

SESSION #6

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER:

COMPOSITION

VISUAL DESIGN BASICS

COURSE REVIEW

- **SESSION #1**

- SEEING LIKE A CAMERA

- **SESSION #2**

- LIGHT

- **SESSION #3**

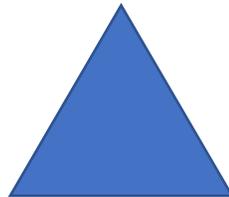
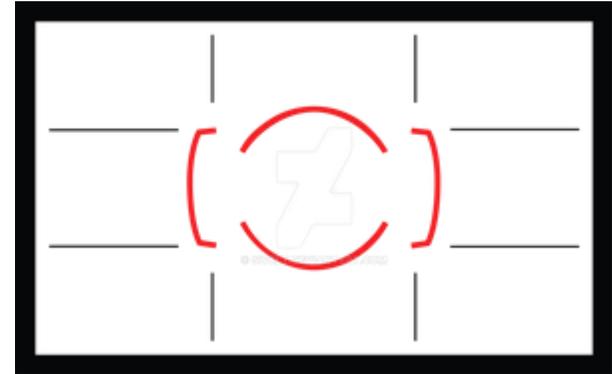
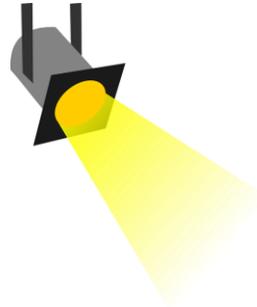
- SHAPE AND LINE

- **SESSION #4**

- TEXTURE AND PERSPECTIVE (FORM)

- **SESSION #5**

- DOMINANCE, BALANCE, PROPORTION AND RHYTHM



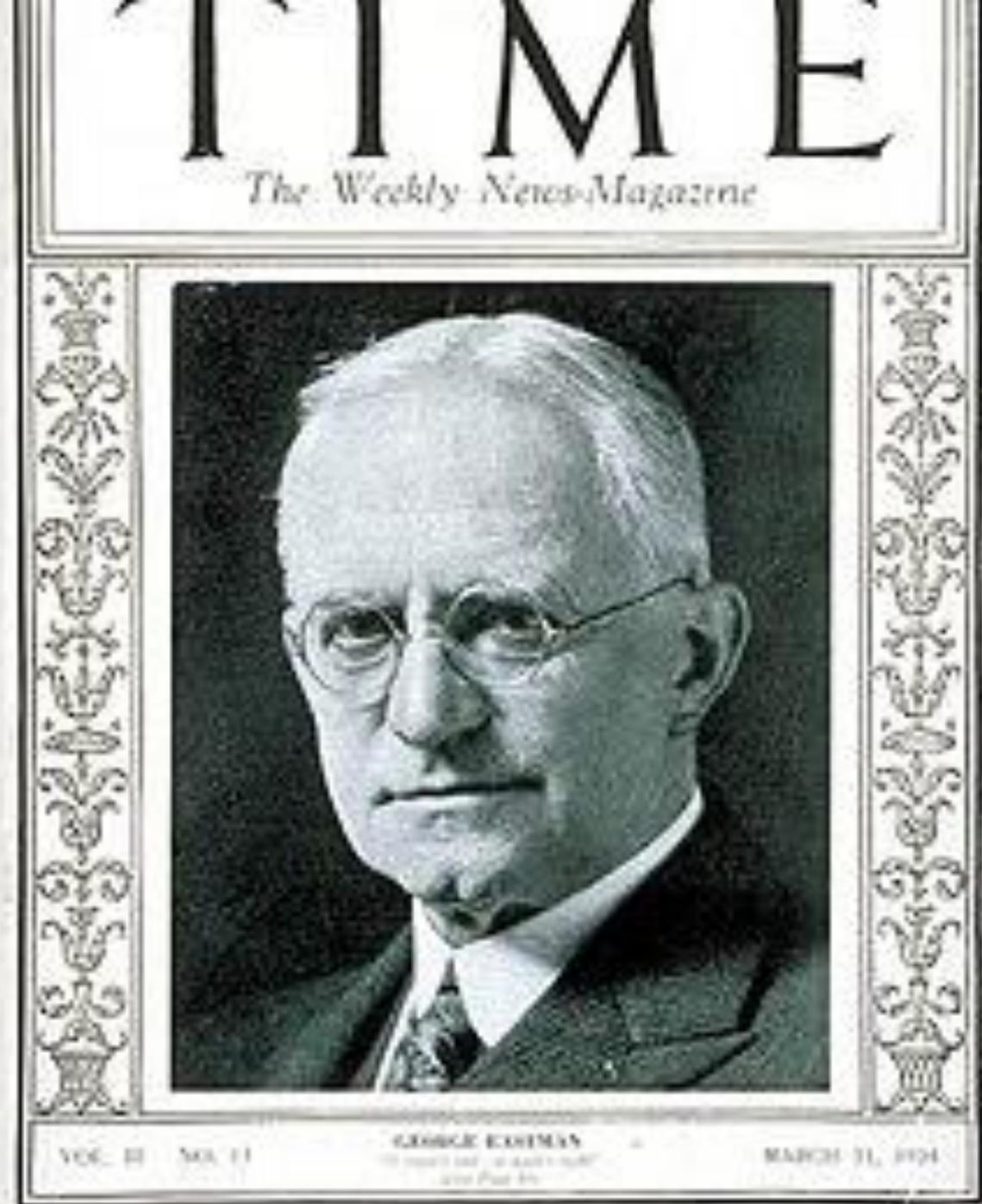
QUESTION?

**WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
TAKING A PICTURE AND
MAKING A PHOTOGRAPH?**

TIME!

GEORGE EASTMAN

"Light makes photography. Embrace light. Admire it. Love it. But above all, know light. Know it for all you are worth, and you will know the key to photography."



