Introduction to

A Level Art

WELCOME

Welcome to A LEVEL ART, this is the beginning of a hard, but enjoyable two years. Art is not easy; it's about hard work, creativity and the will to do well. If you listen to the help, advice and guidance that we will give you and give 100% in every piece of work, and try your best, you will succeed.

You're A level is very important and to get the maximum from your coursework you must complete all set assignments and make sure you live, breathe and eat art.

You have chosen this option, so we expect nothing but your best.

THE COURSE ...

We currently run the EDEXCEL UNENDORSED ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN course. This allows you the freedom to explore different areas of art, such as painting, printmaking, textiles, photography, graphical communication, sculpture and contextual studies. The course encourages you to create a personal and imaginative approach.
The course consists of four units over 2 years:

YEAR 12:
-Environments
-Mock Exam

YEAR 13:
COURSEWORK (DEVELOPED FROM PERSONAL STARTING POINT) + Essay 60%
UNIT 4-EXTERNALLY SET ASSIGNMENT 40%

WHAT TO EXPECT

Throughout year 12 you will be introduced to the different art disciplines through a series of workshops. You will be set assignment tasks based on these workshops, all based around one theme.

For each art discipline you will be expected to use your own initiative, research artists, primary images, take good quality photographs and annotate and review your work.

We are here to guide you, and you are privileged to have 2/3 teachers that specialise in different art disciplines, but we will not do the work for you.

WHAT TO EXPECT

As a artist you must be punctual, have good attendance and be well equipped. To not turn up to lessons, be late and have poor attendance will ultimately have a major effect on your overall grade.

If you fall into this pattern your work will suffer, you will be playing catch-up and your work will be weak resulting either in being asked to leave the course or a poor grade.

You must have your sketchbook with you and be fully equipped for every lesson.

MARKING

Getting a good grade is only possible by covering all of the marking criteria. You can be the most talented artist there is but if you do not have the sketchbook and work to back up your final pieces you will get very little marks.

You must cover all of the assessment criteria above to get the marks and achieve a good grade.

A01	Develop ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and cultural understanding.
A02	Refine ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes .
A03	Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions in visual and/or other forms.
A04	Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating analytical and critical understanding, realising intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

EQUIPMENT

You should be trying to introduce independence into your work to get the highest possible grade and this can be done easily by collecting newspaper and magazine articles/internet information or gallery visits of artists you like. You do not need to buy the magazines or books but be aware of what is going on around you now in the art world.

ENVIRONMENTS

INSPIRATION

There are a range of ideas to get you thinking in a creative way and approach the theme of 'Environments' imaginatively.

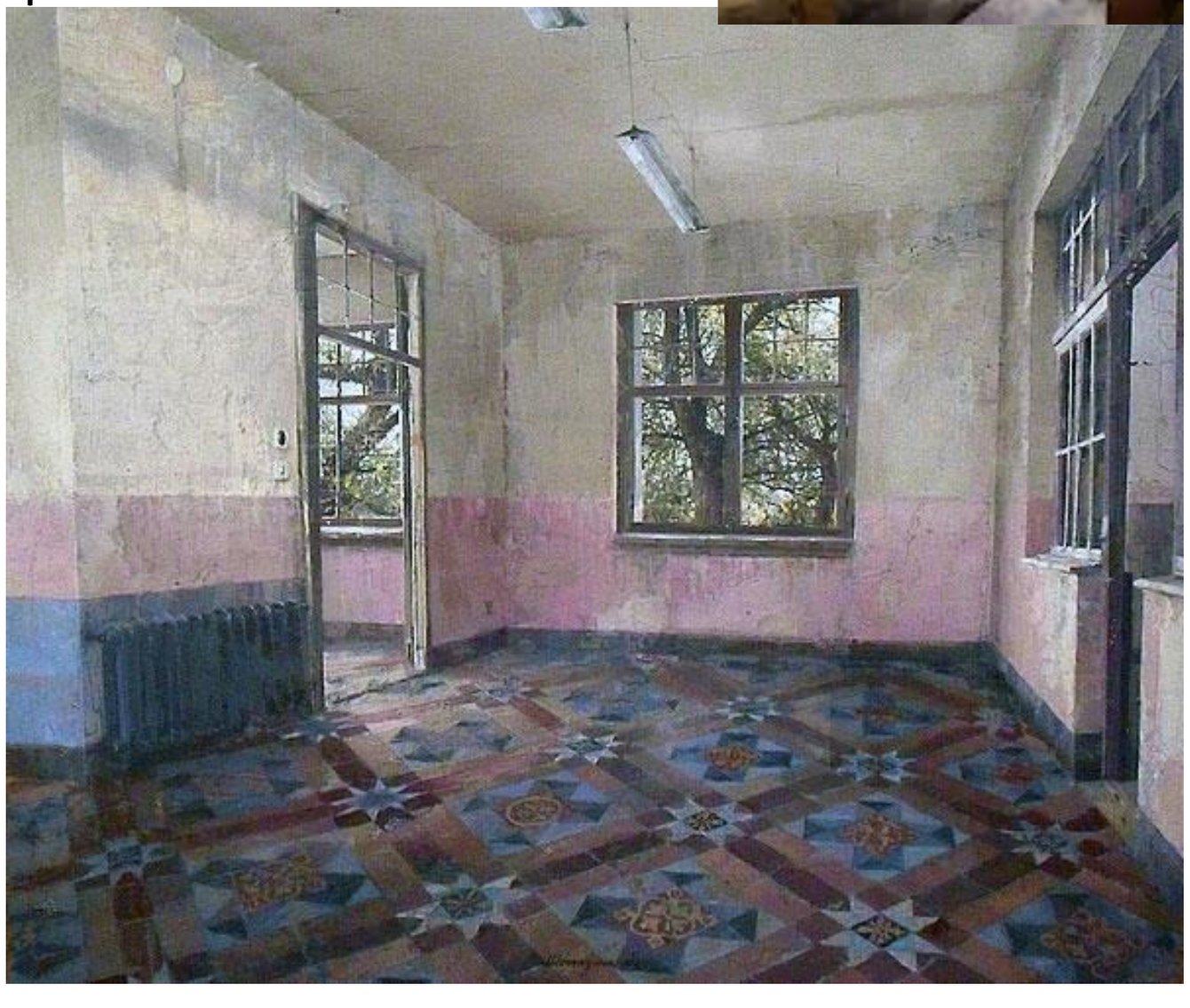
Due to the uncertainty of the current situation (lock down) there is a range of options that can be done in and out of the home.

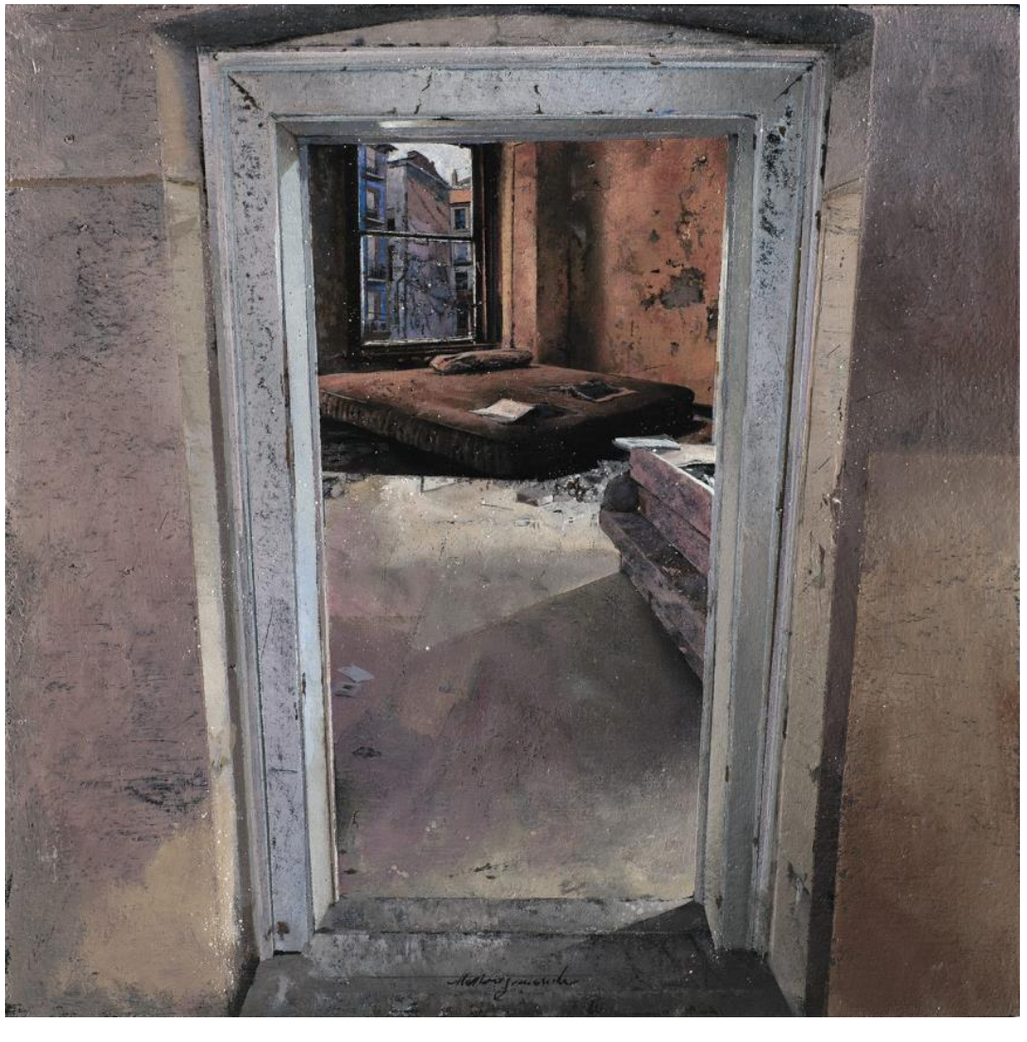
You may choose to do some of them in the home and on any walks you take, and then you may have more options over the coming months if the situation changes.

