Component 1 Photography

Standard Mark = 53 marks

Performance Band 5: Confident and Assured



	AO1	AO2	AO3	A04
Mark	13	13	13	14
Performance Band	5	5	5	5
	Just confident & assured ability	Just confident & assured ability	Just confident & assured ability	Mostly confident & assured ability

Keywords from the taxonomy:

Advanced, Comprehensive

Examiner Commentary

Presentation of work:

The presentation of photography work on the theme of 'Distortion' is thematic in approach. Annotation is thorough and shows a genuine line of enquiry. The various images relating to the theme are well-presented, as are the connections to the selected photographers.

Where the examiner found the evidence for the mark breakdown:

AO1 Develop: Throughout the submission, the candidate takes a very focused approach when researching different aspects of the theme, particularly in the selection of photographers working in similar styles. Annotation plays a crucial role in the candidate's critical understanding in relation to exploring their own ideas and the sources which informed them.

AO2 Refine: When refining ideas, the candidate looks at natural and unnatural distortion. They use Photoshop to experiment with an advanced range of photographic techniques, editing a number of different processes including saturation, vibrancy, and hue.

Examiner Commentary

Where the examiner found the evidence for the mark breakdown (continued):

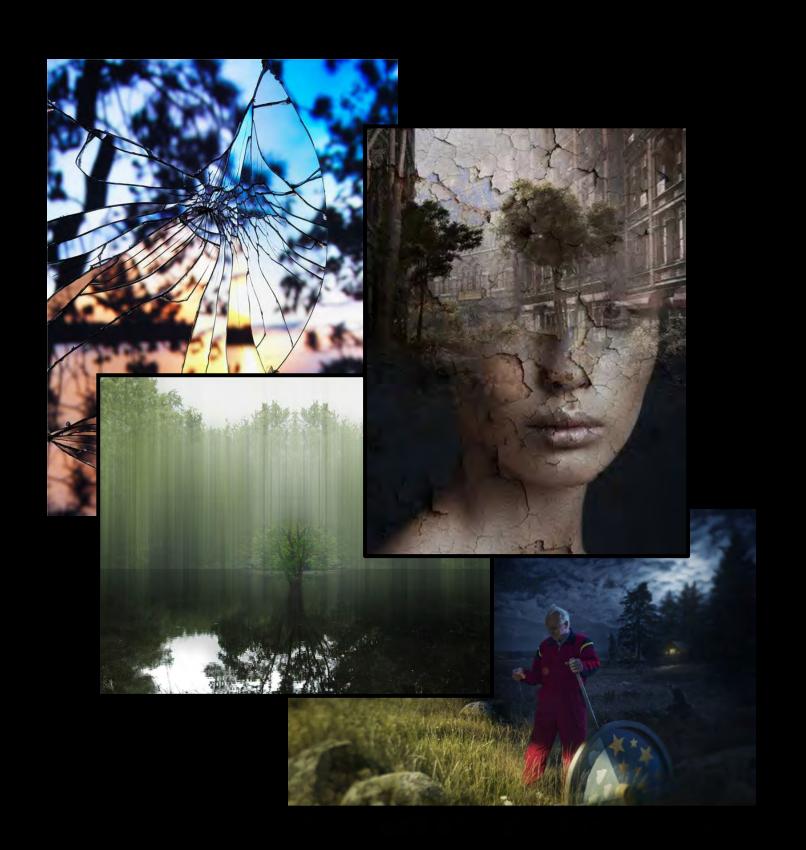
AO3 Record: Throughout the submission the candidate observes and records a comprehensive range of images including zoos, forests, sunsets, family members and locations, using these experiences and ideas in a confident and assured way.

AO4 Present: The final outcome combines a variety of images and backgrounds from previous research, linking the theme 'Distortion' in multiple ways to create an imaginative and meaningful response.

How the candidate could improve:

For the submission to move to the top of mark band 5, Confident and Assured ability, the candidate could take greater creative risks which would lead to more original and innovative responses.

