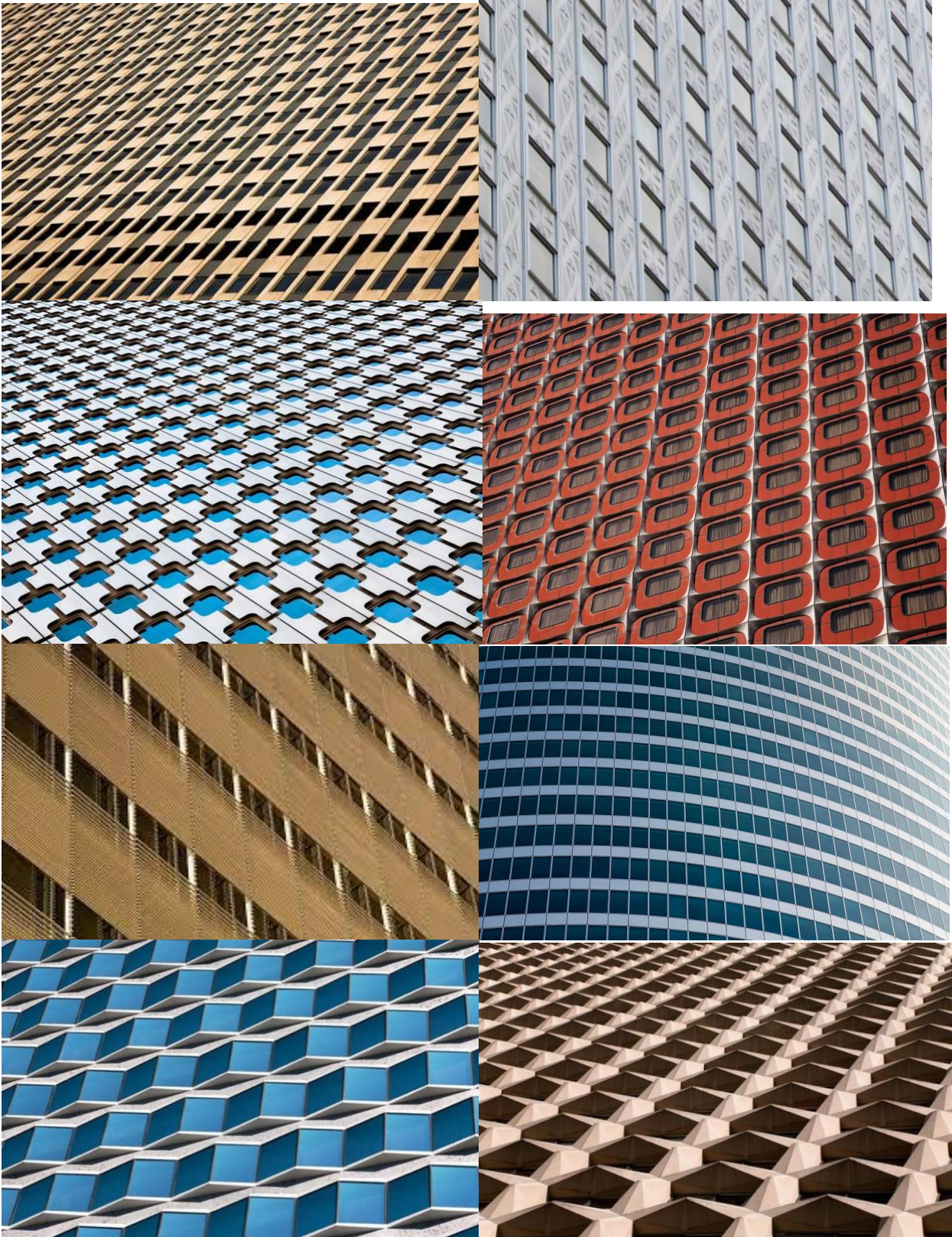


Alexander Jacques



Alexander Jacques

In Alexander Jacques photographs, he is well known for his use of repetition, shape, line, color, and lighting. In all his photographs, repetition is constantly used to create never-ending patterns, which explains his title of “pattern master”. Through Jacques’s lenses, ordinary exterior surfaces of architectures are framed in different angles and perspectives to create dimensional photographs. Shapes and lines are repeatedly captured as a wide frame of pattern, and squares, rectangles, and polygons are frequently shown. He cleverly uses lines to create perspective lines, which often indicates the upward tilt of a camera and emphasizes on the never-ending pattern. When looking at each picture for a long amount of time, they create a visual illusion that nearly lets the audience forget that the subject is a building, and through the lines and perspective, it ultimately transforms the architect into patterns. Alongside this, the lighting helps create silhouettes and shadows, which is ultimately crucial in creating form and shape in the patterns, which also allows for depth. In all of Jacques’s pictures, he uses bold colors to enhance the patterns illustrated and this highlights the exclusivity of each building, with the combination of multiple colors within one pattern, they support each other and blend well to create extraordinary visual effects.

