

Photography Notes

March 5, 2013

Mr. S. talked about photographers who committed suicide:

Diane Arbus (rent movie "Fur" starring Nicole Kidman as Diane Arbus)
Francesca Woodman

DOF photos were critiqued

Midterm coming up; see Syllabus for assignments due at midterm (Week 9)

Next week, **bring 5 – 10 images** (non-shooting assignments) of subject(s) that represent what we are interested in shooting, and that possibly will be in our portfolio.

Wed. March 27th field trip, meet in Graton at 1:00pm

Reviewed Syllabus in class:

We are encouraged to:

Read about the following artists:

Diane Arbus

William Klein – B&W street photography aggressive documentary style

Richard Prince

David Hockney

William Carlos Williams – look him up and figure out why Mr. S. would ask us to do so!

Read about Camera Obscura and Camera Lucida.

Look up 25 Artists Under 25

Read about the Light-Field camera (Lytro) and how it works. Mr. S. talked about it in class. It is shaped like an oblong box.

Watch movie 'Blade Runner' for the 3D photo scene (may also be found on YouTube).

Read about the perks of collaboration.

Look at Shooting Assignments on Week 9 Syllabus. The assignments listed should be in our files!

Our Portfolio will consist of two subjects; 20 images each, and will represent what we are interested in shooting. We will discuss them technically, aesthetically, focus, effects, message the photo is conveying.

Photos that have already been critiqued may be used in our portfolios.

Do: shoot the same subject three separate times. We should see an improvement each time.

Lens: clarity is the function of the glass. Lens is more important than camera body. Lenses have optimal range for focusing. We should learn what ours is by taking photos at different ranges.

ALL digital camera images need sharpening before they go to print. Images that look great on screen don't always look great in print.

Mr. S demonstrated sharpening photos with PS; then used 'Unsharp Mask' to un-sharpen.

DOF: 5.6 and below is shallow depth of field. $f-8$ is good for photographing flowers if you are very close to subject (as in photo that was being critiqued). The closer you are to your subject, the shallower the DOF range.

Photos to take: motion blur and water using TV setting (time value) which lets us set shutter speed. Take these images: clear, stop action and blurry. We may need to up our ISO. We can use FLASH for the blurry photos. Shooting at under 1/60 of a second with flash will result in interesting photo. Flash stops the image on its own.

Try the following:

1. $< 1/60$ (slower than motion of subject) creates blur (blur implies movement)
2. Panning – freeze subject, blur background

3. Both be above using flash

ISO: Higher ISO contributes to our ability to increase shutter speed, but alone has no effect on image.

Photoshop

Worth repeating again; always duplicate copy, never edit original image.

Every image needs sharpening before printing. Compression (JPEG) softens image.

Gaussian Blur is best 'filter' in PS.

Unsharp Mask is the best of the sharpening filters; we will discuss this more in class.

After sharpening, Opacity can be used to fade areas that we did not want sharpened.

Shadows/Highlights separates tonal range.

In any JPEG image, faces will be soft.

Radius is range.

Sharpen image, then go back to previous edit, choose History Brush, paint over faces or areas that I do want sharpened.

Mask, Gradient Tool may be used to insert parts of one photo into another (replace gray sky with blue, cloudy sky).

Bamboo: approximately \$200.00 very good tool for editing in PS; uses pen instead of mouse.