Photography



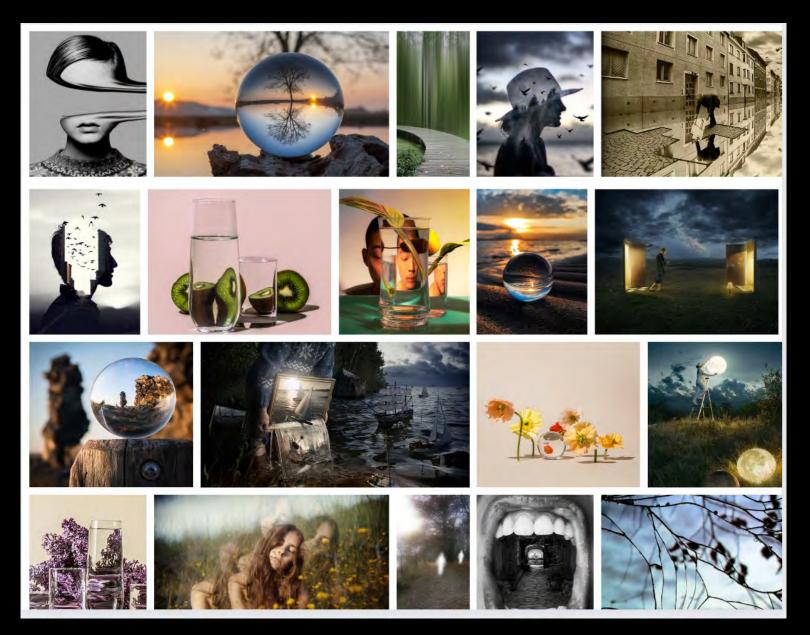
Distortion

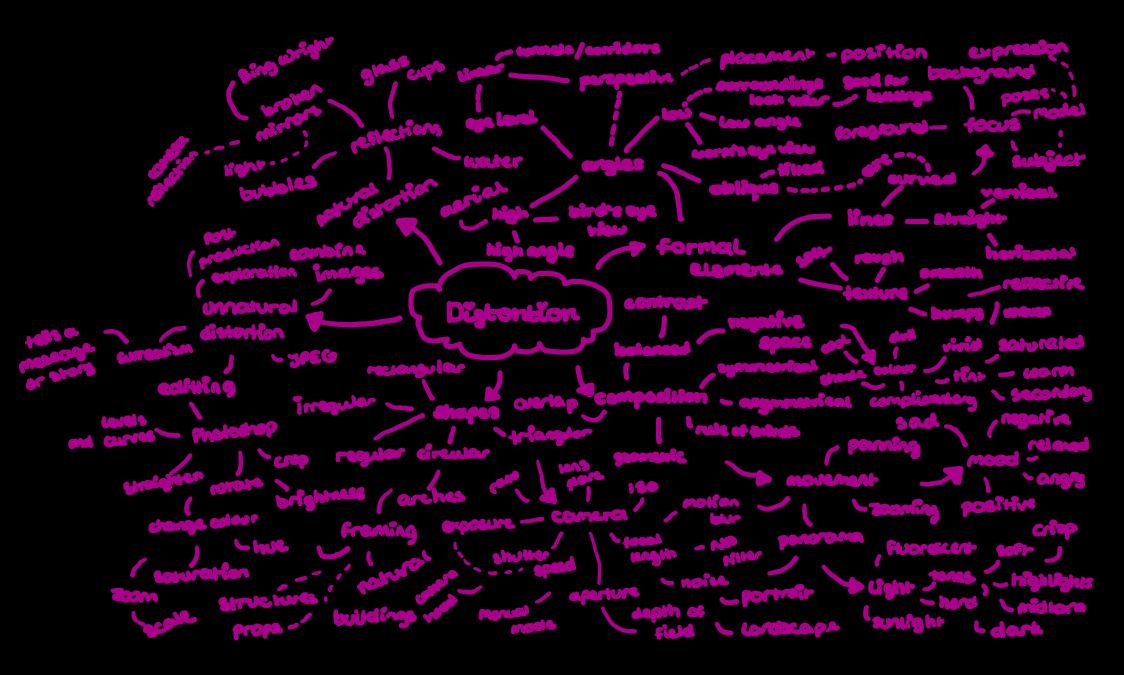
Distortion in Photography is when the subject of the image looks different to the way it actually looks. It is when the appearance of an image is changed, so it looks unnatural. It is the alteration of the original appearance or shape. For example, the object's image could be elongated, or it has a different colour than the original. There are two types of distortion in photography, natural and unnatural.

Natural distortion is done using the use of lenses and objects to distort the image. For example, taking a photograph through a glass cup distorts the image. The cup elongates or shortens the image behind it, changing its appearance and creating natural distortion. Other examples of natural distortion include using a cracked mirror or glass, a crystal ball and water. The image produced through these objects will be naturally produced yet different than the actual object's appearance. As the distortion is naturally occurring, it is important to consider the formal elements when taking pictures, such as camera angle to effectively capture the distortion. There are many different distortion photographers, for example: Bing Wright uses cracked mirrors for natural distortion. By using cracked mirrors, he is naturally fragmenting and shifting the parts of the image, creating natural distortion photographers includes Suzanne Saroff – who distorts the images of fruits naturally by placing glass cups of different lengths in front of the object, and Dan Matthews – who distorts the images of plants by using a textured glass pane.

Natural distortion distorts the image without needing further editing, natural distortion is distortion that occurs naturally, found in everyday life. It already occurs in the environment. The image is already distorted when taken using the camera, it does not have to be distorted using editing software, it is already distorted. It can still be edited however, it is not necessary to edit the image to distort it, as the image taken already has distortion.

Unnatural distortion is distortion through the use of editing software such as Photoshop. The images are taken using the camera then further manipulated and distorted on Photoshop. This allows images to have distortion that is not found in real life. Examples of distortion using Photoshop, combining two images, duplicating images or part of images, changing the colours of the image, adding to the image, resizing images and manipulating the formal elements. Examples of unnatural distortion photographers includes Ellen Jantzen – who blurs and creates vertical lines in certain parts of the image in Photoshop, – Erik Johansson, who creates images of surrealism, images that are unnatural and can not exist in real life, but they tell a story. Unnatural distortion allows a large range of images to be created and more creativity. It is often used to express fictional ideas and thoughts, to be able to express them in a way that is not possible in real life. Even though unnatural distortion requires editing to create the distortion, it is no less a part of distortion in Photography as natural distortion.





Pinterest. (n.d.). Pinterest. https://www.pinterest.com/



The Photographer is Ellen Jantzen, it is part of the series of Disturbing the Spirits. It is titled Disturbing the Balance. It shows unnatural distortion through the use of Photoshop. It is set in a forest with trees, overlooking the water.

The image contains natural colours of the forest and the trees, green. The colours above the water are muted, dull and in some areas pale. The colours beneath the water are darker. The image has texture, the smoothness of the water and the uneven tree leaves and branches.

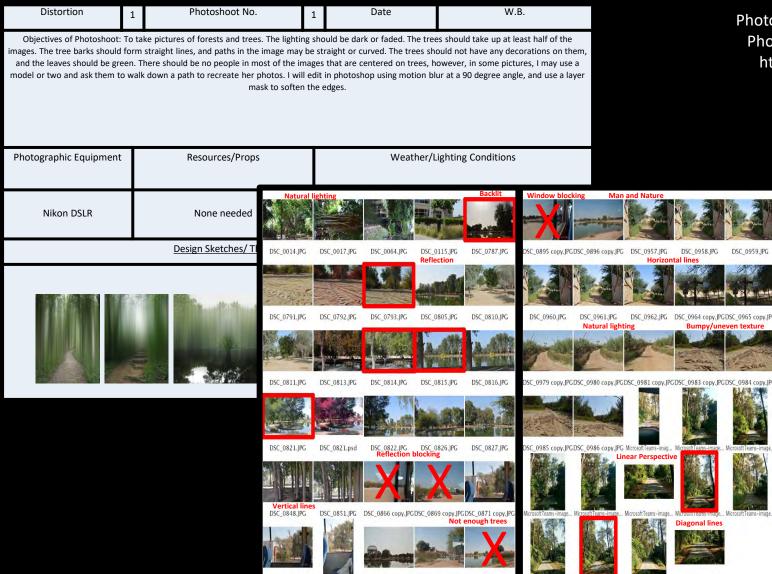
The background with the trees are blurred, creating vertical lines. The blur is meant to create the effect of ghostly spirits and memories long forgotten. The background, the forest, is blurred except for the highest edges and a small tree in the center. The forest is not blurred in the water, however.

