

***It often seems to me that the night is much more alive and richly colored than the day.***

- Vincent Van Gogh (in letter 676 to Theo van Gogh. Arles, 8 September 1888)

**Overview:** Create five (+) environmental portraits, after the sun has set, using strobes that have been balanced with ambient light.

**Detail:** Go to five locations you feel comfortable at night and consider taking a friend along as well. Your goal is to make five (or more) interesting, technically skilled environmental portraits of either strangers or people you know casually, using strobes balanced with ambient light. Consider making your 5+ images relate to a concept of your choosing (as long as they are all unique images).

**Common Sense Note:** Safety is clearly important - I assume you don't typically go to scary places in your community after dark – similarly, don't go to places you feel unsafe for this project or any in another YSU class. Consider bringing a friend along when you shoot (plus, they can help you carry your equipment!).

- Use a tripod.
- Balance the strobe(s) with ambient light.
- Create five environmental portraits of different people in five dynamic and different places.
- Before you break down your setup, make sure to take an extra photo (cell-phone, etc) of your camera & lighting setup for each of your images.

**You will turn in:**

- 5 (or more) 11"x14" (or larger) prints.
- A folder, labeled "lastname\_mad" dropped in the dropbox with:
  - 5 (or more) layered PSDs of your environmental portraits. You will label them: lastname\_mad\_portrait-xx.psd (so mine might be "chalmers\_yad\_portrait-01.psd"). *You NEED to be using smart objects, global and local color/tone adjustments.*
  - 5 (or more) clear jpgs of your lighting set up – one for each submitted file. You will label them: lastname\_mad\_setup-xx.jpg (so mine might be "chalmers\_mad\_setup-01.jpg").  
**Note:** probably goes without saying, but "setup-01" should correspond to "portrait-01"

**People to know for:**

- **Sarah Stolfa** (her "regulars" project)
- **Phillip Lorca DiCorcia** (particularly his project "The Hustlers")
- **Bill Henson**
- **Ohm Phanphiroj** (particular "Underage")
- **Katy Grannan** (pretty much any of her projects)
- **Gregory Crewdson** (perhaps overproduced and overwrought, but you should know)
- **Steve McCurry** (the photojournalist of the famous young Afghan woman with piercing eyes – I want you to look at his work in terms of the lighting he uses).
- **Jeff Wall**
- **Simen Johan** (particularly "Evidence of Things Unseen")
- **Richard Avedon's** "In The American West" (Old Skool, but great stuff)