

Visual Language

Fall 2007

Assignment 3

Materials & Tools

Sketch Book
Camera
Studio Tac or
other adhesive
Illustration board
matte board or
foam board

Photographic Self Portrait Collage

Now you will create, sketch and direct a photographic self portrait. You are an art director and an actor. As art director you need a partner or assistant to work with. That person does not have to be from this class, but a person in this class will probably understand the process better than someone who is not. Your assistant will be your "camera person" who follows your directions. You, as the actor, will play the part of yourself and reveal something about yourself somewhere in the photographic collage.

This self portrait has a few restrictions:

- First, you must photograph yourself in a place or setting that you feel is significant to you in some way. Be prepared to explain why you have chosen that particular place or setting.
- Second, you *must* be in the portrait. Be creative with this requirement. Think about how you can represent yourself.
- Third, your portrait must be a composite of many photographs, not just one. The minimum number of photos allowed is seven.
- Fourth, *you may not cut up the photos*. You are to use the full frame photos, vertical or horizontal, created by the camera.
- Fifth, you are to create your collage using the photographs on a single piece of illustration, matte, or foam board.

Step 1

- Begin today by prepare a list of your attributes *for discussion by the end of class*.
- Metaphorically connect those attributes to objects and/or places.

Step 2

- Identify two locations where you would like to consider creating your self portrait.
- In your sketch book sketch two different versions of your concept for creating the collage in each of the chosen locations. Include in each sketch how you will be placed within the composition.
- A total of four sketches, two for each location, are *due for the next Monday class, October 29*.

Step 3

- Select a final location and concept from the sketches you prepared in Step 2.
- Pick a partner/assistant and make arrangements to meet at your selected location.
- Review your sketch and concept with the assistant and direct the photo shoot.
- After the shoot is completed, either take your camera or film to be processed at a one hour lab, or download to a computer and print them out at either 3 x 5 or 4 x 6 inches. If you send out for processing, prearrange with the lab that you can get your prints back no later than the next day.
- Arrange your prints into the composition you have conceptualized. If it does not work as you envisioned in the sketch, do not hesitate to change or modify the composition wherever necessary to make it work.
- Once you have decided on the final composition, adhere the collage to illustration, matte or foam board. Be conscious of the presentation—space around the collage, optical centering, vertical, horizontal or square panel, etc.

Schedule

Today: Attributes

October 29:

Minimum 6 Sketches

November 14

Completed project due

Completed project due Wednesday, November 14.