

ASSIGNMENT: Constructed Realities -THE ART OF STAGED PHOTOGRAPHY

Objective:

Through photographing in the studio and on location (OUT IN THE WORLD) you will conceive an idea and execute that idea, by shooting images and combining the frames in Adobe Photoshop to explore a new reality **-The Constructed Reality.**

Constructed

1. To form by assembling or combining parts; build. 2. To create (an argument or a sentence, for example) by systematically arranging ideas or terms

Realities

1. The quality or state of being actual or true. 2. One, such as a person, an entity, or an event, that is actual: "the weight of history and political realities" (Benno C. Schmidt, Jr.). 3. The totality of all things possessing actuality, existence, or essence. 4. That which exists objectively and in fact: Your observations do not seem to be about reality.

Studio: A place where you control what is happening, the lighting, the angle of your image, etc. Could be here at school or home in the spare room. You must have control. This is a **staged environment**

Location: A found place with variables out of your control. Lighting, cars, people. Location does not mean anything that is in the shot is OK, (It was out of my control). It means you must deal with environmental situations, wait, plan, execute the moment. You are in control here as well. Your control may be to control yourself.

-Shoot -explore -have fun. All is correct for this assignment. Explore, try, experiment. Let your imagination run free. There is not always an art director around setting the stage for you.

You may want to sketch your ideas, plan in advance what your images will look like. Look at books, magazines, TV, movies, your surroundings for inspiration. Use your childhood, your teenage years, maybe even your future for your content.

CONTENT: What your image says to the viewer. What you are trying to communicate as the photographer. Essential meaning

Hand In

-2 constructed realities.

-Printed on 8.5 x 11 paper or 13 x 19 paper.

-Matting the images would be a nice touch, but not required

-folder containing 2 layered constructed reality files

-folder containing working elements (the images you used to create your constructed realities)

-What does the word cropping mean to you in this context? type it up.

-Typed summary of techniques and thoughts about constructed realities

Turn in envelope containing images, CD and summary -Name, project, class day and time, date, email and phone#

Images must have Layer Masks. NO Cutting and Pasting. Cutting and Pasting will result in an "F"

Cool Sites

Lori Nix

<http://www.lorinix.net/>

Gregory Crewdson

<http://www.artnet.com/ag/fineartthumbnails.asp?aid=4589>

David Levinthal

http://www.artnet.com/artist/10457/David_Levinthal.html

Doug and Mike Starn

http://www.artnet.com/artist/16025/Doug_and_Mike_Starn.html