Either way (in the home or out) you will be able to make successful and exciting work from the ideas on these slides, and you will hopefully have your own too!

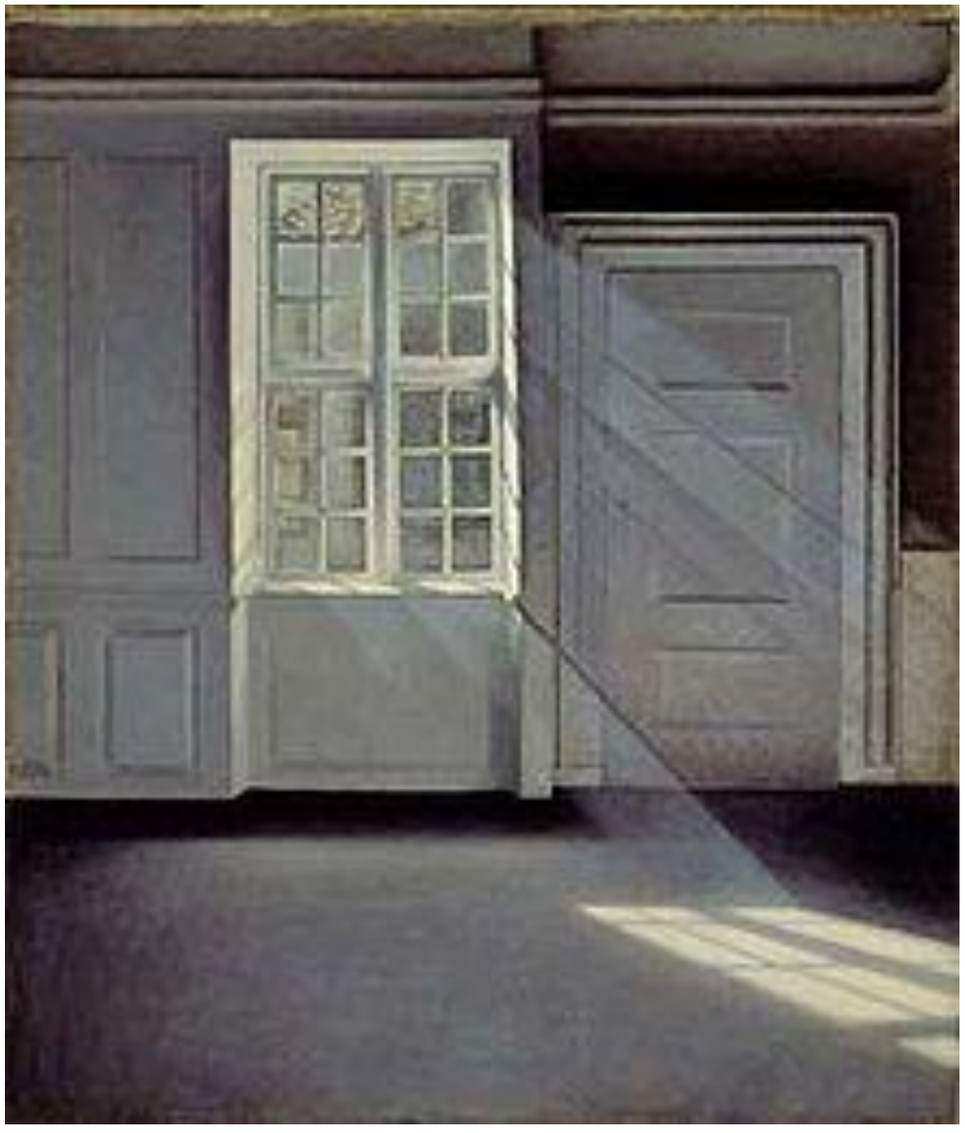
Interior Environments
'*In the home*'

Matteo Massagrande: beautiful textures and angles. This could inspire the way you photograph your home. There is a focus on doorways and windows. The ordinary made beautiful in paint.





Vilhelm Hammershoi



Look for atmospheric lighting in your photos, highlights and shadows can make environments exquisite.

Francesca woodman

Some environments can be staged for narrative effects and drama. As well as lighting, props and figures can be used. How does the individual respond to the environment, what emotions and atmospheres are portrayed?

Seth Clark

This collage is called "COLLAPSE"

Seth Clark is an artist, a designer, a manic doodler, collector and collagist of images. He creates portraits of derelict buildings. He wants to highlight the housing crisis issue.

He works with cardboard, found items and his work looks effortless.

I produced my own work using cardboard, ink, pastels, newspaper and chalks.

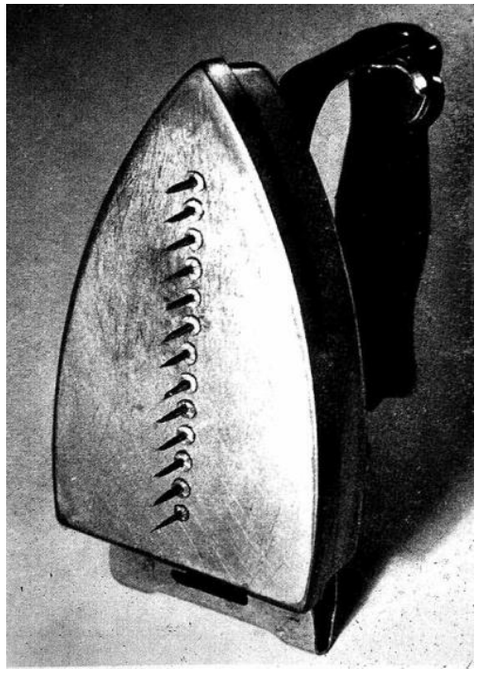
His work is messy and seems shoved together but the overall effect is talented.

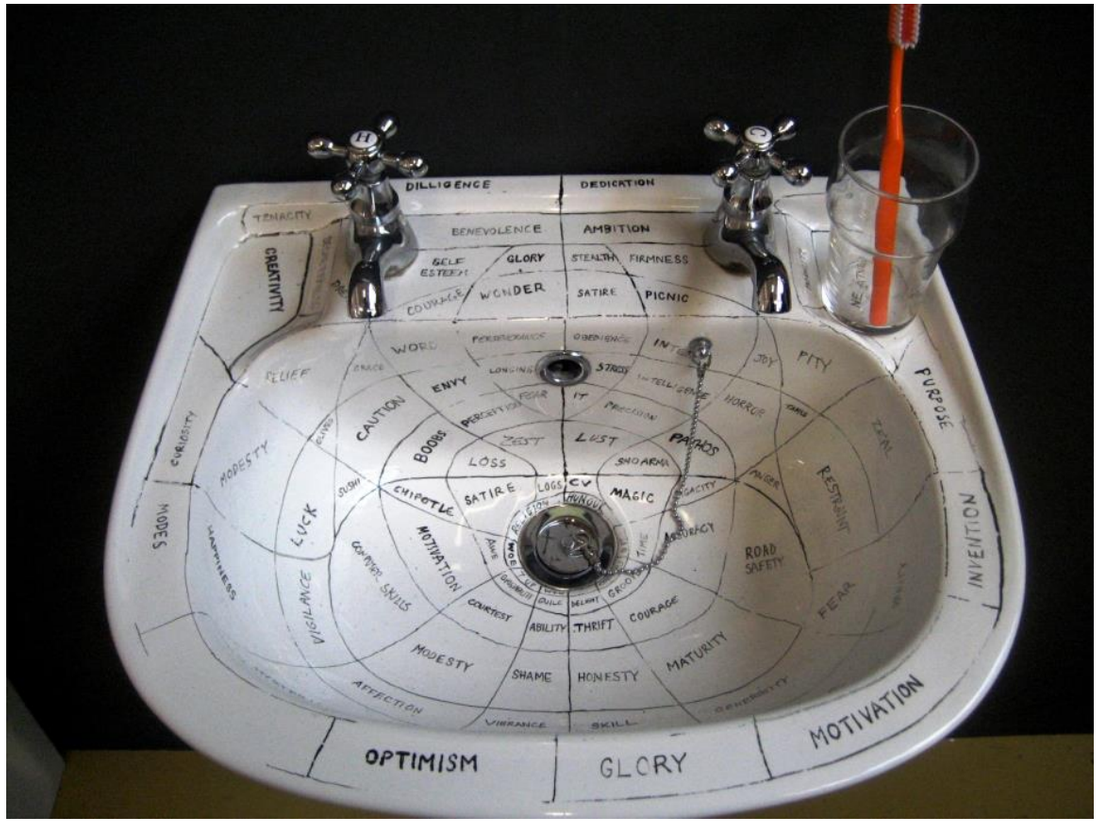
He is American and from New York.

