



Photograph with an Artist's Eyes

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Seeing by Chance

This series is about Seeing

Why Think Sideways?

“When you think sideways you will find new ways to see your subject matter, and you will stumble upon discoveries and happy accidents. Abandon your normal premises, and go on a search for new ones. Instead of trying only to improve your present photographic approaches and techniques, consider approaches and techniques you've never tried before.”

Freeman Patterson

Take that Snapshot



For the first exercise, please let the camera do its work. Switch your DSLR or mirrorless camera to the green rectangle or rectangular outline mode on the mode dial, which is usually Auto-Everything. Even if you typically use Manual or Aperture Priority mode, please switch to the green rectangle mode just this once.

When you half-press the shutter button, the camera will auto-focus and determine the best exposure, and then take a snapshot of the scene.

If you are using a smartphone, the Auto-Everything mode is the default setting, so you don't need to do anything else. Just allow the phone a second or so to focus and adjust the exposure, then touch the "Photo" circle or press the alternative shutter button, which is often the volume toggle/switch. The screen may briefly freeze or flash, and your photo will be saved to your camera roll.

Take that Snapshot



All you did was point the camera/phone to choose what is framed and pressed the shutter button.

The photo is probably fine, if not good. Keep it as a reference of your starting point.

Why?

I wanted to get this obvious snapshot out of the way as soon as possible. Remember this is what most people will do. Arrive look at the vista, raise the camera/phone to their eye and snap. Then move on.

The camera as done the heavy lifting on the science, physics of light aspects, choosing for you some of key settings in the process.

So what are they?

- **Focus**
- **Exposure** (f-stop, Shutter Speed, ISO) [EV]

Your job was to point the camera.

Thinking Sideways - Mystery Envelope



Choose a Mystery Envelope. Each envelope containing three coloured strips and each strip has a different hashtag/theme related to things, flora/fauna, and feelings.

You need to take a photo that expresses at least one of the themes. It's even better if you can include two or all three themes in your photo. You can take as many photos as you want.

Things	Flora/Fauna	Feelings
#Lake #Water	#Flower #Blossum	#Idyllic #Tranquil
#Sky #Cloud	#Bird #Animal	#Sad
#Pathway	#Tree #Forest	#Green
#Sculpture	#Reed #Plant	#Natural #Inocence
#Curve #Texture	#Bark #Foliage	#Fun #Happy

#HashTags

These are all Hash**T**ags that either I have used or flickr's AI based image recognition technology has added to my photos within my Year in Jells Park Album.

Still Thinking Sideways

More Photographic Challenges

“One thing you'll notice when you view your results is the number of happy accidents You'll probably find several if you have been generous in your shooting. It's false economy to be stingy.”

Freeman Patterson

Thinking Sideways - using chance



During our walk, we will stop at regular intervals and use one of two dice to select the next photographic task.

The blue dice will determine the direction we must photograph by showing one dot for straight ahead, two dots for behind, three dots for to the right, four dots for to the left, five dots for above, and six dots for below. Before we roll the dice, everyone will stop and choose which direction they will face to take the photograph.

The wooden dice will determine the number of identical or similar subjects we should include in the photo. For instance, one dot might represent a single tree, two dots for two flowers, three dots for three ducks, and so on... This multi-subject task can be carried over to any other time during the photo walk.

What to do next?

You should have photos of the three subjects/themes that you picked from the mystery envelope. Maybe you were lucky enough to have two or all three in one photo. Additionally, you should have some random photos taken at the throw of a dice.

When you have time, you need to review them and select your favourite ones. Aim to select between 5 and 10 photos that capture your personal feelings and memories of the place or tell the story of your afternoon. Six photos is a great number to aim for, and they don't have to be outstanding, just try to improve on your snapshots.



Sharing what you have photographed

It's entirely optional, but you may want to share your final set of photos with others online to showcase your photographic work to a wider audience. However, if sharing online makes you nervous, **don't**, you can simply print out the photos and share them with trusted friends.

If you have a Flickr account (which can be free), you can share your photos on the JPPhotoWalk group on Flickr. If you only want to share your photos with members of the group, you can make your photos private but share them with the group.

Otherwise, you can share your photos on social media platforms such as Instagram, Twitter, Tumblr, Pinterest, and Facebook. Make sure to use the hashtags **#mgaPhotoWalk** and **#Seeingbychance**

More about Norm

Instagram : [@normhansonphoto](#)

Blog : [imageo.blogspot.com](#)

Website : [www.imageo.com.au](#)

Email : norm.hanson@imageo.com.au

