

Rebecca Prescott

# Unexpected Perspective

# unexpected

/ʌnɪk'spektɪd, ʌnək'spektɪd/ ⓘ

*adjective*

not expected or regarded as likely to happen.

"his death was totally unexpected"

*synonyms:* [unforeseen](#), [unanticipated](#), [unpredicted](#), not bargained for, unlooked for, unhoped for, out of the blue, without warning, without notice; [More](#)

# perspective

/pə'spektɪv/ ⓘ

*noun*

1. the art of representing three-dimensional objects on a two-dimensional surface so as to give the right impression of their height, width, depth, and position in relation to each other.  
"the theory and practice of perspective"

2. a particular attitude towards or way of regarding something; a point of view.

"most guidebook history is written from the editor's perspective"

*synonyms:* [outlook](#), [view](#), [viewpoint](#), [point of view](#), [standpoint](#), [position](#), [stand](#), [stance](#), [angle](#), [slant](#), [attitude](#), [frame of mind](#), [frame of reference](#), [approach](#), [way of looking/thinking](#), [vantage point](#), [interpretation](#)

"her perspective on everything had been changing"

# Statement of Intent

I really want to focus on presenting all the different elements that are related to my theme 'Unexpected Perspectives'. Personally I really gravitated towards the theme as the possibilities are endless. Throughout this topic I plan on exploring different aspects within photography that can make my photos unique and unexpected. I will experiment with angles, distortion, reflection, light and photoshop in order to achieve this, diverging away from the typical portraits. Finally I want to finish my topic on exploring surrealism.

## Introduction

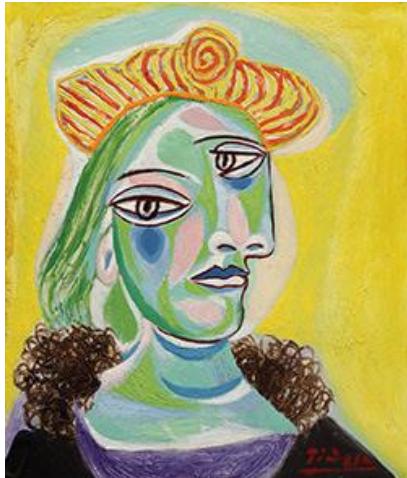
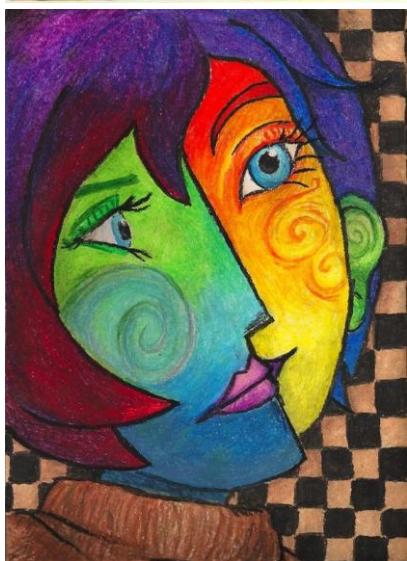
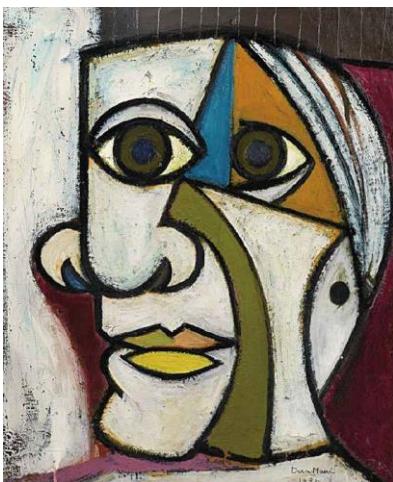
I have decided to start my exploration of my theme 'unexpected perspectives' off with a collection of ordinary portraits taken in a studio setting with tungsten lights. This is the type of photo that I would consider 'expected', creating a contrast to the rest of my work.