"Process wise, my work starts with a collaged "under-painting." I like to use insides of envelopes, old drawings, found scraps, sheet music, receipts, letters, photos… almost any type of flat, vintage ephemera I can find. I try to be as gestural and haphazard with this initial process as possible. As I continue the collage, a dimensional foundation is revealed. I'll sand down the many different surfaces and use a medley of charcoal, pastel, ink, acrylic and graphite to bring definition to the subject. On most pieces I go back-and-forth between drawing and collage, covering and uncovering previous layers."

Domestic Environment
‘Ready Mades’

Can you adapt an object from your home (ask permission!) environment?
Can you fuse two objects together making a ready made environment sculpture?





Marcel Duchamp
Bill Woodrow

Aaron Siskind

Surfaces

Nature & Environment

Peter Doig

Igor Vitomirov

J.M.W. Turner

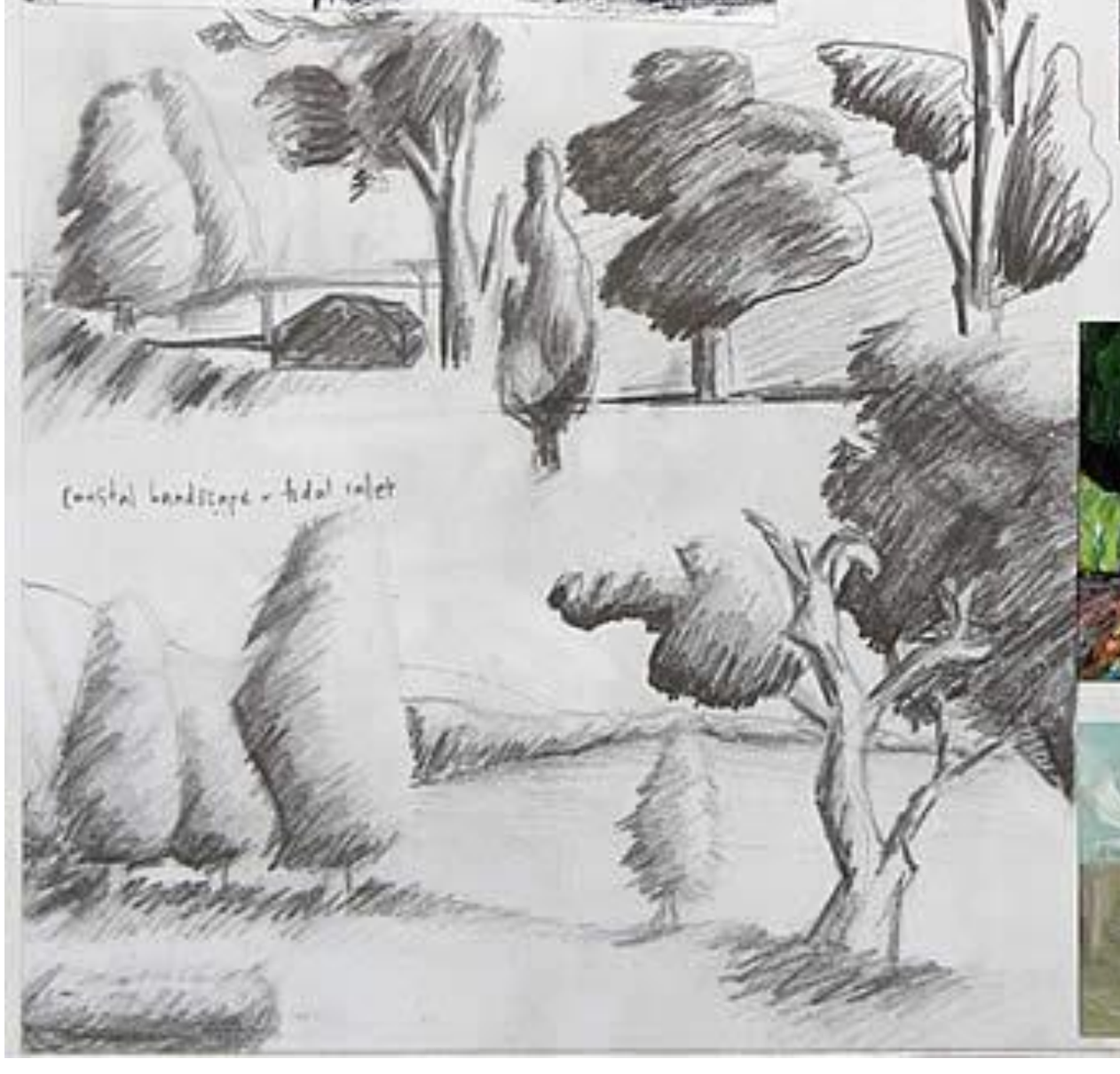
Natural Environment Observations

→ Most of the picture is formed by horizontal lines

→ There is no line detail

→ Some vertical lines, which contrast with the other lines

→ a wide range of line



Coastal landscape - tidal inlet

Georges Seurat - dotty - Pointillism involves using dots of individual colour, when viewed from faraway, the dots merge together and create the effect of shading. Colours are realistic, but slightly subdued

Smooth painting technique. dull, earthy colours used. black and white used over the top.

Vincent Van Gogh - paint is very thick, can see each individual brush stroke. Paint has been applied in dashes. Curves are exaggerated. Realistic colours. Direction of brushstrokes helps to enhance shapes of objects.

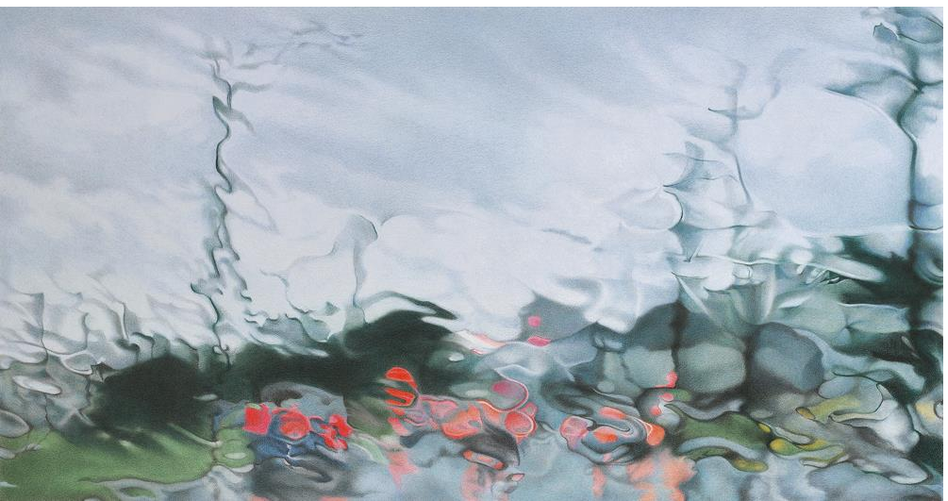
Joseph Turner - paint is very thick has been smeared, very little detail, contrasts with blurry parts. Very few crisp lines. Colours are earthy.

