CREATING TENSION IN PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography 3: Project 4
Objective

- The student will create visual tension in his/her photographs by utilizing movement, color, balance, and space.
Design Problem

- Look at your everyday surroundings with a new perspective by changing vantage points, document complimentary color palettes,
Use Dynamic Tension to Create Movement

- Use wide angles.
- Create two diagonal paths that intersect at 90 degrees.
- Add points of interest at the ends of each diagonal path.
The angle between the 2 parts of the bridge on the left is too small to really show a strong sense of tension, and the same goes for the top and bottom of the bridge.

The photo on the right takes away the strength provided by the vertical and horizontal lines of the ground and makes it appear more uneven, adding to the tension.

See image on next slide.
Rotate Your Image

- Try rotating your image if you're going for a more abstract approach as different angles produce varying degrees of tension, which can make a big difference to the final photo.
Get the Viewer Thinking

- Tension is what prompts the viewer's brain to spend a little extra attention trying to understand an image. To do so, they should intuitively recognize that there's more in the frame than what may be obvious at first glance and that there's potential value in seeking a deeper meaning.
Use Diagonal Lines

- The simple mixing of opposing diagonal lines can create visual tension.
Play with Positive and Negative Space

- The tension here is in the negative space between the toes of two different workers at the top of the image.
Project Examples

Images that create visual tension.
Create 60 images that portray visual tension using the following principles and compositions:

- Space (10 images)
- Color (10 images)
- Balance (10 images)
- Movement/Wide Angles (10 images)
- Framing (10 images)
- Diagonal Lines (10 images)
Final Images

- You will turn in six final images reflecting each principle or composition used to create visual tension. (space, color, balance, movement, framing, and diagonal line)
  - lastname_firstname_space.jpg
  - lastname_firstname_color.jpg
  - lastname_firstname_balance.jpg
  - lastname_firstname_movement.jpg
  - lastname_firstname_framing.jpg
  - lastname_firstname_line.jpg