

## **Abstract Paper Photography Reflection**

### *1.) What did you learn throughout this project? (from artist research, sculpting, abstraction, etc.)*

I learned to see the beauty in abstraction, in that even if it may not represent something, the way it is presented is open to the viewer's interpretation. The richness of the style, the freedom to explore it and gives the freedom add the viewer's own meaning makes abstraction unique. From my artist research, Kim Keever, I was surely convinced that abstraction can be beautiful simply by the paints' and inks' randomness flowing into the water. His photographs were an alluring display of smooth, cloud-like and airy, wispy strips of colour. These have encouraged my creative thinking to seek a different view, far beyond what our eyes are used to seeing.

In the process of abstract paper sculpting, I learned new folding techniques such as mountain folds and valley folds. I also learned to be a little more patient when it comes to crafting. I tend to give up after feeling that I've already messed up the steps or think that it is time-consuming. However, I realized that it takes that long time and precision to complete and produce an interesting paper sculpture. In taking the abstract paper photos, I practiced magnification and learned that the aperture is a priority to focus on a part and have the rest of the image blurred. I also learned that lighting is key to create the perfect effect and balance of shadows and light.

### *2.) What was most challenging about the project?*

One of the most challenging parts of the project is creating the paper sculptures. It took me a while to find tutorials and create each one. This is because I wanted to produce interesting abstract paper crafts to take pictures of. It was also difficult finding the right place to put the lighting and take the pictures at the right angle to show the balance of shadow and light as well as adjusting the aperture.

### *3.) What was the most rewarding + What did you feel you did well at?*

I felt that the most rewarding is that although the paper crafts I created are simple and not as intricate, I was able to produce interesting abstract pictures with the arrangement of lighting and the magnification of the photos. I believe that I did very well on manipulating the photographs on photoshop with the adjustments of brightness, contrast, levels, curves, hue, saturation, etc.

### *4.) What did you learn through this work that you could use in upcoming photos?*

I got to practice and improve the use of lighting as well as with the aperture function of the camera which will come in handy in the next shadow/ reflection/ silhouette project. I will know where to place the light and find the right angle of the shadows. Especially for the reflection photos, the use of aperture will be important for focus. I also learned to see a different perspective beyond what I always see and try to find more interesting views. Most importantly, I learned that it takes patience to produce the perfect photos.

**What is abstraction?**

Abstraction is something nonspecific, a general subject or idea not based on or expressing representational qualities or characteristics; something visionary or unrealistic.

**What does non-representational mean?**

Non- representational means not presenting or portraying any depiction of an object, people and anything else in real life.

**What does monochromatic mean?**

Monochromatic means only consisting tones of one colour.

**What is magnification?**

Magnification is the process of enlarging the size of an object as an optical image through an optical instrument (i.e. microscope or magnifying lens in camera).