Painting with light

Things you need to know when painting with light

• Manual Setting - Set the camera to Manual mode (M)

• White Balance –
The three choices to white balance your camera to a flashlight are
  A) Create a custom white balance
  B) Set the color temperature to about (K 2800º) if your camera has a white
     balance temperature setting.
  C) Set your camera's white balance to the incandescent preset (This will
     produce a slightly warm cast to your image)

* The custom white balance will give the most accurate color.

• Auto Focus - Turn off auto focus and image stabilization when painting with light

• Shutter Speed - Set the shutter speed to approximately fifteen to thirty seconds. This is the longest exposure most cameras will have.
  Don’t confuse the one-thirtieth exposure for the thirty second one.
  (30" = thirty second, 30 = one thirtieth exposure)

• f-stop Setting – Use a relatively small f-stop. (f-16 or f-22)

• Exposure – The distance the flashlight is from the subject has a strong effect on the exposure. If you get over exposed images you may want to work the flashlight from farther away or cut down on the exposure.

• Tripod – A tripod is a must for painting with light

• Backgrounds – A grey paper background usually works best.

• Shutter Release – Using a stutter release switch or the self-timer can help.

*Remember to set your - White balance - Shutter speed - f-stop - to normal. Turn autofocus and Image stabilization back on and turn off the self timer when you are finished or ready to take other types of photos.