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ENGL 1102

March 11, 2011

Essay III, Final Draft

Digital Photography

The Beginning

In my eyes, photography is a little more than a simple hobby or something that I do when I am bored. It is a way for me to create something simple but extraordinary in a complex and chaotic world. Defined by the *World English Dictionary*, photography is “the art, practice, or occupation of taking and printing photographs, making cine films, etcetera” (“Photography”). However, I believe that photography is more than just the snapping of a lens or the taking of self portraits. It is capturing the exact moment of emotion with a shutter click and a flash. Hákon Ágústsson, writer for The Quote Garden website, said it best with a quote from Eudora Welty stating, “A good snapshot stops a moment from running away” (Ágústsson 1).

Explain

Photography, in general, is a broad topic and could include a number of things in a wide range. Digital photography is a small topic that includes a large number of things. Digital photography involves the use of a digital camera and things such as filters, lenses, and editing software all to create the best picture possible. Terrance Wright, author of *The Photography Handbook*, explained, “The digital camera operates on the same basic principles as the photographic camera but without a film. In place of the film, present at the point of projection,

there is a charged coupled device which records the pattern of light in the form of a digital code” (Wright 151). From my experience, you can either take digital photographs can be taken by the point and shoot method, or by the adjust, focus, then shoot method. With the point and shoot method, all I would have to do is aim the camera at the object that I want to shoot and then snap the photo. If I choose the adjusting method, this would cut down on some of the editing that I would have to do later.

Using the adjustable lens before I shoot the picture possibly could cut down the noise. According to John G. Blair, author of *The Glossary of Digital Photography*, “Noise is the multicolored pixels in a picture” (Blair 232). Reducing noise causes me to have brighter color in my photographs or could cause the picture to become more or less focused as well as zoom in or out of the target. According to Andrew Sawalich, author of the article “Lenses: What You Need to Know to Pick the Perfect lens for Your Camera”, the best camera type available right now for serious photographers would have to be a Digital SLR camera (Sawalich 44). An SLR camera is “a camera that uses the same lens to view and photograph the subject” (Blair 276). An SLR camera, unlike an advanced compact camera, uses mirrors to get a better and more clarified shot, therefore making them the preferred choice for many photographers including myself.

First Flash

Photography is a process that has had many people claim its beginnings and has had thousands of people find hundreds of ways that their idea will not work. For author of *A World History of Photography*, Naomi Rosenblum, Hercules Florence and William Talbot created the first photographs (Rosenblum 186). Although Florence was credited by being the first actually to use the term “photography,” Louis Jacques Mande Daguerre was credited as the “father of

photography.” He created the first photograph that included a person as well as a style of photography called daguerreotype (“Daguerre, Louis”). Fred McDarrah, author of *The Photography Encyclopedia*, stated that “Nicephor Niepce made the first photograph...” (“Timeline”). Digital photography was noticed around the 1900’s. By the end of the 1980’s, digital imaging had emerged as new technology (“Timeline”). By looking through Encyclopedias and books, I have found that there is no specific person credited with beginning digital photography. Peter Magubane, South Africa’s leading photojournalist for over fifty years, and his photos that showed the struggles of black South Africans were an example of the beginnings of digital photography.

Digital photography came from the people who were photojournalists. They started to use digital imaging to touch up and even fake photos. I feel as if digital photography is one of the most convenient forms of photography. It is a simple method that produces stunning photos. I like this specific type over taking pictures with cameras such as Polaroids or disposable cameras, because it gives me the option to see my picture, before I finalize it. I also have multiple opportunities to get the shot. The history of digital photography is interesting, because according to Naomi Rosenblum, it spans from the Niepce brothers’ experiments to record images to art movements beginning in the late 1800’s to the stop of the production of film for Kodak cameras in 2004 (Rosenblum 830). I am actually glad that people took the time to figure out this difficult process. Great things come from the simplest ideas and then evolve into great inventions such as the camera.

Priceless Moments

My photography kit consists of one Sony Cybershot DSC-W300, a USB connector, and a sandisk for my memory card. All of that cost me about four hundred dollars. I take pictures of anything and everything with my camera, and they come out looking just like professional photographs. For other people, owning just the camera is not enough, and for these people, money can be spent in big amounts quickly. I would say that I have the best digital camera out there right now, which for my purposes is a Sony DSLR camera. This camera has internal stabilization. I can switch out lenses on it, and it has 14.2 megapixels. The more megapixels it has, the better, because the picture will turn out sharper. This camera costs nine hundred forty-nine dollars without any extras. Any other digital camera can run from a thousand dollars to almost three thousand dollars. I like taking pictures from different angles, and I cannot always do that with a normal lens, so I may want to invest in a good fisheye lens. This would make the central part of the picture wide but would show me a lot more of the landscape up to one hundred eighty degrees from my focal point. A good fisheye for this camera would cost about three hundred dollars. So far, my photographer's tool kit has cost me about thirteen hundred dollars.

