

FROM MBA TO MFA:
HOW TO OVERCOME THE PARALYSIS OF
PERFECTION

BY SEAN NIU



ARTIST MINDSET



“Living life as an artist is a practice. You are either engaging in the practice or you’re not.

It makes no sense to say you’re not good at it. It’s like saying, “I’m not good at being a monk.” You are either living as a monk or you’re not.

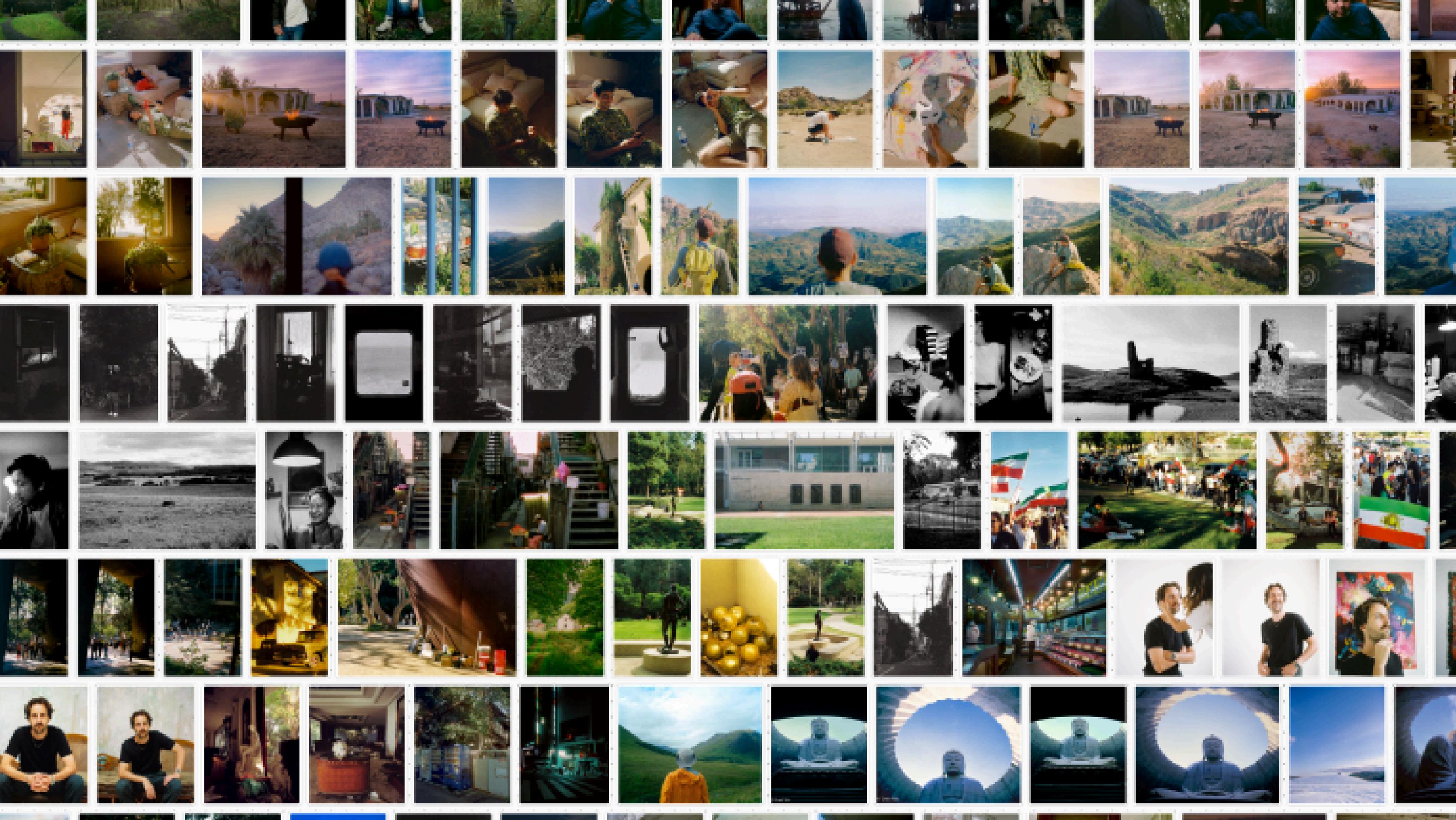
We tend to think of the artist’s work as the output.

The real work of the artist is a way of being in the world.”

