

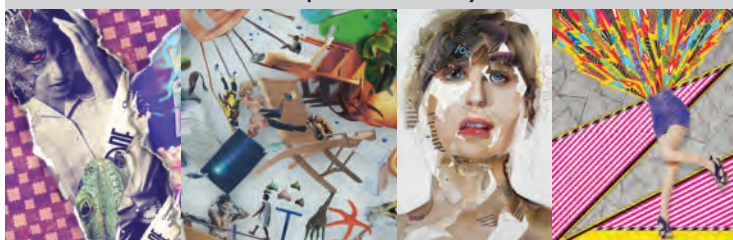
Go outside & create a piece of land art and photograph it. See Sylvain Meyer, Jim Denevan, Sonja Hinrichsen, Andreas Amador and Andy Goldsworthy.



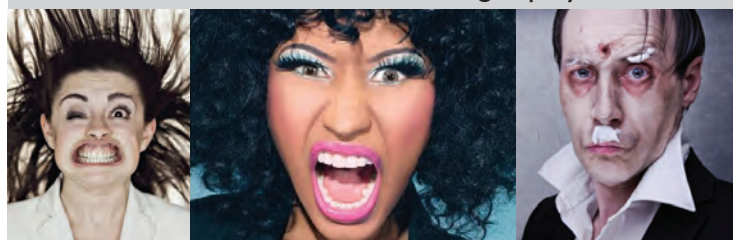
Create a scene out of paper and photograph it. Try to tell a story. See Thomas Allen, Anastassia Elias, Jayme McGowan, Scott Hazard, Don Lucho, Karen Bit Vejles, Mikey Please, or Search Paper Art.



Make a collage out of a bunch of your photographs. Remember to use the rules of composition. See Nikki Farquharson, Gabi Trinkaus, Raul Cardenas, Derek Gores, Jason Mecier, Lola Dupre and Bryan Schnelle.



Photograph people making unusual faces. Make sure you take the background and composition into account. See Ruadh Delone, Sascha Nordmeyer, Tadao Cern or Search Emotion Photography.



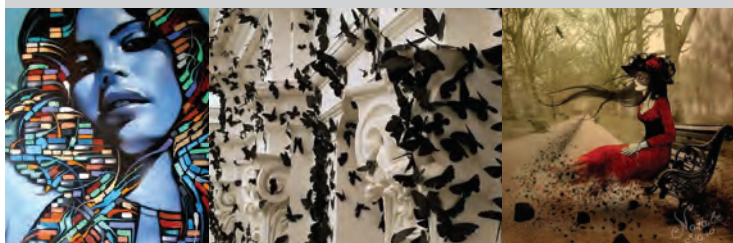
Capture a single type of object repeated many times. Cards, food, dishes & books are some possibilities... See Laura Marie (Flickr) & Mitchel Feinberg.



Create double exposures of portraits and other things such as landscapes, plants, textures, cities etc. See Dietmar Busse, Florian Imgrund, Dan Mounford, Charles Bergquist, Fontas Nicolas, & Pakayla Biehn.



Go to a art blog such as Colossal, Booooooom, Sweet Station, Beautiful Decay, Artist-A-Day, etc. Create photographs inspired by the things you find.



Search a place that you know well and photograph things most people wouldn't normally notice. See Taryn Simon, 365 challenge & Flickr's unnoticed photos group.



Capture a Photo that conveys each one of these emotions without showing a face. Rage, Loneliness, Desperation and Pure Joy.



Take a photo of something from as close as you can get it in focus, 1 step back, 5 steps back, and 50 steps back. Focus on creating the best possible composition in each photo.



