

self as composite

Subject Matter Film and Camera Printing, Retouching, Mounting, and Presentation Style Theme and Meaning Other Photographers and Artists whose work relates

Subject Matter

Use yourself as the subject. You may wish to use an assistant to operate the camera, but you must direct each exposure. The camera's self-timer can be used. A 20-foot cable release can be borrowed.

Use Photoshop to combine your image with images from other exposures to add symbolism, meaning, and identity. Feel free to include props that have meaning to you or that change the mood of the photograph. Since this is a composite, you may want to photograph the props separately from the self portrait. You may elect to show yourself as the opposite of your self.



Film and Camera

Use a digital camera if possible. Manipulate the images with Photoshop. Digital cameras give a resolution of 72. When you size the pictures to a printable size, save them at a resolution of 300. Turn in as a PSD with all your layers visible.

Style

Combine images from more than one exposure. Work for interesting juxtaposition, unity, repetition, and theme with variation. See how unconventional you can make the photograph. What is the opposite of the expected portrait and composition? Work for expressive content.

Theme and Meaning

Try to show meaning, mood, historical reference, mythological reference, passage of time, the meaning of place, and so on. Include a statement, which shares some of your ideas. You can do this before, during or after the photography process. You may use prose or poetry for this. You are not required to display the statement, but you are encouraged to incorporate text in the image using Photoshop's text command.

The following list of titles from a list posted on the wall by John Szarkowski, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, is offered to stimulate your imagination: My Childhood, Domestic Me, Masculine Me, Feminine Me, Body Scape, Somebody Acting as Me, One Part of My True Self, The Dark Side of Me, The Light Side of Me, My Alter Ego, My Message, Me the Perfect Date, My Big Problem, Me In A Mask.

Other Photographers and Artists whose work relates

Cindy Sherman makes a career of self-portraiture, often putting on costumes and makeup in order to play a role. Diane Arbus photographed people seldom actually seen in public. Duane Michals makes a surrealistic juxtapositions with psychological meanings and/or humor. He made a self-portrait of a shadow of his own head and hands that looks like a duck. Robert Arneson was a clay artist who often used his own face as the subject of his cynical sculpture and drawings because he wanted to poke fun at people's mannerisms, but he didn't wish to offend another person. By using his own face he said he could be cynical without being offensive.

Inspirational Self Portraits:

<http://photo.tutsplus.com/articles/inspiration/100-seriously-cool-self-portraits-and-tips-to-shoot-your-own/>

And

<https://www.thebroad.org/art/cindy-sherman>

Turn in Two PSD Versions of these Composited Self Portraits.

Due: Thursday, 9/24/20- 100 points for Photo 2 and 25 extra credit points for Photo 1 Students.

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