Rick Rubin, The Creative Act: A Way of Being

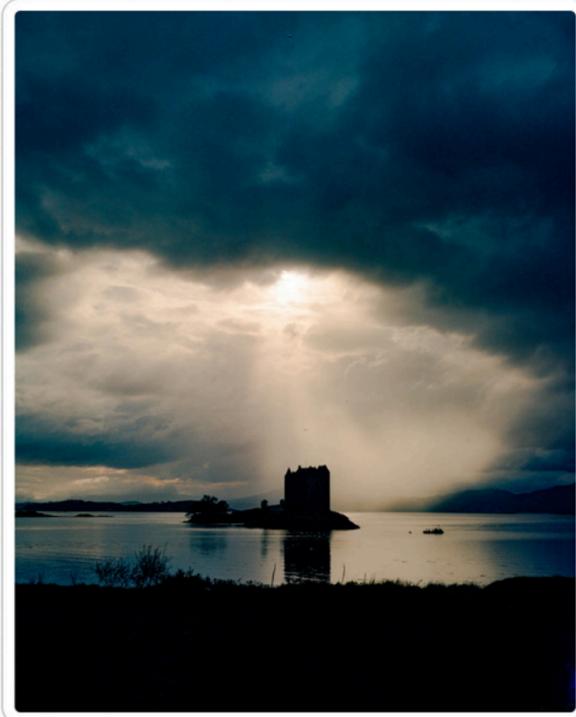
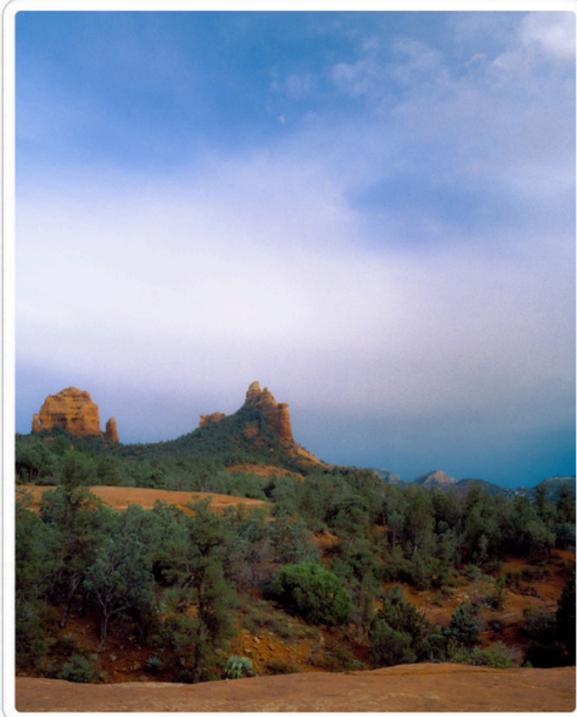
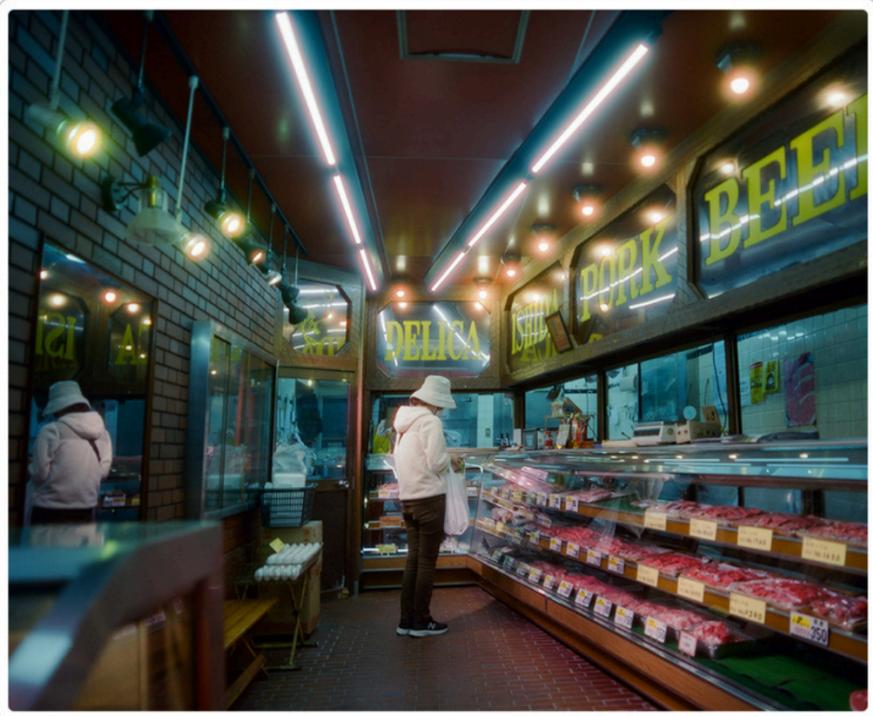
**“BAD” IS NOT
THE ENEMY OF GOOD**