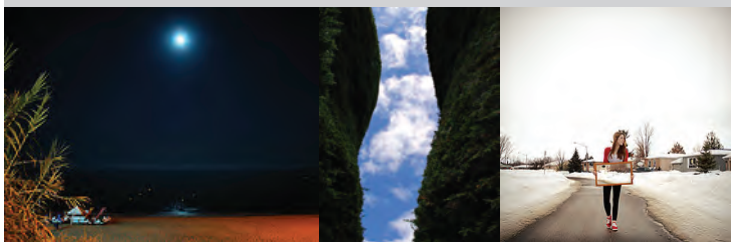
Take pictures of the inside of something. The image could abstract the object, or bring incite into the mystery of what is going on behind the scenes in the things we see every day.



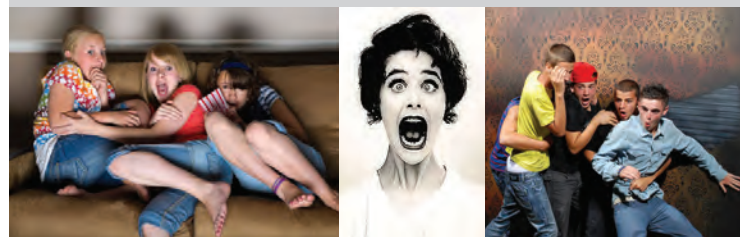
Take photos at different locations, all with your camera on or near the ground. Experiment, and notice how it changes your perception of your subject.



Shoot photographs that use negative space in an interesting way. It should be the main or at least secondary focal point in the photo.



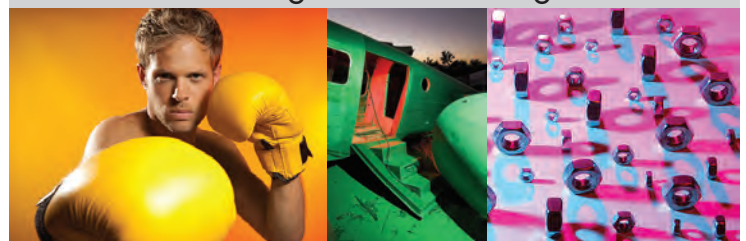
Scare or Startle someone and take their picture. Set up your camera and trigger it remotely to get a clean shot. See Nightmares Fear Factory hidden Camera.



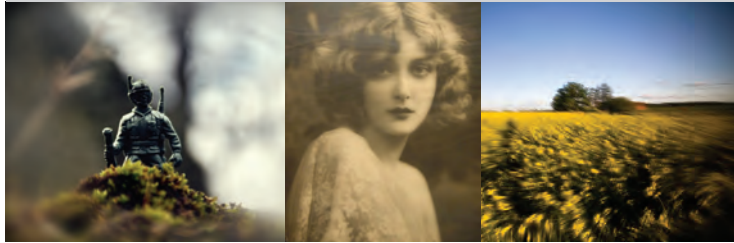
Take a self portrait That doesn't show your face. Be creative about how and why your face is obscured. Communicate something about your personality in the photo.



Take a few photos through a translucent object that has color. Lighting gels work best, but be creative. Use the flash with a distant background to get a different colored background and foreground.



Cover your lens with something clear then rub Vaseline on it. Alternatively, try wrapping saran wrap around the edge of the lens or slightly shake the camera. Experiment with soft focus.



Find and photograph interesting textures up close. Cracks in buildings, food, moss, fabric, whatever you can think of. See CG Textures for some good ideas.



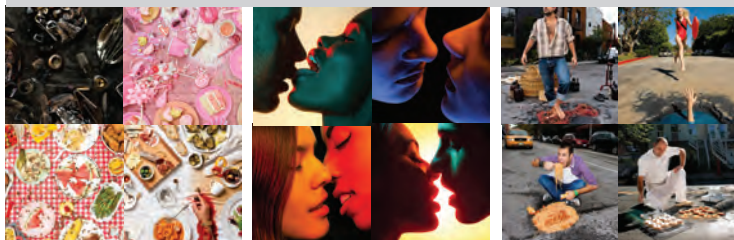
Take "arm's length" self portraits in different locations (make sure focus is set for this focal length). You may be alone or with others, use props, reflections, or a remote shutter.