Weather & Environment

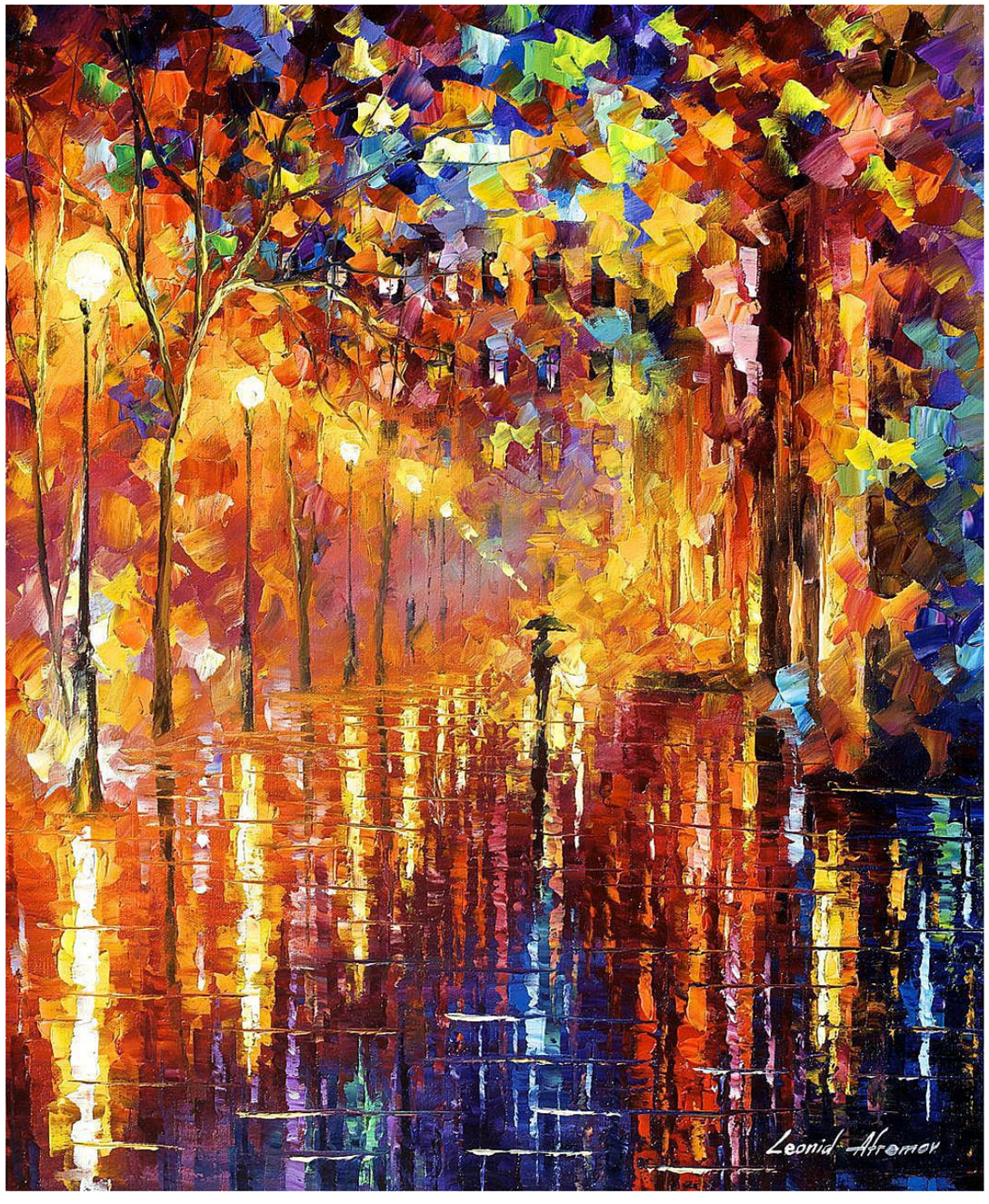
Look at the way sunlight, wind and rain effects the environment. Capture natural elements in and round the home.

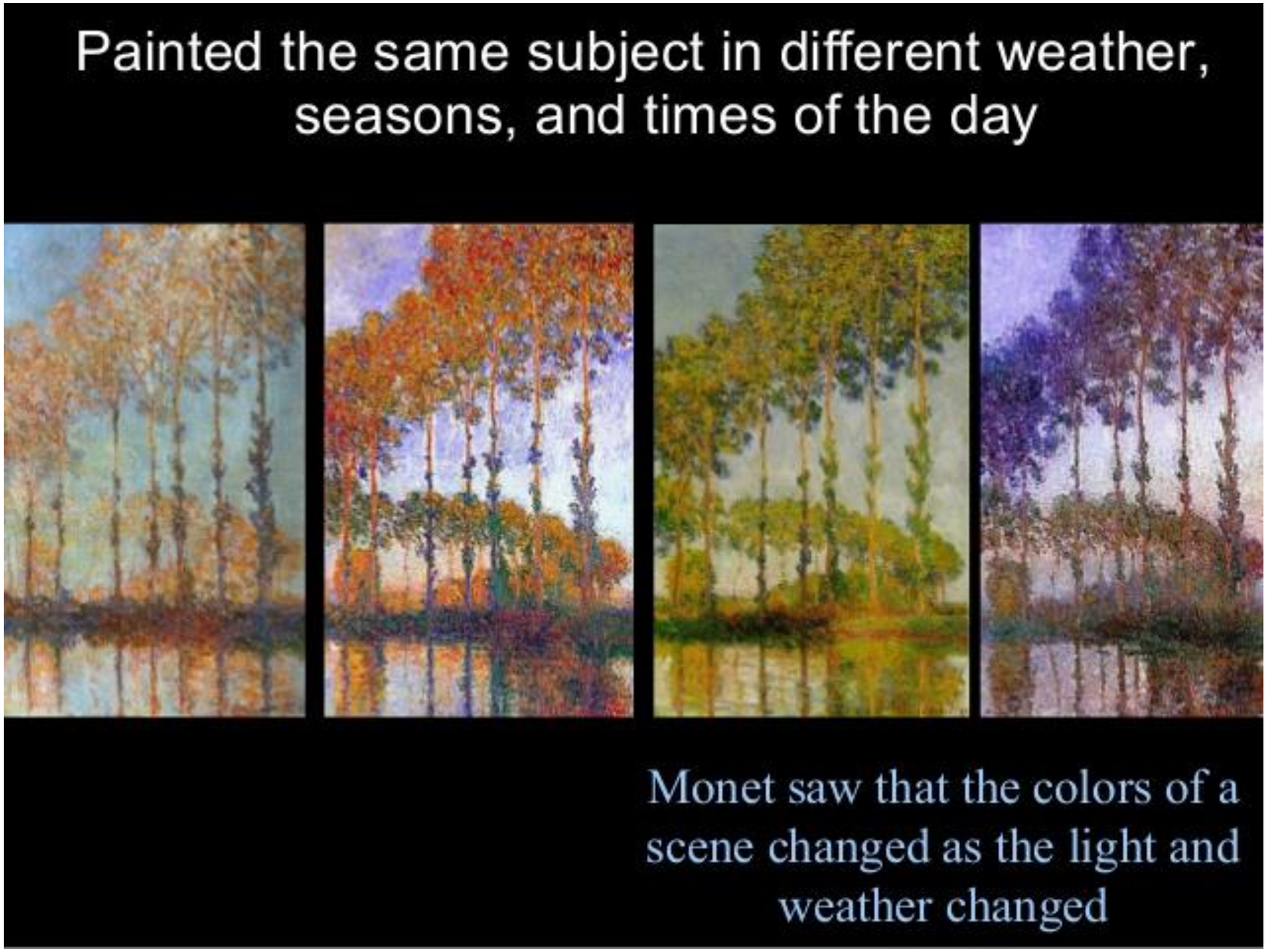
Aleksey Zuev

Elizabeth Patterson



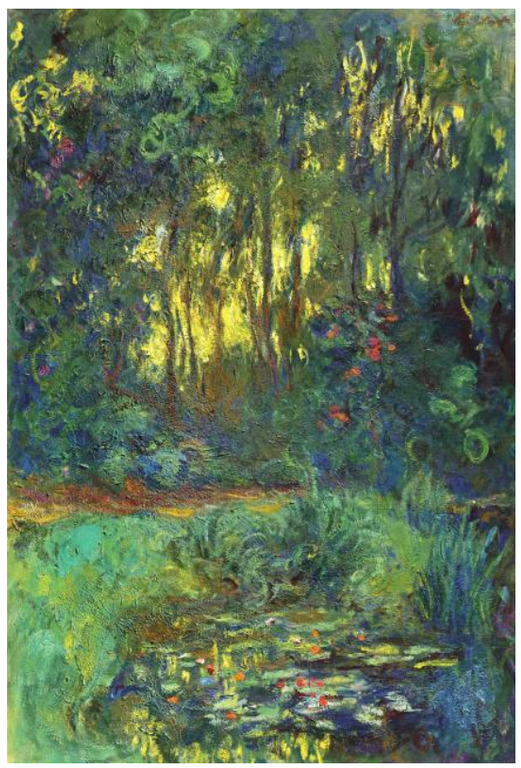
Leonid Afremov



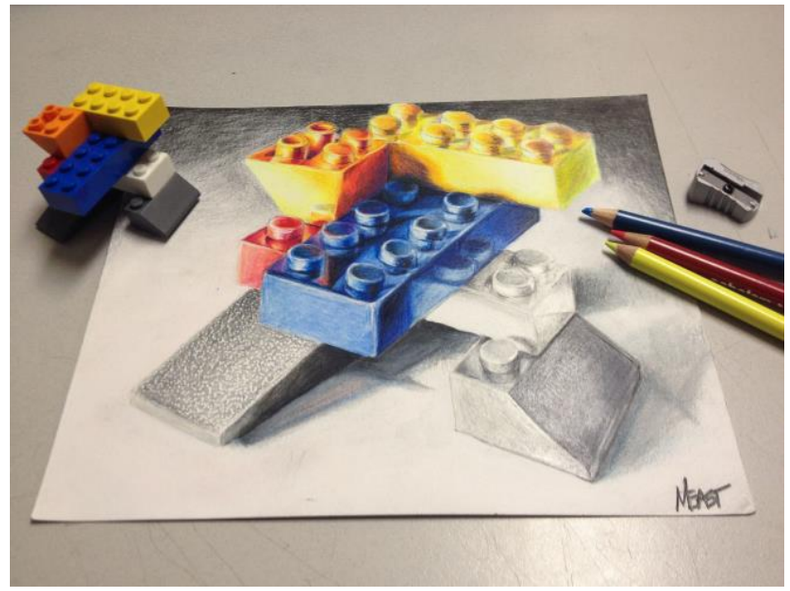


Monet

You could paint the same environment/scene at different times of day (or in different weather/lighting conditions) and try to capture the changes in environment.