The only way to guarantee
you will improve is to create



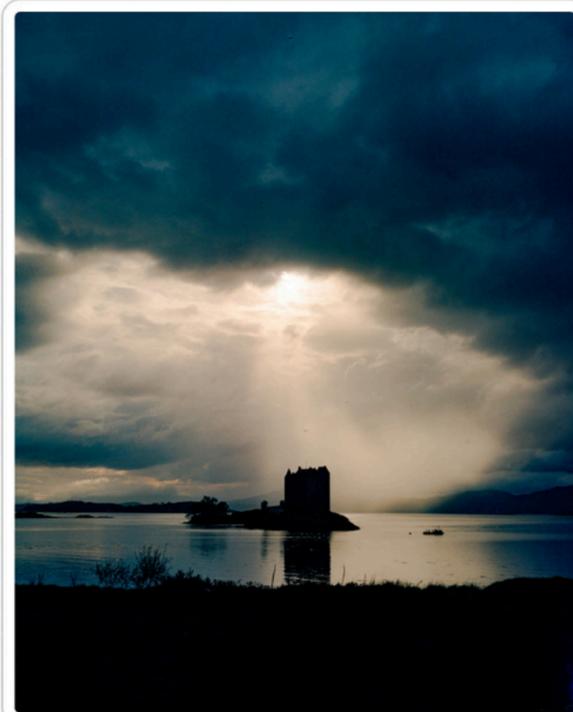
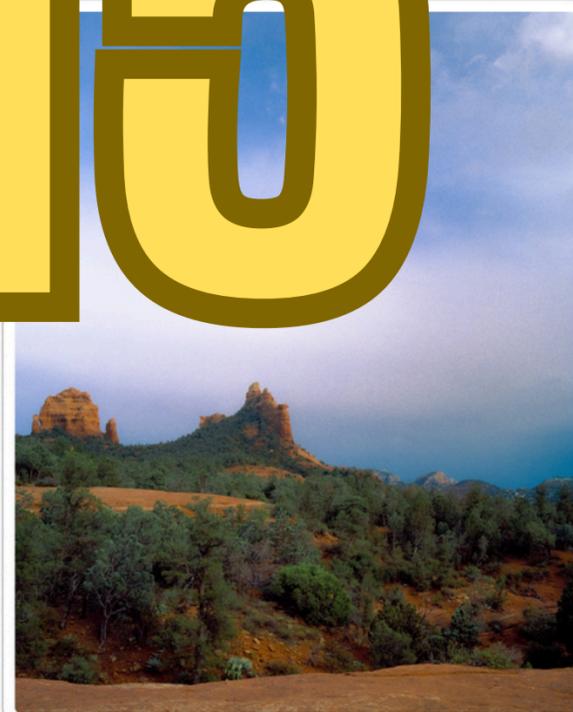
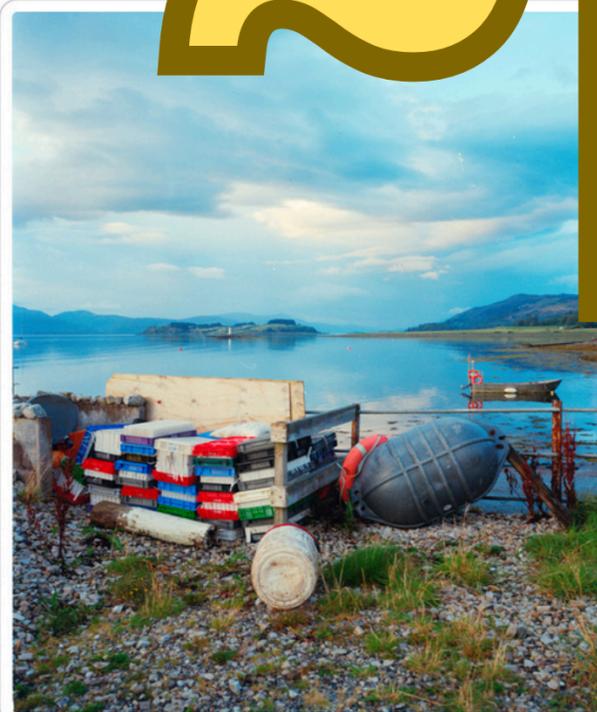


