Cubism Photo Montage: David Hockney Knock-Off


Previous use of computers and photographic equipment required.

David Hockney- Artist Study

How can we make a landscape of our own be reminiscent of David Hockney's "joiners."

“It takes time to see these pictures you can look at them for a long time, they invite that sort of looking. But more importantly, I realize that this sort of picture came closer to how we actually see, which is to say, not all at once but rather in discrete, separated glimpses which we then build up into our continuous experience of the world."

David Hockney, best known for his paintings, did some work with photographs he called "joiners". "Joiners" is a method of taking many photographs, or the individual parts, of a subject and piecing the prints together to recreate the scene or person.

Assignment

- a finished photographic “joiner” montage derivative of David Hockney
- Our goal is to find an interesting landscape, that has a lot of character and says something about you through what is shown. Think about what makes the landscape interesting to.
- In your sketchbook, make a plan for how you want to create your "joiner".
- Final Mounting Board: 11x14.
- AP Option: Combine in PhotoShop.

Materials:

- Slides and handouts (history)
- Camera
- Memory card or film (one roll of 36 exposure color)
- photos (double prints)
- cellophane tape
- rubber cement
- illustration board (14-ply).

Procedures:

History/ Overview:

- Review features of Cubist work and the works of David Hockney and how he may have been influenced by Cubism.

Plan/Sketch/Practice:

- Create a sketch of a landscape that you find interesting and uses perspective as a focal point. Break it down into smaller pieces either by folding the paper randomly or by drawing lines through your sketch.
- Practice with cardboard viewfinders
- Practice standing in one place (you must not move!) and get a whole scene in 36 shots.
- Practice with your camera before you actually shoot the scene. Make sure you can get everything you want in the amount of shots you take.
- Remember that you will slightly overlap each picture taken.
Take Photos

- Compose a photo with a strong center of interest. Since you are taking pictures of a very wide area, you should keep your center of interest very close.
- If your camera has a Program mode (P) you may use it for this assignment. If you’re using a semi-automatic or manual camera remember to use your meter to get the correct exposure on every shot. You must also make sure your camera is correctly focused for each shot.
- Never to move from your spot until you’re done. You may tilt the camera up and down during the shoot, but never change your shooting position.
- Practice shooting first. The idea behind Hockney’s approach is to photograph a large scene by breaking it up into many smaller ones. Think of your scene as having an invisible grid with overlapping squares placed upon it. Begin shooting with only your waist turned three-quarters to the left. Continue to shoot your first horizontal row of photos, remembering to always overlap the photo you just took, until you reach a position where your waist is turned three-quarters to the right.
- Begin to shoot the second row of horizontal photos as you did previously, but you must also overlap the top of this row with the bottom of the last row.
- Continue to shoot the entire scene always overlapping both vertically and horizontally until you complete the scene.

Download images into computer.

Bring images into Photoshop.

Printouts

- color printer using photo quality paper.
- Make double 4x6 prints, MATT surface if possible (glossy doesn’t work as well, shows too many finger prints, rubber cement doesn’t come off as easily, looks better, etc.)
- The double prints help for creativity

Arrange

- Arrange images onto illustration board accordingly, then paste down using archival glue. We will use 11x14 to mount the photos on.
- Tape (cellophane) the prints down on the board before you adhere the prints permanently
- Option: Combine in PhotoShop

For Consideration...

- You can have a person in it, and if you move the person around, they can be in the shot many times (as long as the person isn’t overlapping where they were just standing)

- One of the biggest problems, as with any photo, is if you do not get close enough to what they are photographing.
- Do NOT shoot the assignment just as straight line. You need to look up and down, if it’s too long it won’t fit on a board.

David Hockney- Chair. 1985.

PhotoMontage by Katelyn Vershall (Student of Joe Applebaum)

[STUDENT OF MARK ANDERSON]

Resources:

- Artcyclopedia http://www.artcyclopedia.com/artists/hockney_david.html
- David Hockney- The official website
- Photographs: Pearblossom Hwy by David Hockney http://www.getty.edu/art/gettyguide/videoDetails?segid=2015&segname= Video at Getty
- “Through the Looking Glass: Further adventures in opticality with David Hockney” http://www.believermag.com/hockney/lookingglass/ by Lawrence Weschler
OBJECTIVES:
The Student Will:

• Be able to identify Cubist works (Picasso and the Cubist-inspired works of David Hockney).
• Develop compositional skills.
• Learn to appreciate the visual aspects of one's surroundings.
• Express or create a work showing a time frame.
• Think of what the final composition will be while shooting.
• Continue the development of critical analysis in a positive manner.

TIME ALLOCATION

• 3-4 class periods, 1 hour each
• make a sketch of their idea
• make photos
• image download and print out time
• time to arrange photos on board to paste down

History/ Overview:

• Introduce the technique of Cubism-history of its beginnings, important artists who contributed to the birth of Cubism.
• Show slides of Cubist works, discuss each one, ask students to identify the Cubist aspects/features.
• Introduce works by David Hockney with slides. Discuss Cubist features in his work. Have students identify similarities-where/how he may have been influenced by Cubism.

. Remember that you will slightly overlap each picture taken