

06 - CONSTRUCTED NARRATIVE

PHMD 201: Photography I

Fall Semester 2013, Tuesday / Thursday 11:30am – 2:20pm (29180) in A+D 211 / 213 / 313

Title: Constructed Narrative / Narrative Tableau

Objectives: At the completion of this assignment, student will be able to:
1. Conceptualize, plan, and orchestrate a complex “staged” photographic tableau that utilizes the inherent narrative potential of each and every square-inch of the frame.

Overview: Based on the assigned reading, class lecture, and class discussion create a constructed photograph that falls within the genre of Photographic Tableau. The resulting photograph will skillfully distill a complex narrative into one single, stand-alone image.

Materials: In addition to the usual (camera, tripod, film holders, film, light meter), you may need the following:
 Props / Wardrobe
 Person(s) to photograph

Vocabulary: Tableau Vivant, Tableau Photography, Narrative, Pictorial

Reading: *Once Upon A Time*, *The Photograph as Art*, Charlotte Cotton, Thames & Hudson, London, 2004

Process / Guidelines:
1. Photograph an event completely orchestrated by you (staged).
2. Details matter - utilize the resolving power of the view camera.
3. Must tell a complex story in a single frame.
4. Expose many sheets of film, but you will hand in just one print.

Suggestions:

1. Offer more questions than answers.
2. Suggest more than reveal.
3. Think in terms of visceral tone / mood.

For the purposes of this course, for a photograph to qualify as tableau:

1. It must be produced for the gallery wall (scale).
2. It must be pictorial (beautifully composed).
3. It must take into consideration the intrinsic qualities of the camera (chance / fleeting moment).
4. It must be an object of thought (made, not “taken”).

You will utilize the Jobo processor to process your film, and the Hasselblad film-scanner to scan it. With the help of your peers, choose the single best photograph and turn in the following:

1. One (1) neutral inkjet print on 8.5x11-inch paper.
2. One (1) layered TIFF or PSD file (downsized to approx. 16x20-inches @ 300 ppi and uploaded to the class server) each with the following layers:
 - I. A levels adjustment layer with a defined black (4,4,4) and white point (248, 248, 248).
 - II. A global curve adjustment layer
 - III. At least one local curve adjustment layer with a layer mask (dodge / burn)Files should be approximately 16x20 inches @ 300 ppi.
3. 8.5x11-inch contact sheets for any additional film/images made.

Both files and prints should be free of dust and blemishes.

Breakdown: Craft: 10% | Tech & Tools: 20% | Form & Comp: 20% | Concept: 40% | Directions: 10%

Schedule:

Tues, Oct 15: Fall Break - No Class

Thurs, Oct 17: Work Day, Assigned Reading Due - Bring Questions.

Tues, Oct 22: 1 print for in-class critique, 1 layered files uploaded to server, Contact Sheet(s)
