

Y12 A level Photography Journal Transition Project

What?

Create a visual photography journal which reflects aspects of your own life and personality in a small sketchbook or altered book (maximum size A4). You could also work digitally e.g. using PowerPoint, if you prefer.

How?

Use a combination of photographs, drawings, found images/objects and text/words to illustrate the suggested themes using a range of materials, techniques and processes.

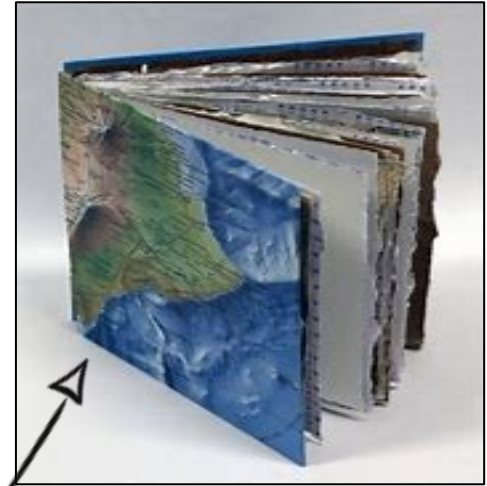
Why?

To develop and refine your observation skills by looking more closely at things around you, taking photographs, using annotation and drawing to show your ideas and thoughts.



Sketchbook and Journal ideas

To begin with you will need a sketchbook. You are more than welcome to make your own (you can find tutorials on YouTube), or you may simply purchase one, try to use one that is no bigger than A4 in size (A5 works well and is more transportable). If you are making your own, look at some of these examples for ideas. Just use whatever you have available at home. Check out Pinterest for ideas as well as researching handmade artist sketchbooks.



Cardboard cover folded in half with a range of papers inside. Bound together by wrapping some string or an elastic band around the middle.



You can use an old, damaged or unwanted paper or hardback book and draw on top of the pages and words



Create an accordion or concertina journal by folding and gluing paper into a long strip.



What will I photograph?

Each double page will have a theme (we have given you 30 to start with) which should keep your imaginations busy. You should use your own photos, drawings and annotation to illustrate these themes. You can also add ephemera such as quotes, receipts and tickets etc. to help with the narrative of the journal. You can include examples of artists whose work relates to the theme as well as your own photographs. Consider how you could interpret each theme – it doesn't have to be a purely literal interpretation – be creative and think outside the box! Think about viewpoint & perspective. Look at the following slides for inspiration from different artists.