5000+





~15

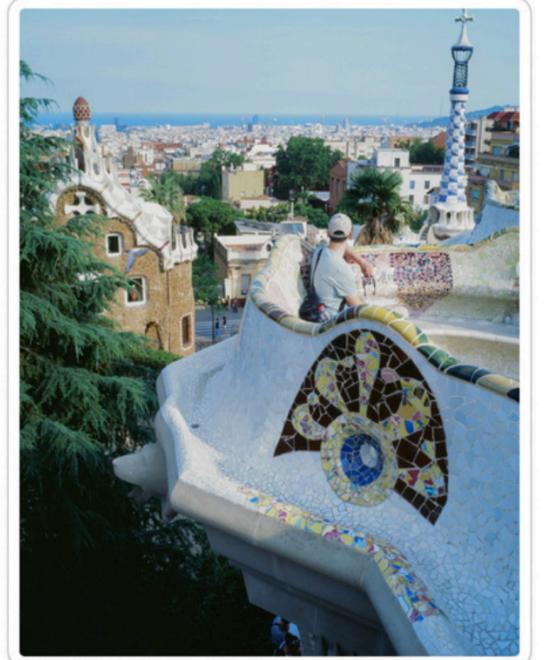


EMBRACE IMPERFECTION

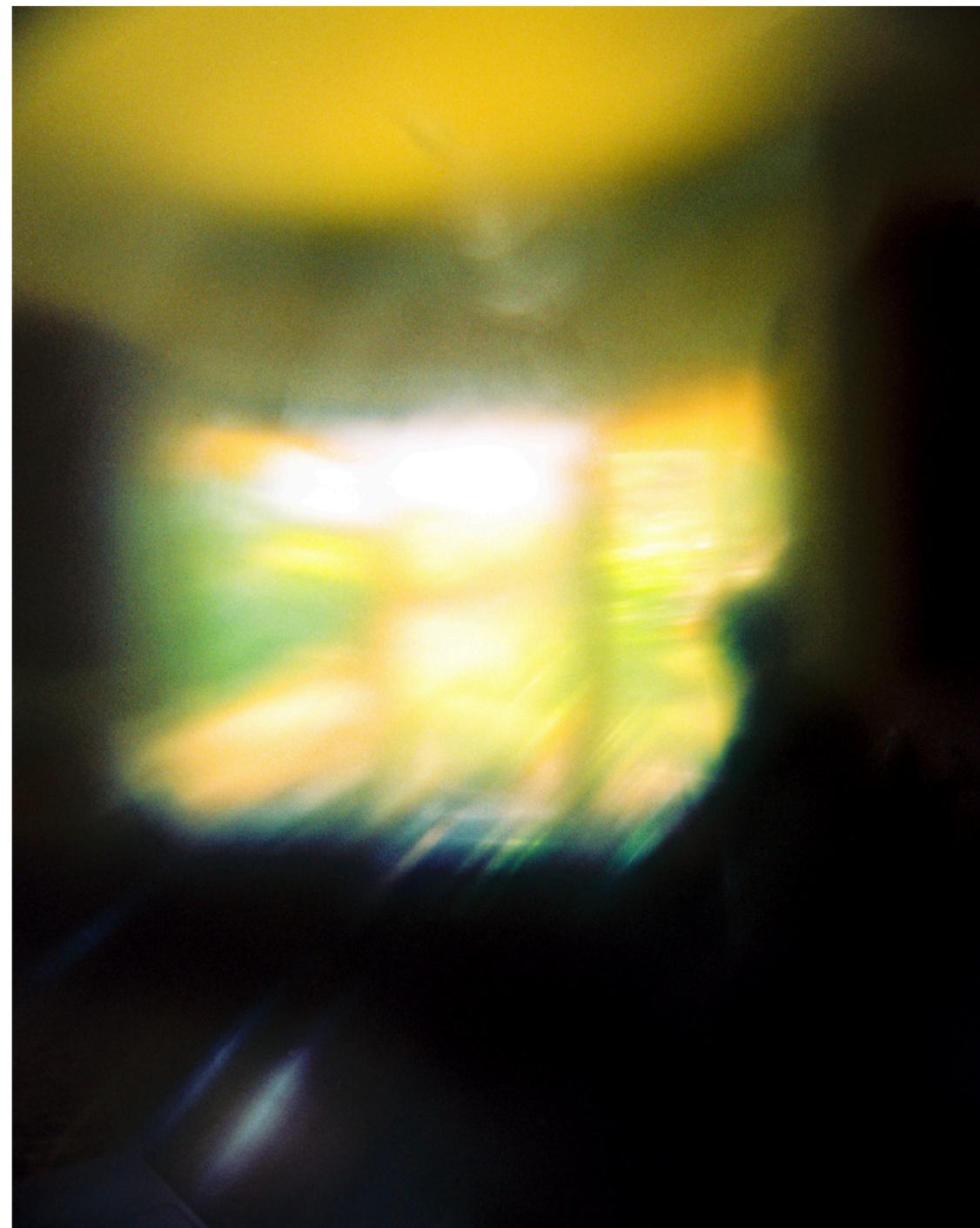
Each disappointing shot gets
you closer to a “good” shot







