

MASTERY WORKSHOPS SERIES #8

Introduction



Introduction to the Artistic Composition Mastery Workshop

Introduction

About Alain Briot -> link Colophon -> link

- Introduction -> pdf + audio
- The Art of Composition -> pdf
- The goals of the Mastery Workshops Series -> pdf
- About seeing -> pdf
- Table of contents -> pdf
- Mastery Workshops updates site -> pdf

An artist's job is to surprise himself. Use all means possible. Robert Henri



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Help -> pdf

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MASTERY WORKSHOPS SERIES #8

Section One



2

Mastering Artistic Photography

SECTION ONE

Introduction

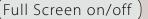
- The characteristics of Artistic Photography -> pdf + audio
- Photographing what you feel -> pdf + audio
- Revealing the artist within -> pdf
- Creativity and the psychological aspects of art -> pdf
- Technical aesthetics -> pdf
- Style and vision exercises -> pdf
- Creativity exercises -> pdf



I have not taught painting because it cannot be taught. I have taught seeing. Josef Albers





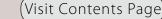


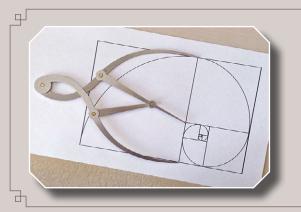
The aim of art is to represent not

the outward appearance of things,

but their inward significance.

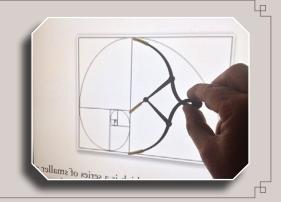
Aristotle





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Section Two



Fundamental Artistic Digital Practices

Section TWO

Introduction

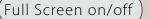
A true photograph need not be explained, nor can it be contained in words. Ansel Adams What are the Fundamental Artistic Digital Practices? -> pdf + audio
• Fundamental Artistic Digital Practices exercises -> pdf

The critic has to educate the public; the artist has to educate the critic. Oscar Wilde











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Section Two



Artistic Collaging

- What is artistic collaging -> pdf + audio
- Artistic collaging examples -> pdf + audio
- Photomerge in Lightroom CC -> video
- Photomerge in Photoshop CC -> video
- Photomerge in ACR -> pdf

A photographer's work is given shape and style by his personal vision. It is not simply technique, but the way he looks at life and the world around him.

Pete Turner



Artistic Warping & Stretching

- What is artistic warping & stretch -> pdf + audio
- Artistic Warping movie -> video
- Artistic Warping examples -> pdf + audio
- Artistic Stretching movie -> video
- Artistic Stretching examples -> pdf + audio

Artistic Cropping & Formatting

- What is artistic cropping & formatting -> pdf + audio
- Artistic cropping examples -> pdf + audio
- Artistic reformatting movie -> video
- Artistic reformatting examples -> pdf + audio
- Full process examples -> pdf + audio

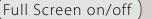
For a writer, as an artist, style is a matter of vision, not a technique. Marcel Proust

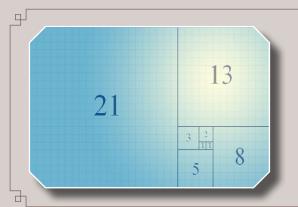












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Fundamental Artistic Composition Theories SECTION THREE

It is only with the heart that one can see rightly.

What is essential is invisible to the eye.

Antoine de Saint-Exupery

- ${\hspace{1pt}\text{\circ}\hspace{1pt}}$ What are the Fundamental Artistic Theories ? -> $pdf+{\hspace{1pt}\text{audio}}$
- Fundamental Artistic Composition Theories exercises -> pdf
 - Summary of the 8 Gestalt Concepts -> pdf + audio
 - Summary of the Golden Ratio Theory -> pdf + audio

Your first 10,000 photographs are your worst. Henri Cartier-Bresson









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8

Gestalt Theory

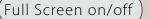
- What is the Gestalt Theory? -> pdf + audio
- The eight Gestalt concepts -> pdf + audio
- 1 Proximity -> pdf + audio
- 2 Similarity -> pdf + audio
- 3 Alignment -> pdf + audio
- 4 Continuity -> pdf + audio
- 5 Closure -> pdf + audio
- 6 Figure and Ground -> pdf + audio
- 7 Equilibrium -> pdf + audio
- 8 Simplicity -> pdf + audio
- Gestalt concepts summary -> pdf + audio



The true method of knowledge is experiment. William Blake







Quo If you work from memory,

you are most likely to put in your real feeling.

