

Digital Photo Assignment

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Art History 180- Introduction to Art

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30 April 2020



In this photo, I utilized the rule of thirds by positioning Cali's face where one of the vertical lines would be, I considered viewpoint in this shot by taking the photo very close to her face, I chose to have the stack of wood as the background to make her face the focal point of the picture, I think one could argue that the picture has some sense of depth with her face in the foreground the wood in the middle ground and the blue sky in the background, I used cropping to focus on her face since the wood behind could have been a distraction with all the texture it has, and I experimented with blurring the wood so that the viewer's eye goes directly to Cali's face.



In this photo, I utilized symmetry and patterns with the two windows appearing symmetrical and Cali being the focal point in the middle while the panels of the house resemble stripes to incorporate pattern, I considered viewpoint in the photo by standing at a distance and slightly below the subject, I wanted the background to be very neutral so that the viewer's eye is drawn to Cali, I think the windows also serve as a framing tool to draw attention to Cali in the center, and I also incorporated experimentation by waiting for the sun to hit the trees at the correct time so that their shadows reflect on the house to create an interesting dynamic in the photograph.



In this photo, I utilized the rule of thirds by positioning Cali so that she is seated where one of the vertical lines would be, I also incorporated a balancing of the elements by placing Cali off-center in the photo and having a tree and a house in the background to off-set and balance Cali, I used leading lines by seating Cali on a wood pallet so that they direct the viewer's eye to her, I considered viewpoint by taking the photo at the base of the wood pallet and below the subject, the photo has depth to it because the

wood palette is in the foreground, Cali is in the middle ground, and the trees and sky are in the background, there is also framing being used in the photo by having the tree closest to Cali be at the edge of the photo and hanging slightly over the top of the photo.

In all of my photographs for this assignment, I wanted to capture what life with COVID-19 is like for young people, specifically for seniors in high school who have had their senior year taken away from them due to the virus; I wanted the photos I took of my friend, Cali, to resemble a typical senior photoshoot that almost all seniors have taken to remember such an important and exciting time in their lives but Cali is wearing a mask in all the photos to shed light on what the closing of schools and transferring to online classes means for seniors. In taking these photographs, I was able to understand the significance of taking photos that are meant to be works of art rather than just to capture a specific moment; all of my photos were meant to evoke emotions out of the viewer and to call attention to the severity and consequences of the pandemic that we are living through. In Arthur Danto's *The ArtWorld*, he discusses Hamlet and Socrates's thoughts and their arguments on the comparison between a mirror and what it reflects to art and how it embodies mirror-like qualities to show us what we might not be able to see in nature: "Hamlet, more acutely, recognized a remarkable feature of reflecting surfaces, namely that they show us what we could not otherwise perceive- our own face and form- and so art, insofar as it is mirrorlike, reveals us to ourselves, and is, even by Socratic criteria, of some cognitive utility after all," (571). These thoughts on how a reflecting surface can reveal more to us about ourselves than what we can normally see are exactly what this digital photo assignment has revealed to me; my photographs

convey more than just a girl sitting in front of a stack of wood with a mask on, they capture this terrifying time and allow us to see deeper into the picture to what this time is really like. Therefore, in answering the question, "If I were an artist, what sort of artist would I be?" I hope I would be the kind of artist that can capture a million emotions in one photograph and that can bring people back to a time or event that they might have forgotten; if I were a photographer and I accomplished this, I would be proud of the art that I had created.