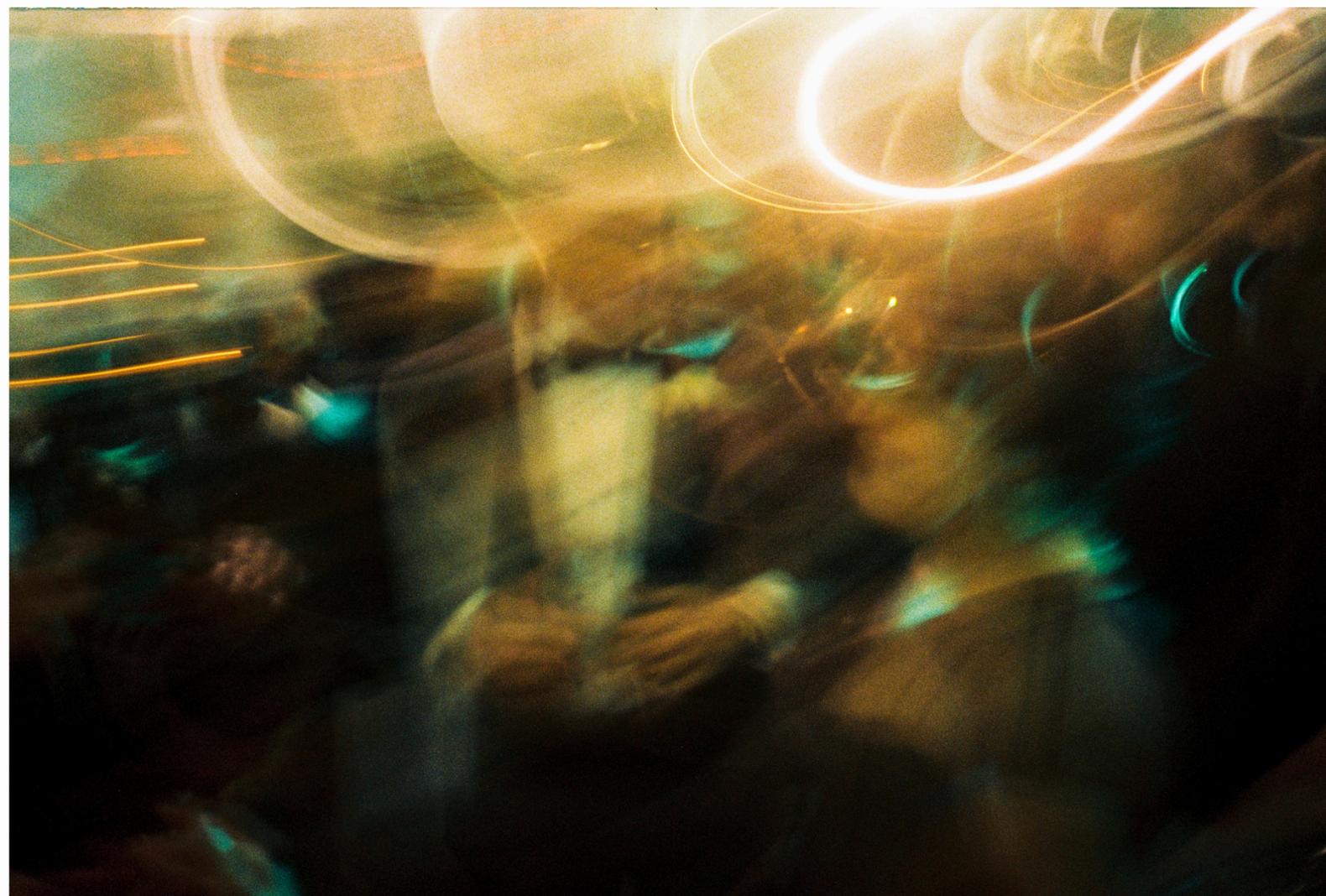
WHAT EVEN IS “GOOD”?



MISTAKES?



YOU MISS EVERY SHOT YOU DON'T TAKE



YOU MISS EVERY SHOT YOU DON'T TAKE



EMBRACE EDITING



EMBRACE EDITING



EVEN AI



EVEN AI



IT'S NOT THE CAMERA

Don't fixate on your tools

IT'S NOT THE CAMERA



IT'S NOT THE CAMERA



IT'S NOT THE CAMERA



IT'S NOT THE CAMERA



“THE BEST CAMERA IS THE
ONE YOU HAVE WITH YOU”

N O W W H A T ?