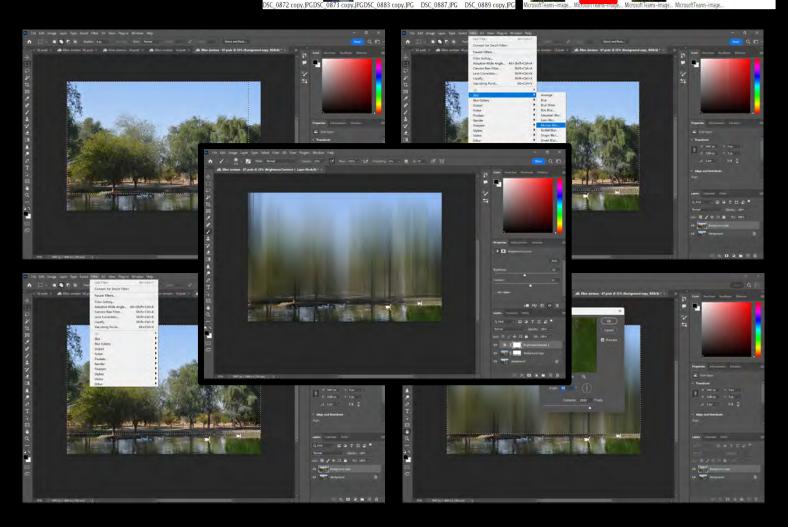
Above water it is blurred, but in the reflection of the water the trees are sharp and in focus.

The forest above the water represents the past, the tree in the center was still small. The surroundings are blurred to show that the forest has changed from what it used to be. The reflection in the water shows how the forest was in the present, the small tree had grown big, and the surroundings had changed, some of the trees that were there before are gone.

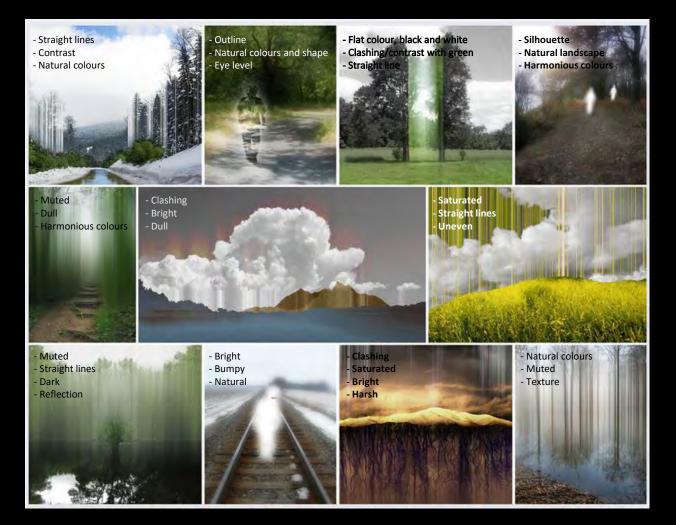
The blur and the colours of the image creates a calming effect. The image uses natural lighting, the sky is the brightest area in the image. The forest in the reflection is darker than the forest above it, creating contrast. The forest above has more vibrant colours as well. There are no people present in this image.

This is my favourite image as it has a lot of symbolism, a deep meaning and message. This image also has a calming effect and the colours and the blur are quite beautiful.





Photomontages | Ellen Jantzen Art Photography. (n.d.). Ellenjantzen. https://www.ellenjantzen.com/



I took and edited images in the style of the Photographer Ellen Jantzen. I went to multiple different places (Al Qudra Lake, Zoos, the Forests) to take pictures of trees and paths. I used my Nikon DSLR camera as well as my phone to take these images. No props or models were used or needed. I then edited these images in Photoshop by duplicating the layer and selecting the area with trees. I then used Filter > Motion Blur, at a 90 degree angle so the direction of the blur is upwards. I added a Layer mask, and erased part of the motion blur at the paths, trunks and tips of the trees, and in some images, in an individual tree.

The subject of my images are the landscapes, more specifically the paths and the trees. I tried to use rule of thirds in some of my images and incorporated many vertical lines (the vertical motion blur). There is no symmetry in the images, except for in the exploration section where I flipped an image. The paths formed curved lines, and the branches of the trees create many shapes and diagonal lines. My images have a large depth of field, with most of the image being in full focus. However, in some images the focus was more on the background than the foreground. I used a variety of tones, from light to dark, as well as having lights and shadows, light coming from the sun, and shadows created by the trees blocking some of that light. My images have texture, for example the rough barks of the trees, the waters and the sand.

I could improve my images by better using the rule of thirds and other formal elements, such as shape. I could also have explored in more creative ways. Using the techniques that I have learned, I could create more blur in images, so I could have the focus be on the subject or make the subject look like it is moving.

Working in the Style of Ellen Jantzen







Exploring
Ideas in
the Style
of Ellen
Jantzen







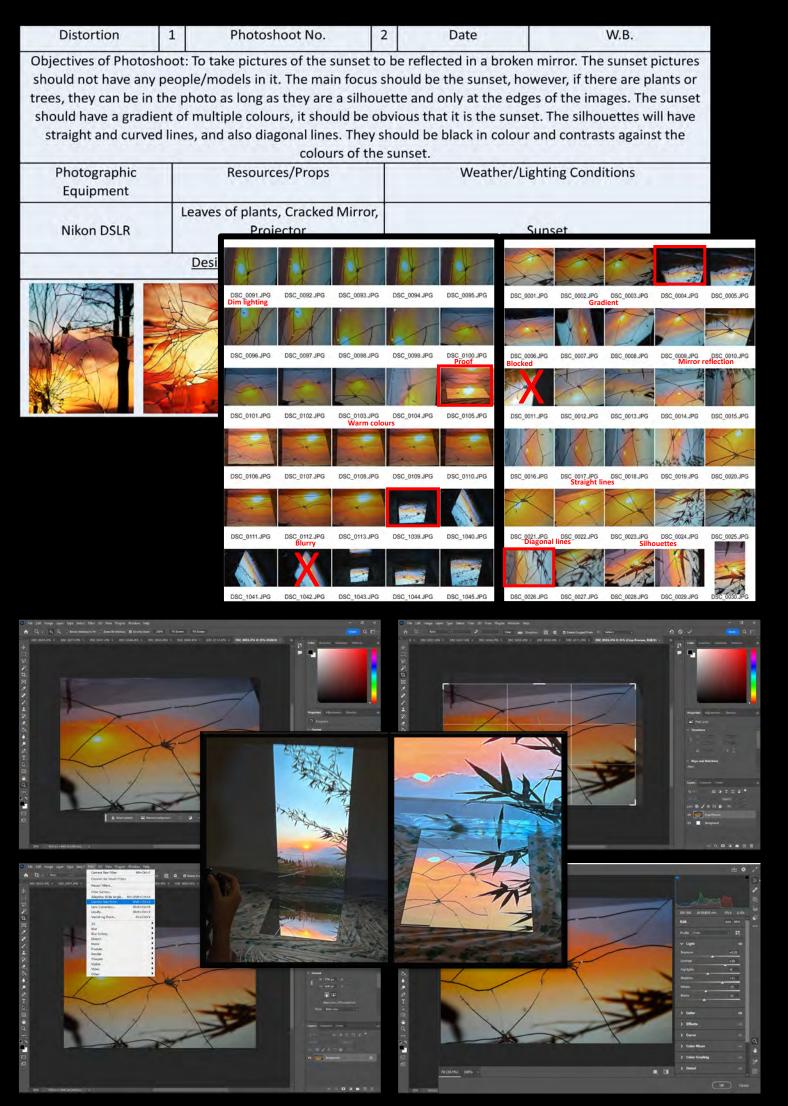


The Photographer is Bing Wright, it is part of the series of Broken Mirror/evening Sky. It shows natural distortion through the use of a broken mirror. It is set in the evening, when the sun is setting, overlooking the