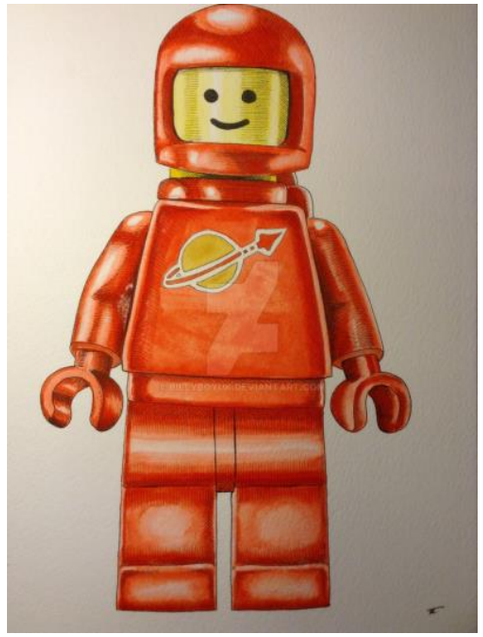


Create your own make believe environment



Samsofy- using toys

Observations



Night Time

ABC

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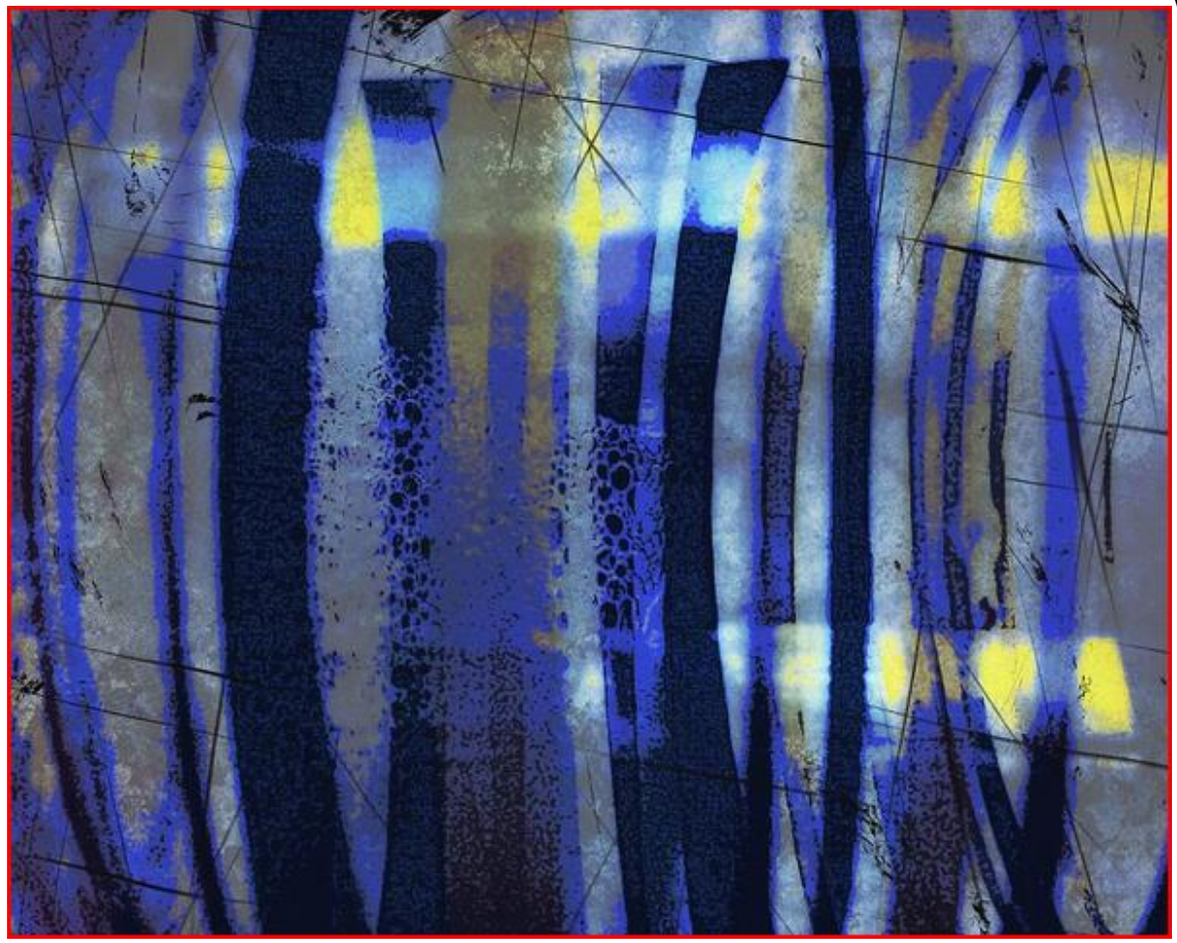
Water Environment

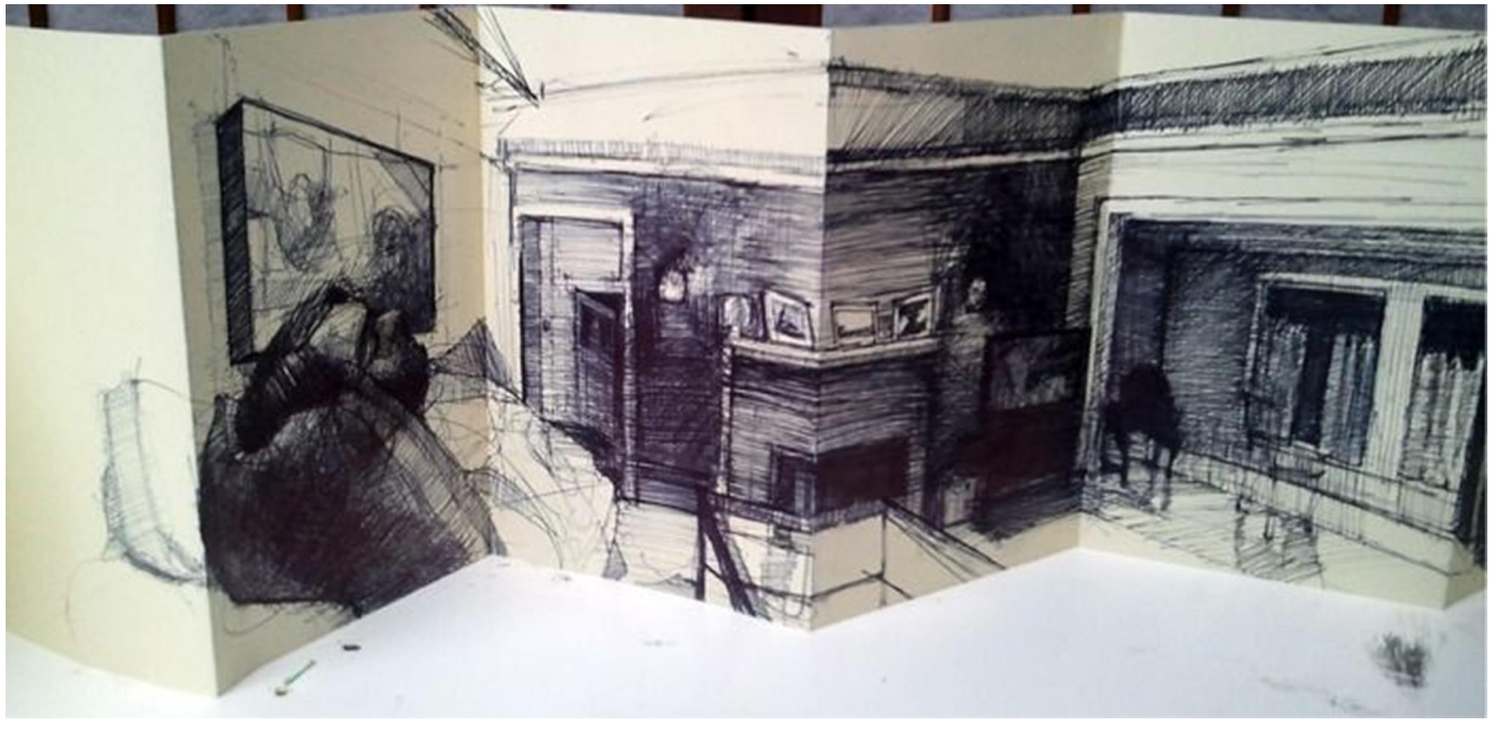
Susan Epps Oliver

(digital art)