You can also collage things into your journal

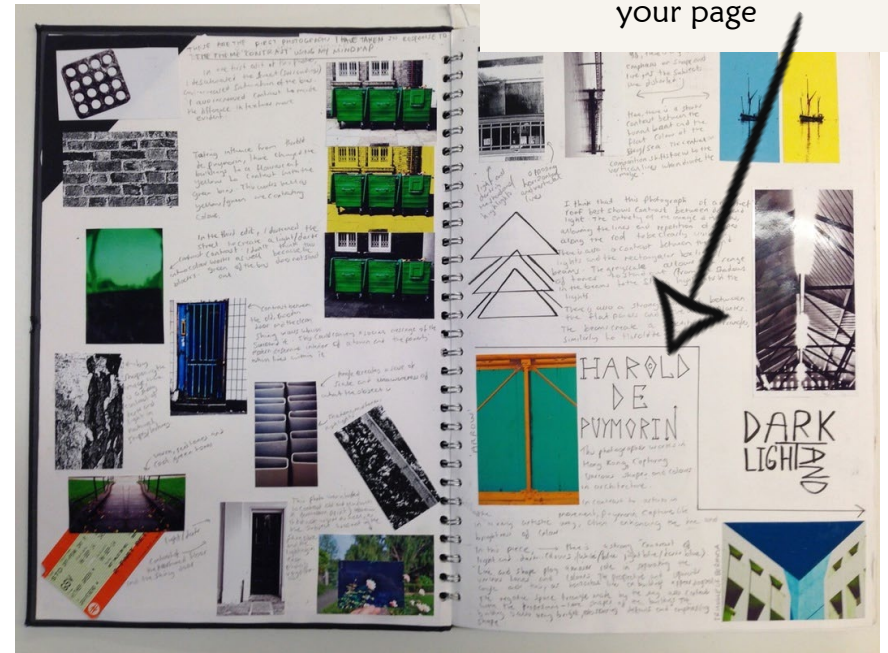
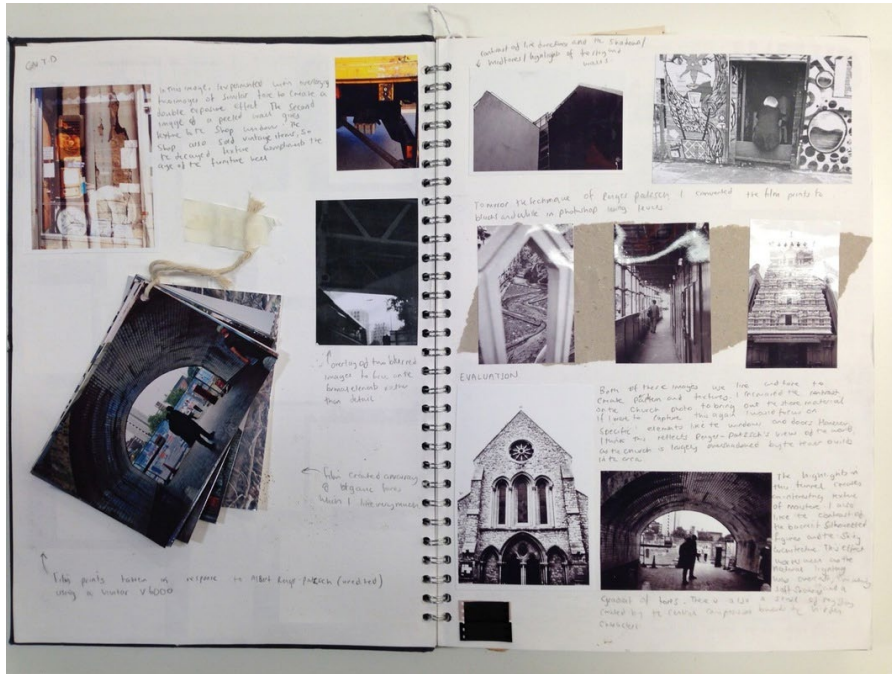


Receipts
Tickets
Wrappers
Scrap paper
Envelopes
Postcards
Flyers
Newspapers



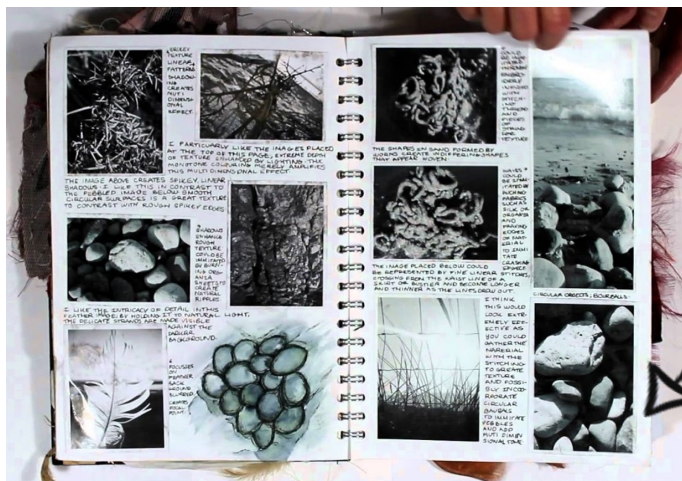
Page inspiration and layout ideas

You can use small titles using a relevant font as a way to give context to your page



For more ideas, check out the following website:

<https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/photography-sketchbook-ideas>



Use a range of different sized photographs on the page and add small drawings and frames around your photographs