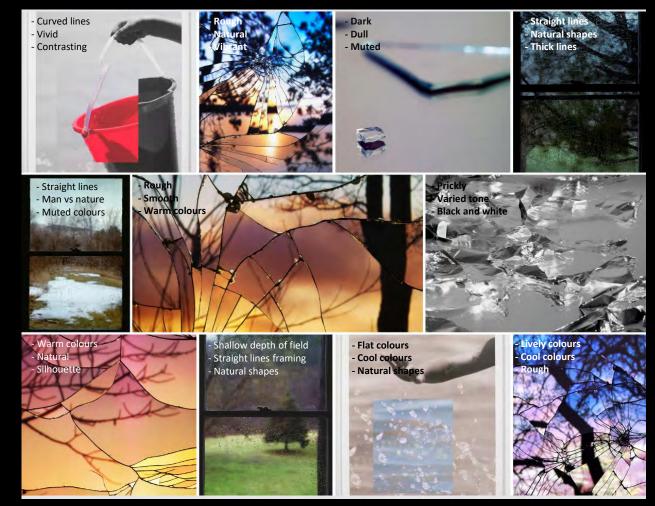
The image contains natural colours of the sunset. The image has texture, the uneven rough cracks in the broken mirror. There is a shallow depth of field as the broken mirror lines are in focus, whereas the reflected image of the evening sky is not in focus, it is blurry. The small details of the cracked mirrors are in focus, the small rough uneven edges. This creates contrast. The colour also creates contrast as the dark black lines of the mirror contrasts with the bright colours and gradients of the sky and its reflection of the water. The broken mirror lines overlap the image and there are blurry black silhouettes of the tree branches. The light is coming from the sun, which creates shadows and silhouettes of the things that block its light, the tree branches and the land. The light is also reflected in the water beneath.

There are a mixture of cool and warm colours. There are no people present in the image. The mirror distorts and moves small pieces of the image. It is taken at a high angle as you can see the ocean. There is a balance between the vibrancy and the colour and the black cracks, trees and islands. The center focus is on the particularly large crack in the middle towards the top of the image. The mirror cracks frame small parts of the image and frames

This is chosen as my favourite image because of the clarity of the cracks contrasting to the vibrancy of the evening sky colours. There is a lot going on in the image but it is quite balanced.



Bing Wright. (n.d.). Bing Wright. http://www.bingwright.com/



I took and edited images in the style of the Photographer Bing Wright. I went to multiple different places both in Indonesia and Dubai, to take pictures of sunsets. I used my Nikon DSLR camera as well as my phone to take these images. I then projected them onto a wall and reflected these images onto a broken mirror. This creates natural distortion. After that, I took pictures of the reflected images and edited them slightly on Photoshop. Mostly cropping them, making them more vibrant and creating more contrast between the cracks and the reflected sunset sky.

I tried to use rule of thirds in some of my images. There is no symmetry in the images. My images are edited to be very vibrant. My images have many different shapes, as well as different types of lines from the cracked mirror, diagonal, curved and straight. There are silhouettes in my images, of plants. There is a contrast between the cracked mirror, which is more in focus, and the reflected sunset sky, which is more blurred (shallow depth of field, focusing on the cracks).

I could improve my images by adding more cracks in different places, and taking the pictures in a way where the cracks are more in focus. I could also have taken images of sunsets with more colours in them. I could have also had more silhouettes of plants in the background and have them further away.

Working in the Style of Bing Wright





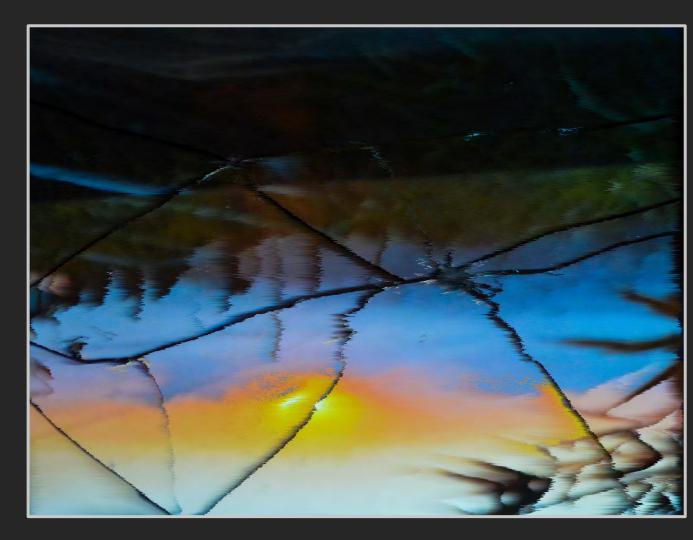




Exploring Ideas in the Style of Bing Wright









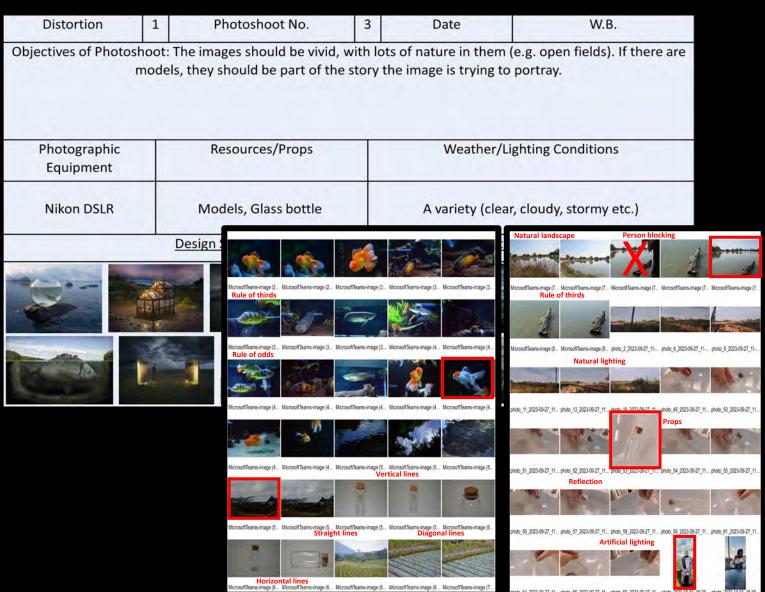
The Photographer is Erik Johansson, it is titled Daybreaker. It shows surrealism, as it shows something that cannot happen in real life and has been distorted through Photoshop. It is set in a grassy terrain near a forest, with trees and rocks jutting out of the ground.

