

Creating Photographs that Depart from Reality

August 28, 2025

Craig Rowen

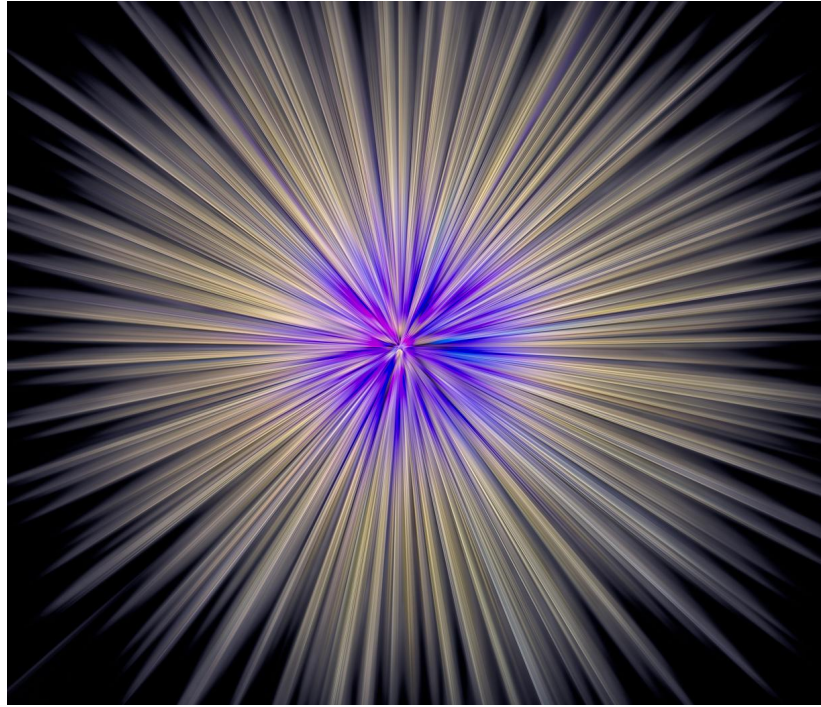
Dennis Fritsche

Creative Departure From Reality

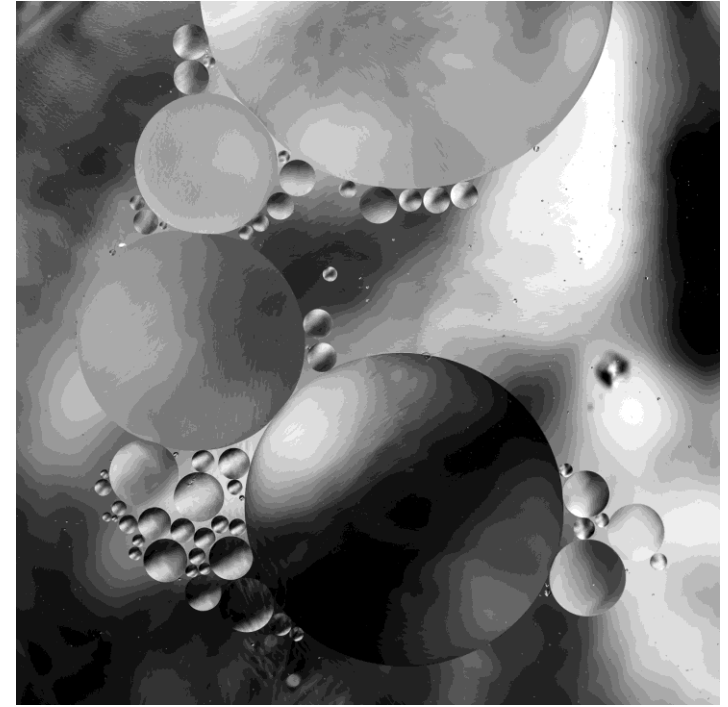
- September 2025 Plano Photography Club Theme
- NOTE: Your entry must be created using your own images. You may use in-camera techniques - such as trick lenses, motion blur, or zoom exposure - or post-processing methods with editing tools to alter reality. Compositing two or more of your own images is also allowed.
- Dallas has had this as special end of year contest since 1997.
- I have won with a variety of techniques over the years.