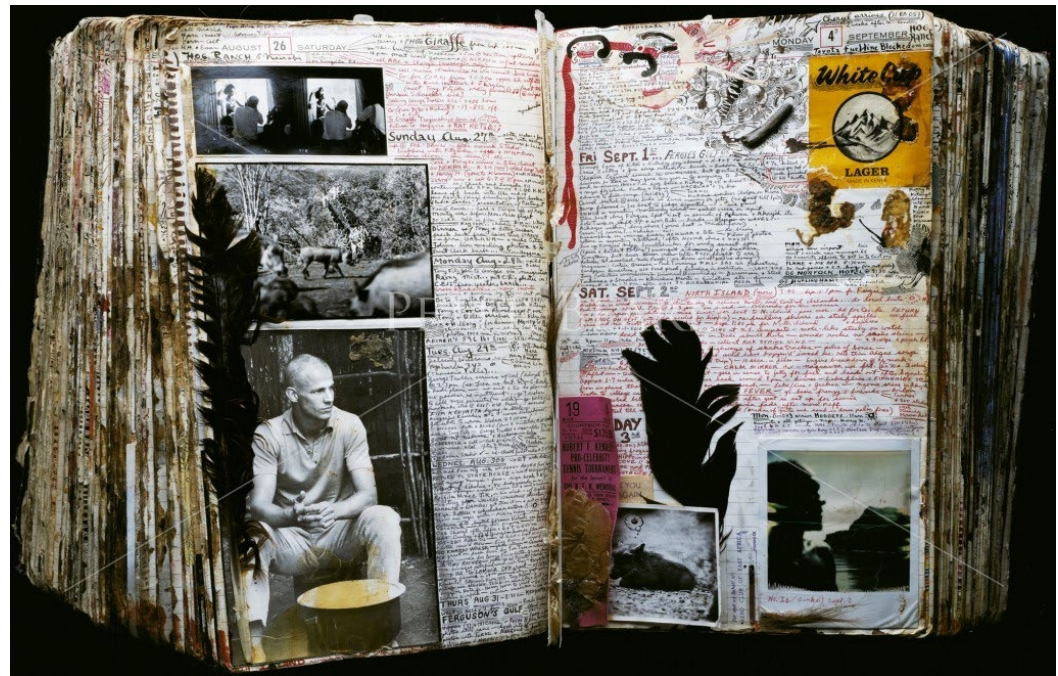
Think carefully about layout and composition. Some pages can be filled with images and others can have more empty space.



Artist: Peter Beard



[Journey into the world of Peter Beard: The pioneering contemporary artist who turned his life into a collage | The Independent | The Independent](#)



Peter Beard was born in 1938 in New York. Beard began keeping diaries as a young boy and making photographs, as an extension of the diaries, at the age of 12. After leaving school, he went to university, initially planning to study medicine but he switched to art history, graduating in 1961. After this, he travelled extensively in Africa, documenting the demise of 35000 elephants and other species of wildlife.

Beard's photographs of Africa, African animals and journals that often integrate his photographs have been widely shown and published since the 1970s.

Each of his works is unique, a combination of his photography with elements derived from his daily diary-keeping, a practice he continued until his death in 2020. These volumes contain newspaper clippings, dried leaves, insects, old sepia-toned photos, transcribed telephone messages, marginalia in India ink, photographs of women, quotes, found objects, and the like; these become incorporated, with original drawings and collage by Beard.

Artist: Dan Eldon



Daniel Robert Eldon (born 1970) was a British-Kenyan photojournalist, artist and activist killed in Somalia while working as a Reuters photojournalist. He was born in London, but moved to Kenya when he was 7 years old, and though he travelled often – visiting more than 40 countries in 22 years – he always considered Africa home

His journals were published retrospectively in four volumes by Chronicle Books, including *The Journey Is the Destination*, *The Art of Life*, and *Safari as a Way of Life*

[The Dan Eldon Collection](#)

[Life & Work | The Dan Eldon Collection](#)



HOW TO BE A HELSINKI SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

Lesson 1 :

A good starting point will be to buy a Finnish dictionary and to practise this strange but amazing language during hours in front of your mirror...