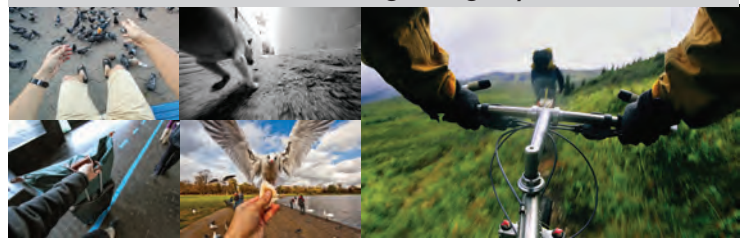
Use stuffed animals to create a series of photos that show them from a unique point of view. See Chunlong Sun, Mark Nixon, Heidelberg Project, Katja Kemnitz.



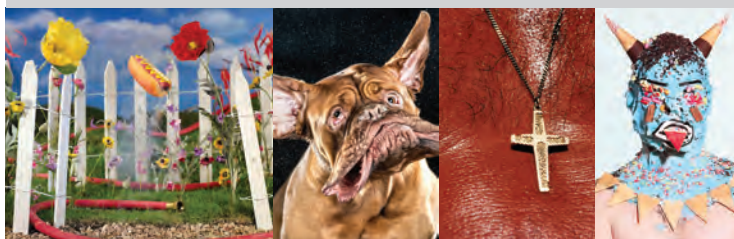
Search the web until you find a single photo or subject that you think has a great idea behind it and turn it into a series of photos. (Be sure that it is not already a series)



Take photos from a subjects point of view. Try to pick compositions where they are not at a normal eye level (low, high, etc). See Timur Zhansultanov, Alex Royal, Murad Osmann, Oleg Grigoryev.



Take photos with a sense of humor, irony, quirkiness or absurdity. Try to get the colors, textures and composition to help set the mood and tell the story.

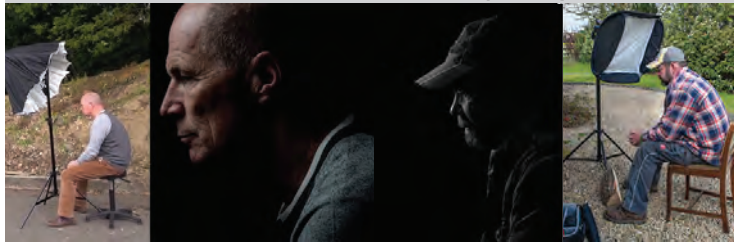


Organize objects to create photo "wallpaper" patterns. Consider how objects you use relate (color, texture, meaning, etc). See Carolin Wanitzek, Julie Lee, James Tolich, Fred Michel, Katie Pritchard.



Take photos of different people in an outdoor space, making the background completely black by adjusting your settings.

You could also try this on still life objects. See the invisible black backdrop, Glyn Dewis.



Create artificial symmetry and abstraction by mirroring some of your photographs in a variety of ways. This works especially well in photos with many details or leading lines.



Use broken mirrors, strings, framing, lines, collage, shadows and other methods to create fractured images. Experiment with how this technique changes a photo's narrative.



Take a series of photographs inspired by a movie, or TV show. Don't make it too obvious. Often the more abstract the connection, the better the photos will be.



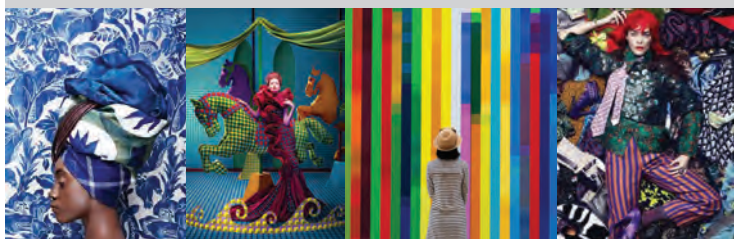
Create a portal in your photograph from one place to another. This may be done in camera, digitally or after the image is printed. See Jon Arrowood, Scott Hazard,



Take photographs that deal with the concept of multiple things that occupy a single space over a period of time. See Casey Mccalister, Stephen Wilkes, Tyler Nypen, Shaun Kardinal.



