



Art Journal 3

By Matt Au



Long Exposure Experimentation

For my first attempt at long-exposure photography at intersections, I decided to try and take pictures at the intersection of Reino and Borchard. I believe that these photos turned out well, although I would have liked to have been able to get closer to the subject in some cases. For the photo on the left, I was trying to find a balance between height and angle, and believe that I had done a relatively good job with the balance between the two, however I would like to try and play around with it in the future.



f/22.0 20sec 100 ISO

My photography for all my long exposure shoots are similar to that of Michael Malloy, because of the way we angle the camera in order to capture the light trails, while not being completely dead center on the subject. He was able to capture more full and thick light trails, which is something that I would like to try and achieve in the future. He was also able to capture a sky in the background, while the entire rest of the picture is almost completely black. This could either have been really lucky or something done in post, however it is an idea that I would hope to incorporate into my work in the future.



By Michael Malloy

Long Exposure Experimentation Cont.



My second attempt at long exposure photography occurred on the Wendy Road overpass, where I wanted to see what kind of shots I could get of the Highway. Unfortunately, there is a chain-linked fence in front of the overlook on the overpass, so I could not get a really clear shot of the highway that did not include at least some of the fence with it. This led me to try different ways to incorporate the fence into the shot, whether it be having the fence focused in the shot or unfocused in the shot.

With the fence focused in the shot, a nice bokeh effect became visible and lined the background of the image, giving it more character and uniqueness. Overall, if I were to take photos here again, I would try to incorporate the fence in more creative ways, similar to the focus of the fence, which created the aforementioned bokeh effect.



Long Exposure Experimentation Cont.

Due to the fact that my last highway long exposure was at a location which had a chain fence in front of the overpass, I decided that this next shoot would be at a place that did not have a similar circumstance. Therefore, I decided to do this photoshoot on the Borchard Rd. Highway overpass. For these photos, I wanted to try and capture different angles and perspectives of the highway, something that simply could not have been done at the previous location. I also wanted to incorporate some long exposure shots with people in the frame, so as to simulate the idea of time passing by. Overall, I believe that these photos are some of my better long exposure photographs, however if I were to take these same photos again, I would increase the length of the shutter being opened for the picture on the far left, and I would use an artificial light source in order to provide an angled light for my subject in the picture on the far right, so that I could see more detail in the foreground of the photograph.



The Process

When painting, we had to go through the process of understanding how different colors mix together to form different combinations of secondary and tertiary colors. Afterwards, we were given an inspiration piece, that we had to attempt to replicate; both in shape and in color. The more difficult part of this was to mix the colors properly so that I could achieve the proper degree of color for each of the colors that I had to use. Overall, I have a newfound appreciation for art, and understand how truly hard it is to create specific colors, as well as the fine brush strokes that are required to create detail in art. Unfortunately, I am not a very intricately detailed artist, and was not able to achieve the type of detail that some professional artists are able to achieve.



Expressionism



The Scream - Edvard Munch

Expressionism was an artistic style during the late 19th and early 20th century, that sought to depict a rather subjective reality and dealt with emotional responses for the individual. Common techniques during the expressionist era include: distortion, exaggeration, primitivism, and fantasy. (Encyclopedia Britannica)

The Expressionist Movement was during a time when people wanted to shift away from being realistic in order to give a depiction of something beyond reality and against the social normalities. These artists wanted to explore dramatic and emotional themes in order to convey such ideas as: fear, horror, etc. as well as to depict nature in a way that is hallucinatory, or something that could only be imaginable if you had no perception of what was actually there, or had overwhelmingly extravagant creativity.

Finished Painting + Comparison

My work is similar to that of the Expressionist movement due to: its portrayal of an animal in a completely subjective way, meaning that you can interpret the painting's message or meaning however you would like to. Initially, my painting incorporated Chili Peppers in the background, however, I did not have time to add them to this painting. Those would have furthered the establishment of the Expressionist movement, including an aspect of fantasy and attempting to further the sense of subjectivity that would have been present in my painting.



The Red Horses - By Franz Marc

My work is similar to that of Franz Marc, as we both utilized animals, an everyday occurrence, in order to attempt and create a piece that can be interpreted in many ways, and is completely subjective to the audience that is viewing the piece. Franz Marc was able to create depth using various shades of a single color in order to reflect sunlight and texture, a technique that I would like to impose on my future paintings.