Repeat after me:

"hei, nimeni on Thomas ja olen valokuvaaja School of Helsinki"

Lesson 2:

Then you should walk for months in the middle of nowhere (yes in Finland my dear) looking for the perfect landscape with that kind of northern light typical of the arctic region, that will give you in just one "click" an images as beautiful as a romantic master painting...

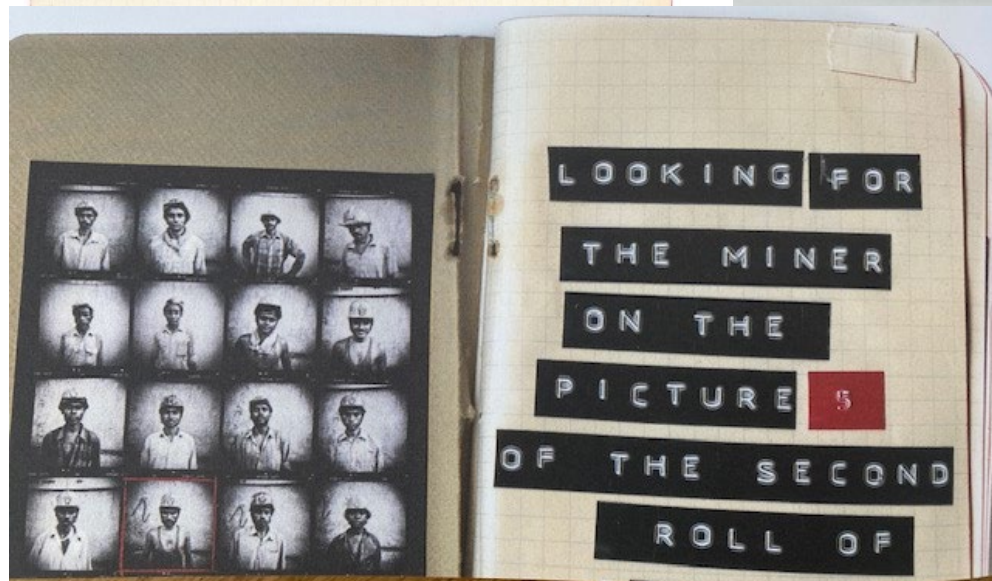
Lesson 3 :

You will need to purchase a 4x5" film camera.

