AICE Art and Design Exam Planning

Choice of Starting Point: Dismantled

Definition: (from Dictionary.com)

verb (used with object), dis·man·tled, dis·man·tling.

to deprive or strip of apparatus, furniture, equipment, defenses, etc.: to dismantle a ship; to dismantle a fortress.

to disassemble or pull down; take apart: They dismantled the machine and shipped it in pieces.

to divest of dress, covering, etc.: The wind dismantled the trees of their leaves.

British Dictionary:

verb (tr) to take apart; to demolish or raze; to strip of covering

Ideas that I will photograph:

- 1. **Dismantling Childhood:** The first idea that I will photograph are broken toys. My brother has many broken toys and my sister has some seriously disfigured dolls that she has destroyed. Some art elements that I can see coming out of this are color and shape/form. Design principles will probably be balance, emphasis, and contrast.
 - a. Close-ups using shallow depth of field
 - b. Some different lighting techniques
 - c. Many broken toys together using different angles
- 2. **Dismantling my Sweet Tooth:** Fortunately for me, my mother's big cake mixer broke. So, I am going to take photos of it together... and then take it apart in pieces. The art elements I'm going after are shape/form and Space. Design principles will probably be balance, emphasis, and contrast.
 - a. Start off with the full mixer
 - b. Then show the process as each major piece is completely disassembled.
 - c. I will do a mixture of photos... close-ups, different angles.... etc.,.... I plan to iron a black sheet that my mom has and use it as a background. Since my patio faces the east, I will set up there and photograph in the morning hours.
- 3. **Dismantling Celebration:** For this idea, I'm going to concentrate on shutter speed. My mother was cleaning out the attic and wanted to throw away some Christmas ornaments. I collected all of them and wouldn't let her throw them away. Now I know why. I'm going to set up on our picnic table in the backyard and use the sheet that I was using before. Some art elements that I can see coming out of this are color and shape/form. Design principles will be movement/rhythm, emphasis, and contrast.
 - a. I'll do a before photo with all of the ornaments together, nice and formed.
 - b. Then, with my dad's mallet, my brother will smash them. I will catch freeze motion during so the shattering can be seen (close-ups). I will also do slow shutter speeds to contrast/compare. I plan to do close ups in order to see the actual breaking and shattering.
 - c. I also plan to fill a few of them with colored water (done with food coloring). I will have my sister hold the sheet in the background and my brother will drop

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them on the sidewalk. I'll be laying on the ground about 5 feet away with my telephoto lens on. I will capture it as soon as it hits the ground with multiple photos. I will do this with 1/1000 of a second and then drop to some really slow shutter speeds. I know that I will have to make some adjustments to the ISO and FSTOP every time I change the shutter speed. I will try with the TV setting first. Then I will shoot with Manual.

- 4. **Dismantling Reflections:** For this idea, I will be using reflections in mirrors and water. The one thing I know I'm going to really have to work with is lighting and making sure my subject is in clear view and that while I'm taking the photo, I am not in the view. The idea here is that we often dismantle ourselves when we look in the mirror... we don't like the way we look. Art elements will definitely be Shape/Form... along with design principles that include movement/rhythm and emphasis.
 - a. Mirror: I plan some different angles of my mother looking in the mirror. The idea is to see a small portion of the subject looking into the mirror and then visaversa. I may also try de-saturating what is in the mirror as far as color and only leaving the things in color that she likes about herself.
 - b. Another way that I want to capture this is water reflections. I need to bring an extra light into the bathroom. I will fill the bathtub with water. I want to add a little blue coloring to it. Then I will have my subject look at their reflection. I will also throw a pebble in to distort the reflection and take photos of that.
- 5. **Dismantling Identity:** This idea will be working with light and shadow. I will be using natural light in my bedroom. I will use Black and White for most of this experiment. I will use the shades and curtains to create light on different parts of the face. For instance, I will only want to show a ¼ of my sister's face, so I will arrange the curtains to where only a quarter of her face is visible and the rest a very dark shadow. I will experiment with different parts of the face. The strong art elements will definitely be shape/form and space (negative and positive). Design principles will include emphasis and contrast.
- 6. **Dismantling of Self:** With this experiment, I plan to take some dramatic portraits in both black and white and color. Then I plan to experiment with them in Photoshop. I want to turn them into pieces like a puzzle (more like broken glass) and pull them apart... I also want to make the faces look like cracked earth and a cracked mirror. This will definitely be an art element of shape/form and texture.

RESEARCH

I will be researching the following artists for my project.

- Dismantling Childhood: I'm doing quite a lot of research on this topic. One of the main websites I have visited is: https://fineartamerica.com/art/photographs/broken+toy. There are a number of artists I can choose from there. I will be delving into this site quite a lot and will settle on one of the artists. Another website I'm studying is: https://toyphotographers.com/. Though this site concentrates mainly on regular toy photography, I can apply some of the techniques to the broken toys.
- 2. **Dismantling my Sweet tooth:** I was really inspired by artist, Ono Gaf, an artist from Indonesia who creates art with broken mechanical pieces. There are a lot of sites with his work. Though his art is not photography, it inspired me to look at the small pieces of what makes something work. He takes those small pieces and makes sculptures.
- 3. **Dismantling Celebration:** I was really inspired by Ukrainian photography Anton Surkov with his photos of Artistic Human Chalk Explosions... but the idea is similar. There's another photographer, Jon Smith, who does high speed explosion art. He uses a lot of color and up-close photos to capture the moment of the explosion.
- 4. **Dismantling Reflections:** This is a very intriguing type of photography and really requires a lot of pre-planning. I was really intrigued by Paul Apal'kin's work called Invasion (aka Broken Mirror). https://curiator.com/art/paul-apalkin/invasion-aka-broken-mirror
- 5. **Dismantling Identity:** I was very interested in photography that demonstrated deep shadow on faces like that of Wendy Hope, who is a fashion photography. One of her images completely blocks out the right eye... I think I may even try more ideas besides just using the shades and curtains!
- 6. **Dismantling of Self:** For this, I am researching video tutorials on how to make a face looked cracked and a broken mirror effect.