<https://visualwilderness.com/fieldwork/understanding-light-to-create-impact-in-flower-photography>

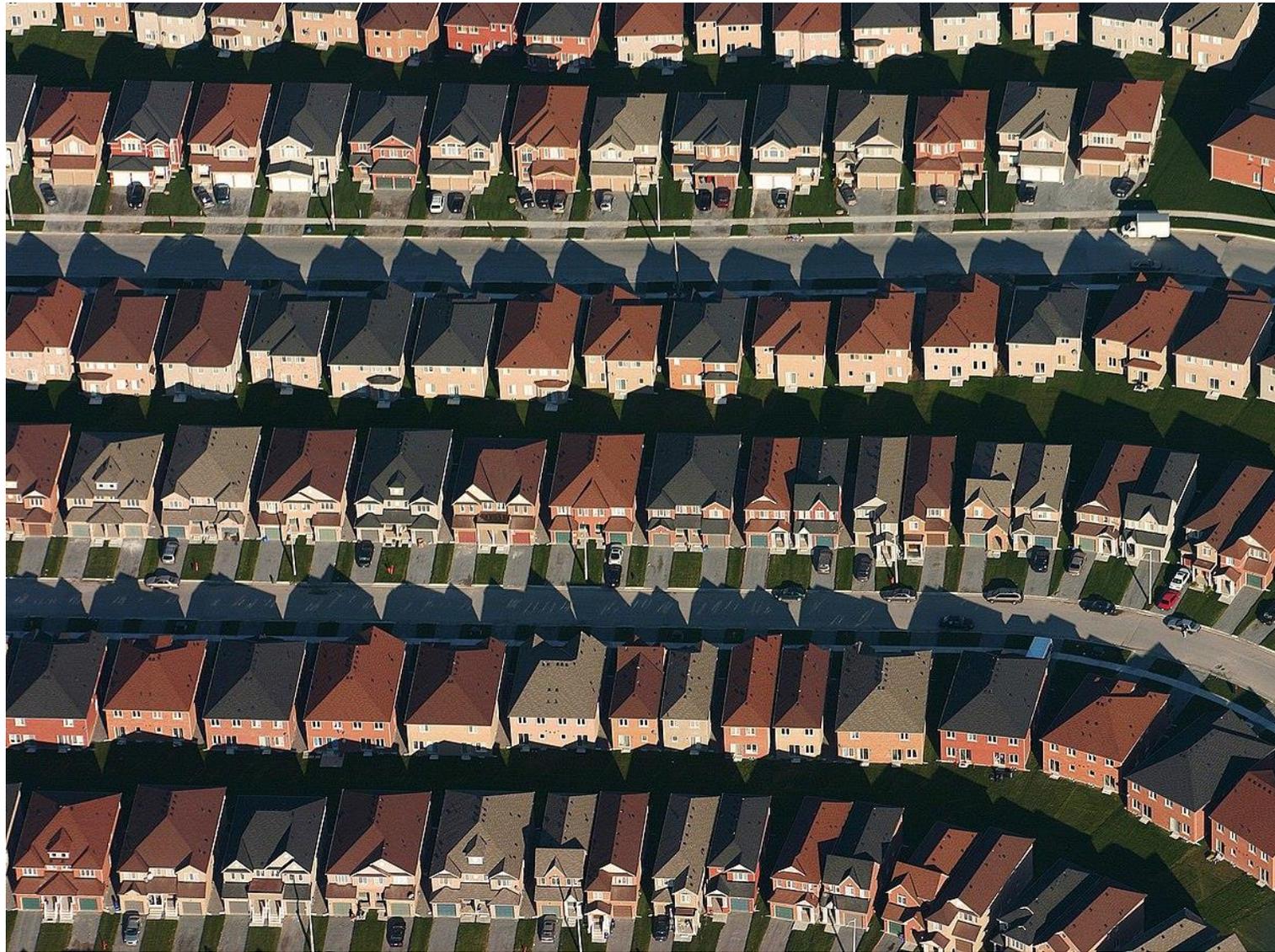
**PUTTING IT ALL
TOGETHER**

FREEMAN PATTERSON

THE WORLD AROUND YOU: A VISUAL DESIGN WORKSHOP

“...although a picture is always more than the sum of its parts, the parts are extremely important to the success of the whole. Think about a big project – building a house, for example.”







TAKE HOME MESSAGE

TO MAKE A GOOD PHOTOGRAPH, ALL YOU NEED IS AN INTERESTING **SUBJECT**, ILLUMINATED BY THE BEST **LIGHT**, AND A GOOD WORKING **KNOWLEDGE** OF YOUR CAMERA AND VISUAL DESIGN.

THEN, TAKE YOUR **TIME** PUTTING THE PICTURE ELEMENTS TOGETHER WITHIN THE PICTURE FRAME IN A WAY THAT TELLS THE STORY YOU WISH TO TELL.

PHOTOGRAPHY PEARLS

- “A good photograph is one that communicates a fact, touches the heart and leaves the viewer a changed person for having seen it. It is, in a word, effective.”
— **Irving Penn**
- “To me, photography is an art of observation. It’s about finding something interesting in an ordinary place... I’ve found it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them.”
— **Elliott Erwitt**
- “If you want to be a better photographer, stand in front of more interesting stuff.”
— **Jim Richardson**

PHOTOGRAPHY PEARLS

- “Great photography is about depth of feeling, not depth of field.”
— **Peter Adams**
- “What do we feel when we look at a good photograph? We just want to be there, right at the exact moment that photo taken!”
- **Mehmet Murat Ildan**
- "The art of photography is all about directing the attention of the viewer."
- **Steven Pinker**
- "Contrast is what makes photography interesting."
- **Conrad Hall**

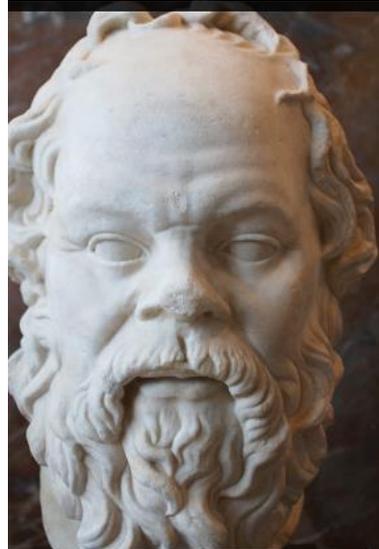
PHOTOGRAPHY PEARLS

- “Seeing is not enough; you have to feel what you photograph”-
Andre Kertesz
- “Don’t shoot what it looks like. Shoot what it feels like.”
-David Alan Harvey
- “There are **no rules** for good photographs, there are only good photographs.” **-Ansel Adams**
- “Photography has **no rules**, it is not a sport. It is the result which counts, no matter how it is achieved.” **-Bill Brandt**

