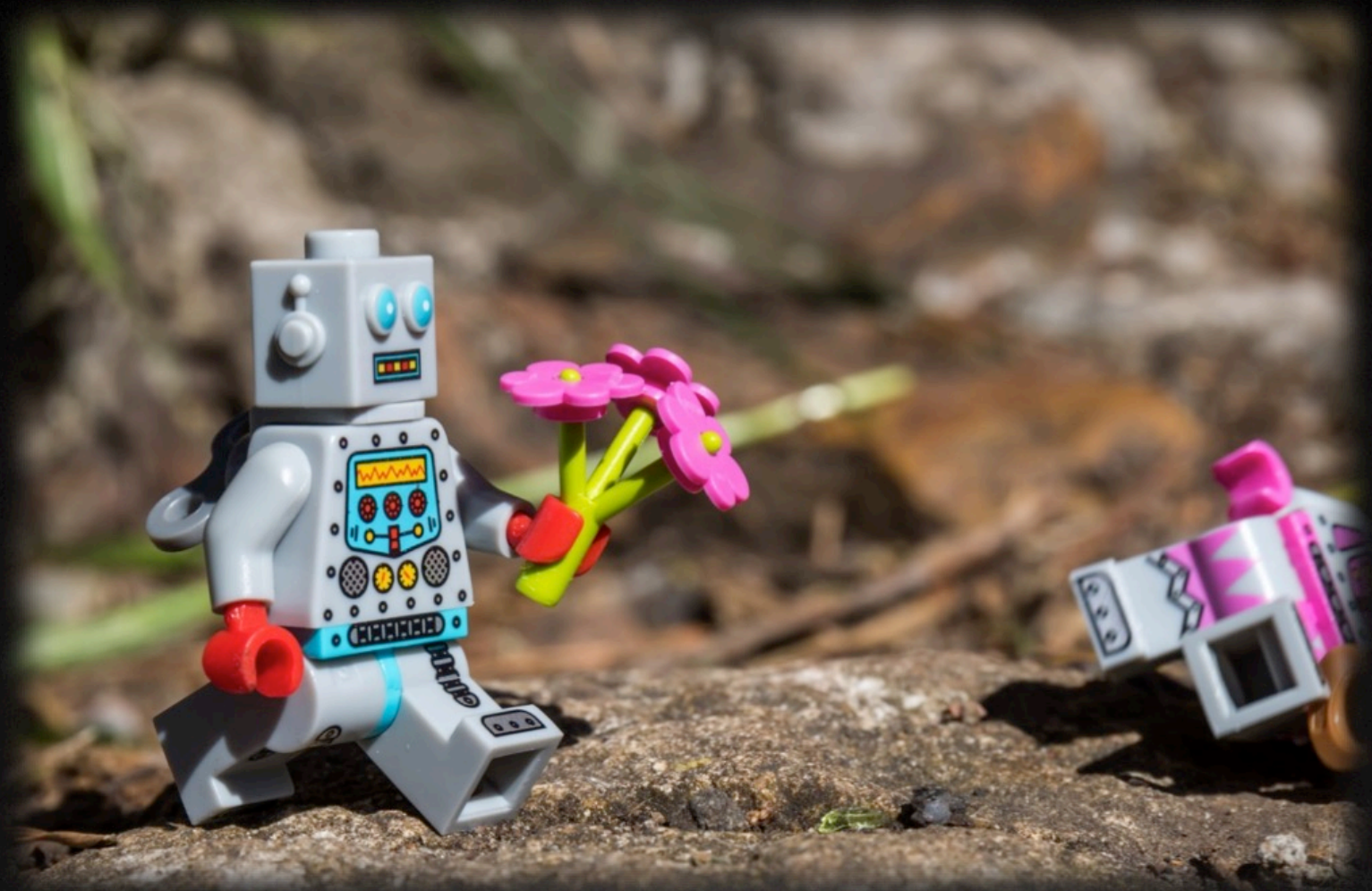
What is the worst enemy of a Toy Photographer?
(especially outdoor)



