

Experimental Photographs

Photographs that go beyond the “straight photograph” using special materials and or techniques. These photographs are created in the camera or in the darkroom.

----- Darkroom Techniques-----

Multiple Printing: Combining two or more negatives on one print. Two or more enlargers makes this easier. Test prints and drawings help with alignment- burning & dodging might be necessary. Allowance needs to be made for different areas of density in the negatives to make the images blend well. This technique allows you to change the size of each image in the enlarger to fit together appropriately.



Negative Sandwich: Using several negatives on top of each other in the enlarger carrier. There has to be clear or thin areas on the negatives to let light through both. Because they are together in the enlarger- you can't alter the size relationship between the images - you can shift them offset from each other. Print the combination as if they were one negative.



Paper negative print: a print of reversed values made by contact printing a positive print on another piece of paper under glass just like making your proper proof contact sheet. Contrast filters and burning & dodging can be used. Make your positive print on paper without writing on the back.



Solarization (Sabatier effect)

a complete or partial reversal of tones in an exposed and partially developed paper emulsion when given a uniform second exposure and developed to completion. A negative is exposed on paper that would produce a normal print. The print is partially developed and then exposed to an overall even source of light. It is then developed to completion. Testing is needed to achieve the proper balance of initial exposure, flash exposure and development to achieve the proper effect. Parts of the print will reverse tonality with the extra exposure - getting lighter instead of darker.



Bas relief: a high contrast negative and positive are sandwiched together very slightly out of register to create an image of very shallow relief- with line drawing qualities. A negative with strong linear qualities is contact printed on high contrast orthochromatic (not sensitive to red light) film to create a film positive. This positive is then printed with the negative as a sandwich. The combination is shifted slightly out of register to create the outline effect.