OVERCOMING THE
PARADOX OF CHOICE

LIMITATIONS FOSTER
CREATIVITY

RULE OF THIRDS LEADING LINES SYMMETRY DOCUMENT

COLOR THEORY FRAME WITHIN A FRAME PATTERN

DEPTH OF FIELD GOLDEN RATIO CONTRAST BACKGROUND

ABSTRACT THE SUBJECT PLAY WITH CROPPING

FILTERS NEGATIVE SPACE CHANGE YOUR SHOOTING ANGLE

LIMITATIONS FOSTER

CREATIVITY

TEXTURE EXPOSURE TRIANGLE MOTION BLUR

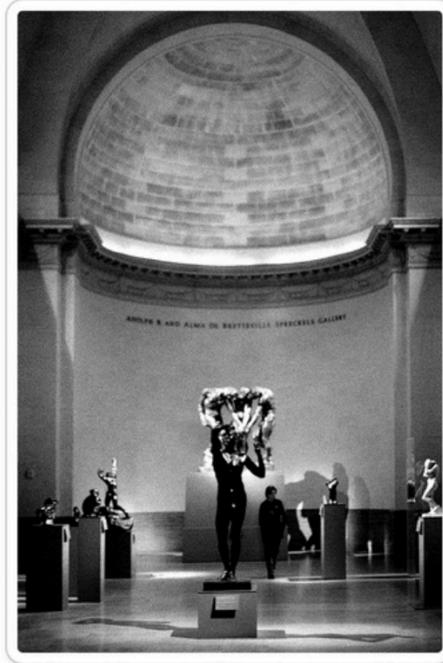
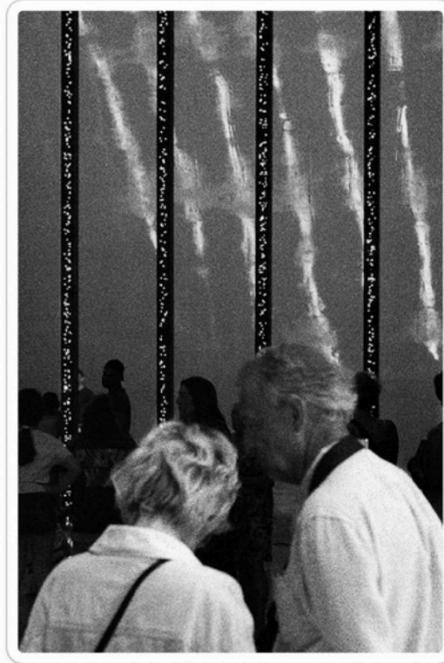
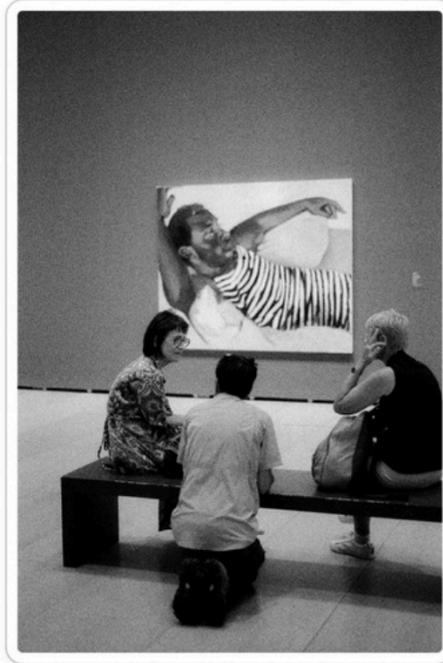
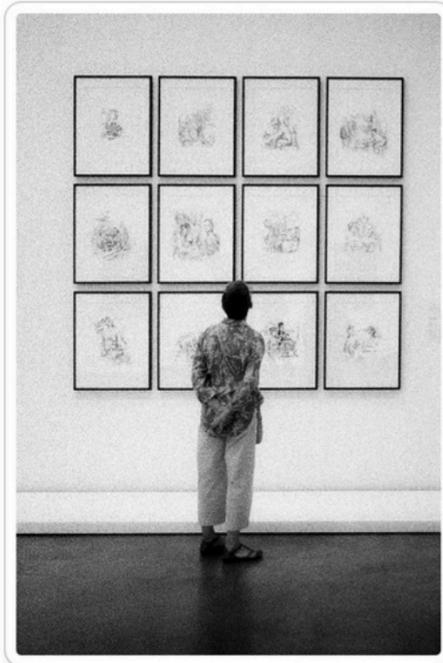
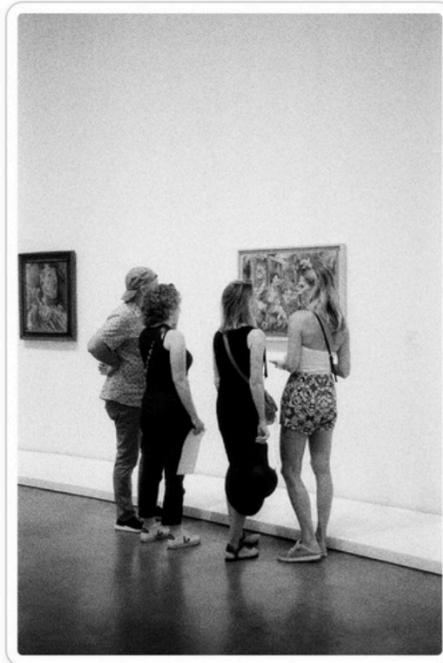
GOLDEN HOUR POV USE OF LIGHT MINIMALISM DUTCH