COMPOSITION

AESTHETICS: THE NATURE OF BEAUTY & TASTE

- THE WORD COMES FROM AN EARLY GREEK TERM MEANING “I PERCIEVE, FEEL, SENSE”.
- AESTHETICS HAS COME TO MEAN *THE STUDY OF BEAUTY AND TASTE*.
- WHAT ARE COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE “RULES OF COMPOSITION” ARE AN EXTENSION OF IDEAS THAT ORIGINATED IN ANCIENT TIMES AS TO WHAT IS BEAUTIFUL.



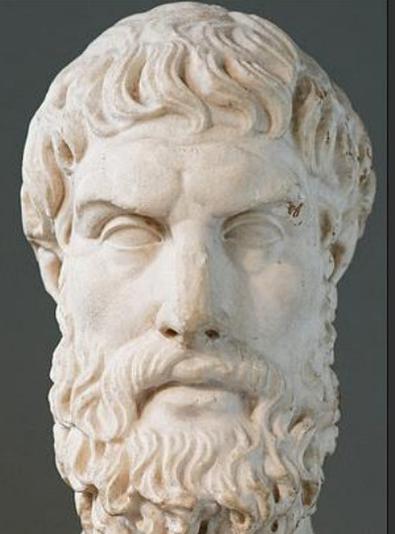
Socrates

469-399
BCE



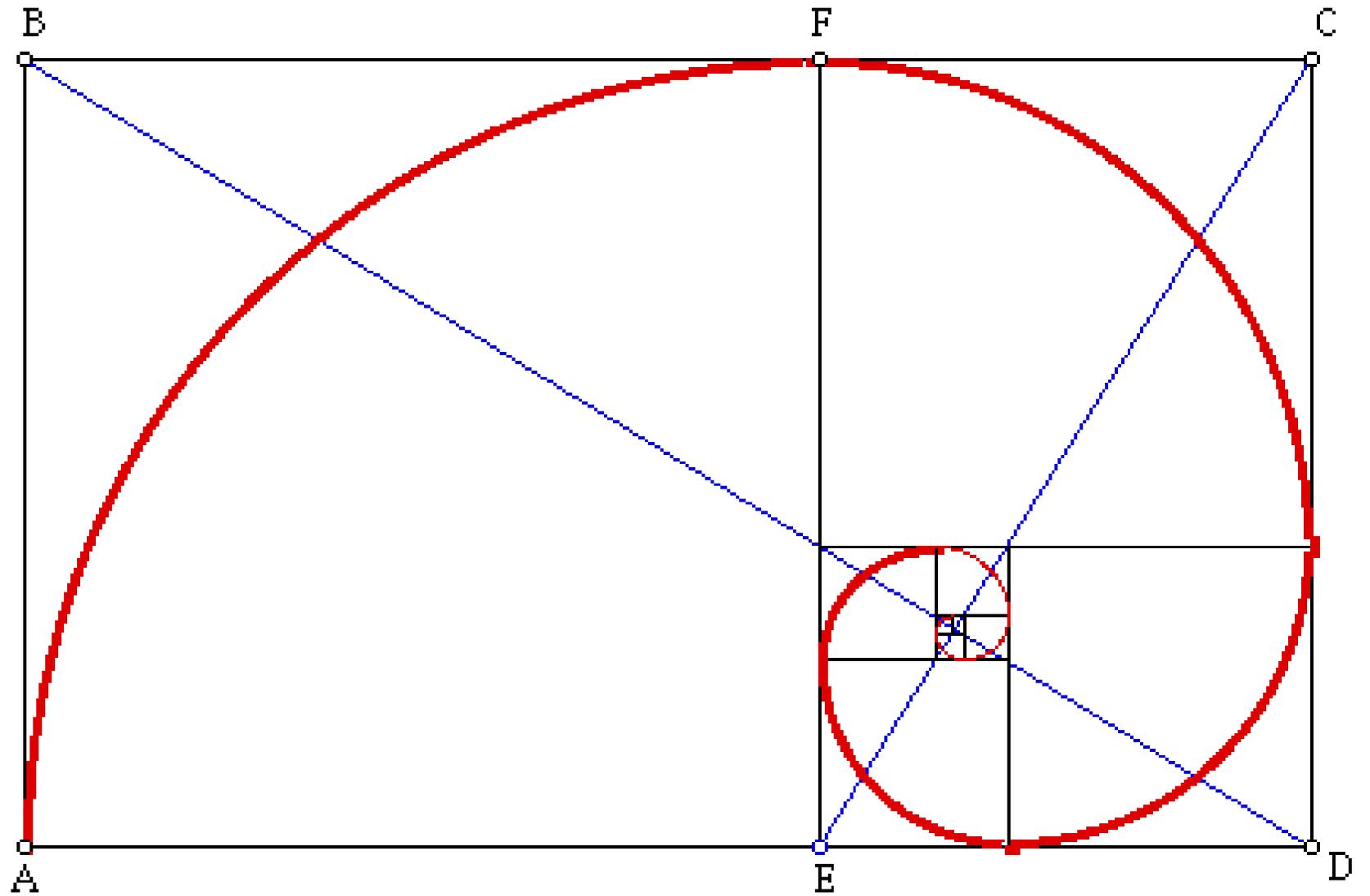
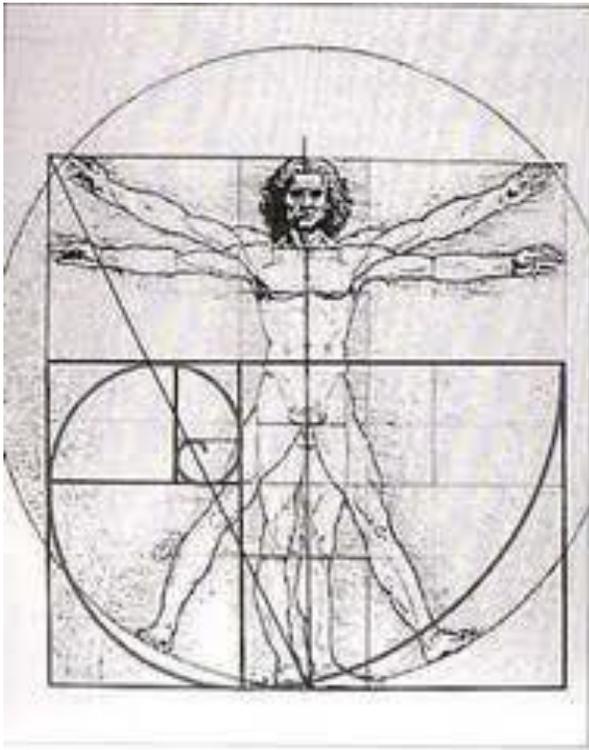
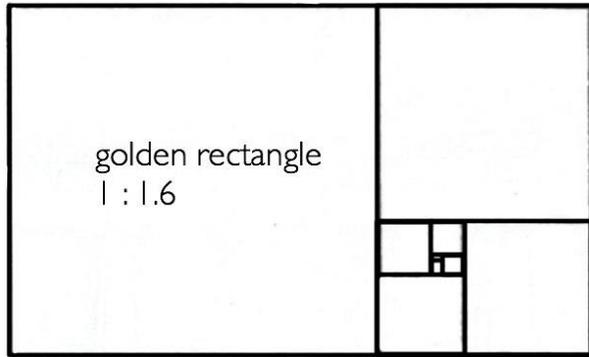
Plato