Like the Back of My On Hand
1st 2010



Big Bang
1st 2015



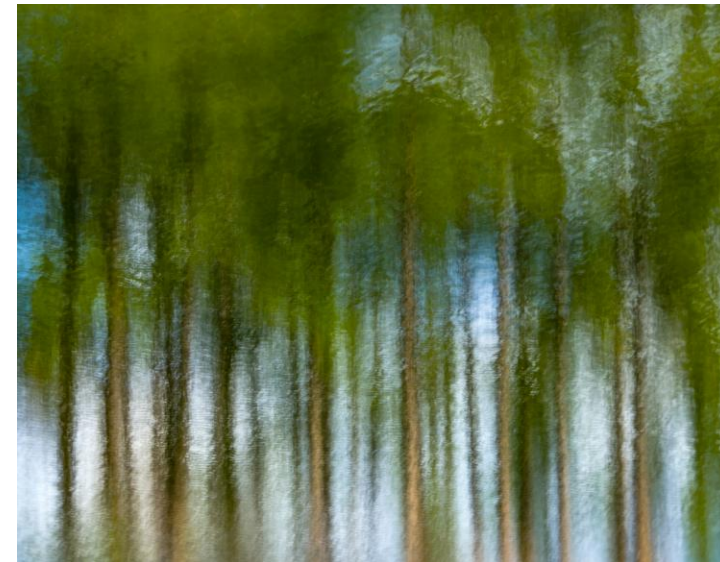
Spheres
1st 2020



The Watcher
2nd 2024



Lighthouse
3rd 2024

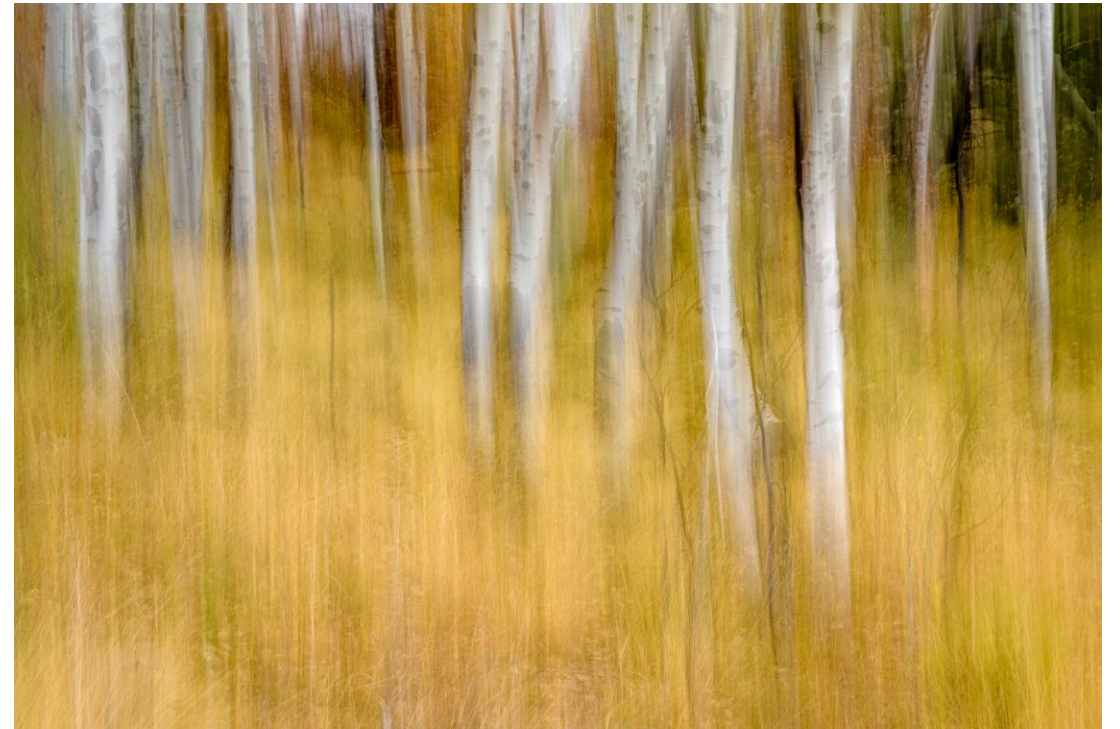
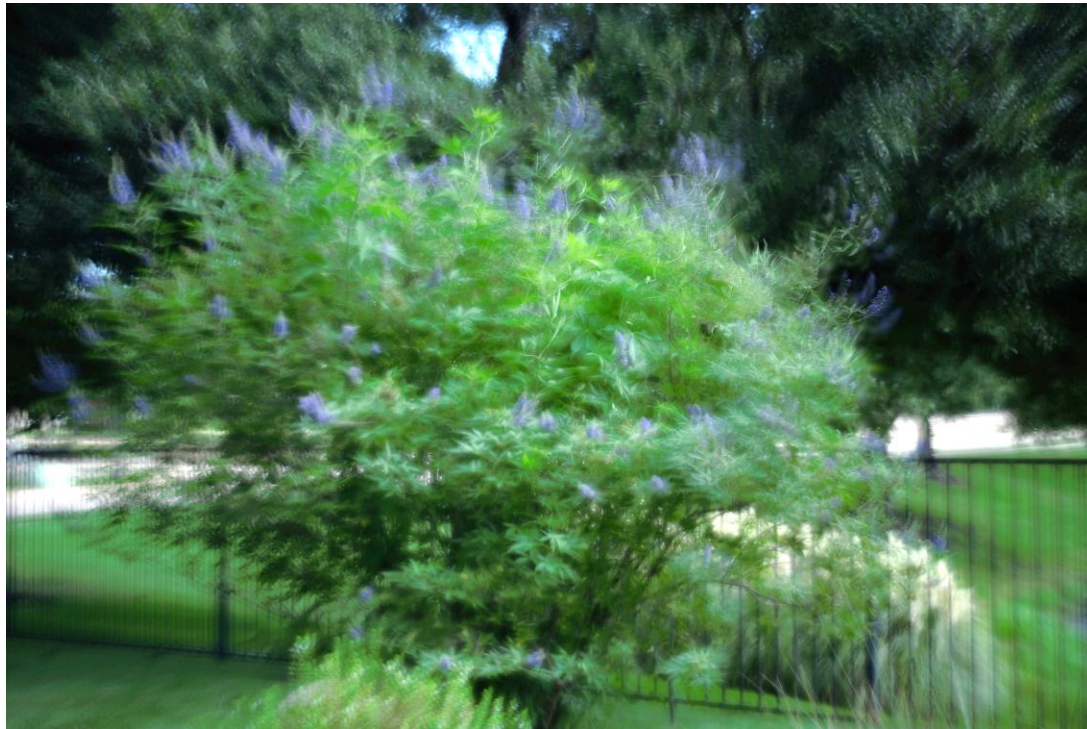