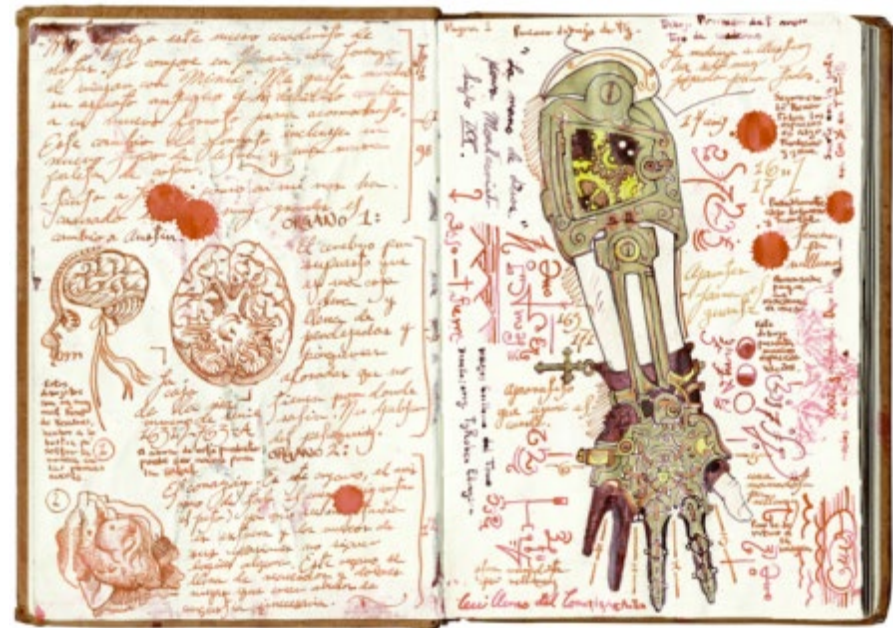
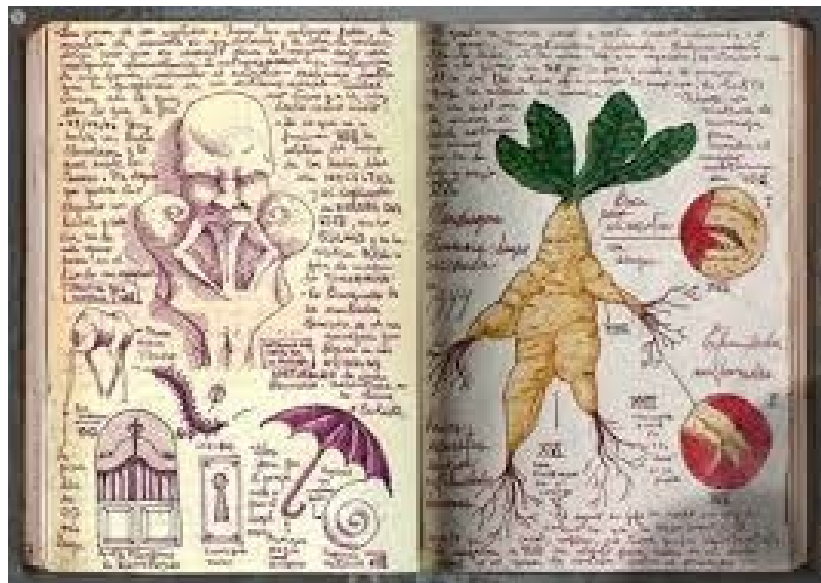
If they don't have that kind of impressive material in stock you can always grab an old Hasselblad and a few Kodak Portra films. Soft release button an extra-long cable should also be part of the kit.

Lesson 4 :

You are now ready. You can then take an amazing landscape showing your physical and emotional vulnerability compare to this strong and omnipresent natural environment... Who knows, maybe one day you will be lucky enough to trip over Elina soft cable release!



Artist:
Thomas Vanden
Driessche

[illegible]

Jim Goldberg

MY DREAM WAS TO GET OUT OF NEW HAVEN

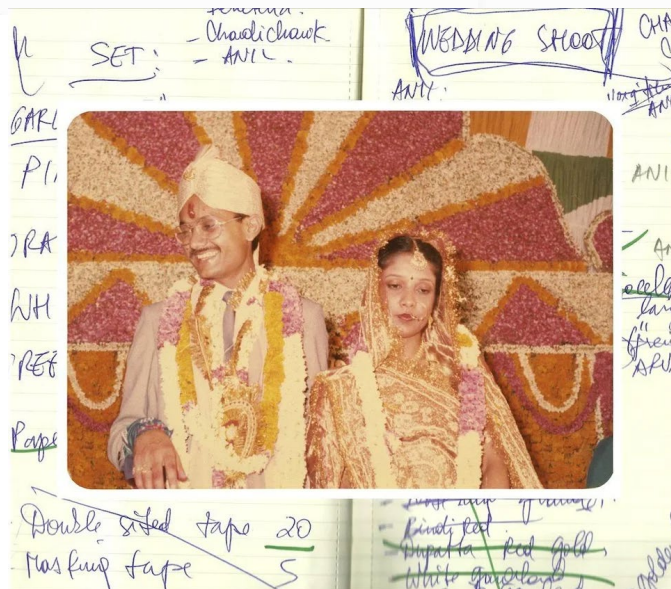


AS SOON AS I COULD.