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »



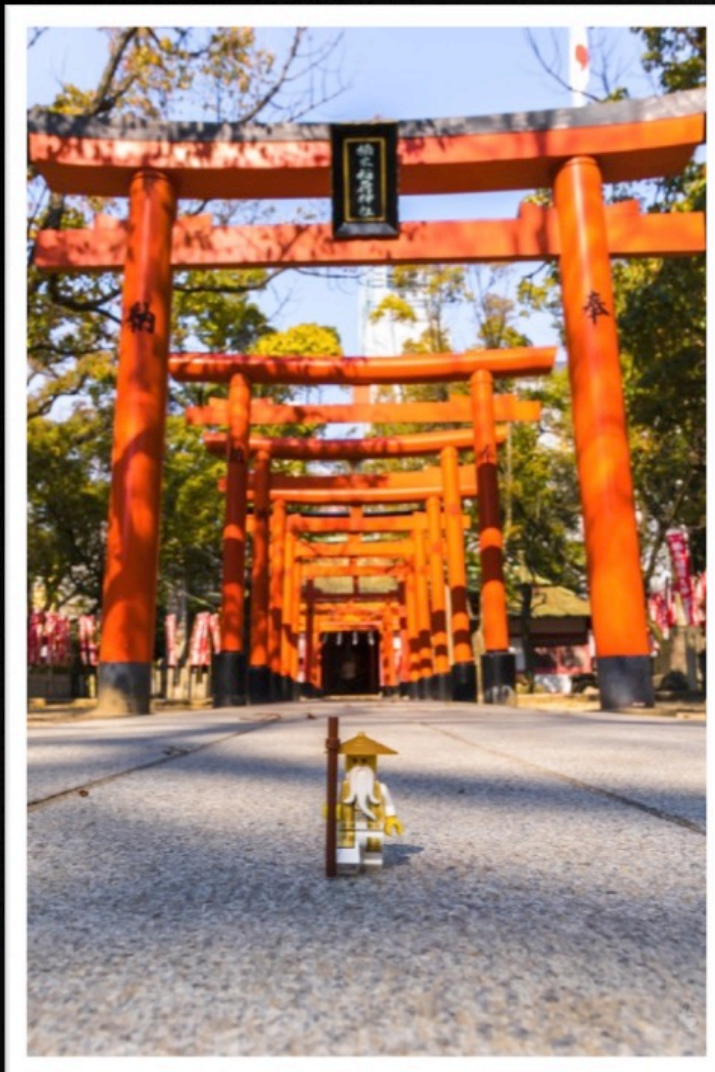
THE WIND



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Tools to maintain a character stable facing the elements:

- A third point of contact with the ground



← A cane

A broom →



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Tools to maintain a character stable facing the elements:

- Some adhesive putty (like Blu-Tack, Patafix or chewing-gum!!)



Good with smooth surfaces
like rocks or pavement.
Does not work with wet
surfaces, sand or soil.

Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Tools to maintain a character stable facing the elements:

- A lightsaber hilt under the minifigure foot (soft surfaces like moss, sand or soil)



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Tools to maintain a character stable facing the elements:

- A lightsaber hilt under the minifigure foot (soft surfaces like moss, sand or soil)



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Working with water:

- We all love the beauty, peacefulness, reflection of water pictures
- But LEGO boats can float...