Trees in Abstraction
2nd 2025

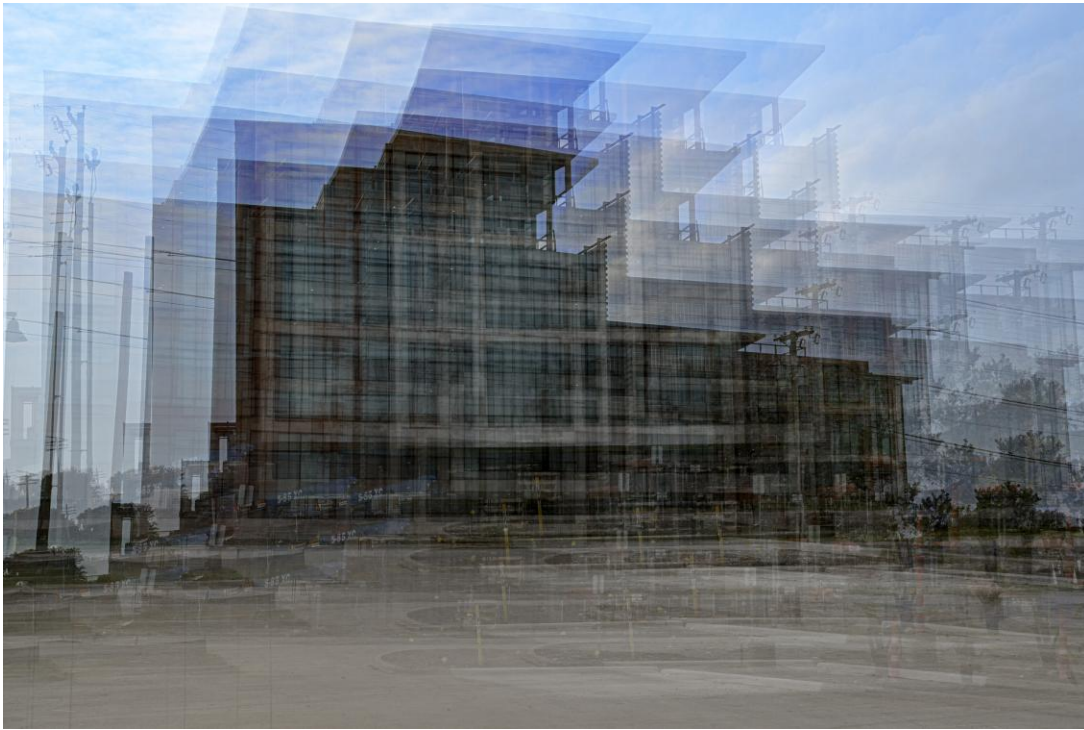
Techniques

- In camera
 - ICM (Intentional Camera Movement)
 - Multiple Exposures (ME)
 - Intentional Blur
 - Zoom Exposure
 - Specialty Lenses
 - Sphere
 - Leaves in Water Slow Shutter Speed
- Painterly Effects
- Photoshop
 - Blur Effects
 - Combine images
- Combined Effects