427-348
BCE



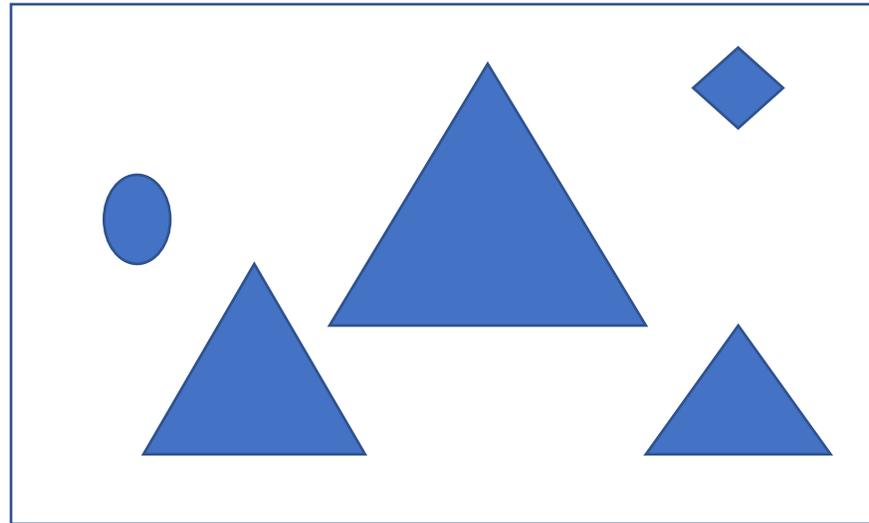
Epicurus

341-270
BCE



COMPOSITION: TOOLS NOT RULES

**PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION IS SIMPLY THE ARRANGEMENT OF
ELEMENTS WITHIN THE PICTURE FRAME.**



COMPOSITION: STEP ONE

“AS PHOTOGRAPHERS, WE NEED A CLEAR VISION OF THE IMAGE WE WANT TO CAPTURE OR ENHANCE/CREATE IN THE DIGITAL DARKROOM. A CLEAR VISION HELPS US “CUT THE CLUTTER,” WHICH IS IMPORTANT IN PHOTOGRAPHY.”

RICK SAMMON

THINK ABOUT WHAT STORY YOU WANT TO TELL

COMPOSITION: STEP TWO

ONCE YOU HAVE DECIDED ON YOUR STORY, SETTING THE EXPOSURE, SHUTTER SPEED, AND FOCUS WILL NATURALLY FOLLOW. YOUR REAL JOB NOW IS TO THE ARRANGE THE ELEMENTS IN THE FRAME (COMPOSE) TO MOST EFFECTIVELY SUPPORT THE NARRATIVE.

COMPOSITION: 10 SUGGESTIONS

1. FILL THE FRAME
2. UTILIZE FOREGROUND INTEREST TO CREATE DEPTH
3. FRAME THE MAIN SUBJECT
4. THINK IN THIRDS
5. ODD NUMBERS CAUSE TENSION

COMPOSITION: 10 SUGGESTIONS

6. USE LEADING LINES TO DIRECT THE VIEWER'S EYE
7. USE DIAGONAL LINES FOR ENERGY
8. USE HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL LINES FOR STABILITY
9. CURVED LINES ARE SENSUAL
10. BALANCE THE ELEMENTS IN THE FRAME