Use overlapping patterns to create an overload. See fashion photography, Stefan Sagmeister, Viviane Sassen, Emilia Kallinen, Tejal Patni, Steven Meisel, Robbie Fimmano.



Put photographs on unusual materials or add/subtract materials from them after being printed. See Liquid photo emulsion, photo transfers, and mixed media photography.



Get in a Car. Drive in a direction you don't normally go for 5 min. Turn right. Drive for one miniature. Turn left again, drive till you feel like stopping. Take photos in this place for at least 20 min.



Go for a walk in an area that you don't spend a lot of time. Try to avoid places that lots of people go. Walk for at least 30 mins. See Scott Kelby's worldwide Photo-walk & 10 Tips For A Great Photo-walk



Shoot a photo from underneath something such as a table, a car or a bed. Try to be sneaky you may get an unexpected subject. Play with composition. See Michael Rohde, Brock Davis & Seth Casteel.



Pick a book or fairytale. Stage photos that "tell" an important part of the story. See Eugenio Recuenco, Annie Leibovitz, Bruno Vilela, & Thomas Czarnecki.



Take a series of photos of one subject interacting with one or more props. Make sure you think about what props you will use and the environment/background and lighting ahead of time.



Choose a spot where there is a lot of activity going on. Stand in one spot for 15 min. then walk for 15min. Take photos of the things you see. Search street photography.



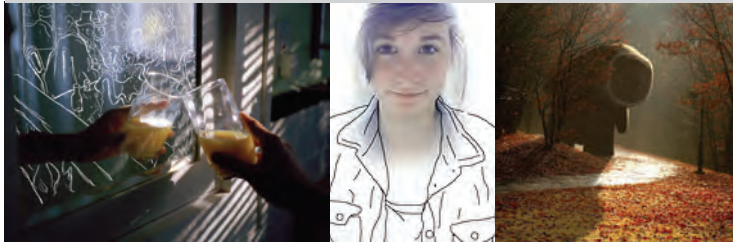
Take pictures of different foods. Try close up, and action shots. Some photos may look glamorous, others disgusting. Experiment.



Pretend that you are a product photographer. Style the product in a few different settings & Make it look appealing and exciting. See Mitchel Feinberg, Mathew Zucker & Patrick Connor.



Take photos and draw/paint on them. Try to add color, pattern, texture, and subject matter to make your photos more exciting. See Tebe Interesno, Josh Poehlein & The "Drawn-On Photographs" Flickr Group.



Take a photo of your room. Clean or messy, wide angle or close up, full or empty. Tell a story & express yourself. See Rania Matar (a girl and her room), Bedrooms of the Fallen, Joshua Hoffine & Lyndon Wade.



Photograph a super hero/villain. Use photo manipulation to create simulated powers. See Agan Harahap, Natsumi Hayashi, Adam Jay, Dulce Pinzon, Marvellini Brothers, Sacha Goldberger, Li Wei, Jason Lee.



Find a place that seems mysterious and take pictures of it that shows off the mystery.

See Lucie & Simon, Paul Brown, Ryan Schude, Leonid Tishkov, Stephan Wilkes, Gregory Crewdson.



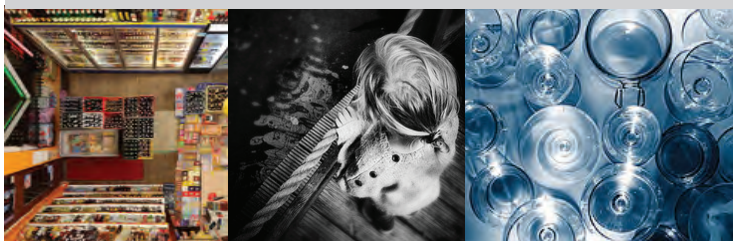
Take photos that have a primarily linear composition. This means that most of the lines in the picture head in the same direction, (just having leading lines is not enough).