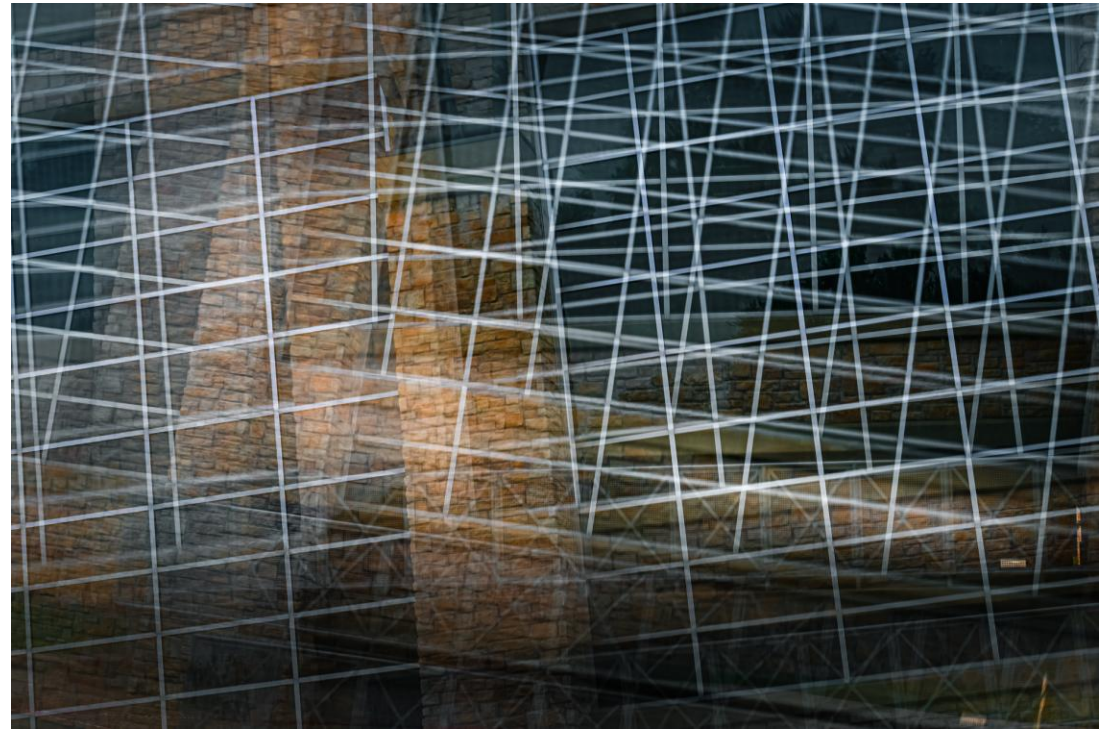
ICM/ ME Examples



ICM/ ME Examples



Nancy Mack

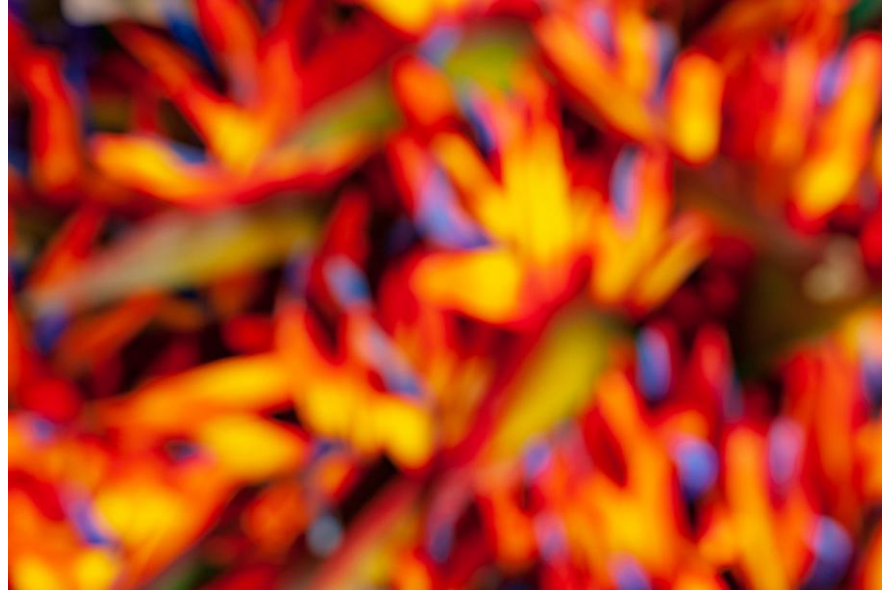


Nancy Mack

ICM/ME

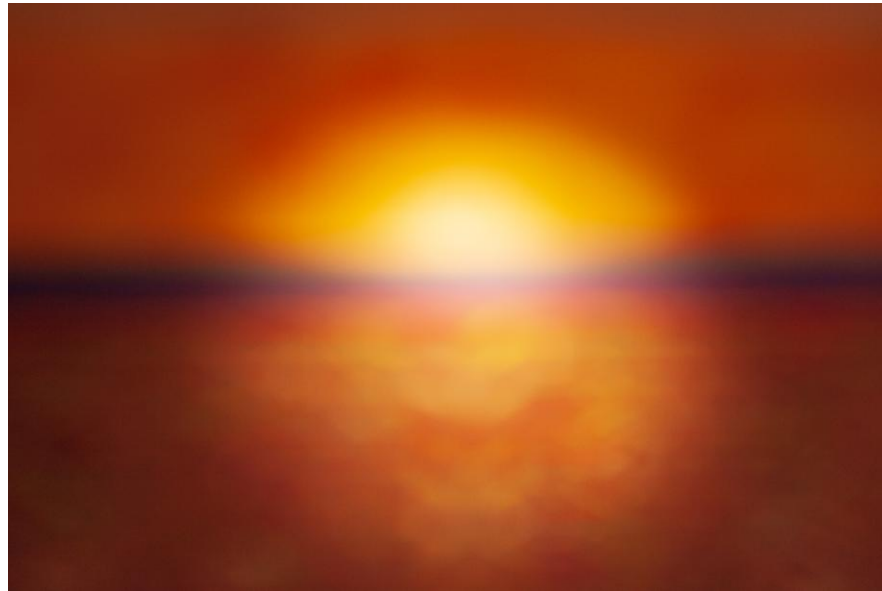
- Nancy Mack gave a two-part program on ICM and ME. The information is on member only pages.
- [Dallas Camera Club - Training Material for Members Only](#)
- [Plano Photography Club \(PPC\) - Training Material for Members Only](#)