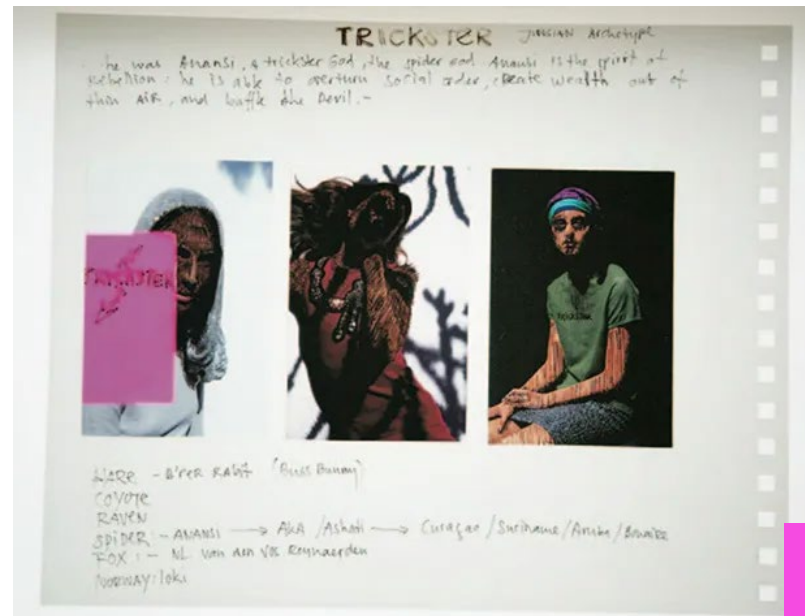


Above: Snow Storm, c. 1960

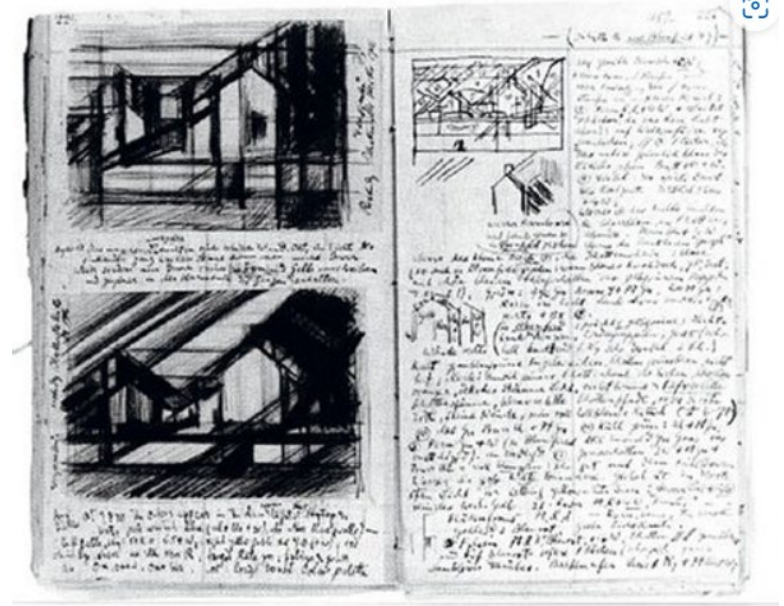
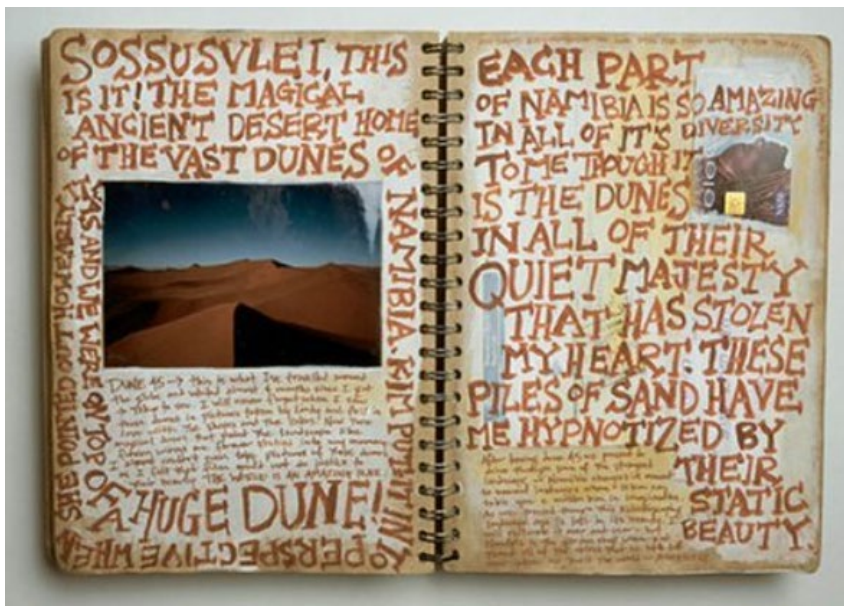
Saul Leiter