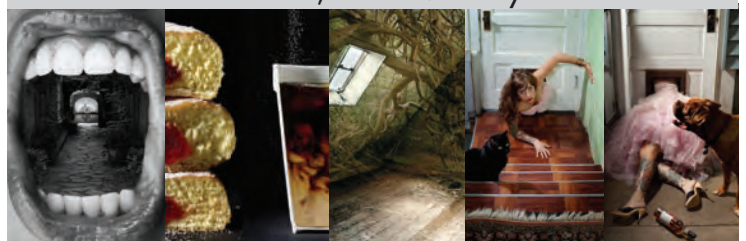
Take photos that use only cool colors. (Blue, Green, Purple, Black & White)
Take photos that use only warm colors. (Red, Orange, Yellow, Black & White)



Take photos of things looking down on them. Food, people, objects. All from above. See 12 Unique Views of Rooms from Above, Navid Baraty, Maison Grey.



Take a photo dealing with the idea of Inside and Outside. Be creative. See Jerry Uelsmann, Carolyn Lefley, Beth Galton, Emily Nelson, Urbexography, Osceola Refetoff, Nick Veasey.



Take photos inspired by the idea of work.
This could be chores, people at different jobs, tools used for work, workplaces, etc.
Tell stories with your pictures!



Take photos out/or in different "windows".
Don't forget about reflections. See Yaryshev Evgeny - In Da Car, Albert Halaban, Oscar Fernando Gomez, Janet Borden, Julio Bittencourt, Clay Lipsky, Rafa Torre.



Take photos inspired by "together and apart".
You could use people or objects, things broken apart, small distance vs great distance. Lots of possibilities!



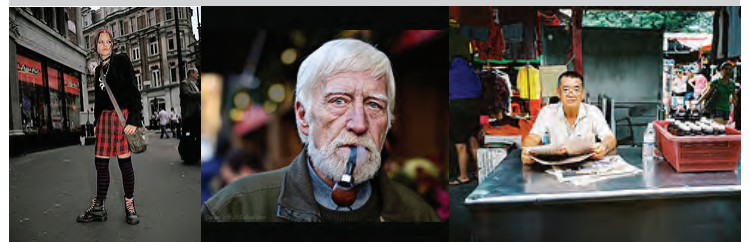
Research the concept of bokeh (the shapes created by lights that are out of focus) and take creative bokeh photos. Experiment with shapes and light sources. Be original!



Take photos exploring the theme of "hard and soft". You could use objects, attitudes, or places. You could even make hard objects soft or visa-versa.



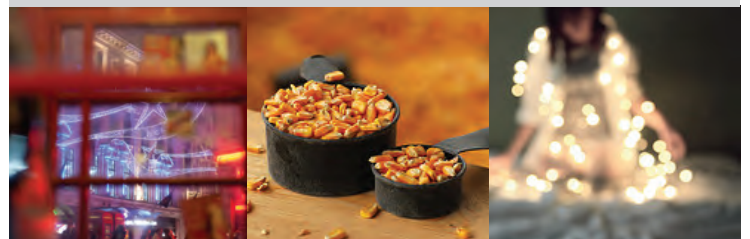
Take pictures of strangers in a public place.
Consider introducing yourself & finding out a little about them. See if they will let you take more pictures. (Be Careful!)



Research a few famous or contemporary photographers. Find one that you like and take photos inspired by their style, (not a direct recreation of one of their pics).



Take photos inspired by a holiday, and try to avoid using cliché. Try keeping your photo obscure enough that it doesn't scream holiday.