Robert Henri

THE EIGHT GESTALT CONCEPTS







2 - Similarity



3 - Alignment



4 - Continuity



5 - Closure



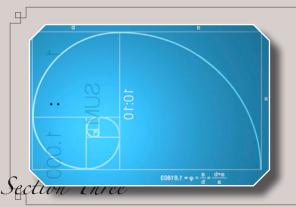
6 - Figure and Ground



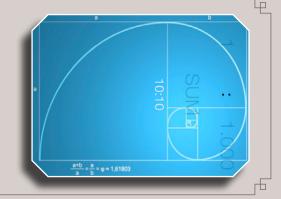
7 - Balance



8 - Simplicity



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9

Golden Ratio

- What is the Golden Ratio ? -> pdf + audio
- How to use the Golden Compass -> pdf + audio
- Golden Compass example #1 -> pdf + audio
- Golden Compass example #1 movie -> video
- Golden Compass example #2 -> pdf + audio
- Golden Compass example #2 movie -> video
- ${ ilde{\,}}$ My Golden Compass collection ${ o}$ pdf + audio
- Golden Ratio overlays -> pdf + audio

- Golden Ratio overlays movie -> video
- Finding the Golden Ratio in Photoshop -> pdf + audio
- Golden Ratio in Photoshop movie -> video
- Finding the Golden Ratio in Lightroom -> pdf + audio
- Golden Ratio in Lightroom movie -> video
- PhiMatrix software -> pdf + audio
- PhiMatrix software movie -> video
- Golden Ratio examples -> pdf + audio
- Golden Ratio summary -> pdf

All creative success requires creative failure.

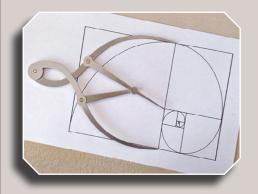
Julia Cameron



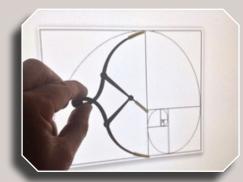




THE GOLDEN RATIO THEORY







Golden Compass



Golden Ratio Process



Golden Compass Collection



Lightroom Overlays



Photoshop Overlays



PhiMatrix 1.618



Examples





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Section Four



Fundamental Artistic Composition Concepts SECTION FOUR

Introduction

Like other visual artists, let's have the courage to create images that express how we imagine how a scene was, rather than just what the camera saw.

Michael Reichmann

- The Fundamental Artistic Composition Concepts -> pdf + audio
 - Fundamental Artistic Composition Concepts exercises -> pdf
 - Fundamental Artistic Concepts summary -> pdf + audio

There is no blue without yellow and without orange.
Vincent Van Gogh









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Section Four



Negative Space

- What is negative space? -> pdf + audio
- Negative space drawings -> pdf + audio
- Negative space examples -> pdf + audio

Black is the queen of all colors. Henri Matisse



- What is perspective? -> pdf + audio
- Perspective drawings -> pdf + audio
- Perspective examples -> pdf + audio



- What is geometry restructuring? -> pdf + audio
- Restructuring process -> pdf + audio
- Restructuring examples -> pdf + audio
- Restructuring tutorial movie -> video

The other thing in composition is opening up the unconscious. John Fahey











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Section Four



14 Form

- What is form ? -> pdf + audio
- Form examples -> pdf + audio

Good composition is like a suspension bridge - each line adds strength and takes none away. Robert Henri



15 Line

- What is line? -> pdf + audio
- Line examples -> pdf + audio

15

16 Light

- What is light? -> pdf + audio
- Light examples -> pdf + audio
- Light apps -> pdf

In my photography, color and composition are inseparable. I see in color.