I chose Alexander Jacques as my inspirational photographer for this set because of his extraordinary display for repeating elements and ordinary subjects. Typically, we wouldn’t pay attention to a building’s surface, let alone the patterns, shapes, and texture of the surface. However, in my vision, I want to explore different dimensions and perspectives on ordinary surfaces to change traditional viewpoints. In Jacques’s work, he offered new perspectives on what many perceived as ordinary, which is what I aim to achieve. As Jacques mentioned before, ““We spend all day walking past these buildings without raising our heads to glance at them,” explained Jacques. “They are part of our daily lives, but we do not pay attention to them or we just think they’re plain ugly.” Yet, just like Jacques portrayed in his photos, his high sensitivity to graphics allowed him to see lines and patterns in ordinary settings, and this viewpoint allowed him to transform ordinary details into extravagant photos. In my photos, I wish that repetition can be used to create dimensional impacts on the audience while still showing depth, and I hope to capture different perspectives on unnoticeable details in our daily lives as well.

Alexander Jacques



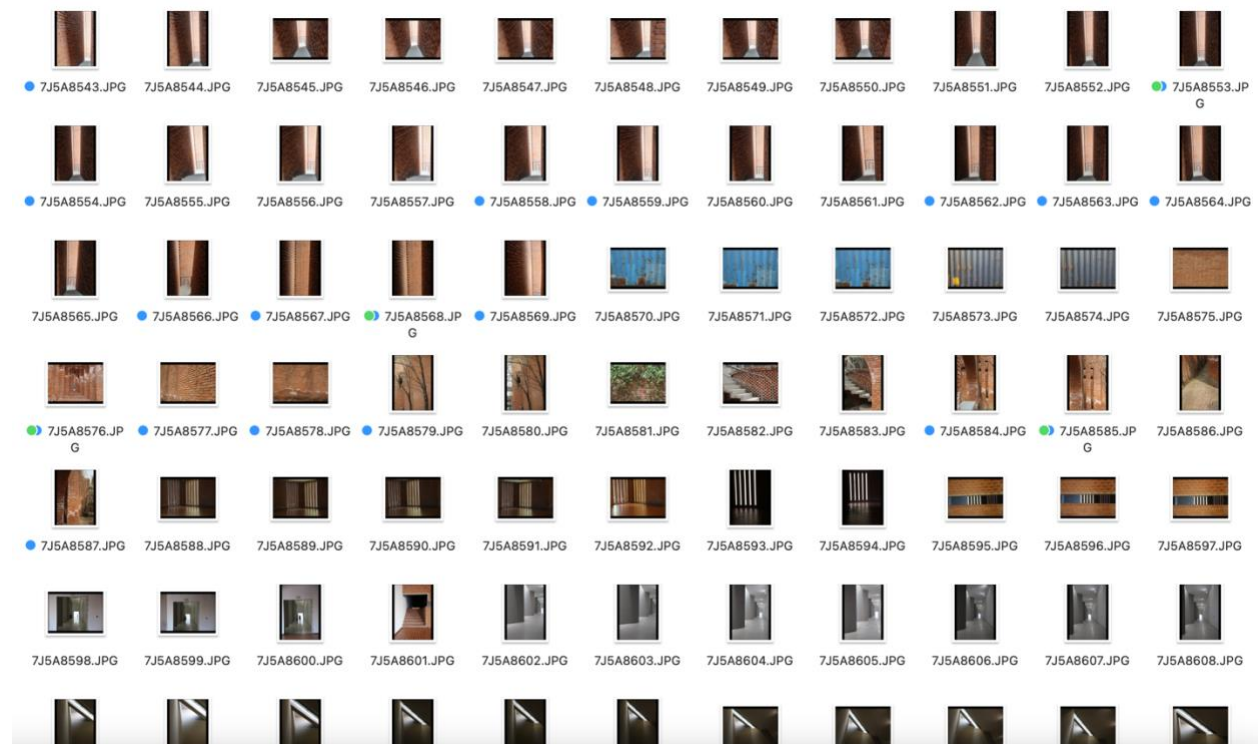
I really liked this particular photo captured by Alexander Jacques. I found this image interesting because despite the recurring pattern, I'm still able to attain a sense of dimension and can imagine the curve of the building through this image. When staring at this image for a long time, my eyes get confusing and the architect seems to merge into nothing but a line of continuous pattern, almost as if this image is two dimensional. However, the execution of lighting and color immediately draws me back into reality and enhances the visual appeal with the slight differences.

