

Riverside Community College
Photo 14 Lighting & Portraiture | spring 2025
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Assignment 9: Portrait | Surreal

Due: Apr 22nd 2025

Color

*"If we go down the rabbit hole of our unconsciousness
and try to unravel the knotty points of our life story
we may encounter a bunch of hidden niceties or emotional stowaways.
Forgotten details in the windmill of our mind may daintily reveal."*

Erik Pevernagie

Envision an imaginary journey to a distant land that seems strange and far away but is, in reality, deeply familiar and boundlessly close. By leaping into such a void and welcoming the unknown, we may be rewarded with new possibilities. Through an intentional imaginary free fall, with no clear destination and all manner of strange things flashing past, you may find well-guarded secrets in your innermost self.

Your assignment is to illustrate this concept in a similarly fashion to surrealist aesthetics, whose work attempts to open a concealed world in which new perspectives can emerge. **Surreal images tend to be dreamlike and tap into people's unconscious.** They're often made of different elements that are put together in unexpected ways. Surreal images almost always contain recognizable elements from real life — human figures, clocks, apples — arranged in strange ways.

Your assignment is to illustrate this concept. These sample images is here as a guide to help you to produce your own unique image. This is not a Photoshop assignment but is to be created in camera. The portrait needs to include a real person.

This is a print assignment. The image size is 14"x21" on 17"x24" paper. It may be a horizontal or vertical color image. Include your name in the lower right hand corner under your image using a **14pt** font



These images are for inspiration only