Intentional Blur

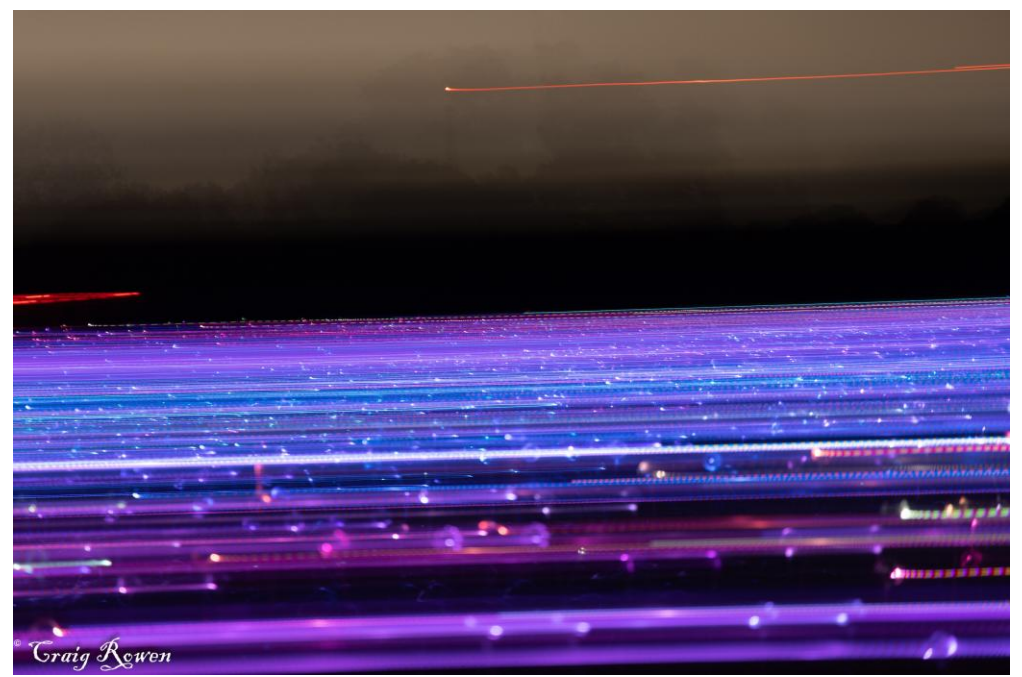


Technique

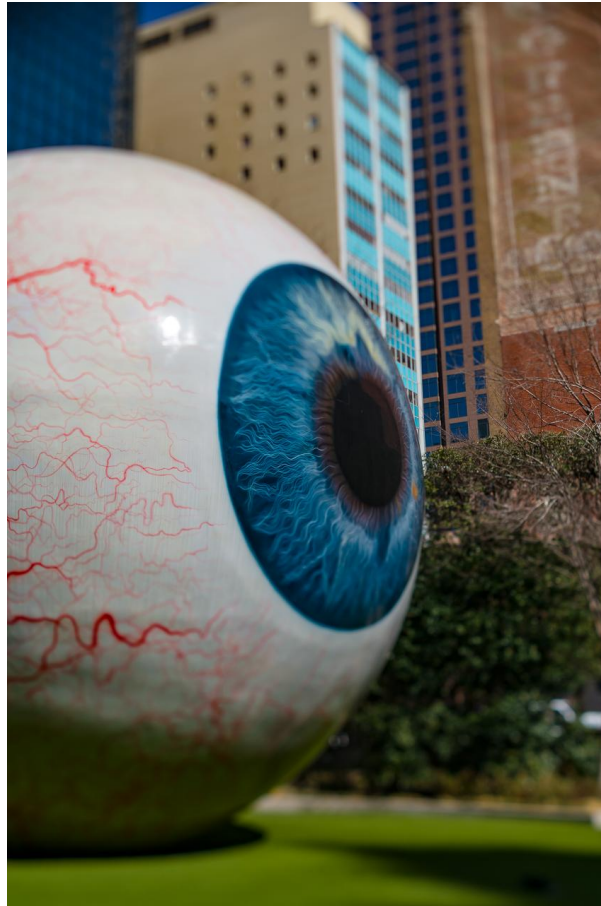
- Works best with a fast lens.
- Set to fastest aperture.
- Put in manual focus.
- Defocus to blur.
- Can also be done in Photoshop.



Zoom Effects



Specialty Lenses – Tilt



Tilt Lenses

- Narrow Plane of focus.
- Miniature effect.