Although the formal element of lines and repetition is unneglectable in this photograph, however, I believe that the color truly breaks the boundary and makes the image more unique. Instead of plainly having the same mutual tone of blue and white, the gradient color shape in the architectural pattern creates different perspectives. Viewing the image from left to right, the rectangles gradually curve and transform into squares, and the color changes from shades of dark blue to sapphire blue, to light teal and white. This gradual gradient of blue makes the photo more exciting and presents an extremely subtle mood. At the same time, the white on the right allows the audience to ponder on whether the surface is curving inwards or outwards, and whether if it was a reflection from somewhere else, or the highlights casted by the sun.

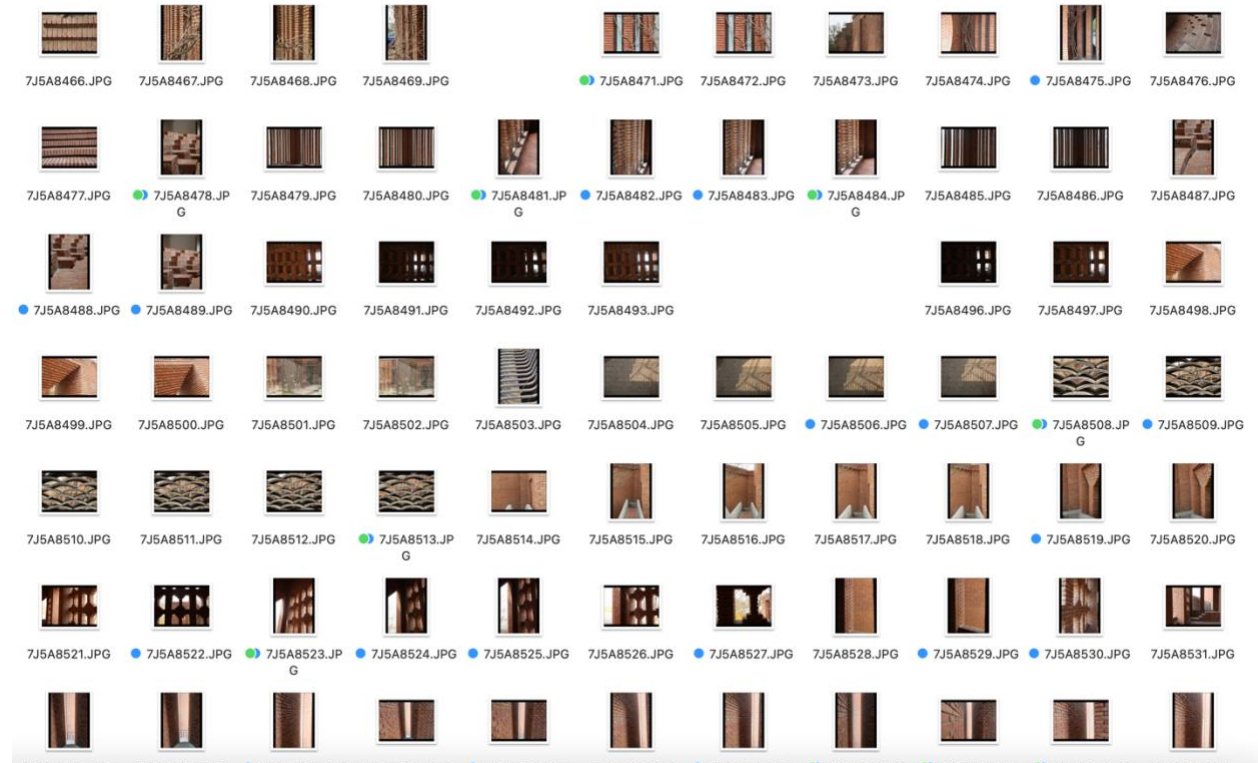
Jacques creative style of capturing brilliant abstract façade is fascinating because he expresses them with the formal elements mentioned above in an expressive manner. Instead of displaying their actual appearance and purpose, he transforms them into parametric images where the repetition of lines and shapes in orderly manners draws the audience into the photograph, almost as if the horizons are limitless and all boundaries vanish. I want to incorporate his use of patterns, lines, and shapes into this set to display different perspectives of repeating elements. I hope that I'll be able to capture and view the ordinary settings and surfaces with different perspectives and create visual appeals that shows depth and form through colors and composition.

