

AP Final Portfolio

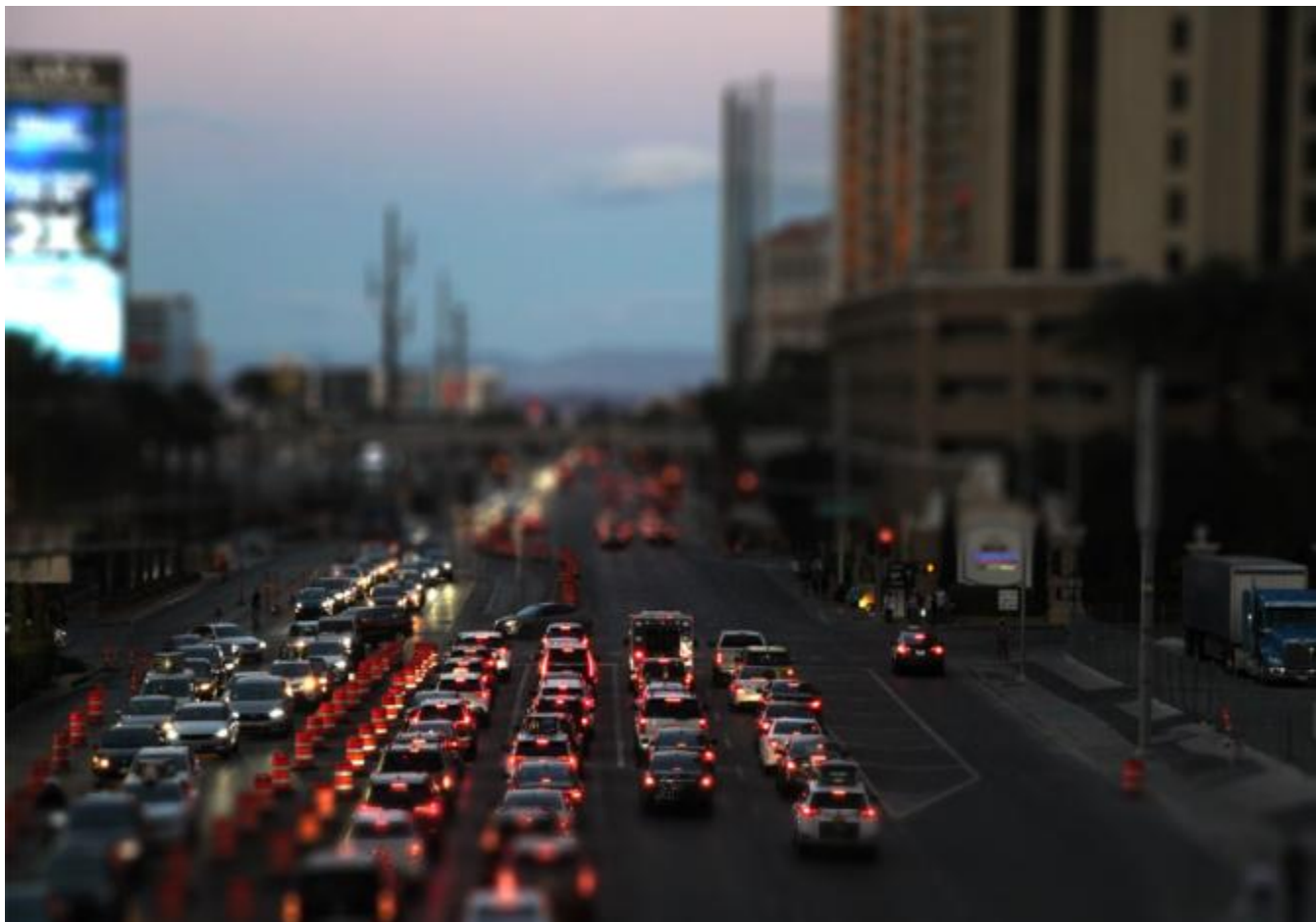
Genevieve MacKay 2026

Sustained Investigation

Written Evidence

With the rise of social media, the constant buzz of advertisements and spread of information swells louder than ever. Consequently, the noise of today's day and age can dampen the focus placed upon meaningful connection, making life appear meaningless or dreary. For my investigation, I explored how narrowing the focus of connection to one thing at a time promotes the vitality of personal relations, not only between people, but also with nature and oneself. Strong connections then introduce fulfillment and joy into our lives, providing happiness in all aspects of life.

