

RE: Shooting Style "Love Eclectic"
Brad,

I will have the shot list ready soon, but for now, here's a few general notes on style that we can talk about.

We have a lot to shoot each day. So the strategy has to be minimal set ups, and a minimum number of takes of each shot.

We won't be getting all of the angles (especially CU's) that would be expected in such a dialogue heavy script. But since dialogue is very important for this type of story, we must have at least one angle where we can see faces and mouths.

Our "must have" coverage is to get two angles of each shot (but doing just ONE take of each -- at least that's the goal).

We'll make the two angles significantly different from each other, for example in terms of closeness (for example a full shot vs. a much closer shot), and in terms of camera position (moving 30+ degrees over). You'll have to let me know how this affects your use of lenses, and time to set up.

Both of the angles will cover the action so that I can cut between them and edit around any minor imperfections. I only want additional takes if there are big issues.

From time to time, I'd like to skim through the footage to see that it recorded okay, and maybe again at a break, or that night.

If we have time for a 3rd angle, then lets focus more on bodies and actions (v.s. faces) so as to allow me additional editing options.

A moving camera is okay, as long as it's moving slowly, and always arriving at a resting place (for at least 3 seconds) before moving again.

It might be good to establish a "fluid head" look, i.e. subtle movements (like hand held) but very smooth and slow, not jittery. Then all our shots will be consistent with some degree of movement. (But doing less camera movement the closer the shot is (for example, almost no movement on CU's).

Using a zoom lens is okay if it helps speed the time to set-up, as long as we don't zoom within a shot.

The most important shots are when we introduce a new character, so we might spend more time featuring that character then, or move in closer on him/her. Otherwise, we'll usually tend towards featuring the lead woman (Sophie) in any group shots.

-Bill