Alexander Jacques

My vision is to capture photographs that can influence aesthetic and artistic perceptions through the exploration on the effects of shapes and repetition on ordinary settings. I will take photos in the style of Alexander Jacques and am particularly inspired by the image “Arche de le Defense in Paris” and “Coeur Defense in Paris”. In creation of this set, I will try to take pictures that depicts repetition and pattern with shapes and lines, with the colors to create unique visual effects and forms. Using abstract and vivid forms, I hope that the photographs can capture minimalistic elements of architectures to reveal different dimensions and perspectives of “beauty” in abstract ways. Thus, I want to show that imperfect or ordinary settings can be “beautiful” if we change our view, because true beauty only lies within the things that we wish to see.



Alexander Jacques



Alexander Jacques



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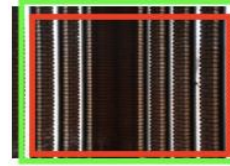
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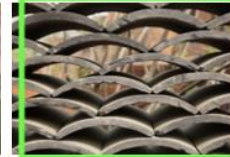
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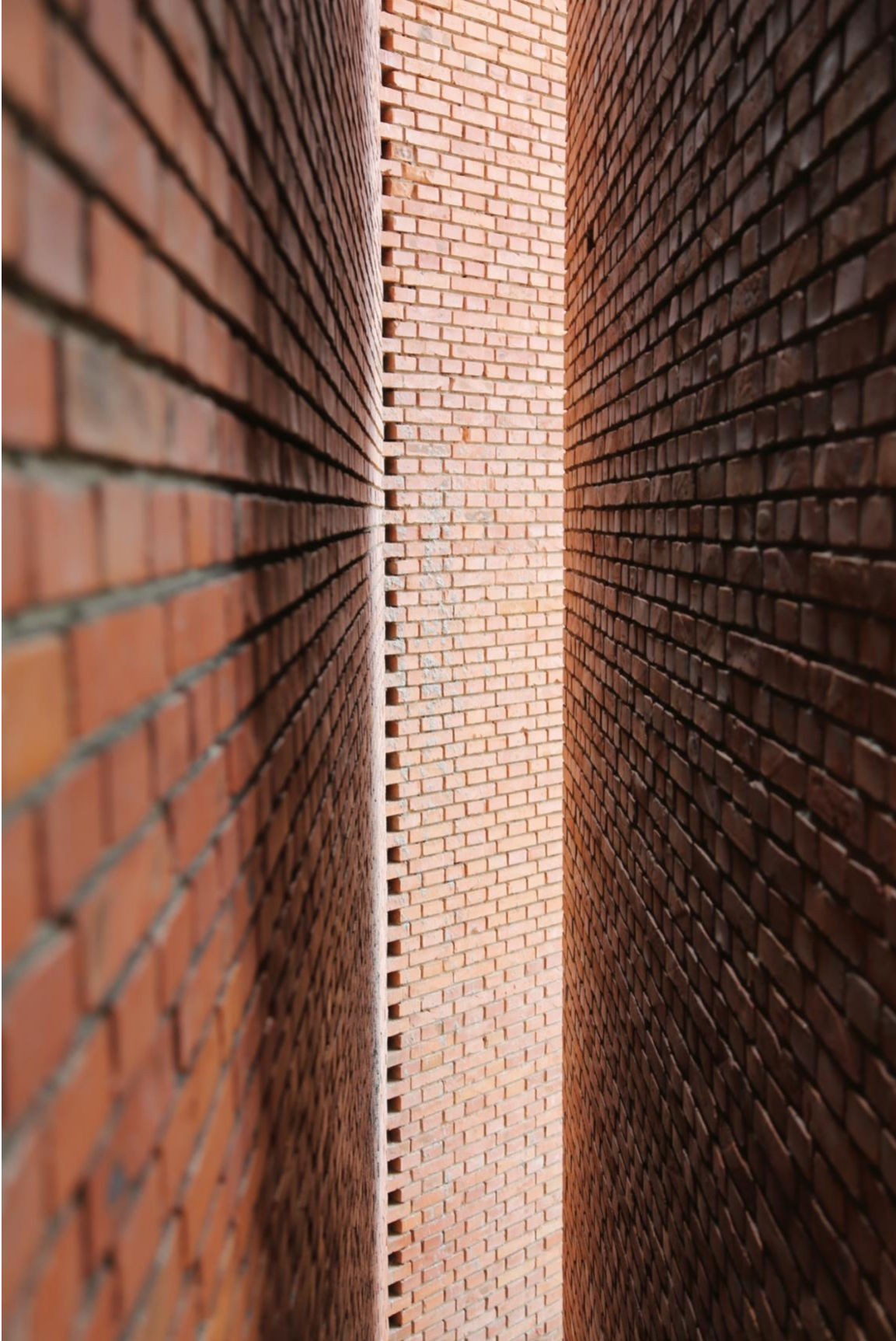
Alexander Jacques