Specialty Lenses – Helios



Nancy Mack



Nancy Mack

Helios Lenses

- Bubble Bokeh

Specialty Lenses – LensBaby



Nancy Mack



Nancy Mack

LensBaby Lenses

- A variety of effects

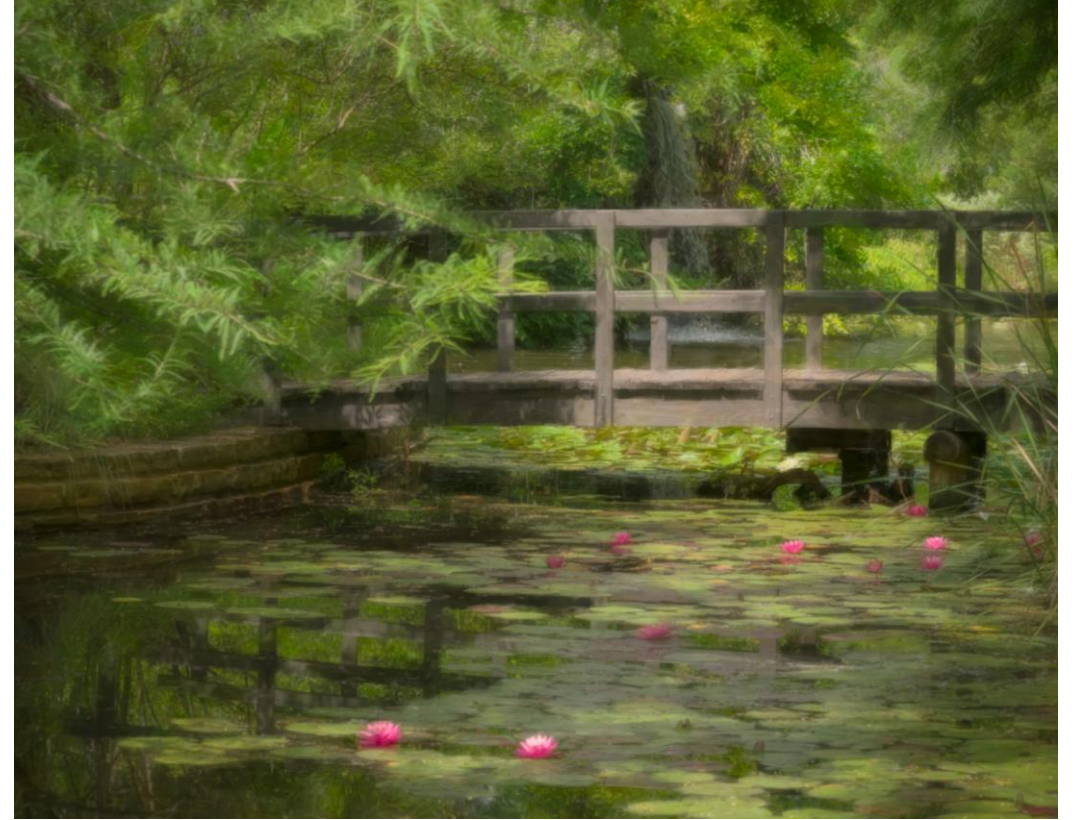
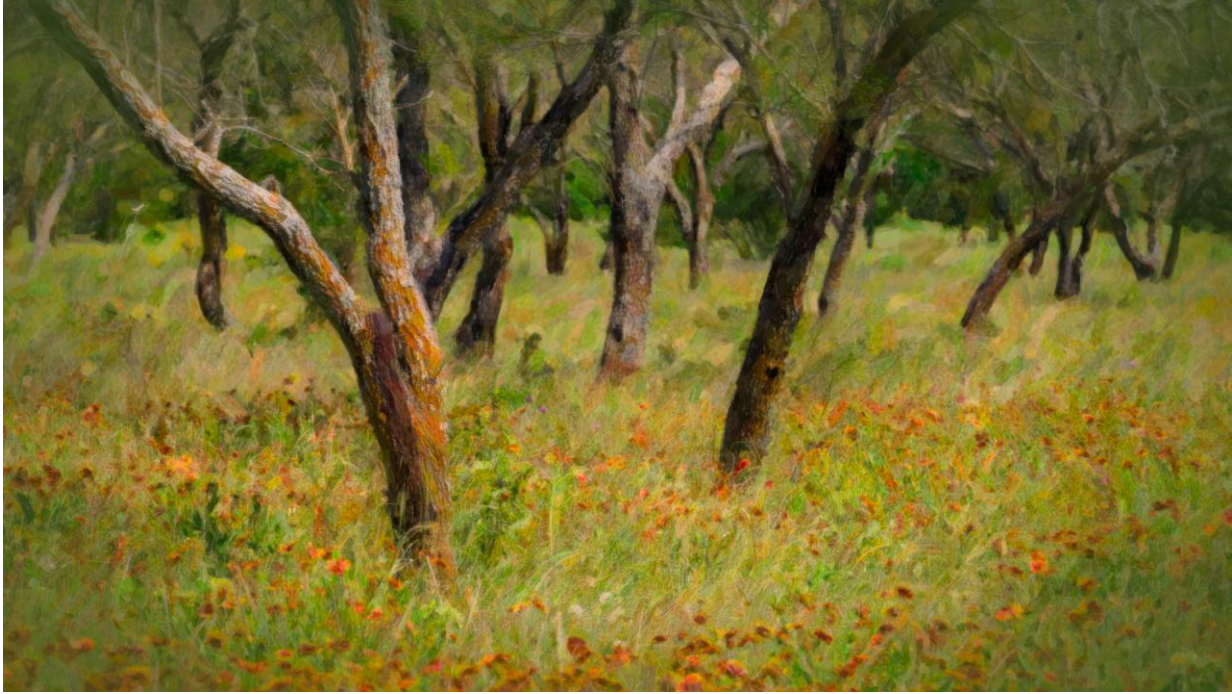
Sphere