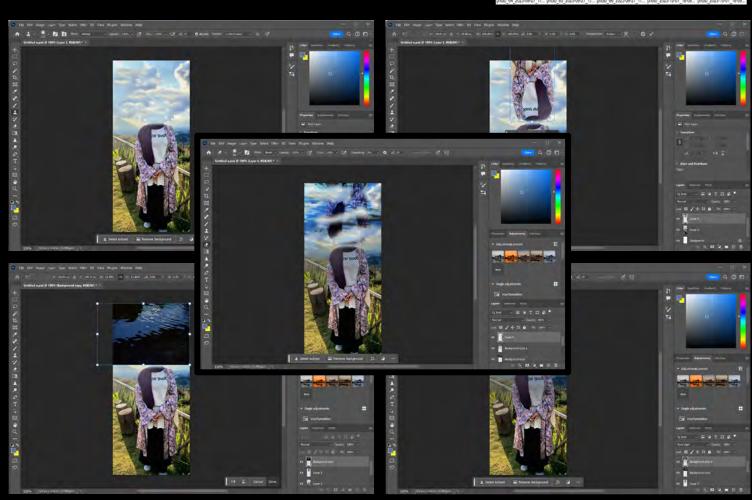
The image contains natural colours, green grass and trees, blue skies. The image has a lot of texture, with uneven grasses and rough rocks. There left of the image is brighter, whilst the right of the image is darker, however, the outlines are still visible. There is a light coming from the house on the right side of image which contrast against the darkness of its surroundings. The light from the moon and the bright clouds contrasts against the dark sky. The left of the image is blurred, whereas the right of the image is more in focus and shows more texture.

The image has rule of thirds as the daytime is in the left third, the nighttime is on the right third and the man turning the handle is in the middle third. The man is in focus and is the centre of the image, showing its significance. The man is in a red shirt, a warm colour which contrasts against the cool hues of the background, drawing attention. The lighting is being used to represent the night and day times and also to still show outlines and clarity in the dark areas. The image is balanced between the light areas and the contrasting dark areas. The tones are naturally occurring and are balanced.

The image is similar to Erik Johansson's other images as the images contain events that would not happen naturally, they are distorted, and they are images of surrealism. The image seems to tell a story about shifting between night and day.

This is chosen as my favourite image because of the story it tells and its surrealism, the way it captures something that cannot exist in real life. The concept and execution is amazing.





ERIK JOHANSSON. (n.d.). ERIK JOHANSSON. https://www.erikjo.com/



I took and edited images in the style of the Photographer Erik Johansson. I went to multiple different places (Al Qudra Lake, Zoos, Forests, Fields). I used my Nikon DSLR camera as well as my phone to take these images. I used my mother and my grandmother as a model in some of them. I then edited these images in and distorted them in multiple ways, for example, merging two images together in one picture. A lot of the distortion was with either the landscape or the subject in the image (or a mix of both, concentrating on the subject).

I tried to use rule of thirds in some of my images and incorporated many different shapes. There is no symmetry in the images. My images are edited to be very vibrant, with many different shapes. The images show a story or an event happening that cannot happen in real life (surrealism).

I could improve my images by better using other formal elements. And making the background and landscapes more minimal, the way Erik Johansson did, and taking my pictures from a high angle. I could also have explored in more creative ways. Using the techniques that I have learned, I could create more blur in images, so I could have the focus be on the subject or make the subject look like it is moving.