A BONUS

**ELIMINATE
DISTRACTIONS**



**FILLING THE
FRAME**



FILLING THE FRAME





**FOREGROUND
INTEREST**





FOREGROUND INTEREST





FRAMING





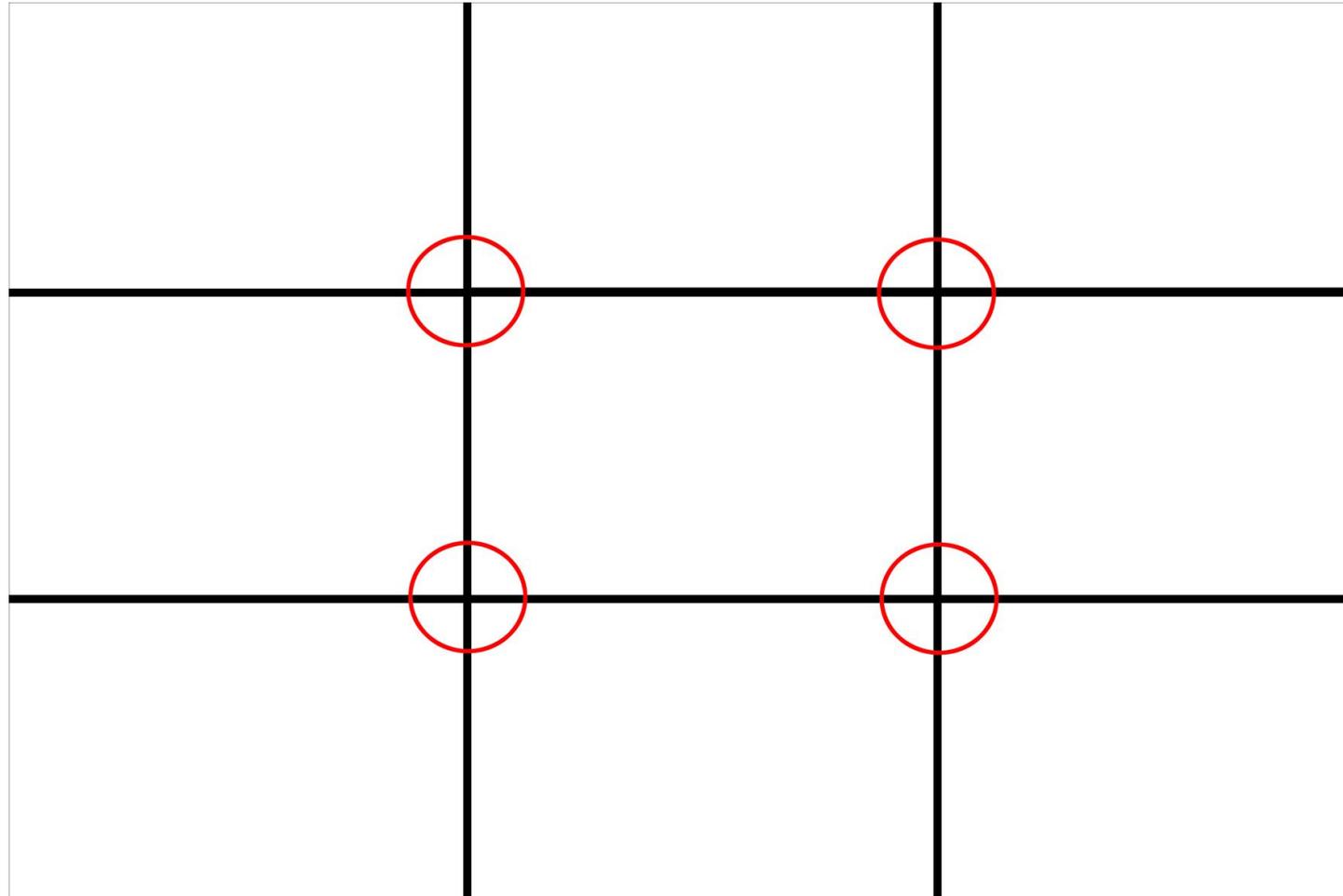
FRAMING



FRAMING



THINK IN THIRDS

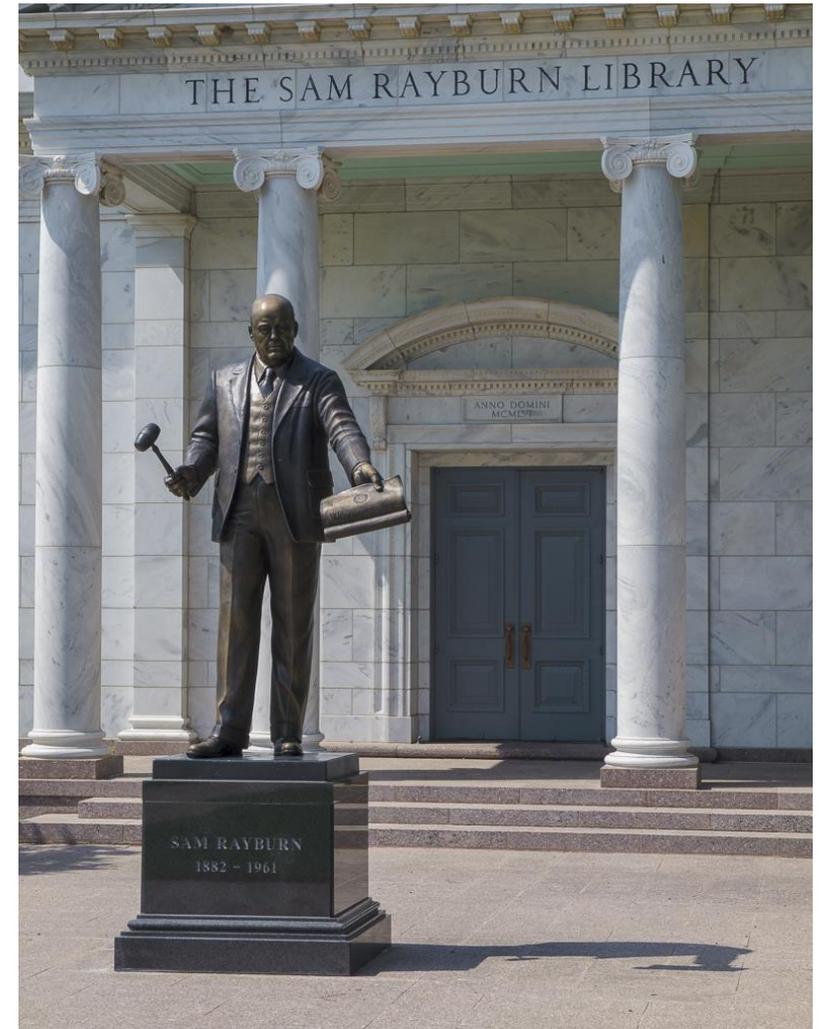




**THINK IN
THIRDS**



THINK IN THIRDS



The image shows a vast landscape of rolling hills and mountains, all rendered in various shades of blue. The mountains in the foreground are a darker blue, while those in the distance become progressively lighter and more hazy, creating a strong sense of depth and atmospheric perspective. The sky is a pale, uniform blue. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

