Photography 15 / Assignment 2

Gestalt Theory
Due Date_____

      Figure-ground concept and Gestalt Theory can be used in a variety of ways. All of which reflect a thoughtful and insightful approach to Photography. The concepts of Gestalt Laws of Proximity, Similarity Continuity and Closure can be used to help the artist clarify his idea, and interpret more carefully what he/she is seeing around them.

      In this exercise you will use the principles of Gestalt..

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

➤ Minimum of 1 roll of 24 exposure B&W film minimum or at least 25 digital images.

Part 1

Demonstrate figure/ground relationships in your photographic images by manipulating the following techniques:

➤ **Change camera position** - make a slight change in camera position. You will move your camera so as to change background interaction with your subject.

➤ **Vary depth of field** - change from great depth of field to minimum depth of field using the same composition (with the subject in front of a textural background).

➤ **Explore camouflage** - arrange or find a subject in a background in which it blends, and then arrange that same subject in a background in which it does not blend.
      NOTE: Don't physically hide subject and keep subject the same size in each frame.

➤ **Use shadows** - photograph a subject with a definite shadow, then photograph its shadow as the subject.

      In each of these categories you will be making 2 exposures: a "before" and "after" (for example: in category B. you will make an exposure with the least possible depth of field, then do an identical, second photograph with the best possible depth of field.

Part 2

      Illustrate the following Gestalt concepts individually in separate photographs.

➤ Similarity

➤ Symmetry

➤ Proximity

➤ Continuity

➤ Closure

WHEN FINISHED YOU WILL TURN INTO ME:

➢ 10 files, labeled as Out takes. (If doing film, then you need to scan what you want to turn in and then have your negatives in preservers and contact sheets)

➢ 2 - two files from **Part 1** that illustrate the changes in the concept in what you have shot.
and

➢ 1 - file from Part 2 that you feel is your best that illustrates one of the principles of Gestalt. Your choice.

➢ When you are ready to upload, a total of 13 files are to uploaded to the server using the correct dimensions and file preparation. Place them in your named folder

***NOTE: files should be 10 inches wide on the longest dimension and 300 dpi. All must be JPEG format, nothing else.