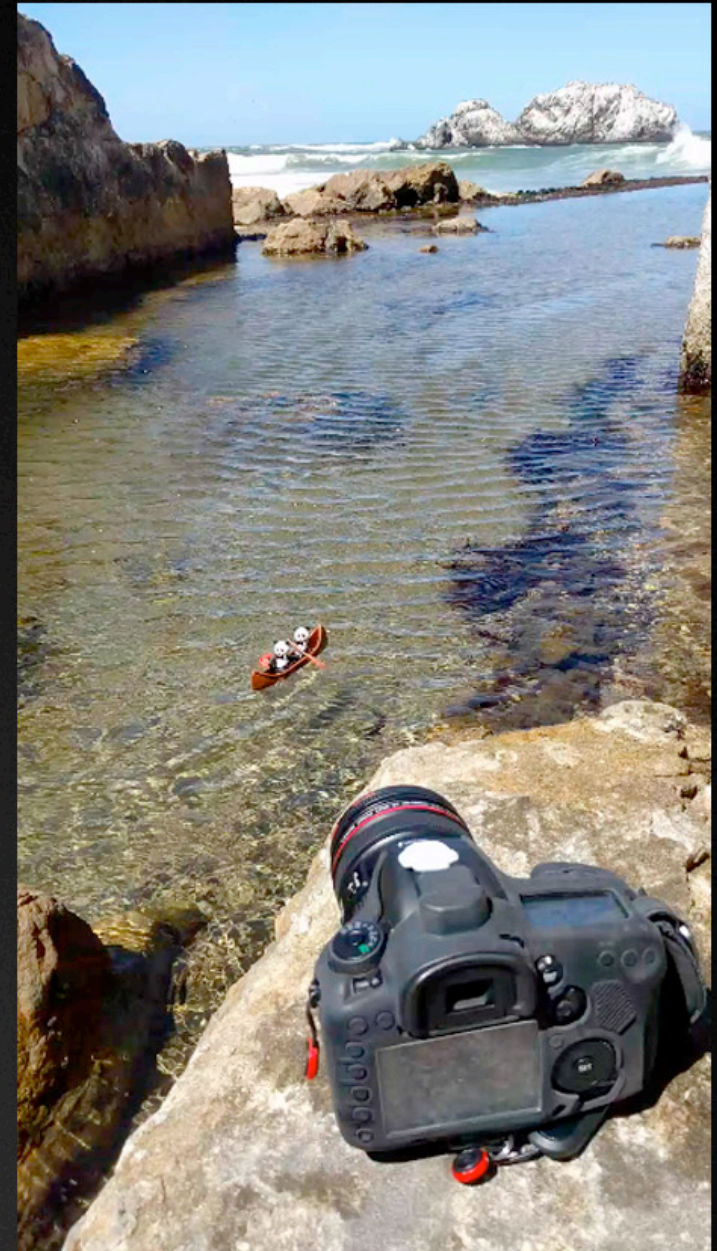
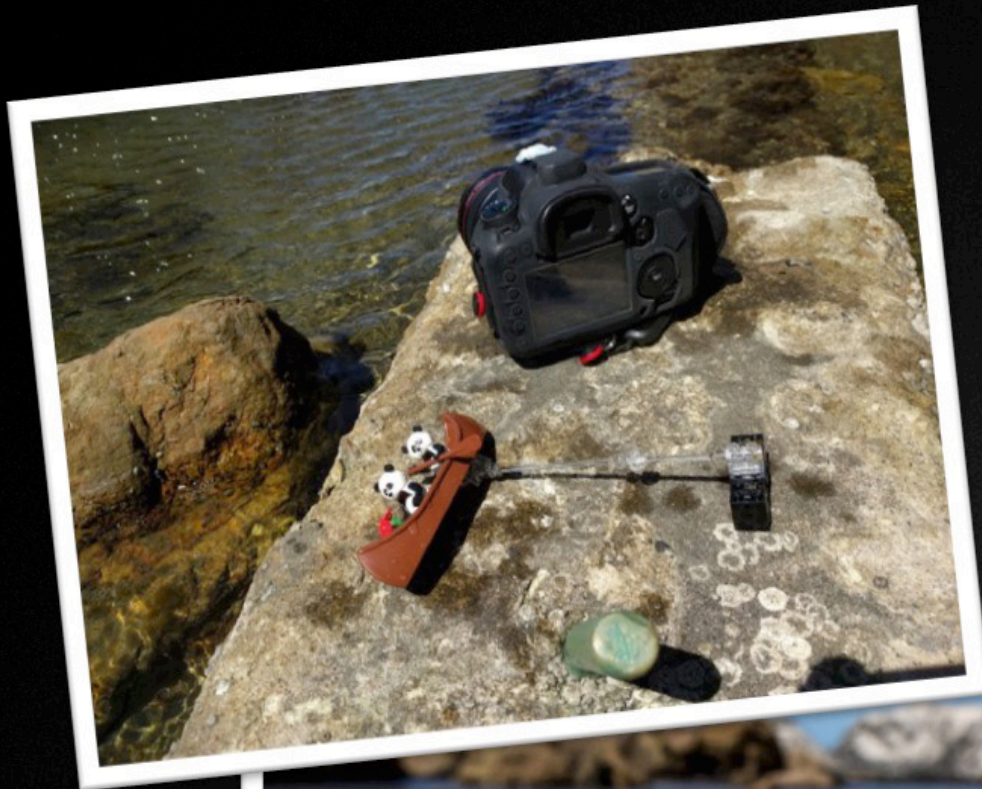
Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Working with water:

- To help with keeping the boat still, you can use a **weighted brick** (*Bricklink item 73090b*) and **underwater structure**



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Making things fly:

- Use wires, chopsticks. . . (need to photoshop them out)



Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Making things fly:

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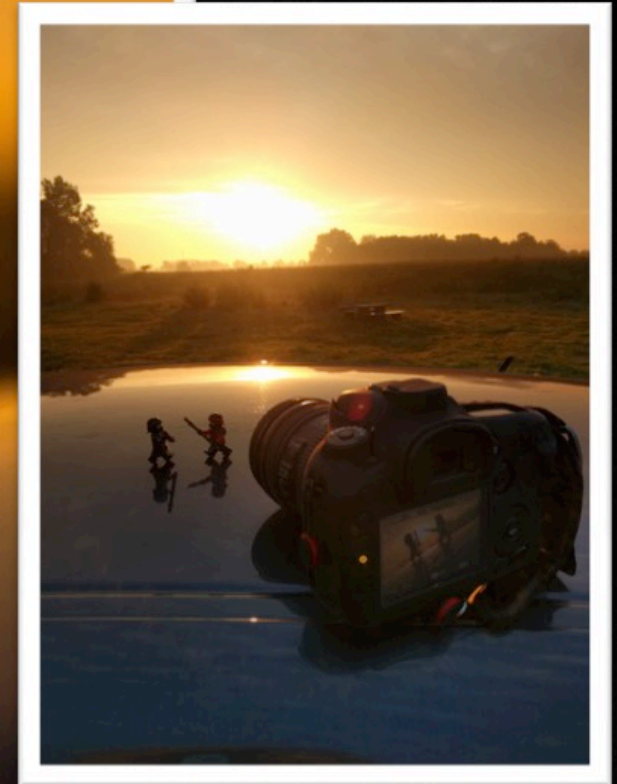
Tips and tricks of a « toy photographer »

Making things fly:






- Or simply blu-tack your minifigure to a window



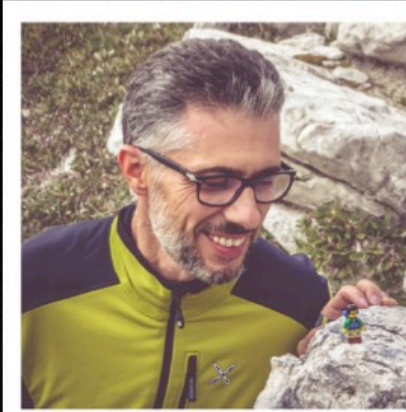
**You don't need a big studio,
The world is your studio**





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Julien Ballester