Working in the Style of Erik Johansson

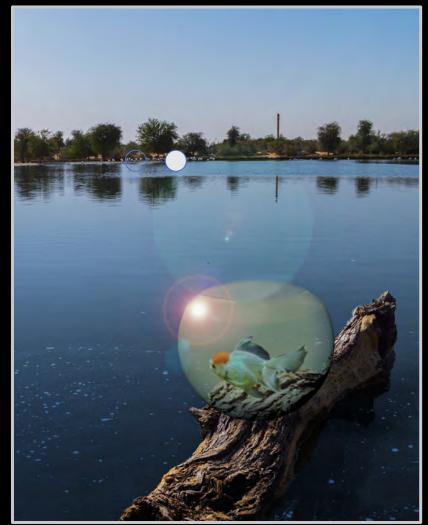














Exploring Ideas in the Style of Erik Johansson

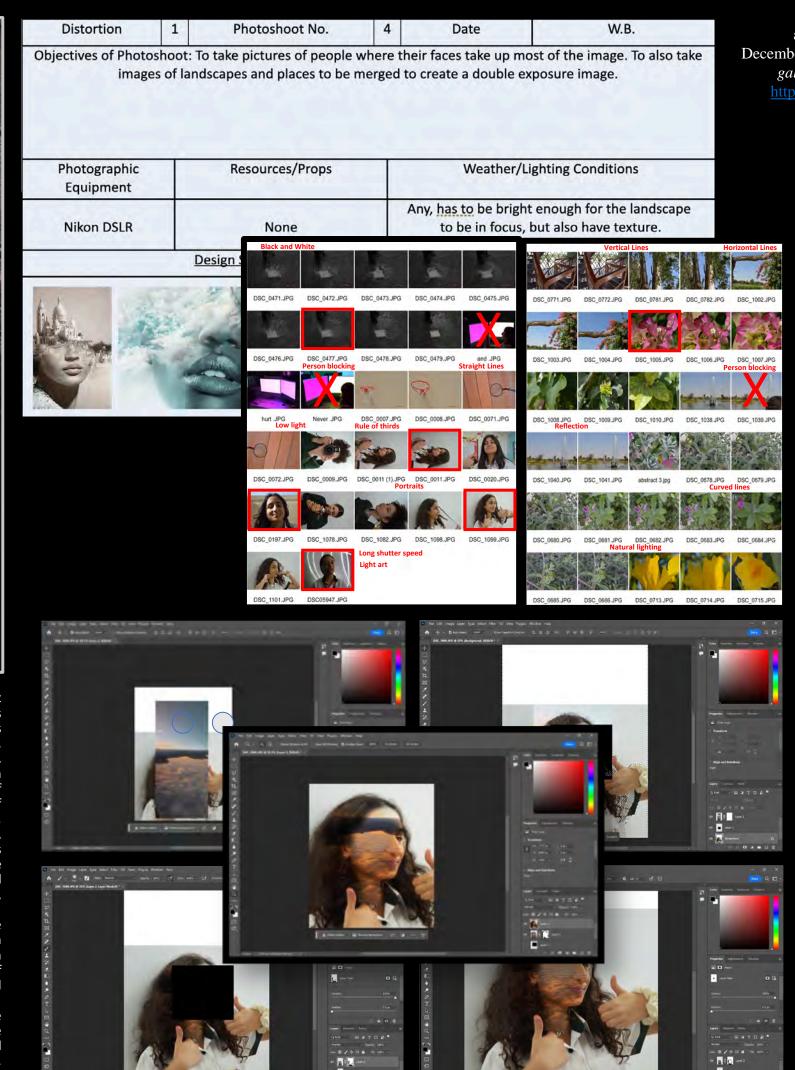




The Photographer is Antonio Mora, it is part of the series of Dream Portraits. It shows unnatural distortion through the use of editing on Photoshop. Two images have been merged to create a double exposure image. A portrait of a human face is seen on the lower half of the image, and an image of a landscape with trees, buildings and architecture is in the top half. Both images merge in the centre, creating both harmony and contrast. Another image also seems to have been added, creating the cracks and texture in the overall image. The image of the landscape is taken during daytime, using natural light from the sun, the image of a human face is taken in a studio with a dark backdrop and controlled indoor lighting. The image contains natural colours of the earth, with faded colours of browns, greens and other skin tone colours, as well as the dark backdrop. The image has texture all throughout, there are cracks in the image. The dark backdrop and the cracks creates contrast through colour, as most of the image are lighter more dull colours, creating a calmer atmosphere. There is a wide depth of field as most if not,

There are a mixture of cool and warm colours. There is one person present in the image. The person is the centre focus of the lower image, creating contrast between the person and the bright lighting, against the dark backdrop, making the person stand out. The image of the landscape is taken at a low angle whereas the image of the human face is taken at eye level. There is a variety of lines and curves formed both by the architecture and the cracks.

This is chosen as my favourite image because of the overall texture created from the cracks, and the blend between the human face and the landscape. The image of the landscape itself is a good image, showing both human made buildings and architectures as well as plants. The image of the human face itself is also striking. The colours are also pleasing to the eye, there is a variety of colours, however it is not too vibrant.



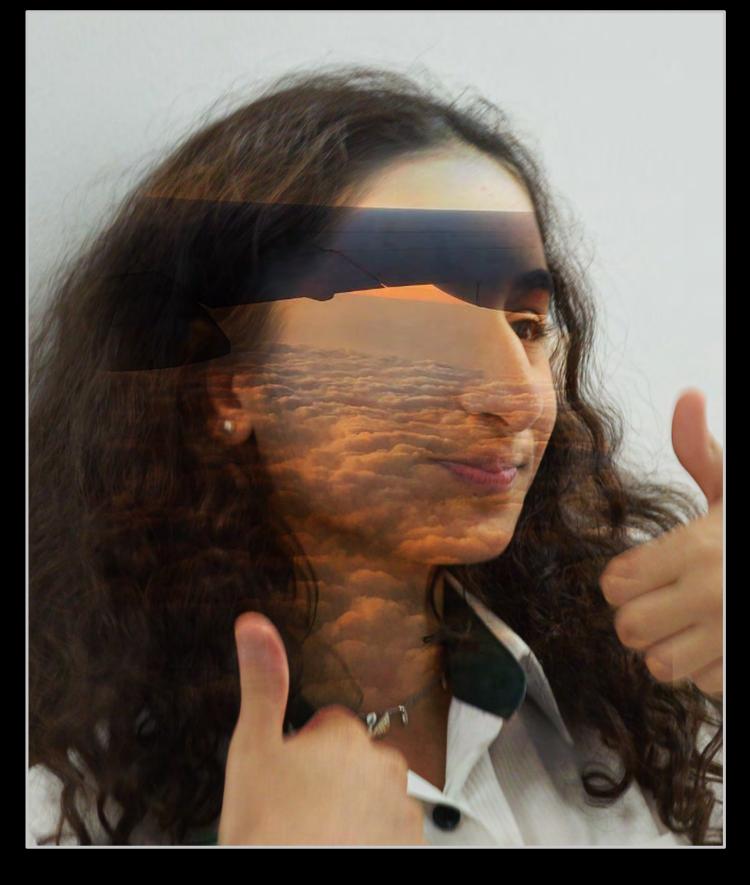
antonio mora gallery. (2023, December 10). home - antonio mora gallery. Antonio Mora Gallery. Antonio Mora Gallery.



I took and edited images in the style of the Photographer Erik Johansson. I went to multiple different places (Al Qudra Lake, Zoos, Forests, Fields). I used my Nikon DSLR camera as well as my phone to take these images. I used my mother and my grandmother as a model in some of them. I then edited these images in and distorted them in multiple ways, for example, merging two images together in one picture. A lot of the distortion was with either the landscape or the subject in the image (or a mix of both, concentrating on the subject).

I tried to use rule of thirds in some of my images and incorporated many different shapes. There is no symmetry in the images. My images are edited to be very vibrant, with many different shapes. The images show a story or an event happening that cannot happen in real life (surrealism). I could improve my images by better using other formal elements. And making the background and landscapes more minimal, the way Erik Johansson did, and taking my pictures from a high angle. I could also have explored in more creative ways. Using the techniques that I have learned, I could create more blur in images, so I could have the focus be on the subject or make the subject look like it is moving.

Working in the Style of Antonio Mora







Exploring
Ideas in
the
Style of
Antonio
Mora













When working in the style of Erik Johansson, I edited my images to they show surrealism/tell a story

I could improve by making the backgrounds and landscapes more minimal, take the photos at a higher angle, edit the images so they are more realistic/more cohesive





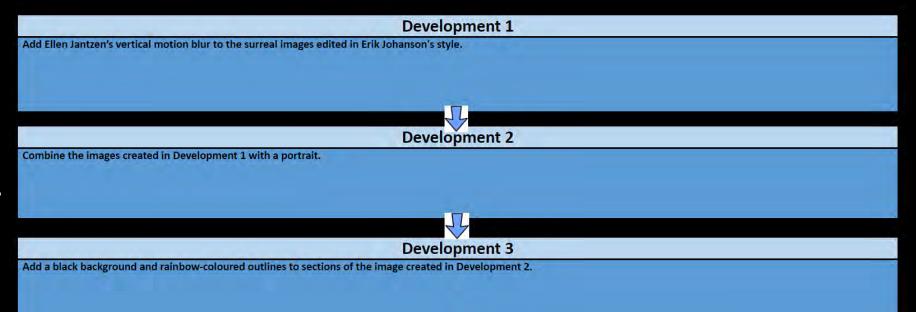
Antonio Mora

When working in the style of Antonia Mora, I created double exposure images

I could improve by taking more photos of people's faces, so I have a wider range of expressions







Development 4

Add finishing touches to Development 3, adjusting brightness, contrast, vibrance, adding text onto the image and adding frames and my signature.