My works begin by pinpointing the dizzying noise of the modern world, through pieces that have high repetition but no clear emphasis. Then, through lines and balance, focus is achieved for the subject and the audience, as confusion and boredom transition to a joyful serenity. The genuine peace and happiness I captured within different relationships exemplifies how remaining undistracted in one's connections is what leads to truly meaningful life. I explored this between pairs of people, with one's inner self (through photo montages), and unposed interactions with the natural world.







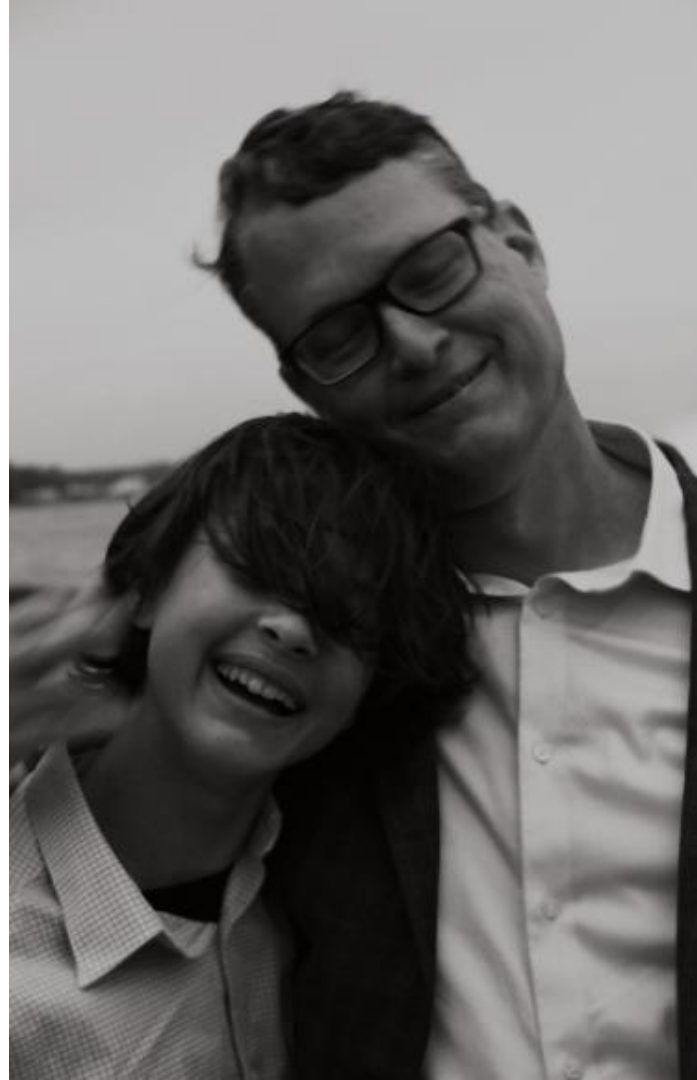










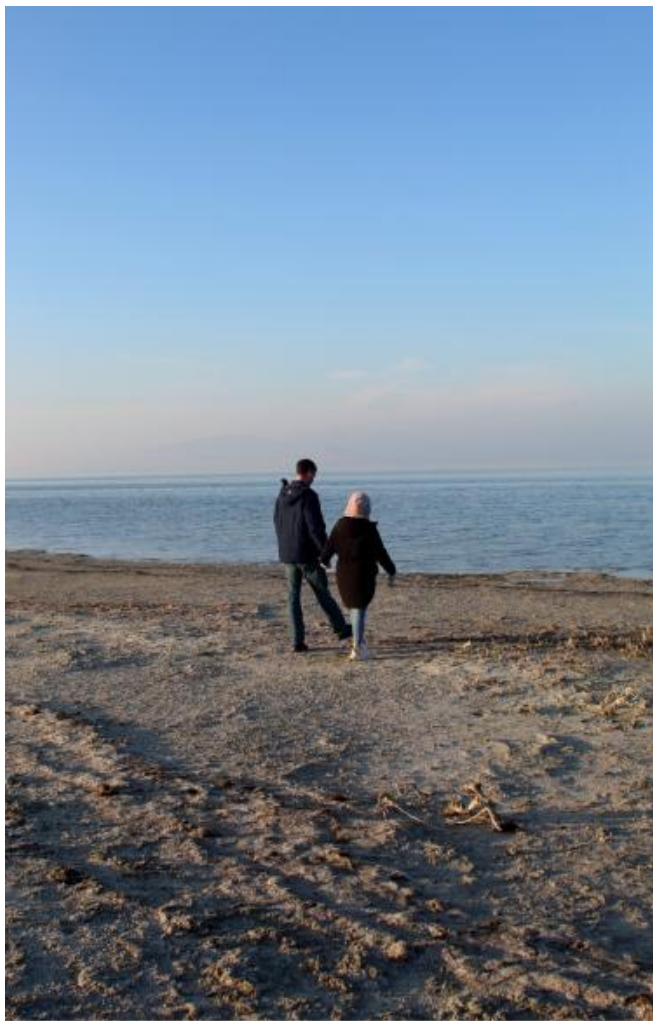














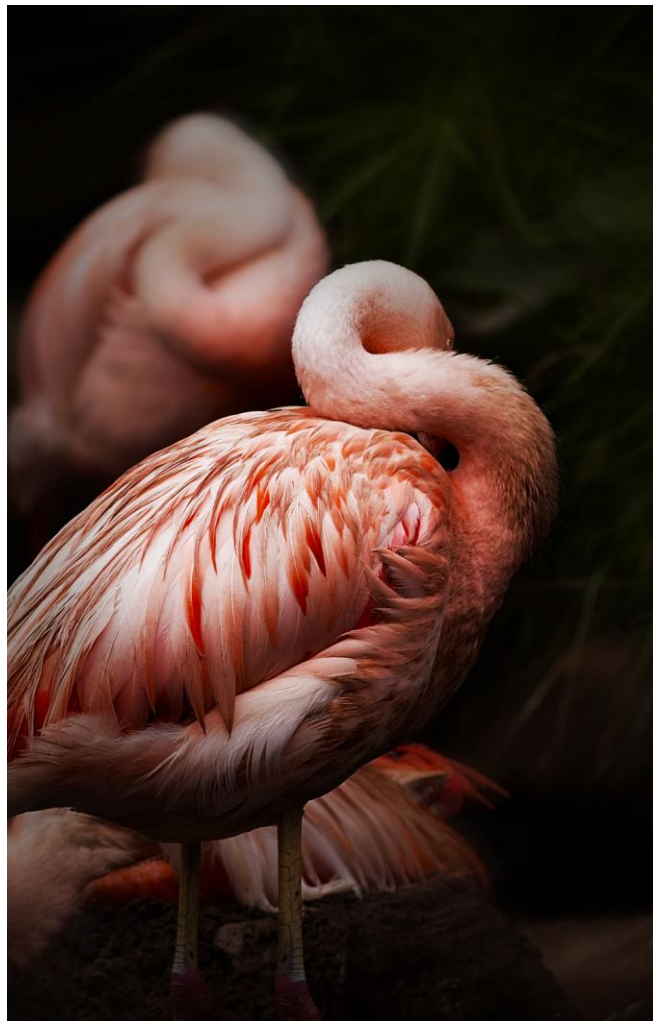
Select Works











Text for Sustained Investigation Images

1. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 3200, 78mm, f5.6, 1/640s, Tilt Shift, Curves
2. iPhone, Photoshop, ISO 25, 28mm, f1.8, 1/30s, Curves, Color Balance
3. iPhone, Photoshop, ISO 320, 67mm, f1.6, 1/30s, Masks, Curves, Color
4. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 500, 35mm, f5, 1/40s, Curves, Color
5. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 28mm, f4, 1/640s, Curves, Masks
6. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 18mm, f10, 1/250s, Curves, Color
7. iPhone, Photoshop, ISO 80, 24mm, f1.78, 1/2048s, Tint, Curves
8. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 28mm, f4.5, 1/640s
9. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 59mm, f5.6, 1/60s, Masks, Black/White, Curves
10. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 3200, 24mm, f4, 1/60s, Masking, Color
11. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 17mm, f4, 1/60s, Masks, Curves
12. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 3200, 18mm, f3.5, 1/60s, Masks, Curves
13. iPhone, Photoshop, ISO 80, 24mm, f1.78, 1/5000s, Curves, Masking
14. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 28mm, f4, 1/640s, Curves
15. Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 28mm, f9, 1/160s, Curves, Black/White, Noise

Text for Selected Work Images

1. Capture the artistry of the avian realm by highlighting the color of the flamingo's feathers, Canon, Photoshop, ISO 400, 200mm, f2.8, 1/640s, Curves, Mask, Hue/Saturation
2. Unified contrast to explore the separation of the land and the sky, and how people fit in, Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 28mm, f4, 1/640s, Curves, Masks
3. Repetition paints unity within the photo, showing togetherness in nature as a reflection of people, Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 200mm, f6.5, 1/640s, Curves, Color balance
4. High contrast with small, defined subject to depict the majesty of the natural world around us, Canon, Photoshop, ISO 100, 200mm, f3.2, 1/640s, Curves
5. Close up subject and depth overlap, unity within the color and subjects depicts connection and peace, Canon, Photoshop, ISO 80, 200mm, f2.8, 1/60s, Levels, Masks, Vibrance, Gradient