For most of the pictures I take, I like to create the focused effect. Thankfully, my camera already came equipped with this feature. If I wanted to buy a lens to do this, I would invest in a Lensbaby costing two hundred seventy dollars. Lucky for me, my completed kit costs me almost two thousand dollars. For more serious photographers, an entire photography kit could cost up to hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment. Acquiring all of the equipment is a never-ending process. New cameras, lenses, flashes, bags, tripods, etc. constantly are released. It may take years to get a tool kit that would have you are satisfied. On the other hand, to get a good photo should not take longer than maybe an hour, but it may take thousands of shots to achieve. I

would say that nobody really can perfect taking digital photos. Mistakes always will be made, and photographs always will be retouched. It is simply a process of trial and error.

My Home Is My Studio

I got my first digital camera for Christmas, when I was a sophomore in high school. I probably had gone through about fifty disposable cameras and countless cell phone pictures, before I finally got it. It was candy red and had about ten megapixels. I was in love. I started taking pictures of myself, of course, and later, I moved to pictures that I used for my yearbooks. My yearbooks consisted of pictures of my high school friends that I would glue onto printer paper and have them write something by their picture. It was a yearbook consisting of the people who I wanted to be in there. Two years later, I upgraded to my HD digital camera that I have now, because my Christmas present fell under the wrath of my brother's spilt Gatorade. This camera has 13.6 megapixels, and the pictures come out sharper than cheddar. After experimenting with this camera, I really started to take photography seriously. I started taking photos of objects like my cats, my friends' dogs and still-life scenes, and I put them on Facebook and even created a website for my photography. My dad created a church website and asked me to take the pictures for it. My friend even was willing to pay me to take pictures for his clothing line. I posted my pictures simply because I liked them, and I wanted other people to see what I enjoyed doing. Apparently, people started to like my pictures almost as much as I did.

Pictures Since Polaroids

I have been taking pictures since middle school. My hobbies always have been things that I could do close up like reading and writing because of my need for glasses. Photography came

along during a middle school dance, when the parents and staff had set up disposable cameras on the tables. From my digital camera experience, I have taken about four thousand pictures. That is only counting the pictures that I have recorded on my computer. If I include pictures that I have on Facebook and pictures that I have taken but no longer have, the number of pictures I have taken is approximately eighty thousand pictures. Those are pictures that I can remember for five years. I tend to take pictures of anything whenever I can see an image in my head.

I literally always have my camera with me. I never know when I may see something that I want to remember. Andrew Sanderson, author of *Home Photography*, even wrote, “Learning to see photographs everywhere is an ability that many people could easily acquire” (Sanderson 112). My favorite photos are definitely the ones that I take of my friends and of nature. I love nature pictures, because nature is forever changing, and something you see today most likely will be gone tomorrow. The most exciting thing that I ever have done with digital photography is probably the photo shoot that I did for my friend’s clothing line. It made me feel extremely official. Getting the models was fun, because I got to use my friends for the pictures. It was a fun experience, but it did not feel like work because of how carefree it was. It was an exciting experience with the people who I cared about, and not to mention I got paid to do it. I was literally being paid to have fun!

Final Frame

I always have loved to take pictures. Whether the picture is me, my friends, or inanimate objects does not matter. I feel that everything has a sense of emotion, and I enjoy the fact that I could possibly be the one to capture it. Photography does not have to be one of those things that I absolutely have to love to begin. I did not know that I loved it until my fourth year of having a

digital camera. It comes with perks and prices. I love it, because it is a hobby based off of imperfections. No person has been able to perfect photography quite yet. If somebody had, there would be no need for photo editing such as Photoshop. Perfection comes from the depths of imperfection, and photography fits that just fine.

Works Cited

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Final Draft due Tuesday, February 20. The microscope essay is an important kind of essay to have in your writing toolbox. In a laboratory, when you look through a microscope, you can see your subject more clearlyâ€”the microscope reveals things you almost certainly would not have noticed with your naked eye.Â The rough draft, three copies is due on Monday, April 2 for group critique and instructor feedback. The final draft is due on Monday, April 9. Questions? Please speak with me or e-mail me, ASAP.Â Prompt 6. ENGL 1102. Fairleigh Dickinson University. Fall 2007. Jun 6, 2012 - AbstractÃ¢Â€Â”On 11 March 2011, a moment magnitude $M_w = 9.0$ earthquake occurred off the Japan Tohoku coast causing cata- strophic damage B. Wayne Chandler III Professor Raymond - Wayne's ENGL 1102 E B. Wayne Chandler III. Professor Raymond. English 1 1 02.Â Seismic Catastrophe in Japan on March 11, 2011: Long Term Prediction on the Basis of Low Frequency Microseisms. A. A. Lyubushin. Schmidt Institute of Seismic Catastrophe in Japan on March 11, 2011: Long Term Mar 11, 2011 - quency microseisms with periods of 5Ã¢Â€Â”500 s and the intensity of oceanic Long Term Prediction on the Basis of Low Frequency Microseisms. David Farmer ENGL 1102 Ingram Portfolio Essay When I first walked into this class, I had a natural. fear of writing. When given a writing assignment, I never had any idea how to start and the first draft of a paper was a massive brick wall. I would try to write something and immediately stop, fearing even the slightest imperfection. This may be due to several experiences I had in high school where every draft of a major paper would be graded just as harshly as the final draft and one terrible draft would bring you down. This caused me to overthink and overstress about how to get started, and n