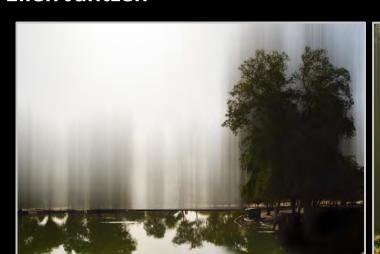


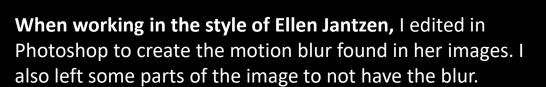
When working in the style of Bing Wright, I took images of sunsets and reflected them on a cracked mirror, natural

distortion.

I could improve by making more cracks with different shapes by shattering more mirrors.

Ellen Jantzen





I could improve by taking pictures where more of the focus is on the background.







Development 1: Erik Johanson + Ellen Jantzen



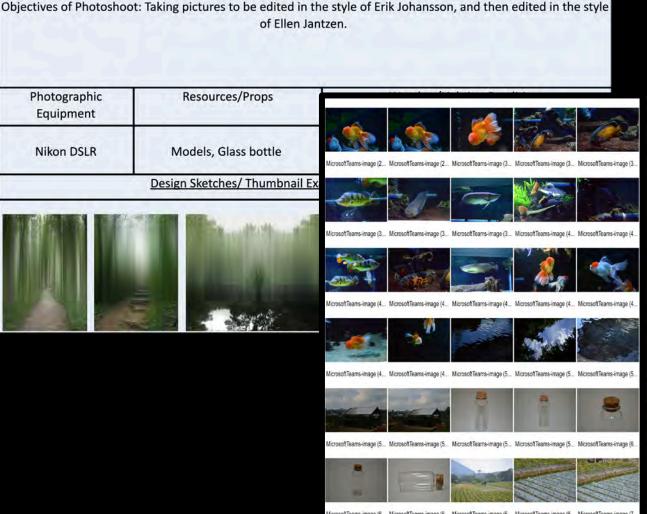


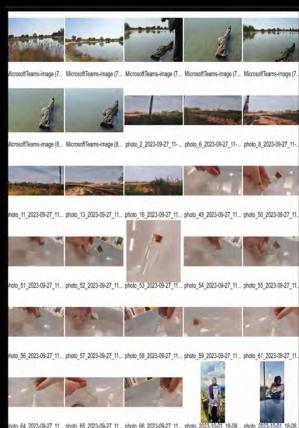
Photoshoot No.











I edited the images I previously created in the style of Erik Johansson. I added Ellen Jantzen's style by incorporating motion blur (at a 90° angle) in different areas of the image. I used Photoshop to edit these images. I did not use any models or take any more images other than the images I had taken previously and already edited. The image shows motion blur through the motion blur

I tried to use rule of thirds in some of the images and added a lot of straight vertical lines in the image using motion blur. I also used the layer mask feature to only incorporate the motion blur in specific areas of the image, while keeping the rest of the image in focus. I further used the layer mask feature to blend out the edges of the motion blur lines. The images are images of surrealism, meant to tell a story and things that cannot exist in real life.

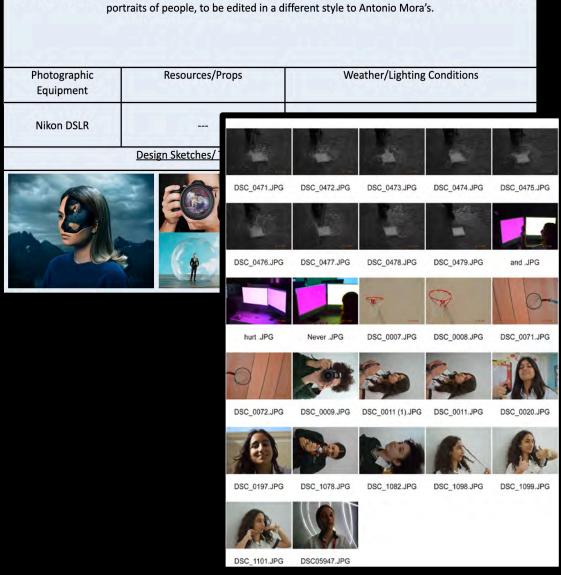
I could further improve the image by making the lines more defined in certain images, and perhaps playing with the vibrancy or hue and saturation to create different colours and effects. I could also perhaps incorporate the motion blur in more different areas of the image, instead of just mostly in the background.

Development 2: Combining with a Portrait





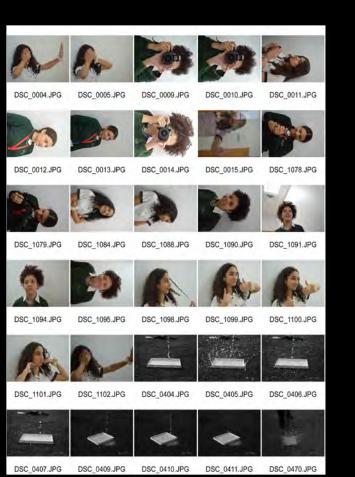




Objectives of Photoshoot: Further editing those images taken and edited previously. This time, incorporating







I edited the images I previously created in the style of Erik Johansson, with Ellen Jantzen's vertical motion blur. Taking inspiration from Antonio Mora, I added portraits and images of people along with the previously edited images. I created distortion by blending the two images into one, for example adding the pictures of fish in water bubbles, in front of an image of a person or placing an image of a model next to the floating bottle. I used Photoshop to edit these images. I did not take any more images other than the images I had taken previously and already edited. However, I did use the pictures of models, previously taken.

I tried to use rule of thirds in some of the images. The images also have straight vertical lines from the motion blur. The images now also have another image in them, some of them layered and edited to create a double exposure effect. There are a variety of different lines added from the facial features as well as the hair. There is also a variety of angles, most of the previous images are taken at a higher angle, the portraits are mostly eye level.