William Albert Allard









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Section Four



17 Color

- What is color? -> pdf + audio
- Recreating athmospheric depth -> pdf + audio
- Why painters got it right -> pdf + audio
- Colors and feelings -> pdf
- Color examples -> pdf + audio

A law of composition: If it does not fit do not force it; it is not for it. Jack Bartholomew



18 Black & White

- What is black & white ? -> pdf + audio
- Black & White conversion techniques -> pdf + audio
- Black & White conversion in Lightroom -> video
- Black & White conversion in ACR -> video
- Black & White conversion in Photoshop -> video
- Sepia conversion in Photoshop -> video
- Black & White Master Files -> pdf
- Black & White examples -> pdf + audio
- Sepia examples -> pdf + audio



19 Foreground-Background

- What is foreground background? -> pdf + audio
- Foreground-Background examples -> pdf + audio

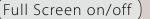
I find a single focus in the scene and then play everything off that one thing.

Kenn Backhaus















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Section Four



20 High Key, Low Key

- What is high key & low key? -> pdf + audio
- High key & low key examples -> pdf + audio

After drawing comes composition.

A well-composed painting is half done.

Pierre Bonnard



21 Vertical-Horizontal

- What is vertical and horizontal? -> pdf + audio
- Vertical & horizontal examples -> pdf + audio

22 Pattern & Rhythm

- What is pattern & rhythm? -> pdf + audio
- Pattern & rhythm examples -> pdf + audio

The composition is the organized sum of the interior functions of every part of the work.

Wassily Kandinsky













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Section Four



23 Symmetry

- What is Symmetry? -> pdf + audio
- Symmetry examples -> pdf + audio

I long ago came to the conclusion that even if I could put down accurately the thing I saw and enjoyed, it would not give the observer the kind of feeling it gave me. I had to create an equivalent for what I felt about what I was looking at and not copy it.

Georgia O'Keefe



24 Framing

- What is framing? -> pdf + audio
- Framing examples -> pdf + audio

25_A

Aesthetics of three

- What are the Aesthetics of Three ? -> pdf + audio
- Aesthetics of Three examples -> pdf + audio

All science touches on art; all art has its scientific side.
The worst scientist is the one who is not an artist;
the worst artist is the one who is not a scientist.
Armand Trousseau









THE FIFTEEN FUNDAMENTAL ARTISTIC COMPOSITION CONCEPTS



1 - Positive-Negative



2 - Perspective



3 - Restructuring



4 - Form



5 - Lines



6 - Light



7 - Color



8 - Black and White



9 - Foreground-Background



10 - High Key-Low Key



11 - Vertical-Horizontal



12 - Pattern & Rhythm



13 - Symmetry



14 - Framing



15 - The Aesthetics of Three



CLICK ON THE **IMAGES TO** OPEN THE **DESCRIPTIONS**







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Section Five



26 Artistic Exaggeration SECTION FIVE

To live a creative life we must lose our fear of being wrong.

Joseph Chilton Pearce

- What is Artistic Exaggeration ? -> pdf + audio
- Examples of Artistic Exaggeration -> pdf + audio
 - Section five exercises -> pdf + audio
- Artistic Exaggeration Principles summary -> pdf

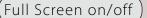
A passion for the dramatic arts is inherent in the nature of man.