Here is my blue contact sheet alongside with the green, and red photos labeled within. These images are inspired by the work of Alexander Jacques. Inspired by his use of lines, shapes, and repetition, I captured images that included these elements. However, I wanted my set to have more emphasis on perspectives and depth that shows architectural outlines instead of only displaying patterns. Seen in all these images, I really tried to focus on repetition, from the pattern of rectangular bricks used to the tiles and composition of the images, repeating elements were used to emphasize on the texture and uniqueness of each surface. Similar to his work, where colors and lighting were used to complement the surfaces of walls and buildings, I also experimented with the ISO and framing of each photo in order to capture different perspectives. For example, I contrasted brick surfaces to streaks of light shining through a narrow space, thus there was a contrast between really dark patterns and bright open space, giving more depth and creating space in the photographs. Instead of directly hitting the light onto the surface to brighten up the image, lighting was used to create shapes and lines to illustrate the different sides of a surface. I believe that I did well on capturing different shades of colors in order to show geometric forms and senses of dimensions, which expresses abstraction. Normally, when looking at an ordinary surface that's made out of bricks, there would be no excitement. However, by capturing different perspective lines and shades of colors, the rectangular shapes transformed into abstract patterns that merges and combines with the original building.

Alexander Jacques



Alexander Jacques



Alexander Jacques

My final red photos for set 3 is inspired by the photographer Alexander Jacques. I believe this whole set linked quite well with each other and altered traditional perceptions of red bricks. Normally, red bricks are ignored by us in our daily life, as they are often seen on buildings. However, as Jacques did in his photo, repetition and lighting is constantly used to emphasize on patterns. Similar in my photograph, I connected on top of this to show depth and perspectives alongside of patterns. I believe the lighting was nicely portrayed in this last image through the alternation of common perceptions and the contrast between the tones of surfaces. Although repetition and the repeating pattern of the rectangular bricks were shown, however, the lighting really differentiated their different surfaces and perspectives. While the light surface was highlighted in the center of the image, it was contrasted with the dark toned surface along the sides. I believe the combination between lines, shapes, and lighting worked really well to create different perspectives and dimensions. As the lines created perspective lines in all three photos, the repetition amongst shapes made them more appealing, and gave an allusion towards the geometric patterns surrounding us, instead of the ordinary architectures themselves. The last photo's perspective lines were a great recreation of Jacques's photos, where the patterns seem never-ending. However, I believe that mine was special in the sense that there was more emphasis on the different dimensions. While the leading lines on the side suggested a stop towards the center of the image, however, the tilting lines on the highlighted center points towards the right. This suggests a different perspective on the photo and allows the audience to interpret the background differently each time. I believe that the sharp focus used when shooting the photographs with my camera helped bring out the emphasize on lines and repetition as well as patterns. Working together, the shadows casted upon each perspective created small differences in colors, which ultimately made the photo less 2d dimensional, and more fascinating. From the white spots on the tiles, to the gradual shift from orange, to dark red, to brown, the different sides and shadows broke the traditional patterns formed by the bricks and illustrated different perspectives on ordinary brick settings.

Through this set, I hope that the audience would be influenced by the bold, enticing red colors, and be guided by the perspective lines, ultimately focusing on the transformational patterns instead of the typical brick scenario. Thus, abstraction is underlined with the perceptual transformation on ordinary environments. The imperfection of the white spots on bricks not only popped out and created artistic texture amongst the pattern, but it also developed a sense of "beauty". This ties in with my vision as I wanted to express that imperfection and

Alexander Jacques

differences can be portrayed beautifully as well with a change in perspective.

After this set, I want to continue to develop on the use of colors on patterns and lines. For future sets, I hope that I'll be able to use different complementary colors to portray different atmospheres on settings. For example, Maija Savolainen frequently uses the color of the sky to help set certain moods in photographs. I can potentially create striking visual appeals with the contrast between the red bricks and the blue sky for future improvements.