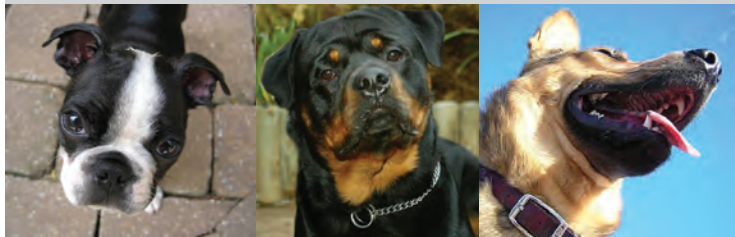
Experiment with key lights (a light source behind your subject). Play with creating dimension or flat space, halos, rays and other effects.



Take photos of groups (4 or more) of people. Try positioning them in different ways. See Band, wedding, crowd and street photography for examples.



Find something short and something tall. Shoot 3 photos of each item (6 total). One photo from below, one directly on and one from above. How do the photos relate?



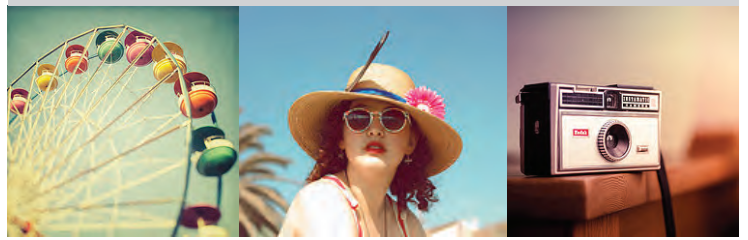
Shoot photos of corners. Rooms, closets, tables, streets, other objects, stores, etc. Be as creative as possible. See Lee Materazzi, Chris Dorley-Brown & Irving Penn.



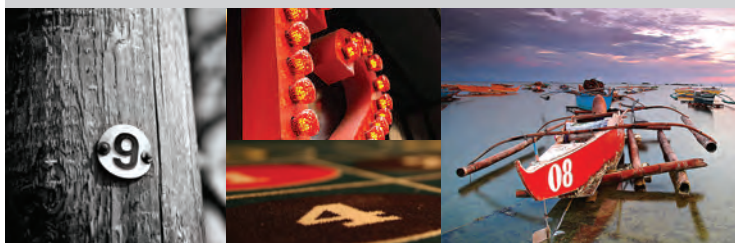
Shoot photos with chairs. They can be used in Multiple, as a prop, or in some other way. See Doris Salcedo, Jason Peters, Sam Taylor-Wood, Lee Materazzi & The Untitled Chair Project.



Take vintage inspired photos. Look at old photographs for inspiration. See Polaroids, holga/diana photos, Pinup style photos, Cuba Gallery, Cassia Beck, Irena S (Flickr).



Take 10 Photos, one that includes each number from 1-10. Your number doesn't have to be the subject and remember to think about composition.



Take "Then and Now" pictures. See young me now me, return to the record, sleeveface, Shawn Clover, Matthieu Raffard, Irina Werning & Dear Photograph.



Tell an Original Story in 3-6 Frames. Each photo should progress the story forward. See a story in 4, 5 or 6 Frames on Flickr for examples.



Choose some photographs and sew into them. Machine or by hand. The Holes that the needles create can also be used. See Daniel Kornrumpf, Lisa Kokin, Maurizio Anzerio.



Take Photos of your relationship with someone else. The final image should demonstrate your emotional &/or physical relationship with each other. See Julia Fullerton Batten.



Make 2 Surrealistic Photographs. Search Photo Manipulations & See Man Ray, Scott Muther Erik Johansson, Christophe Gilbert, Martin Stranka, Tommy Ingberg, Sarolta Ban, Ishbu, Kosmer, Andrey, Eternity, Laura Salesa, Li Wei, Rafa Torre, Tatiana Susla.



Create small stories/visual jokes with simple everyday materials. See Brock Davis's "Make Something Cool Every Day" page for inspiration.



Create pieces of street art out of your photos & document the finished pieces. See JR (street artist), Patrick Winfield, Senor X, Anne Staveley, Shepard Fairey & Wittner Fabrice.



