

THINGS

Product photography portfolio of Rico Jose



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Hello

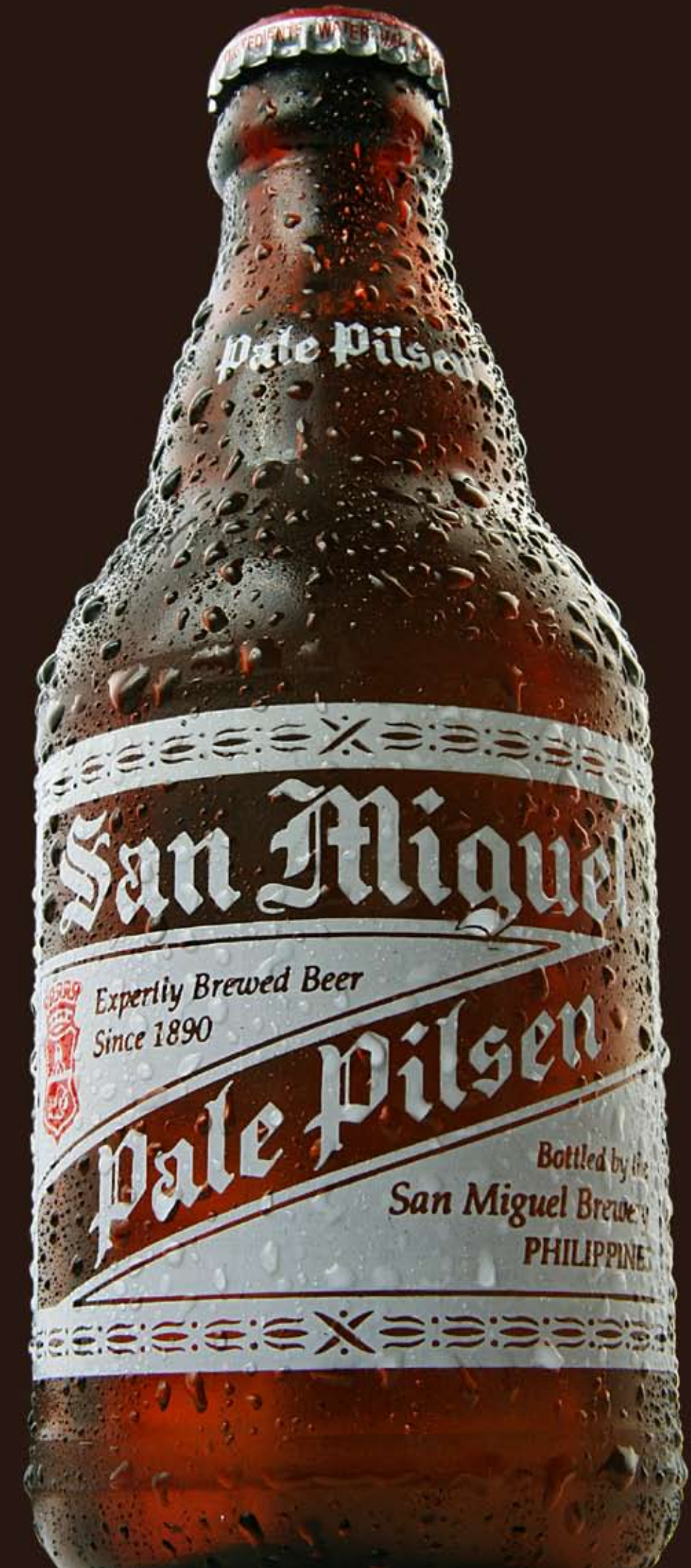
Welcome to my product photography portfolio. Just a collection of images I've made in my five years of explorations in digital photography. Some of the images are commissioned, others done just for fun and just to see if I can.

After food, I enjoy shooting products and things. I find it a challenge to make ordinary objects look their shiny best, presenting them in the most flattering light, not unlike shooting portraits.

Coupled with my background in post-processing, retouching and compositing, I deliver clean, sharp images that are already final arts, ready for printing.

I shoot with a 21 megapixel camera with a 90 mm tilt-shift lens and a wireless transmitter that beams the images to an ipad for better and easier viewing.