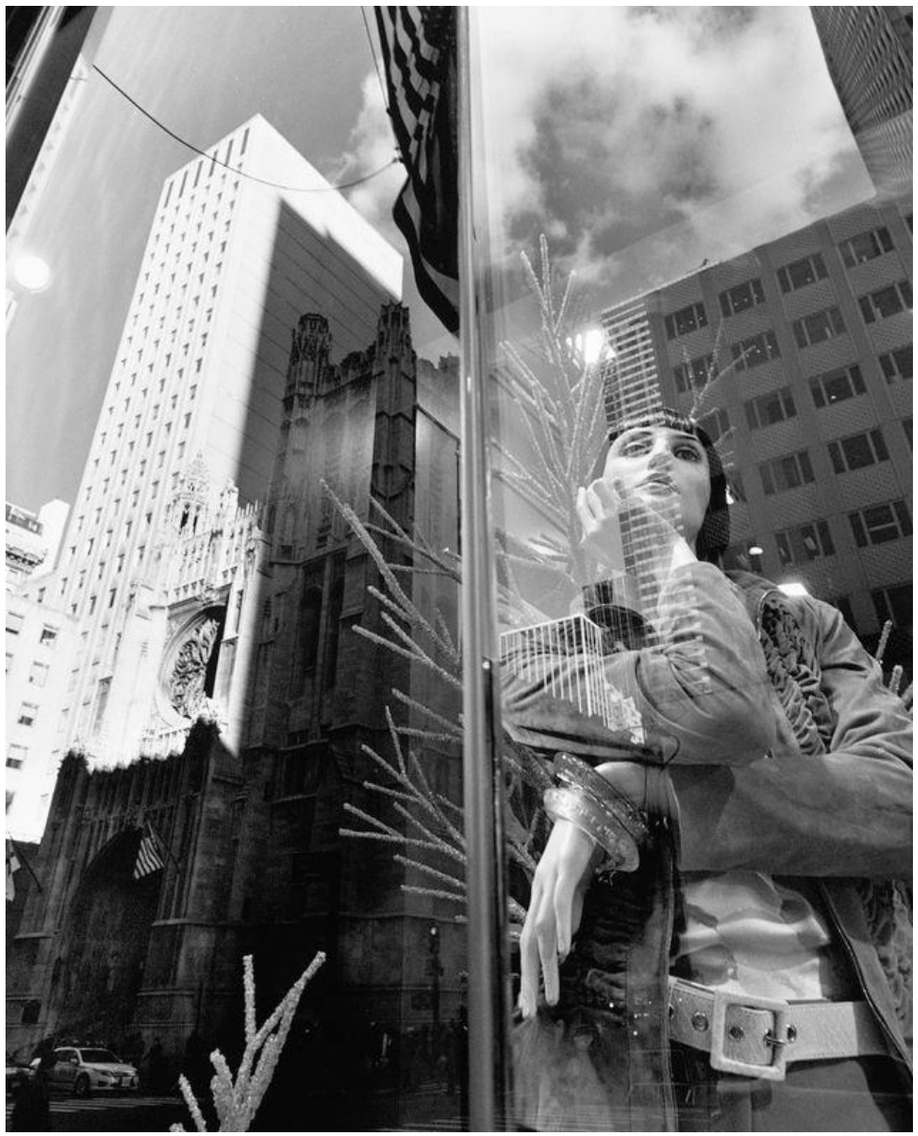
Distorted Environment (using warped or mirrored surfaces and reflection)

The figure in the environment



Not in Lock Down !