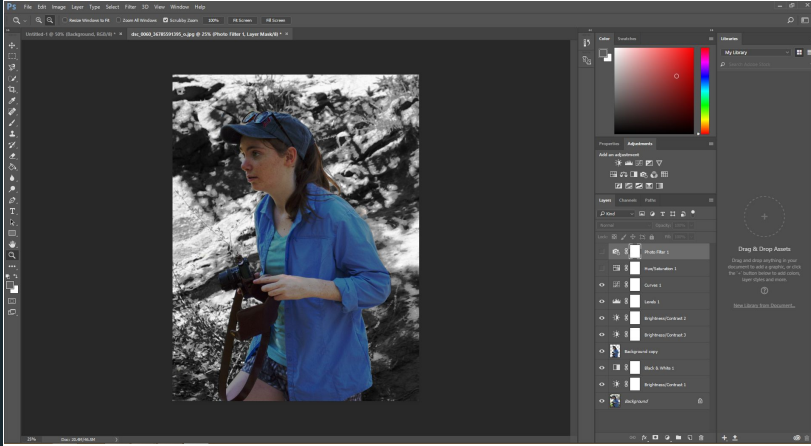
Film Photography

This last week was my first attempt at trying film photography. I initially was a bit skeptical, but decided to try something new. When I initially obtained the film camera, it was daunting, as I was used to dslr's, and could not figure out how to properly adjust the settings on the camera. Upon learning how to do these things, I decided to take photos of things such as stop signs and trees, as they contrast well in a black and white setting, and I believed that they were a good starting place for film photography.

After I had taken the photos, I needed to learn how to develop them. The developing and darkroom process took a total of approximately 45 minutes, and revealed to me the amount of work that needed to have been done in order to produce photos decades ago. This experience has given me a new perspective and appreciation for darkroom, as well as an appreciation for the privilege of being able to take photos and have them instantaneously with a DSLR camera, something that was unimaginable decades ago.

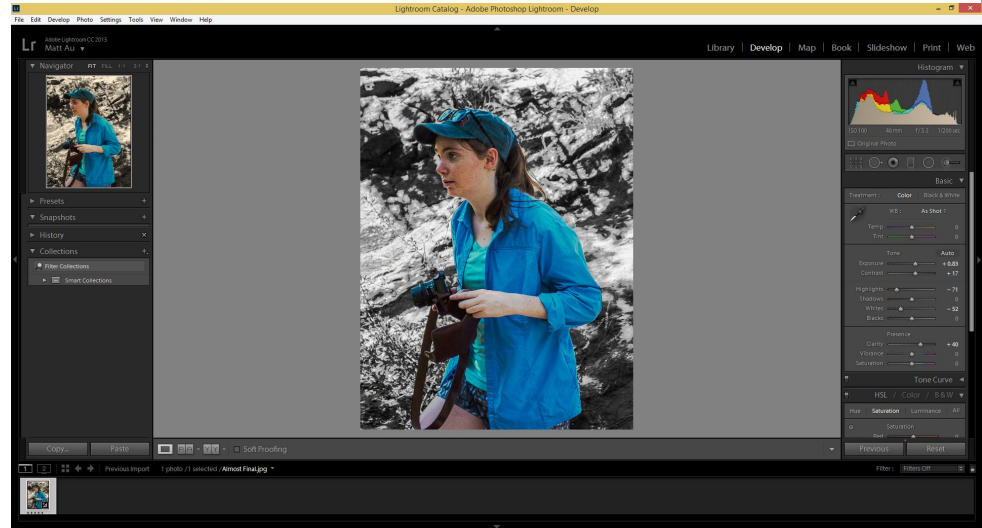


PPA Editing Process



For this photo, I began by duplicating the initial layer of the picture in Photoshop, and then making one layer black and white. Then, I decided to erase the background of the foremost layer, by using the magnetic selection tool to select only the background, so that only the subject would remain in color after the background was erased. Also, I decided that I would attempt to alter the lighting.

Because of the fact that I feel more comfortable with adjusting lighting in Lightroom, I decided to import the from Photoshop into Lightroom. Then, I increased the exposure slightly, as well as increased the contrast and shadows, while reducing the whites in the photo. This allowed for a lighter photo with not has sharp and concentrated blacks in the background of the image.



Before



PPA Before and After

Overall, I believe that my editing of this photo made it a brand new photo entirely for various reasons. First of all, the initial photo has the subject in the shadow, with a lot more light in the background than foreground. With the editing, I was able to make it appear to be the opposite. Also, with the black and white background that is present in the after photo, the focus is directed more towards the subject than at the surrounding foliage and rocks. Then, I brightened the subject entirely, increasing the saturation of the blues and making the subject more exposed in general. This allows for it to appear as though the photo was not taken with the subject standing in front of the light source, but rather at an angle. If I were to take this photo again, I would try to not have to saturate the blues as much, as it also affects the color of the subject's sunglasses. But, I would say that this is overall one of my better post-processing works because of how drastically changed the photo was from the before to the after.

After



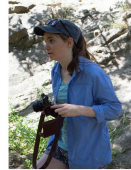
Contact Sheet



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dsc_0173_37963285126_o.jpg



edited-001_26517624149_o.jpg



img002_26517624479_o.jpg

Works Cited

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