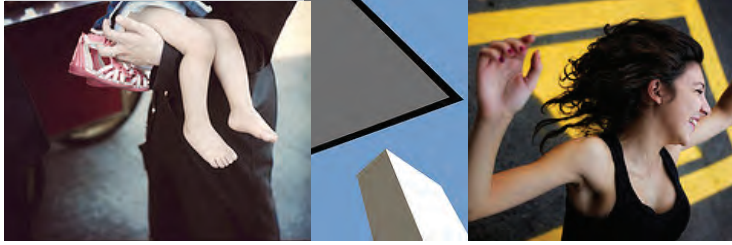
Align a Series of pictures (at least 5) in Photoshop to create an action sequence where you can see movement in one frame.



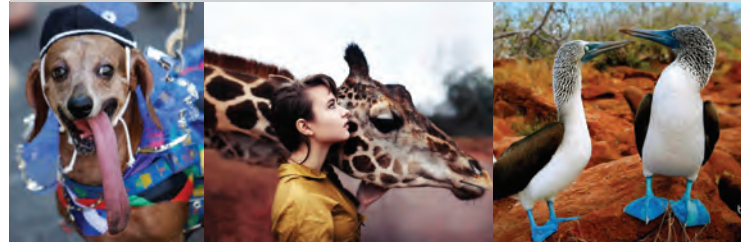
Create duo-tones. Do this by combining two single colored images into one image in Photoshop. Think about how your images relate. See helmo & anaglyphs.



Take photos where you experiment with cropping in unusual ways while shooting. Obscure parts of faces, and sections of structures or objects. Experiment.



Take photos of different animals. Try different angles and distances from your subject. How is the background/location effecting the photos?



Take pictures that use found type as an interesting element within the photo. This could be words on a building, a product, a t-shirt or something else. See David Carson.



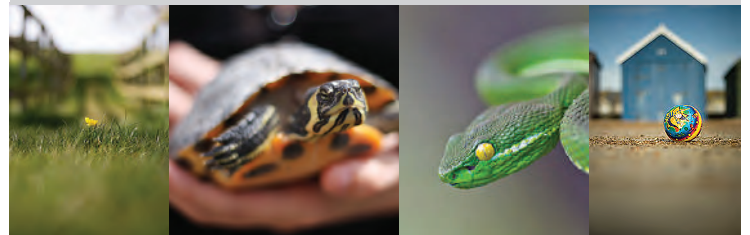
Taking photos in a crowded place such as a store, at a family gathering, in a park, etc. Experiment with making the space feel big or small, active or static.



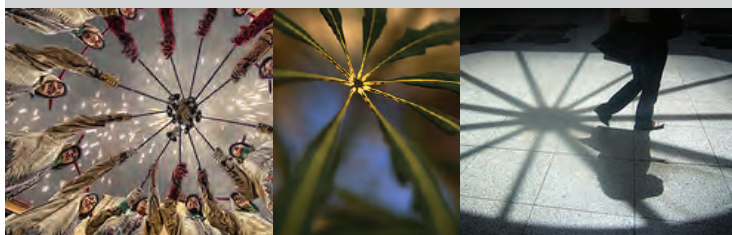
Shoot photos in reflective surfaces such as windows, puddles, marble, a car body, a mirror, etc. Push yourself to try some unusual things.



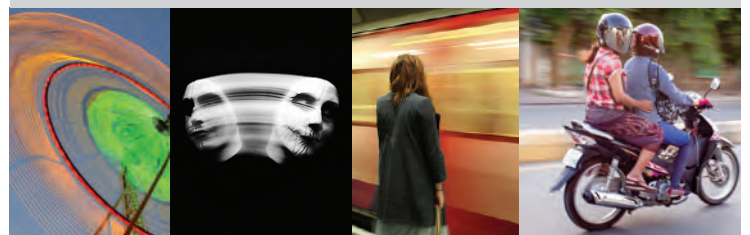
Take photos using limited depth of field/select focus to play with what your focal point is, and what you pay attention to in the photo.