Nick Friedlander – city **reflections**

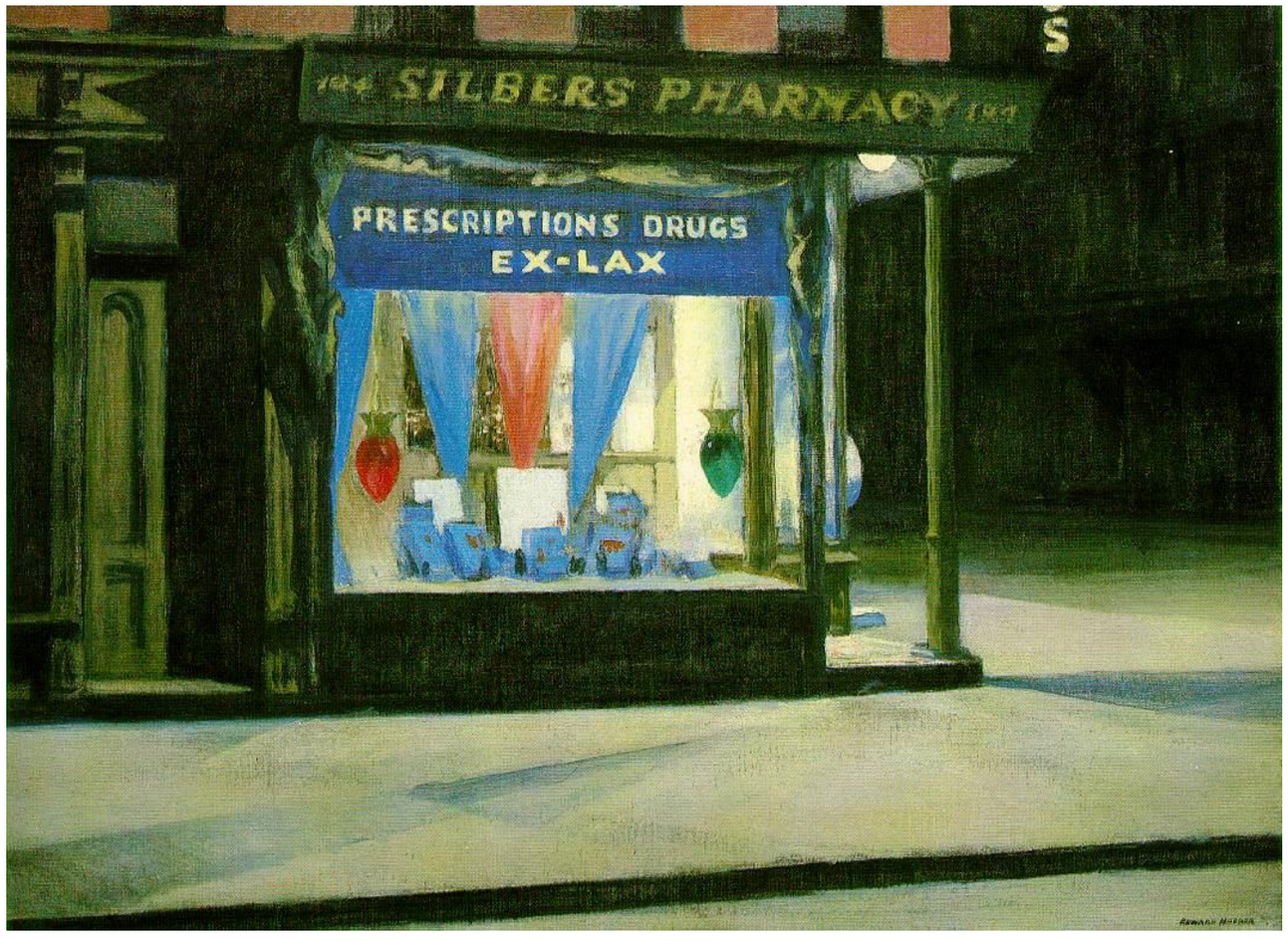


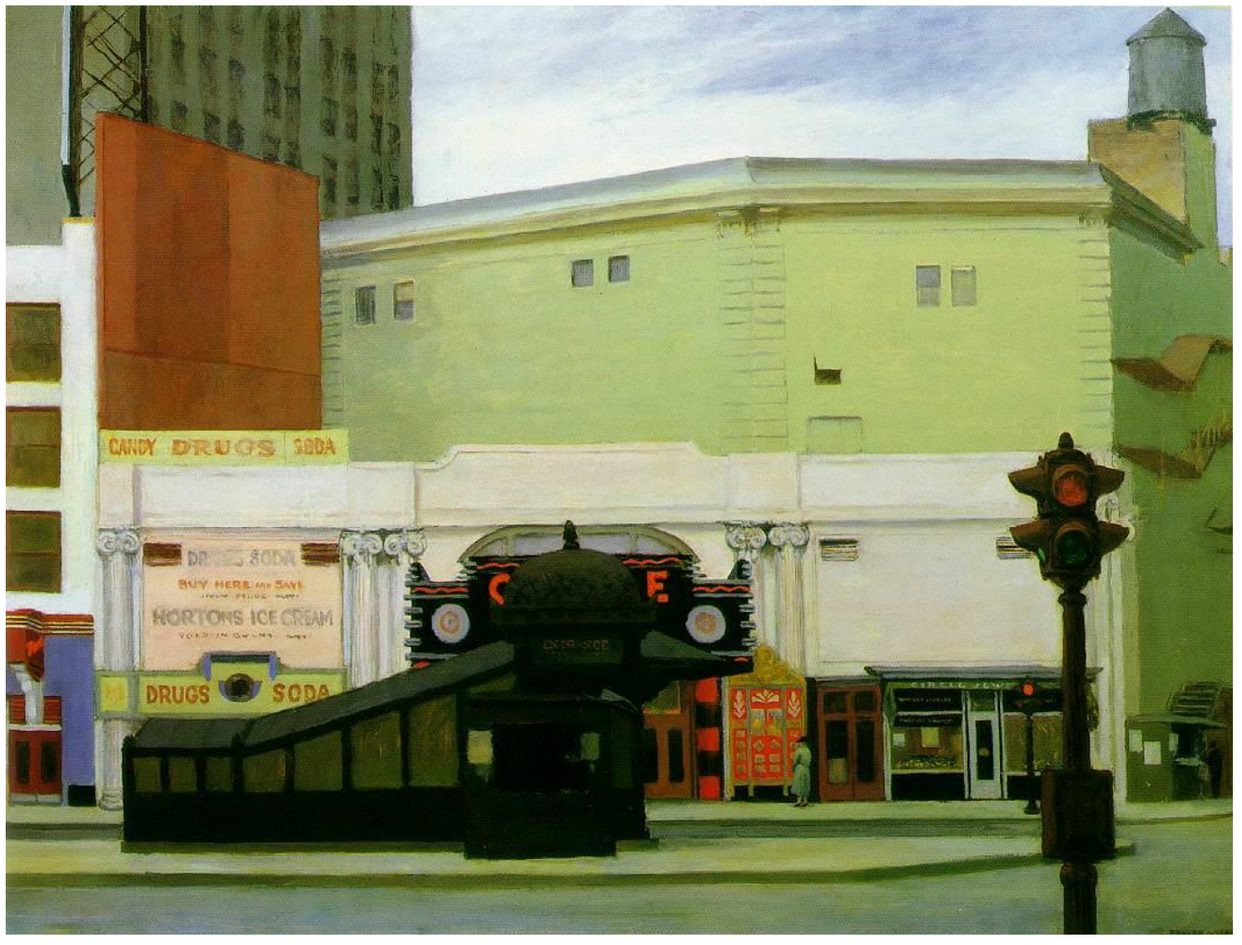
If the situation changes and you venture further than your local community over the summer, here are a few more ideas for you to consider……..

Bernice Abbott

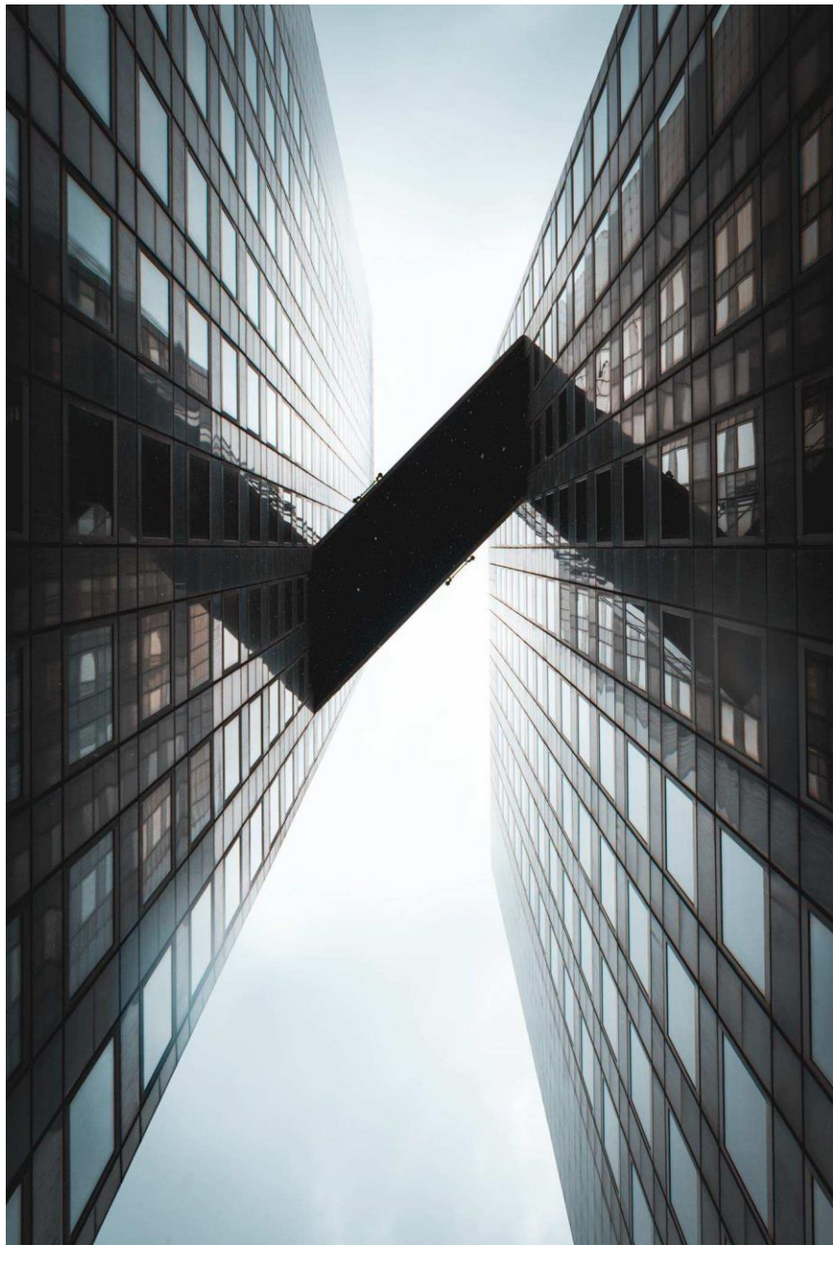
Dramatic Angles

Edward Hopper





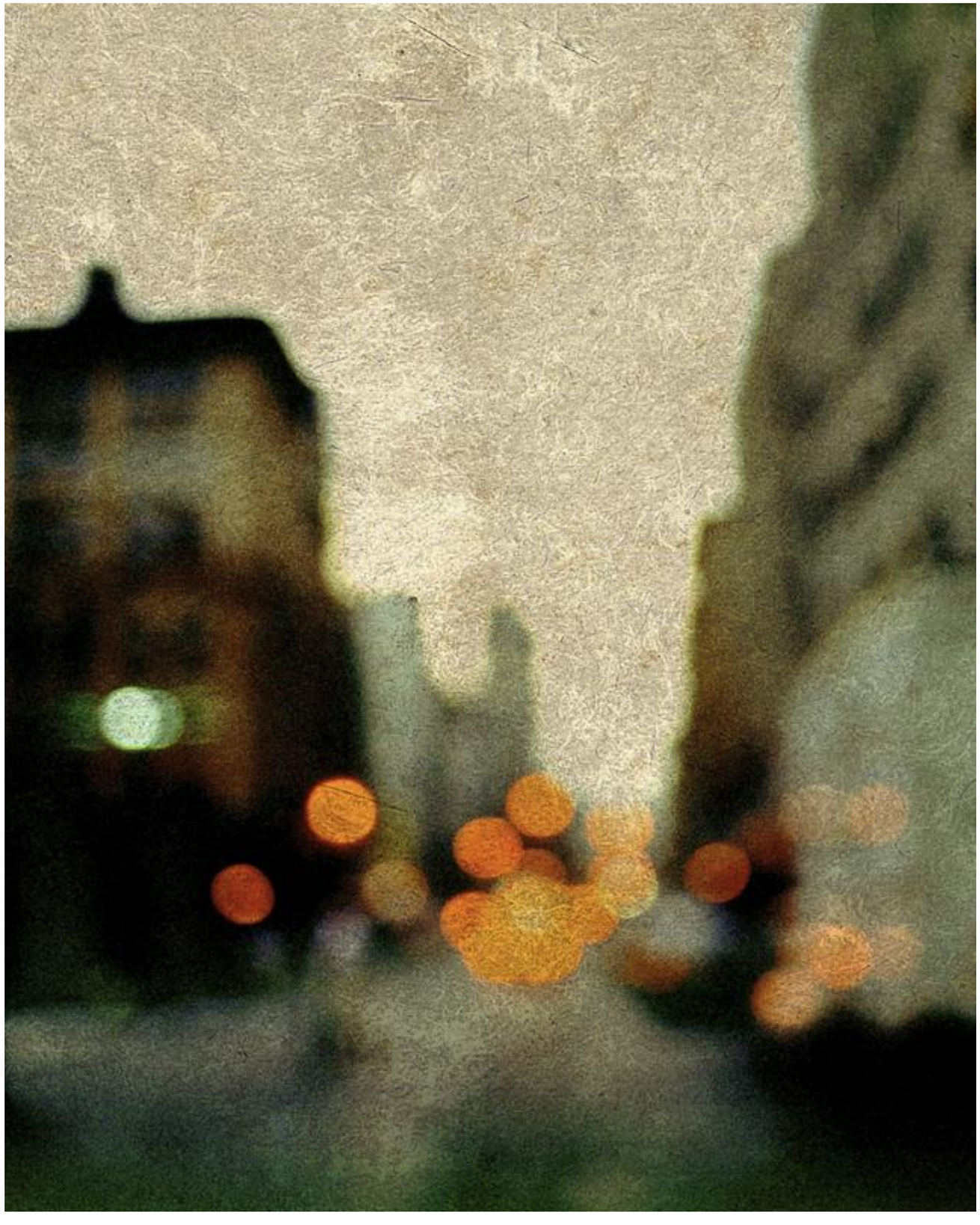
Guilliaume Taillard
unusual viewpoints around the city