Edwin Forrest

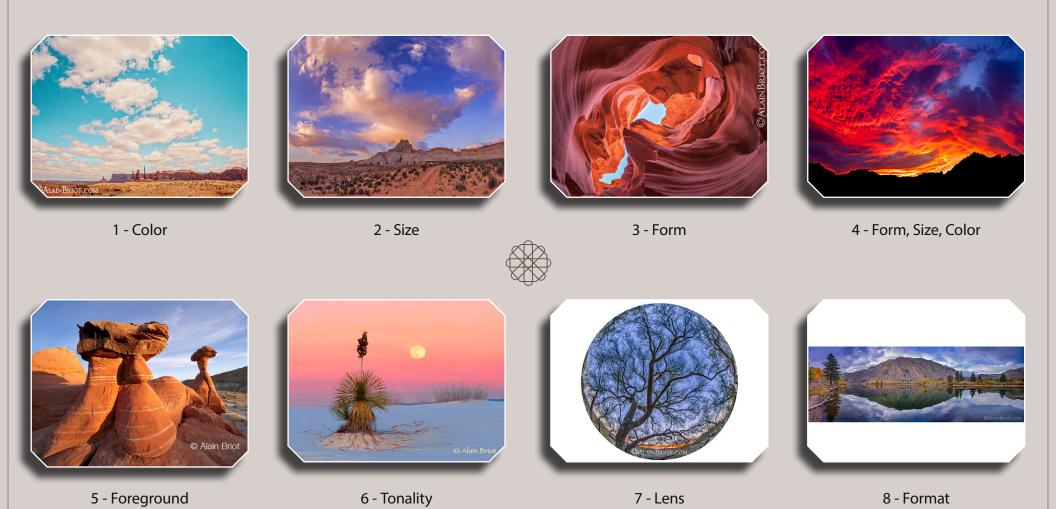








THE EIGHT MAJOR TYPES OF ARTISTIC EXAGGERATION









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Section Six



Sorting Things Out SECTION SIX

Introduction

- Why sort things out ? -> pdf + audio
- Section six exercises -> pdf + audio

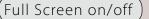
It has long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things. Leonardo da Vinci

The image is more than an idea. It is a vortex or cluster of fused ideas and is endowed with energy. Ezra Pound











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Section Six



Effective & Ineffective Compositions

- What are effective and ineffective compositions? -> pdf + audio
- 23 composition mistakes -> pdf
- 15 remarks on composition -> pdf
- Effective and ineffective examples -> pdf + audio

Making Artistic Choices

- What are effective and ineffective choices? -> pdf + audio
- Making artistic choices examples -> pdf + audio
- Recommendations for further work -> pdf + audio

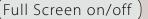
Composition is the art of arranging in a decorative manner the various elements which the painter uses to express his sentiments. In a picture every separate part will be visible and... everything which has no utility in the picture is for that reason harmful. Henri Matisse













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Conclusion



30

Conclusion

CONCLUSION

Where the spirit does not work with the hand there is no art. Leonardo da Vinci

- Conclusion -> pdf + audio
- My philosophy -> pdf
- Being you -> pdf

Good composition is like a suspension bridge; each line adds strength and takes none away... Making lines run into each other is not composition. There must be motive for the connection.

Get the art of controlling the observer – that is composition.

Robert Henri

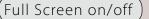


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Time stays long enough for those who use it. Leonardo da Vinci









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1 - Introduction

List of references -> pdf + audio

2 - BOOKS ABOUT COMPOSITION

List of books -> pdf

3 - ARTISTIC COMPOSITION CONCEPTS

- Gestalt summary -> pdf + audio
- Golden Ratio summary -> pdf + audio
- Fundamental cpts summary -> pdf + audio
- Exaggeration Principles summary -> pdf

4 - ARTISTIC COMPOSITION CONCEPTS LIST

All 27 artistic composition concepts -> pdf

Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.

Leonardo da Vinci

REFERENCE FILES

No one is an artist unless he carries his picture in his head before painting it, and is sure of his method and composition.

