

Extreme Angles

Objective

This assignment is designed to experiment with different ways of seeing. You will photograph everyday things and people from unusual vantage points. You will take pictures using a film camera, develop your negatives and print black and white photos in the darkroom. Those unfamiliar with the darkroom and film cameras will be partnered with a student who has a darkroom background.

Visual Resources

Photographs of Alexander Rodchenko

Assignment

Take pictures at extreme angles. When you photograph at an extreme angle, your subject matter will be shown with some distortion of form or perspective. Pretend that you are a snake: photograph from the ground looking up. Pretend you are a bird: photograph straight down or angled down from a ladder or balcony.

Note: If you stand on a balcony and shoot straight out, photographing the distance, that is NOT an extreme angle.

Compositional reminder: Your subject matter should not be in the center of the frame. Use the rule of thirds.

Subject Matter

Half of your extreme angle should be from above and half from below. Of all your exposures, at least half should be of people (or animals). You will have 24 or 36 exposures depending on which film you get.

What is Submitted

- Two 8x10 darkroom prints, digitally scanned and submitted to flickr
- One proof sheet that will be scanned and placed on flickr and be placed in your journal
- One journal entry (which will be in your journal and turned in at the end of the term)
- Two 4x6 images of your final two prints placed in your journal

Journal entry questions:

1. Identify at least three elements and/or principles of design you utilized in your two prints. Analyze the visual aspects in your photos. How are these elements or principles making your photos successful (or what is making it unsuccessful)? Describe how the angle you shot at affect the mood of the images? (Which elements or principles help generate this mood and why?)
2. What were the challenges and successes of this photo shoot? What would you have done differently, if anything? What could be refined or reworked in these pieces of art? If not, why are they perfect the way they are?