Reflections

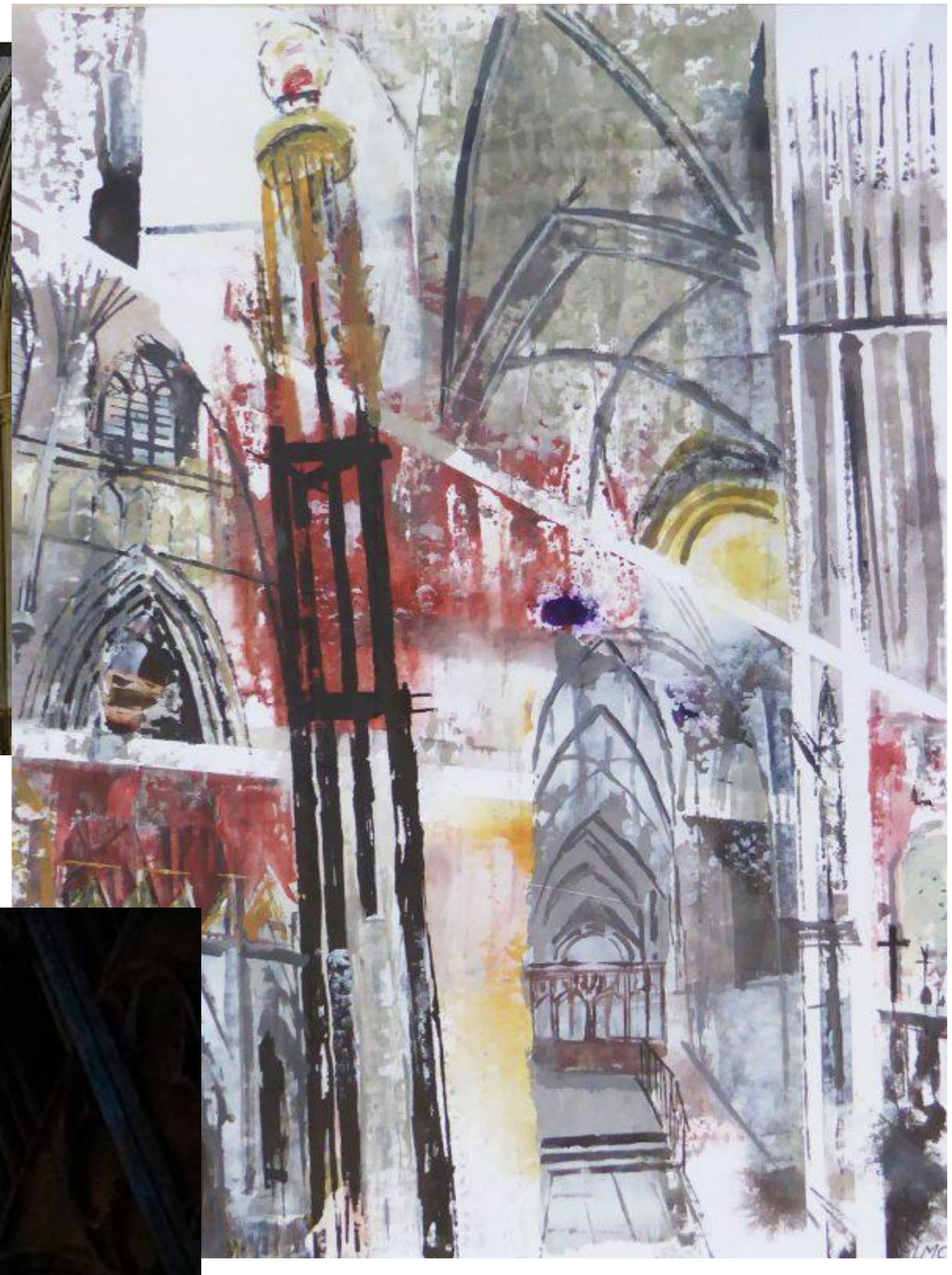
Marc Yankus

Abstract Lights
City Glow



Transport

Shopping



Inside St Albans Cathedral/Churches

FINAL LIST OF IDEAS

- Inside the home: windows, doorways, interior, lighting, home environment routine.
- A particular room(your room?) – the kitchen (food/utensils/inside the fridge/the freezer), the loft….
- Local area (on walks)
- Nature- times of day, weather, the garden, local fields/woodlands, Inside nature (photograph the environment within a flower, bushes – imagine you're a bug!)
- Macro/close ups of an environment (texture/pattern)
- Create your own environments and photograph them cleverly (toys ect)
- Water- distorted- reflected environments (use a glass of water or reflective surface and shoot into/through them.
- The figure in an environment
- Out of lock down – the beach – the city – Shops – transport – The library – water – theme park – camping/in the tent ect

Please remember we are looking for both photos and observations (drawing/painting ect). You can observe from your photos or from real life. Use a scale (A1-A5) that suites your style, idea and media. Try some quick sketched along side more substantial ones.

RESOURCES AT HOME

- Tea & Coffee
- Charcoal (BBQ ones will do – break them down)
- Stain paper then lift out highlights with bleach (be careful wear gloves)
- Work on the back of wrapping paper, card board or wall paper for bigger scales
- Use old wood that you find in the shed/garage (can be big or lots of small pieces)
- Paint on objects
- Collage materials – use dried out teabags, tissue from amazon deliveries ect
- Use emollition and wall paint.

Have fun with the theme and we look forward to seeing you in September to share your work and start you're a Level!

http://artatbeaumontschool.blogspot.co.uk

The Beaumont Art Blog can be found on the school website and using the link above. Your Home Learning will be posted on here, Power Points as well as current exhibitions and other useful Art links

http://www.pinterest.com/beaumontart/

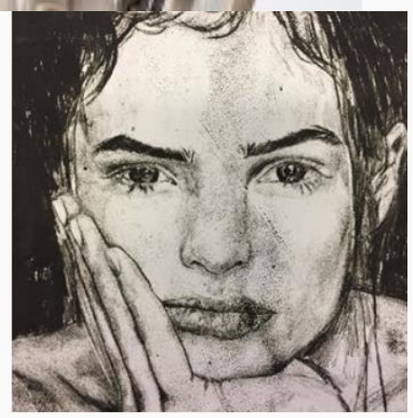
The Beaumont Art Pinterest can be found on the school website and using the link above. This is used for Artist research, Art techniques as well as good A Level Art examples created by students to inspire you. **Over the summer create your own Pinterest account and follow Beaumont Art**

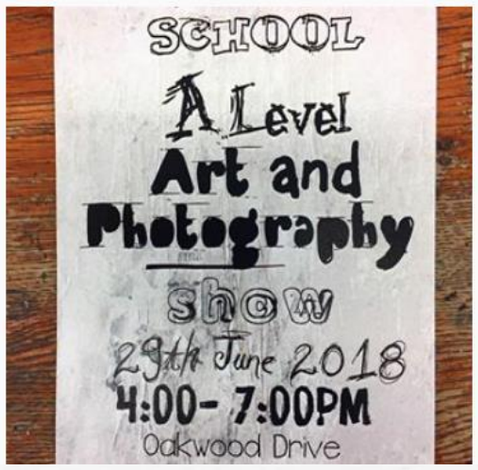
Instagram

Search

beaumontartdept

Follow





SUMMER LIST

Beaumont Pinterest: http://pinterest.com/beaumontart/
Beaumont Blog: http://artatbeaumontschool.blogspot.co.uk

1. Using the title '**Environments**', take and print at least 20 photographs. It is up to you how you interpret this title. Think carefully about your subject matter, colour and composition. Use the inspiration slides for support and ideas

2. From your photographs create a series of A5-A1 observations. You should choose medias and scales that suit your style.

3. Research two Artists that inspire you and bring in images and write down your thoughts on their work.

4. Join Pinterest, follow Beaumont and begin to create an album of Photography you like. Also follow 'BeaumontArtDept' Instagram. These will be really helpful when we begin your coursework in September.

Here is a useful website you can use to find out about current artists and exhibitions:
http://www.timeout.com/london/art