Claude Monet

5 - STYLE & COMPOSITION EXERCISES

List of all exercises -> pdf

6 - QUOTES

- Composition quotes -> pdf
- Photography quotes -> pdf
- Robert Henri quotes -> pdf
- Cartier Bresson quotes -> pdf
- Experimentation quotes -> pdf
- Julia Cameron quotes -> pdf
- Amateurs quotes -> pdf



7 - APPS AND SOFTWARE

List of Sofware for composition -> pdf

8 - GOLDEN RATIO OVERLAYS

List of Golden Ratio Overlays -> pdf

9 - MASTER FILES

List of Master Files -> pdf

10 - CONSULTING PROGRAM

- Description -> pdf
- Print review -> pdf
- Registration form -> pdf

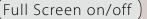
11 - MASTERY WORKSHOPS UPDATES

Mastery Workshops updates site -> pdf

Too much of a good thing is wonderful. Liberace









(Visit Contents Page)







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CONTENTS PAGE

- I Introduction
- 2 Section 1: Mastering Artistic Photography
- 3 Section 2: Fundamental Artistic Practices
- \mathcal{A} Artistic Warping & Stretching
- ${\mathcal S}$ Artistic Collaging & Stitching
- δ Artistic Cropping & Reformatting
- 7 Section 3: Fundamental Artistic Theories
- $\it 8$ Gestalt Theory
- 9 Golden Ratio
- 10 Section 4: Fundamental Artistic Concepts
- 11 Negative Space
- 12 Perspective

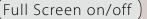
- 13 Image Geometry Restructuring
- 14 Form
- *15* Line
- 16 Light
- 17 Color
- 18 Black & White
- 19 Foreground-Background
- 2θ High Key & Low Key
- 21 Vertical & Horizontal
- 22 Pattern & Rhythm
- 23 Symmetry



- 24 Framing
- 25 The Aesthetics of Three
- 26 Section 5: Artistic Exaggeration
- 27 Section 6: Sorting Things Out
- 28 Effective & Ineffective Compositions
- 29 Making Artistic Choices
- 30 Conclusion
- 31 Reference Files
- * Contents Page
- † Alain's Biography
- † Quote
- † Collophon









ABOUT ALAIN BRIOT

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Project Specifics: This Mastery Workshop was created in 2015 in Vistancia, Arizona.



Originally from Paris, France, I have lived in the United States since 1986. Making my home in Arizona, my favorite photographic locations include Navajoland, where I lived for 7 years, the Grand Canyon and the rugged canyonland wilderness of Southern Utah and Northern Arizona.

The choice of which camera I use is based on my vision for each image. In the past I have worked with 4x5 and 35 mm. Currently I work with 35 mm occasionally and with medium format digital primarily. Because the majority of my work is printed large, and because of the quality requirements of Fine Art, I favor large and medium format cameras.

My goal is to create photographs that demonstrate my vision. My equipment, be it cameras, software, printers, etc. is chosen for its ability to make this possible. My vision of the landscape is of a place of beauty, a place where we can experience a direct contact with nature, a place where we can find respite from the pressures and stresses of the 21st century, a place where we can find inspiration and freedom of expression.

The quality of my work is the result of two factors: hard work and natural abilities. I have been an artist all my life and I was never pushed to make art either by my parents or anyone else. I had, undoubtedly, a personal attraction for creative endeavors and for all things artistic. However, only through hard work did this natural ability result in the work I am creating today.

I started photography in 1980 and it took me years before I started creating satisfying images. I had very high expectations for the first photographs I took, but the outcome of my early efforts was disappointing. I realized early on that persistence regular practice and a focus on study were required to succeed.

Today I have made what was originally a hobby into a successful profession. I make a living from the sale of my Fine Art Prints, I write books, create photography tutorials and teach photography workshops. I also have a significant amount of free time during which I enjoy practicing hobbies and collecting art.

If you are not satisfied with your current results, do not despair. It took me years of constant study, practice and dedication to create images that satisfy me. Succeeding in the creation of Fine Art Photographs is not an easy endeavor. However, dedication and persistence go a long way towards achieving successful results, and so does regular study with dedicated teachers who are where you want to be.

If you want to learn more about the process of achieving success in photography, I recommend reading my essay titled Rethinking Talent in which I describe the disappointment I experienced when I saw the results of my early photographic efforts.

One of my goals in creating this DVD tutorial was to help you make the best use of your time by providing you with knowledge that took me years to acquire and refine. It is my sincere hope that this tutorial will make your journey faster, easier and, above all, fun and enjoyable.



The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance.

Aristotle







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