Photography Shooting Assignment #1

Mr. Martin The Elements

**The disciple’s mind is said to have been immediately open.**

**In Zen, nothing new is given, and yet a new person is born. Zen learning is a process of changing a person. It is discovering an original ability or quality that has been forgotten or lost.**

**Its outcome is a new viewpoint of the same old things.**

**This mood of learning was well expressed by Zen master Ch’ing-yuan (??-740AD)**

*Your Assignment:*

* Through the viewfinder create a composition using one element of design.

Study the mundane or sublime surroundings of everyday life.

These surroundings, or what in the Zen tradition is called the 10,000 things, are the everyday things we pass from morning till night. If we stop, or stoop, or sit and take notice, they can reveal great beauty and truth and show us the interconnectedness of all things.

* Put the lens on its closet focusing distance – move with your body to focus. This should be your primary focusing technique, but you may need to focus with the lens depending on your subject matter.
* Look and See the light. Observe how light creates the elements and how it plays on different surfaces.
* Pay attention to the viewfinder and the designs you can create within it. You may be so close or take a subject out of context and it becomes abstracted.

**“In the artistic process, which involves a novel arrangement of familiar elements to form an affective message, the right hemisphere may provide the neural substrate for fresh perspectives or insight, simply because of its different mental modus operandi.” – Neuropsychologist A. Schweiger**

**“in our daily lives to stay awake and aware of each moment in time, which is unique, precious and unrepeatable.” - Unknown**

*It is essential to properly expose your film. Here is a checklist:*

* Is your ISO set to the film being used? The proper film index must be selected on the camera. TRI-X or T-MAX 400 is what is recommended (24 or 36 exposure).
* Your shutter speed and aperture must be set according to your light meter. Please see me if you are having trouble understanding how your light meter works.
* Do not shoot at a shutter speed slower than 1/60th of a second.
* Keep an exposure log. Write down what shutter speed and aperture combination was used on each frame. We will keep one for this roll – you may or may not want to continue for future assignments.

**“To See A World in a Grain of Sand, and A Heaven in a Wildflower, Hold Infinity in the Palm of Your Hand, and Eternity for an Hour.” – William Blake**