THINK IN THIRDS



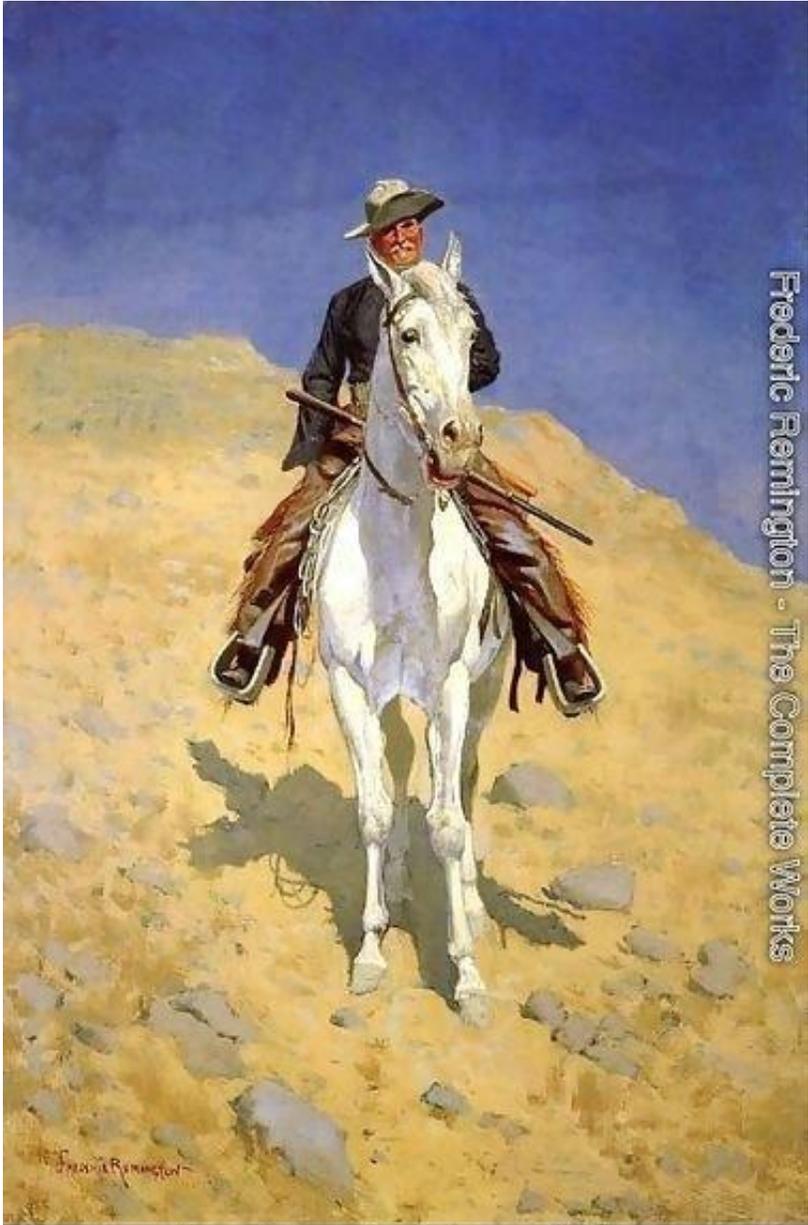
**THINK IN
THIRDS**

THINK IN THIRDS



**EXCEPT WHEN
YOU DON'T
WANT TO**





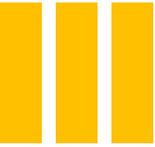
Frederic Remington - The Complete Works



ODD NUMBERS



Barry Pettenberg



ODD NUMBERS



LEADING LINES





DIAGONAL LINES=ENERGY



**DIAGONAL
LINES =
ENERGY**



DIAGONAL LINES=ENERGY



HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL LINES=STABILITY



HORAZONTAL AND VERTICAL LINES=STABILITY



CURVED LINES ARE SENSUAL