Leaves in Water – Slow Shutter Speed



Photo Art

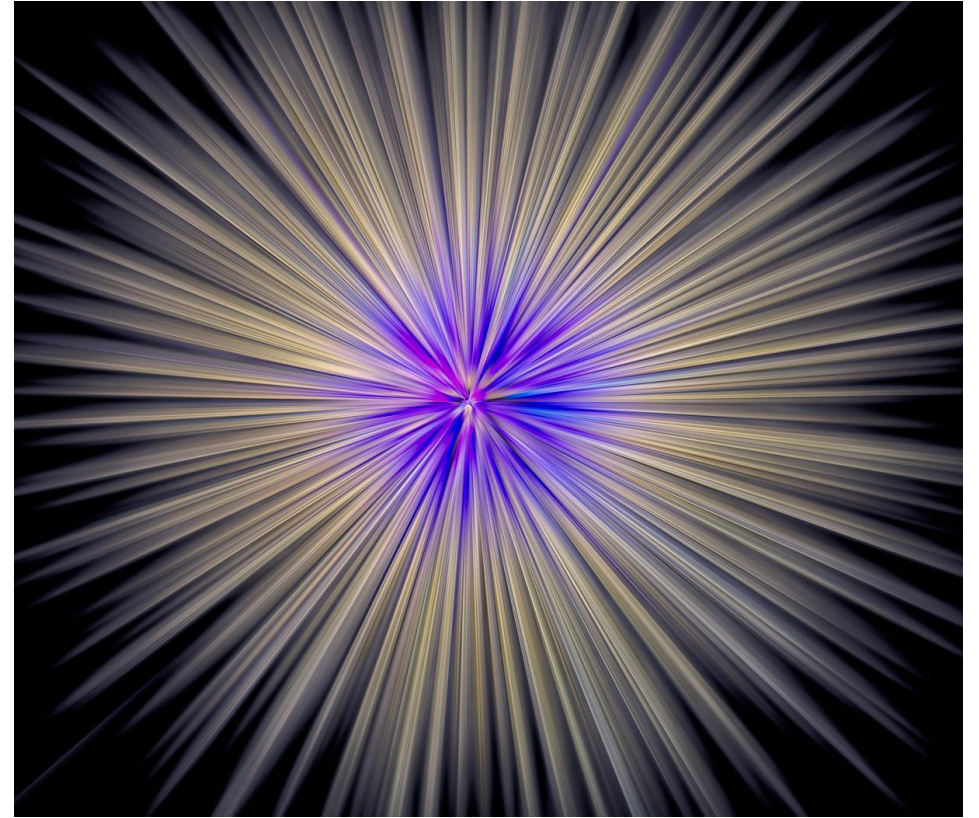


I use Snap Art 4 by Exposure Software

Photo Art



Photoshop – Blur Effects



Photoshop – Blur Effects



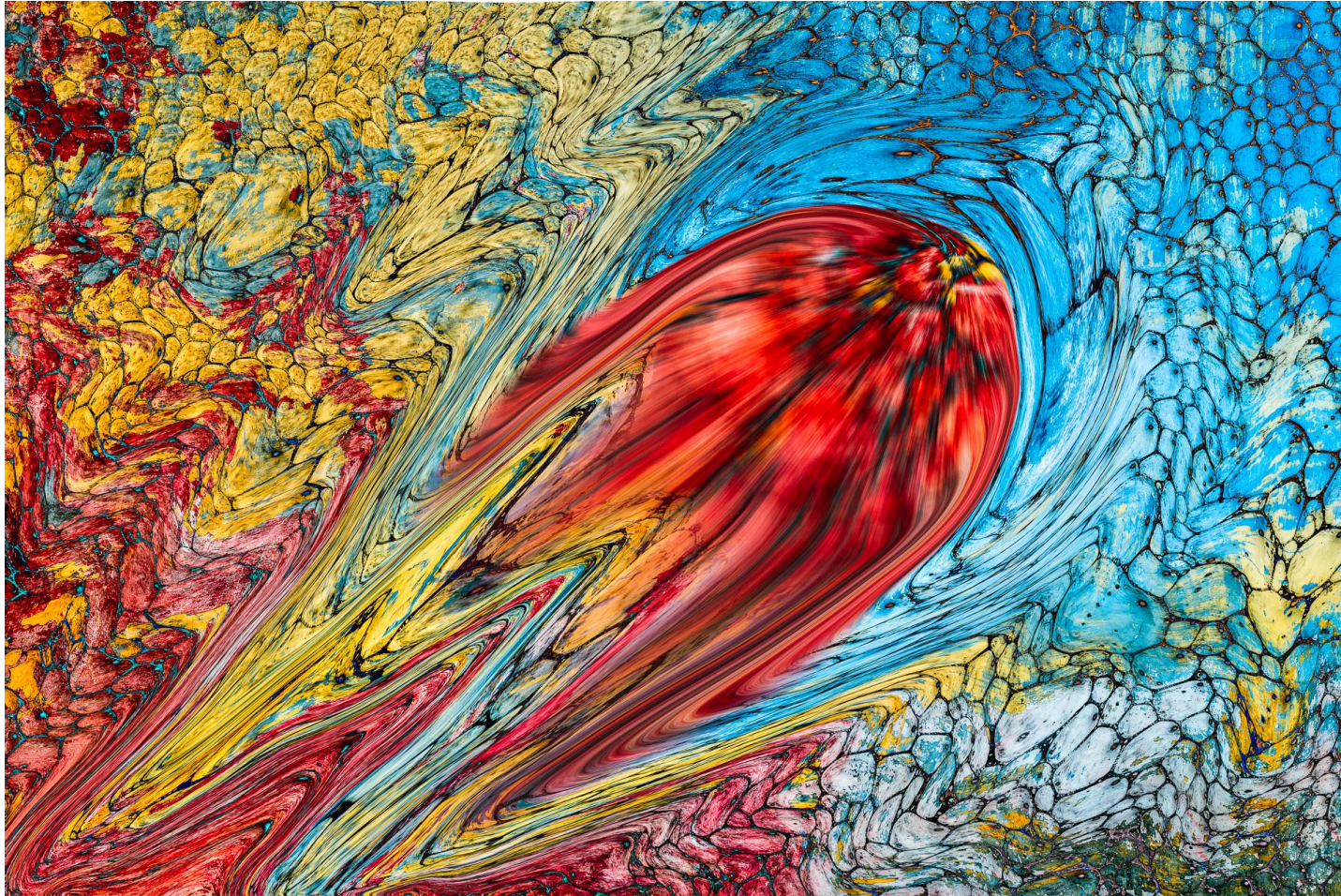
Photoshop – Blur Effects



Photoshop – Distort