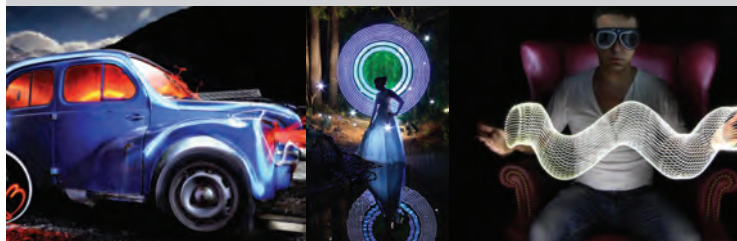
Take photos that have a radial composition. Try to make each one a different subject (person, architecture, plant, man made object, etc).



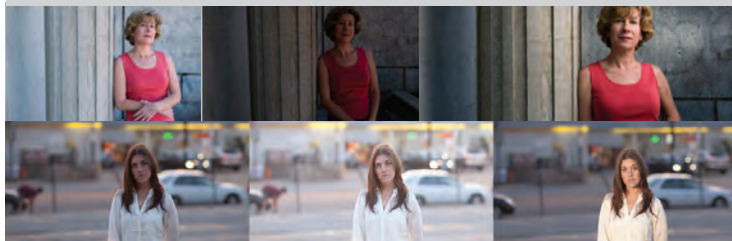
Take photos using blur in a unique way. Some examples might include motion blur, abstraction, or a single thing/person standing still while everything else moves.



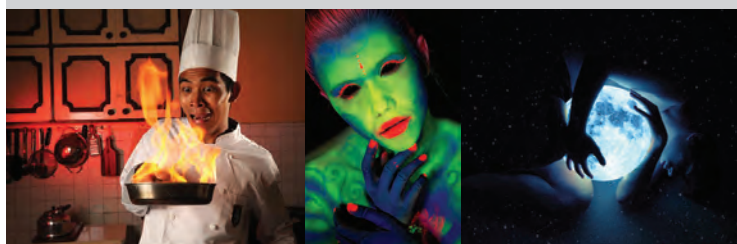
Create photos that use light writing/graffiti. Try making different shapes or effects. See Jayse Hansen, the Overhead Light Brigade, Vincent Delesvaux, LAPP-PRO, Dennis Calvert



Take a few triptics that feature the same scene. 1 uses ambient light, 2 uses direct on camera flash, and 3 uses a combo of ambient light and flash (diffused or indirect). Slrlounge.com



Take photos in low light with alternative light sources illuminating your subject; such as flashlights, streetlights, headlights, glow sticks, flame, or an electric stove.



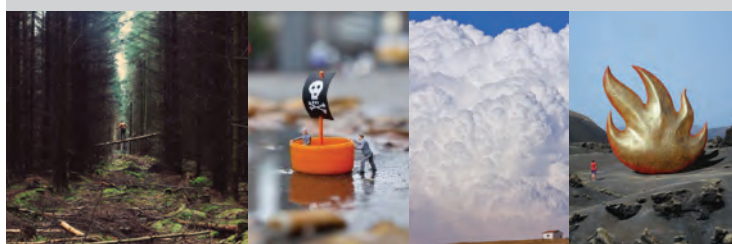
Create portraits during an action. This could be something simple like cooking, or complex like swimming. Watch for the right moment. The photos may also be embellished digitally after they are shot.



Capture multiple silhouettes and/or shadows at the same time. Consider how using things like fading, overlapping, and figure/ground effect the overall composition.



Take photos that accentuate a large contrast in scale. See Storm Thorgerson, Slinkachu, Richard Gaston, Vesa Lehtimäki, Gregory Crewdson, Paul Zizka, Christian Stoll.



Take photos of different kinds of architecture. Inside or outside, old or new. Try cropping in on unique parts or zooming out to capture the whole building.



Create a Slit Scan image, using either a cell phone app such as Slit Scan or Time Warp, or use a scanner placed on it's side to create photos with time distortion.