CURVED LINES ARE SENSUAL

STRIVE FOR BALANCE



STRIVE FOR BALANCE



BONUS

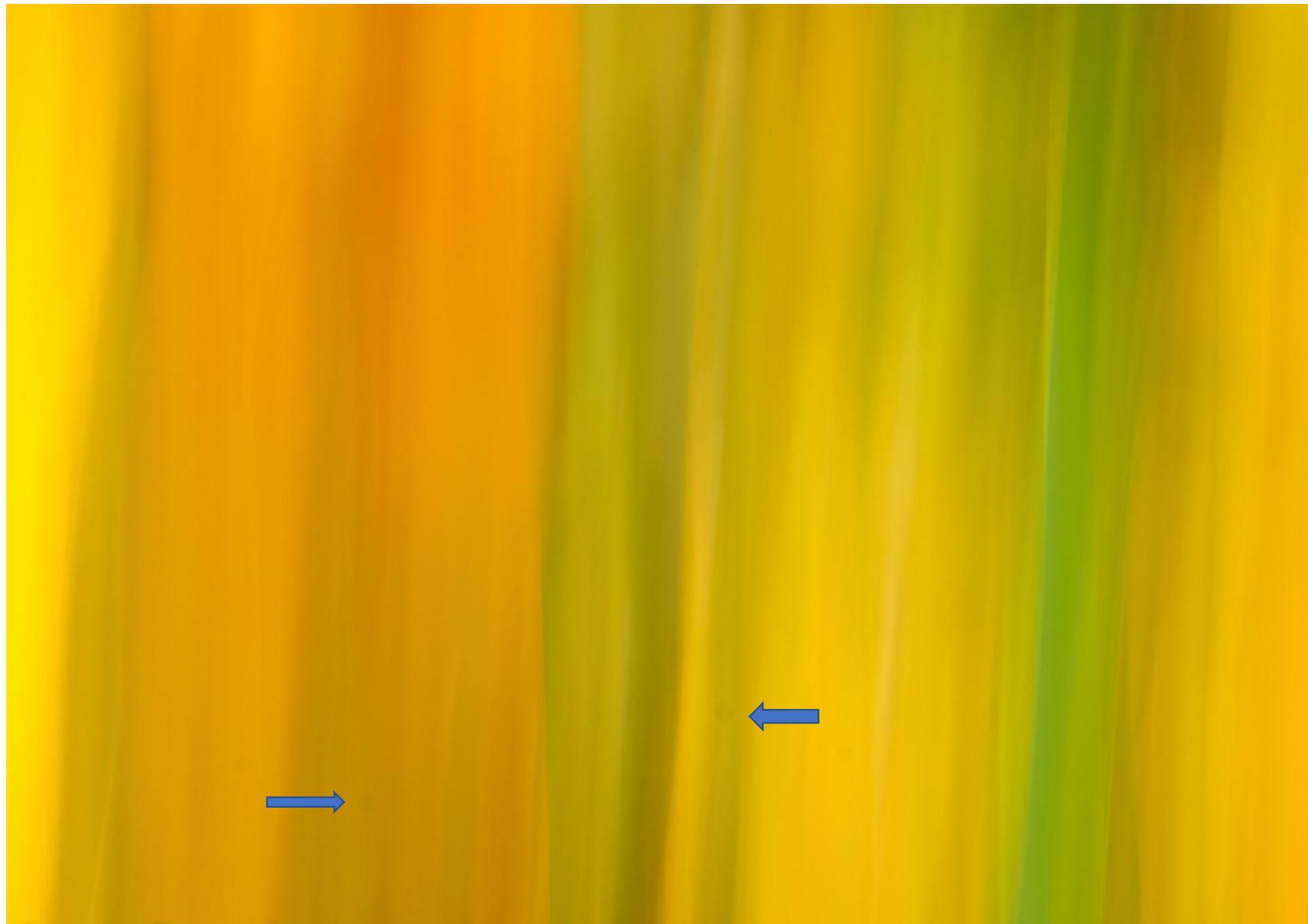
**ELIMINATE
DISTRACTIONS**

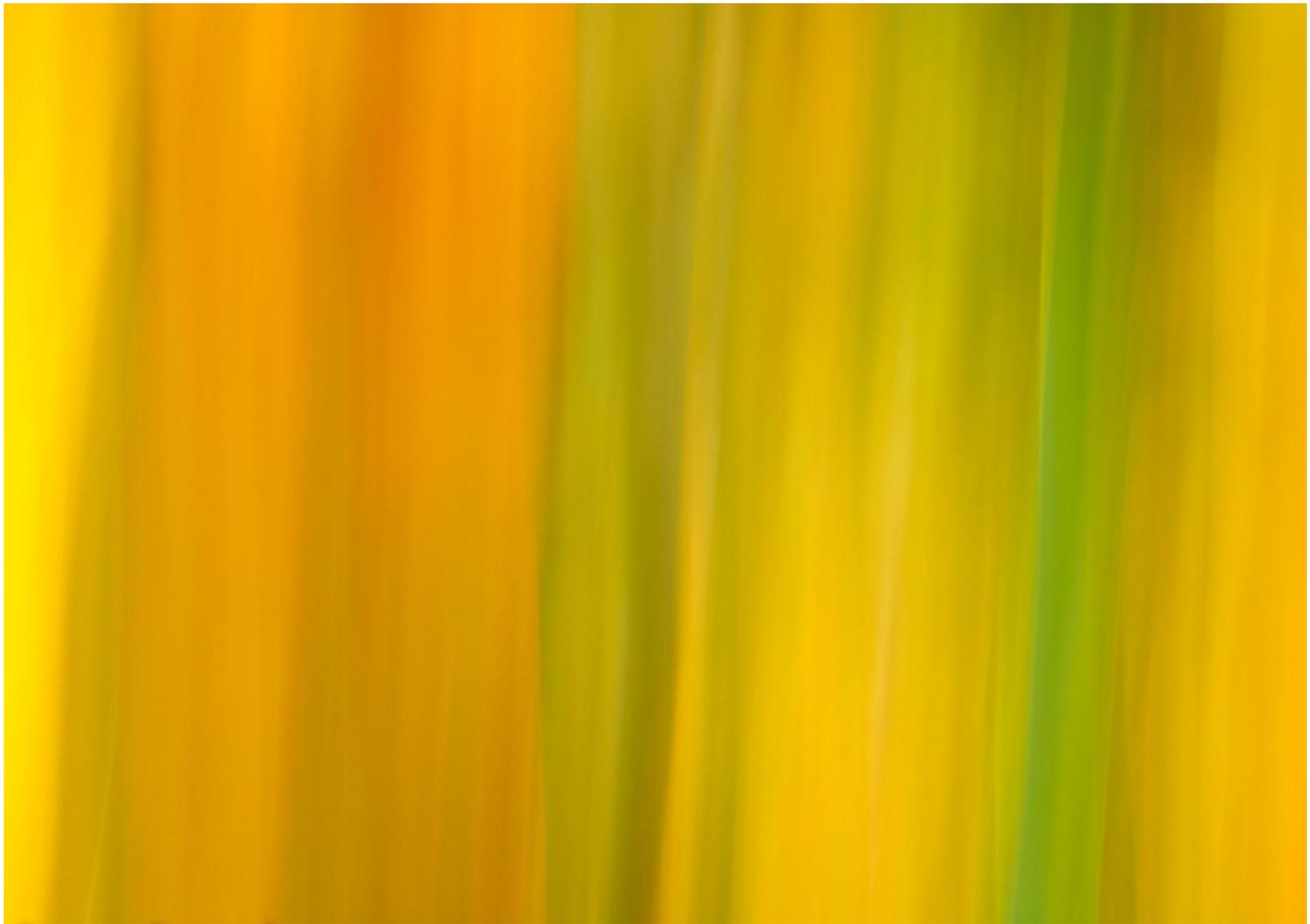
INITIAL CAPTURE



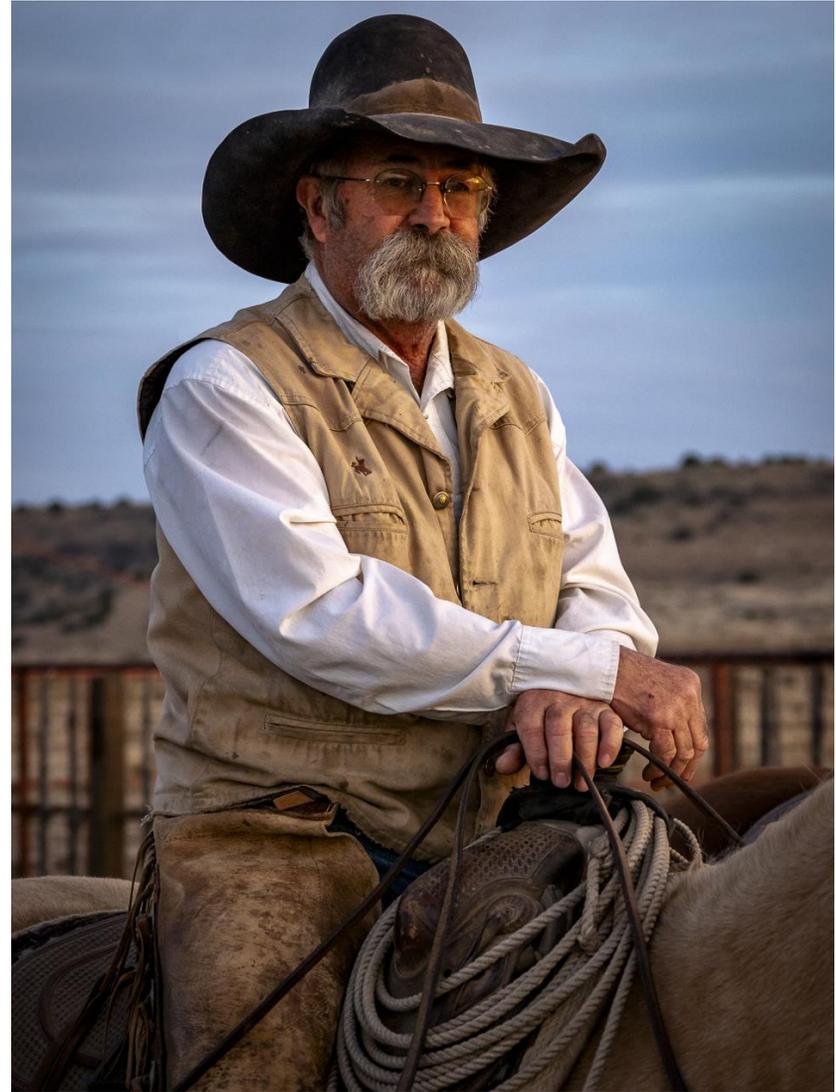
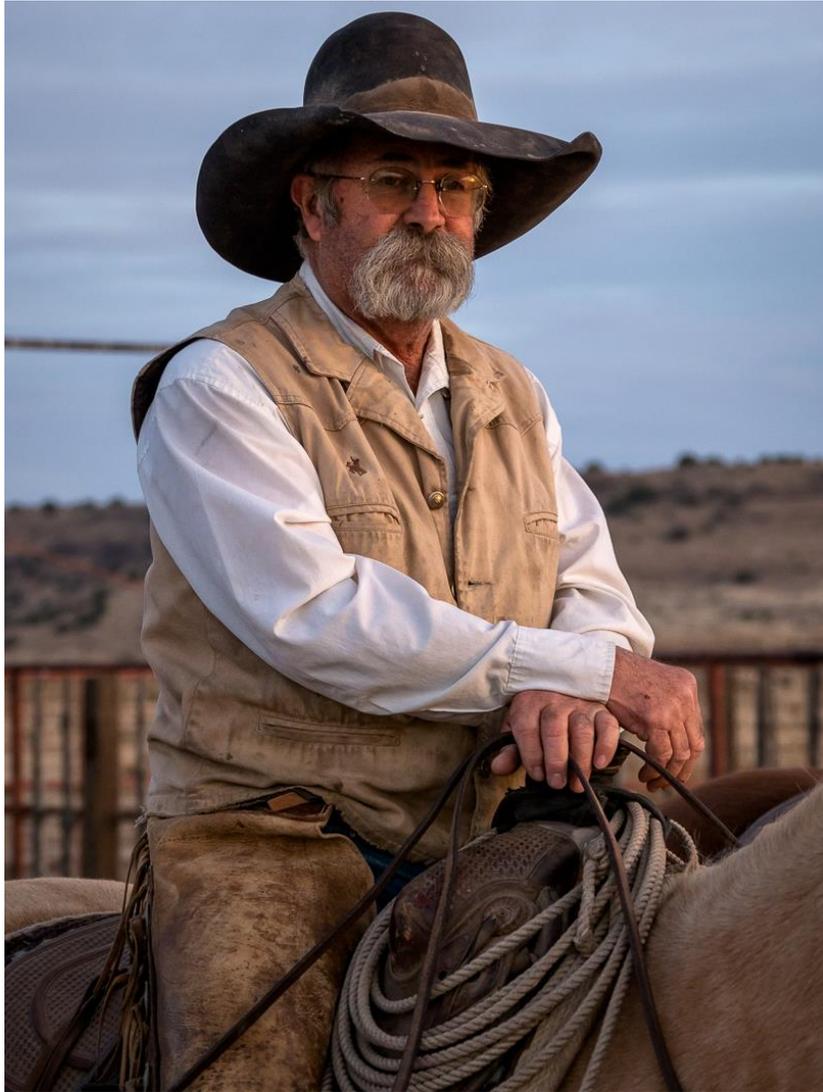


SPOTS





ELIMINATE DISTRACTIONS



ELIMINATE DISTRACTIONS



PARTING WORDS TO LIVE BY

“Consulting the rules of composition before taking a photograph is like consulting the laws of gravity before going for a walk.” - Edward Weston

PARTING WORDS TO LIVE BY

“Of course, there will always be those who look only at technique, who ask ‘how’, while others of a more curious nature will ask ‘why’. Personally, I have always preferred inspiration to information.”

Man Ray

“The more pictures you see, the better you are as a photographer.”
Robert Mapplethorpe

PARTING WORDS TO LIVE BY

“Life is like a camera. Just focus on what’s important and capture the good times, develop from the negatives and if things don’t work out, just take another shot.” Unknown