I could further improve the image by making the lines more defined in certain images. I could also perhaps incorporate the images of the models in more creative ways and use a variety of different models with different facial expressions and poses. I could also perhaps improve the quality and clarity of some of the images.

Development 1 and 2 - Screenshots

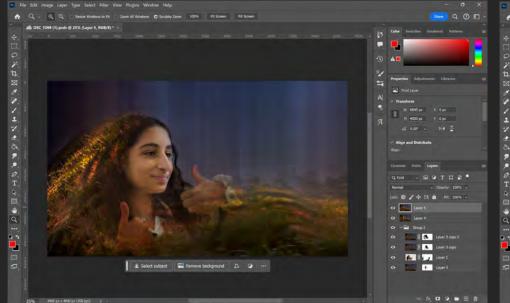




















Development 3: Black + Coloured Lines







I edited the images I previously created in the style of Erik Johansson, with Ellen Jantzen's vertical motion blur. Taking inspiration from Antonio Mora, these images also have images of models edited with them. I then continued to create distortion by making the backgrounds black and added a multicoloured outline in different areas of the image, via the layer mask. I used Photoshop to edit these images. I did not take any more images other than the images I had taken previously and already edited. I tried to use rule of thirds in some of the images. The images also have straight vertical lines from the motion blur. The images now

have straight vertical lines from the motion blur. The images now also have another image in them, some of them layered and edited to create a double exposure effect. There are a variety of different lines added from the facial features as well as the hair, these lines are now in different colours as well. There is also a variety of angles, most of the previous images are taken at a higher angle, the portraits are mostly eye level. There is contrast between the black backgrounds and the more vibrant outlines and parts of the image.

I could further improve the image by making the lines more defined in certain images. I could also perhaps incorporate the images of the models in more creative ways and use a variety of different models with different facial expressions and poses. I could also perhaps improve the quality and clarity of some of the images. I could improve by adding the outlines in more places and perhaps adding them more creatively, for example, I could shift the outlines to a different area, or add different colours to create different effects.





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Development	2	Photoshoot No.	5	Date	W.B.

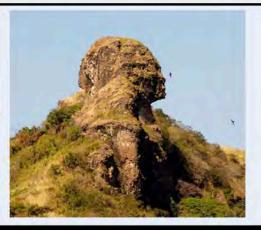
Objectives of Photoshoot: Further editing those images taken and edited previously. This time, incorporating portraits of people, to be edited in a different style to Antonio Mora's.

Photographic Equipment	Resources/Props	Weather/Lighting Conditions		
Nikon DSLR				

Design Sketches/ Thumbnail Examples/Visual Description







Development 4: Final Touches







I edited the images I previously created in the style of Erik Johansson, with Ellen Jantzen's vertical motion blur. Taking inspiration from Antonio Mora, these images also have images of models edited with them. The backgrounds are black. The images also have multicoloured outlines. I continued to create distortion by adding text in different areas of the image, using overlay, and I also added a border and a watermark — my own signature. I used Photoshop to edit these images. I did not take any more images other than the images I had taken previously and already edited.

I tried to use rule of thirds in some of the images. The images also have straight vertical lines from the motion blur. The images now also have another image in them, some of them layered and edited to create a double exposure effect. There are a variety of different lines added from the facial features as well as the hair, these lines are in different colours as well. There are also straighter horizontal and vertical lines created by the border and texts, as well as curved ones. There is also a variety of angles, most of the previous images are taken at a higher angle, the portraits are mostly eye level. There is contrast between the black backgrounds and the more vibrant outlines and parts of the image. The border also creates a contrast with the brightness and colour of the rest of the image.

I could further improve the image by making the lines more defined in certain images. I could also perhaps incorporate the images of the models in more creative ways and use a variety of different models with different facial expressions and poses. I could also perhaps improve the quality and clarity of some of the images. I could improve by adding the outlines in more places and perhaps adding them more creatively. I could improve even more by adding a variety of different borders and shapes. Perhaps I could add a more curved border, or a more detailed one with different shapes and perhaps gradients. I could also change the fonts of the texts or display them differently, to perhaps add more emotion to the image.

These images connect with my initial photographers. I used images created from working in Erik Johansson's style and added motion blur like in Ellen Jantzen's style. I also added images of people, like Antonio Mora did, although slightly differently and my images contain bright and vibrant colours like Bing Wright had in his images.





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Development	3	Photoshoot No.	6	Date	W.B.	

Objectives of Photoshoot: To further edit the image, adding text in different areas, as well as a border, my signature and any extra edits.

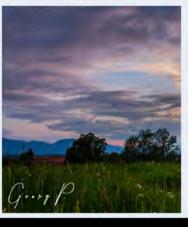
Photographic Equipment	Resources/Props	Weather/Lighting Conditions		
Nikon DSLR		N/A		

<u>Design Sketches/ Thumbnail Examples/Visual Description</u>









Development 3 and 4 - Screenshots













Final Outcome:

Process:

I edited the image I previously created in the style of Erik Johansson, the fish bowl, with Ellen Jantzen's vertical motion blur.

Taking inspiration from Antonio Mora, I combined that image with the image of a model. I combined the image by creating a sort of jelly-like water drip effect in photoshop and added the image in one of those water drops, covering half of my model's face.

I then added more images of fish into some of the other water drips and bubbles.

I then made the background black and added colourful outlines and lines. I used the layer mask to remove some of the colourful lines I did not need.

I continued to create distortion by adding text in different areas of the image, labelling the parts of the image such as "lips" on the lips or "eye" on the model's eye. I used the layer blending mode overlay.

I also added a border and a watermark –my own signature to make the image more stylised.

I also increased the contrast and saturation to make the image look more vibrant.

I used Photoshop to edit these images.

This image links to the theme 'distortion' in multiple different ways as I distorted the image in Photoshop.



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Summary of Success:

This image connects with my initial photographers. I used an image created from working in Erik Johansson's style and added motion blur like in Ellen Jantzen's style. I also added an image of a person, like Antonio Mora did, although slightly differently and my image contains bright and vibrant colours like Bing Wright had in his images.

There are a variety of different lines added from the facial features as well as the hair, these lines are in different colours as well. There are also straighter horizontal and vertical lines created by the border and texts, as well as curved ones. There is contrast between the black backgrounds and the more vibrant outlines and parts of the image. The border also creates a contrast with the brightness and colour of the rest of the image.

I could improve by using a variety of different models with different facial expressions and poses. I could improve by adding the outlines in more places and perhaps adding them more creatively. I could improve even more by adding a variety of different borders and shapes. Perhaps I could add a more curved border, or a more detailed one with different shapes and perhaps gradients. I could also change the fonts of the texts or display them differently, to perhaps add more emotion to the image.