Eric Jose

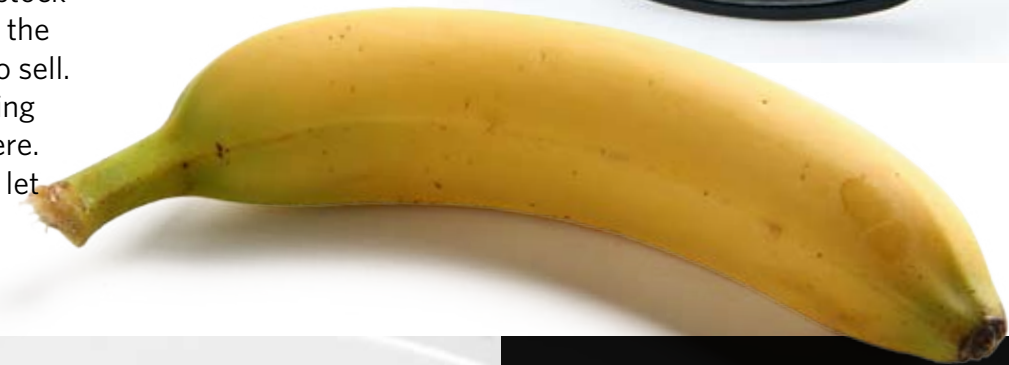


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stock

While just starting out in my photography, I thought I'd make some money by creating images and selling them through micro stock agencies. The soft ice cream images are the ones that sold the most and continues to sell. It's a numbers game and you're competing with a lot of good photographers out there. But there's money to be made, than just let your images sit in your hard drive.



Shot in my small home-studio back when I had more time to fiddle with my strobe lights and shoot just about anything I can get my hands on.



Laptop

I got this new laptop so I might as well shoot some images for my stock collection. I had to take out all the logos and recognizable branding in Photoshop to make it acceptable to the stock agencies I submit to.



Buddha BAGS

Wooden bags I shot on white for my friend's catalogue. They're proudly made in the Philippines too.



background created in Photoshop,
my old friend.



*Cheap acrylic ice
bought from Ten Grove
Studios. They tend to
get cloudy over time.*

BEER SHOTS

I just love beer, Shooting them that is. Heck, I don't even drink them. No none of these beer companies asked me to do them, just shooting for fun and trying to see if i can do it. I'm all for trying new things and challenging myself with DIY projects you see. So for a time it became sort of a hobby of mine; styling and shooting beer bottles. Yup, I did all the preparation and styling myself. It's quite easy making the bottle sweat when you know the techniques. Later I tried adding frost as seen on the Budweiser here.

**Tried to make the beads
of sweat more random on
this shot, more like drips
than condensation, cos its
supposed to have come
from a vat of frosty water
or something like that.**





Yup, beer is easily my favorite product to shoot. Just love its golden color when backlit. Those fake condensation droplets really make the picture. Makes you want to go out and grab a nice cold smooth beer. Except I don't drink alcohol, haha.

Corona is kinda pricey so I just bought one bottle, shot the unopened bottle and mug separately then composited in Photoshop.



San Mig is the coolest iconic bottle ever. I won't ever get tired of shooting images of it. Now if only I'd get paid to do this kind of gig-- that would be the coolest job.

Ok so it's a Rolex knock-off,
but it makes for a nice product
shot nonetheless.



Time Out



Light House *family*



Lighthouse lamps shot
for ebay listing. Note
that the background
lighting is all natural
and not created in post
editing.

Gold Standard



Not the best product packaging to begin with, but i think the lighting and layout made the products shine.



Skin Deep

Next to food photography, shooting products for advertising is another of my favorite activity. The challenge is really to make an imperfect product look larger than life, make it shiny and new, so to speak, with the use of well placed lights and considerable time in Photoshop. The great part about it is that your subjects don't mind the long hours and if you yell at them, they don't bite back.



*Shot in my studio at home.
It's all about the subtle re-
flection. Plexiglass does the
trick.*



Excess Baggage

These images of handcrafted bags made from native materials are for CITEM's photo requirements to be used as materials for their upcoming exhibition, these along with other handicrafts. the shoot called for a simple off white background. I decided to use my product table with shiny plexiglass to add a natural reflection. I also spotlighted it from behind to create that subtle glow in the background, not photoshopped. Makes for an interesting catalog when placed side by side, don't you think, as opposed to if I just shot them on stark white. But of course, if you wanted a more clinical look, you could easily select the subject from the gray background and put it on white, no problem.





Product Shootout

CITEM holds its exhibit of locally made home decors and furniture twice a year. We got to cover both events this year. Part of the task in the coverage is shooting a number of hand picked products during the event itself. Good thing I brought along my trusty product table so I can shoot the products on a seamless background. By placing a strobe behind the plexiglass I was able to create a soft glow behind the product- no photoshop effects this time. The reflections and shadows are all natural too. Shot most items in both white and black background to give options and contrast when used in layouts. Hope to be back next year.