Photoshop – Distort



Photoshop – Combine Images



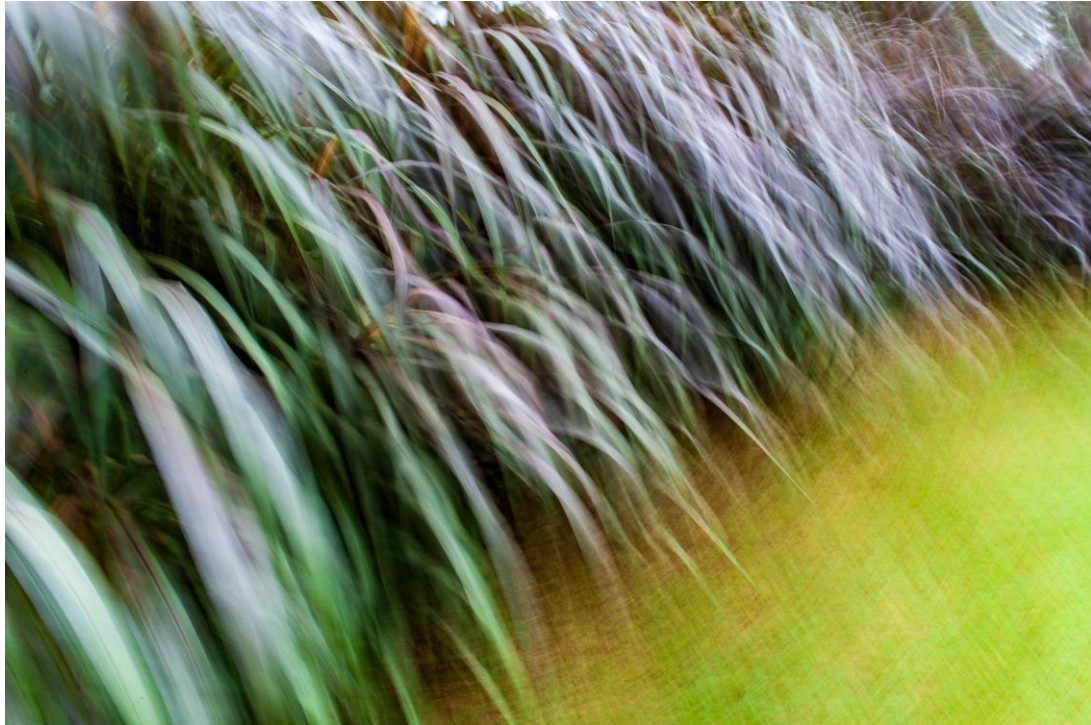
Photoshop – Combine Images



Photoshop – Combine Images



Combined Effects



Photoshop – Combine Effects



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Demonstrations