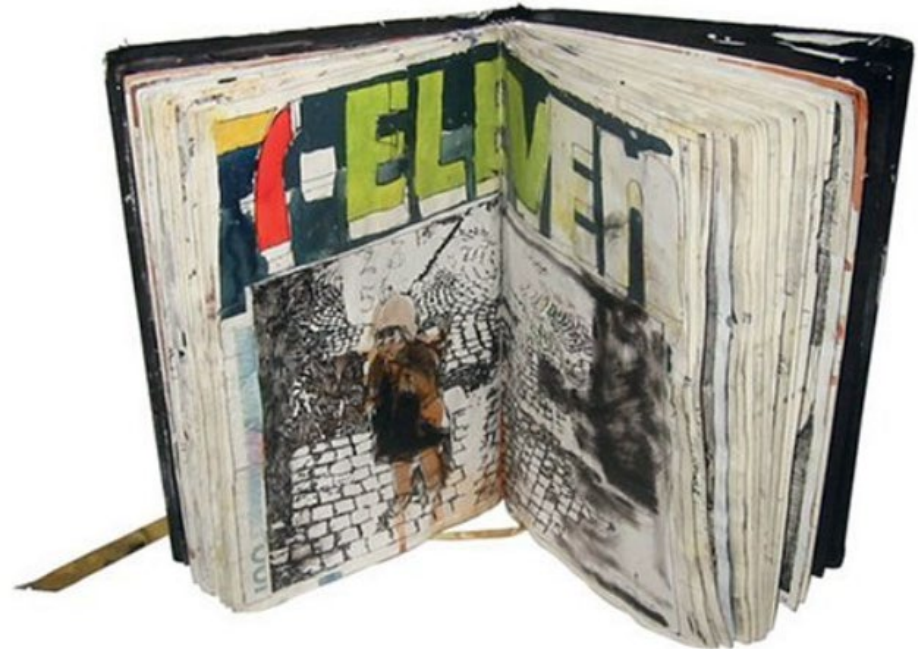
Irina Werning



Viviane Sassen



More inspiration...



Themes

these can be completed in any order that you like, please use a double page for each theme

Inside
Outside
In-between
Shadow
Movement
Texture
Scent
Typography
Favourite song lyric(s)
Screenshot
Everything I ate today
In the hue of <your choice>
Traces
My favourite place
Poem
Shape

Where I live
Family
Friends
Signs
Hidden
Exposed
Decay
Favourite food
On a walk to....
Happy
Spaces
Social
Light
Water

Success Criteria

- ❑ The main focus of your pages must be Photography – make sure you capture images you are proud of!
- ❑ Respond to at least 15 of the suggested themes (to create a minimum of 15 double pages)
- ❑ Think carefully about how you interpret each theme to make them personal – try to be creative and avoid taking the theme too literally!
- ❑ Aim for a minimum of 3 best photos per theme (5 photos if you're ambitious!)
- ❑ Include a range of photographic styles to show your skills off (e.g. think about viewpoint and perspective, close-up, bird's eye, worm's eye etc.).
- ❑ Include images from at least 3 photographers who inspire you (e.g. from Pinterest or Instagram). Try to link them with 3 of the themes to show where your ideas came from.