METERING BLUE HOUR FLASH ONLY FOCUS ON SUBJECT

CONTRAST USE REFLECTIVE SURFACES SILHOUETTES

OVER OR UNDEREXPOSE BOKEH INTENTIONAL USE OF

PICK A THEME



GO ON A WALK

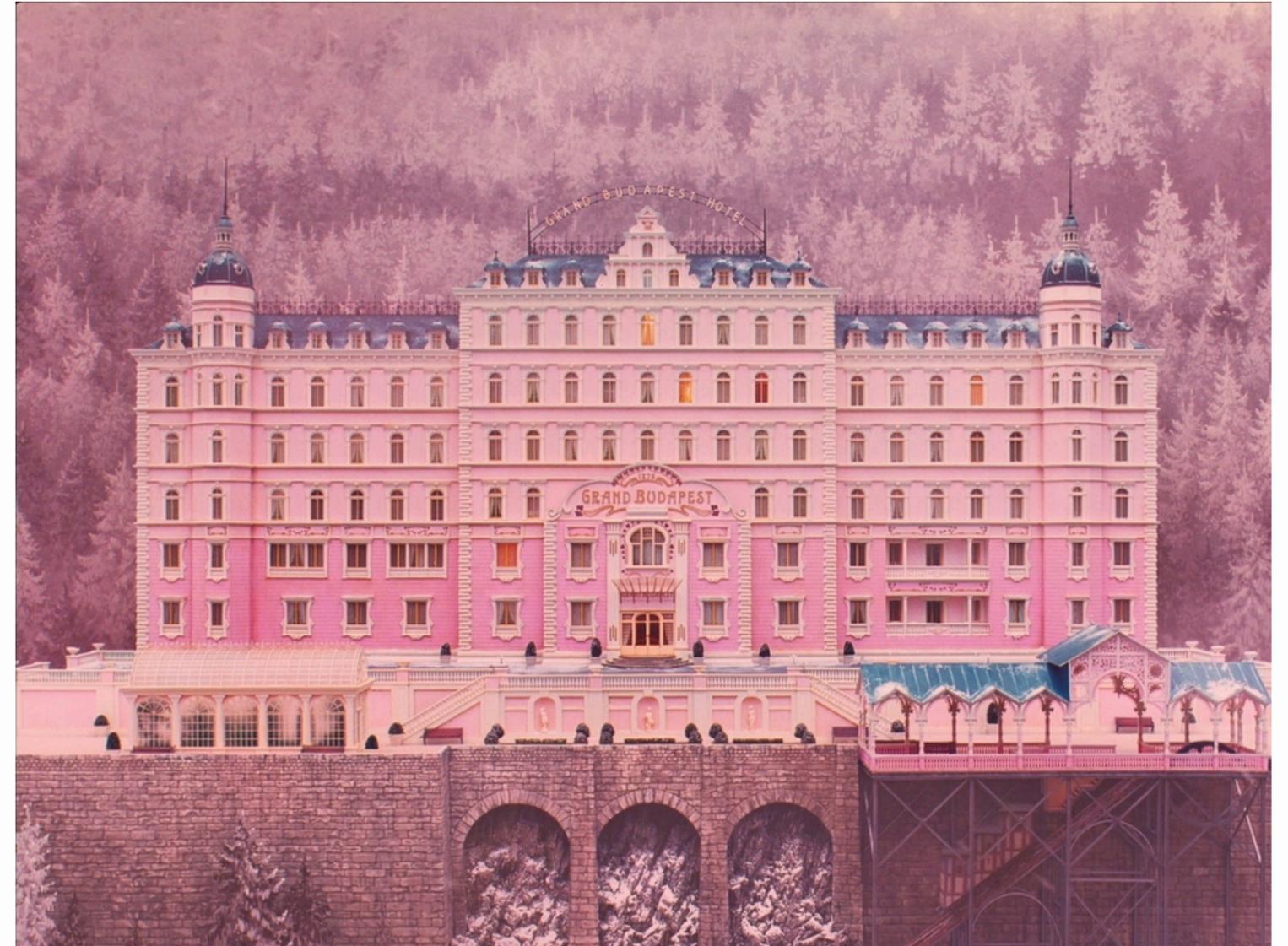


WORK BACKWARDS FROM YOUR FAVORITE FILM



In the Mood for Love by Wong kar-wai, 2000

WORK BACKWARDS FROM YOUR FAVORITE FILM



Grand Budapest Hotel by Wes Anderson, 2014

WORK BACKWARDS FROM YOUR FAVORITE FILM



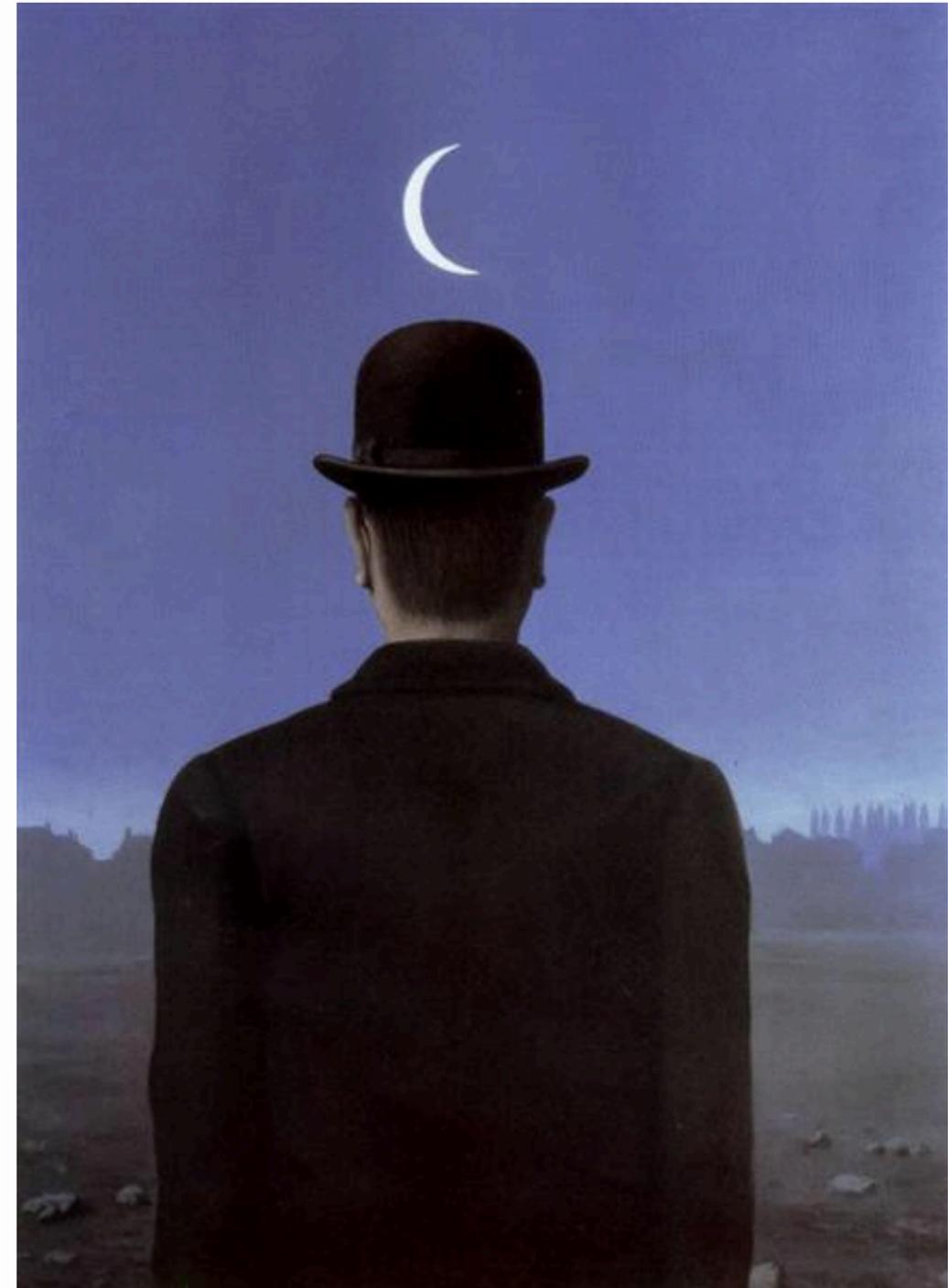
Fallen Angels by Wong kar-wai, 1995

EXPAND YOUR PALETTE



Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte
by Georges Seurat, 1884-1886

FIND INSPIRATION EVERYWHERE



The Schoolmaster by Rene Magritte, 1954

FIND INSPIRATION EVERYWHERE



Christina's World
by Andrew Wyeth, 1948

FIND INSPIRATION EVERYWHERE



No.2 by Mark Rothko, 1950

FIND INSPIRATION EVERYWHERE



EXPRESS YOURSELF THROUGH ANOTHER MEDIUM



ECHOES OF TOMORROW

Written by
Sean Niu

seanniu89@gmail.com
949-228-4668

EXPRESS YOURSELF THROUGH ANOTHER MEDIUM



THANK YOU!



CONTACT FOR COACHING

E-mail seanniu89@gmail.com

Website <https://sean-niu.squarespace.com/>

Phone (949) 228 4668

Instagram @sameseanniulook