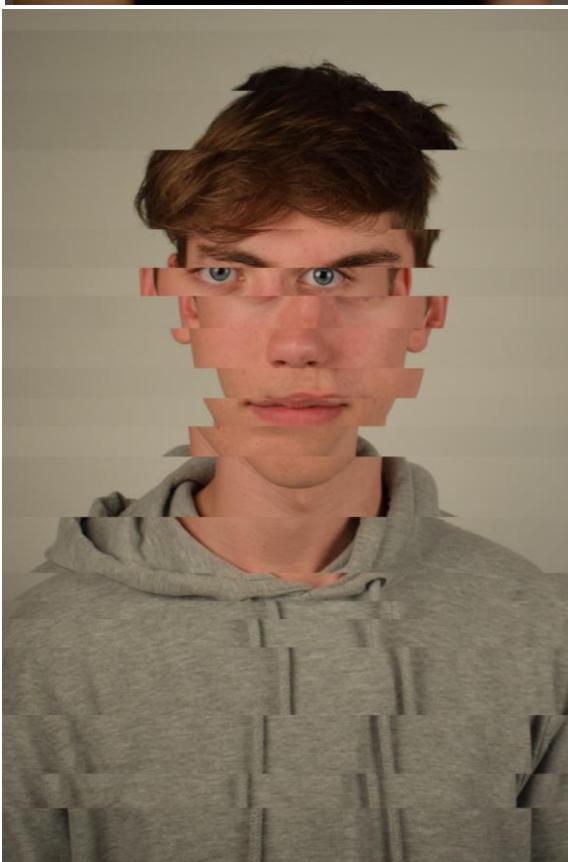




# Pablo Picasso

Pablo Picasso's unique approach to portraiture inspired me to develop my portraits using photoshop. Picasso is said to be one of the 'greatest and most influential artists of the 20th century', I thought that his work again explores an unexpected view of portraiture by separating portions of his paintings and changing the angle/viewpoint. This gives the images a very surreal appearance, diverging from the work of other artists at the time.

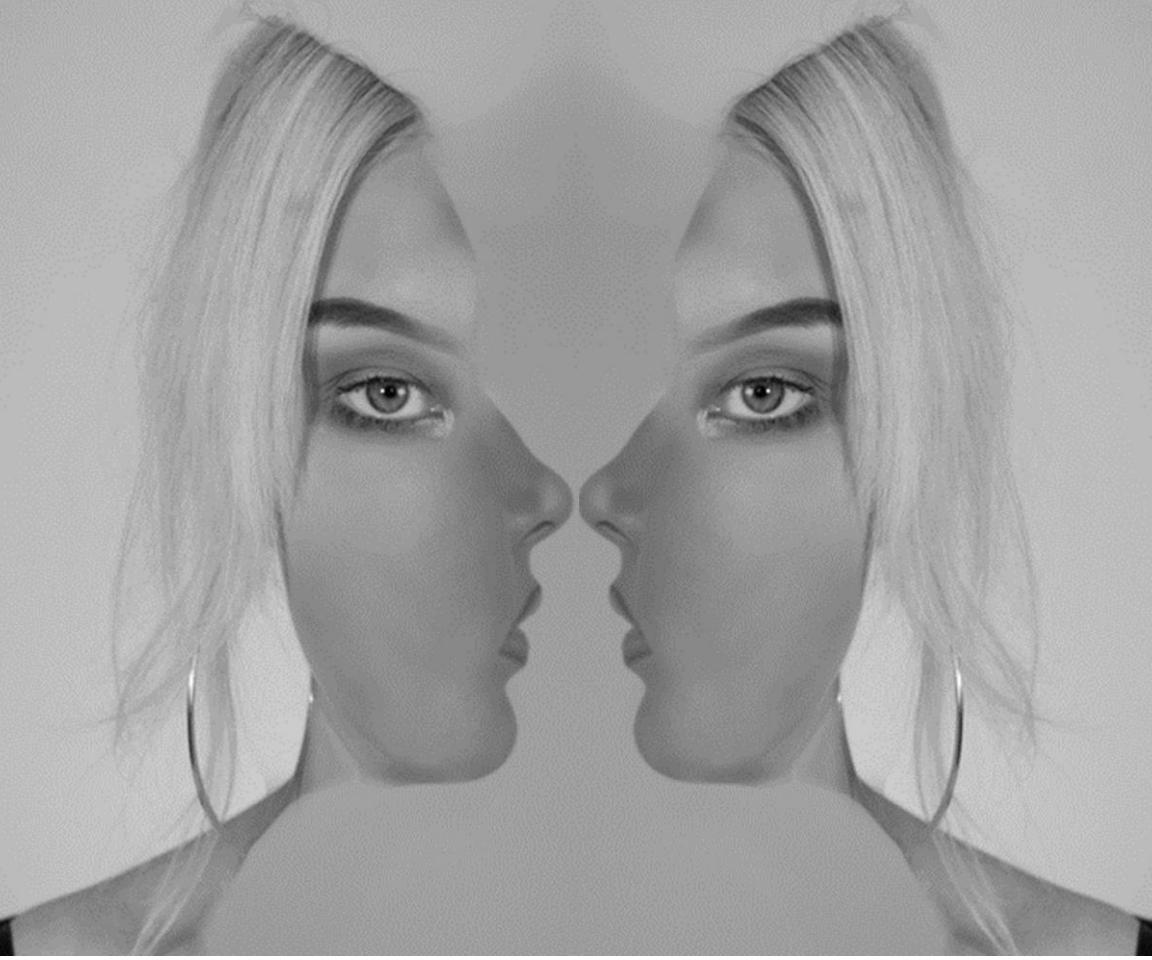
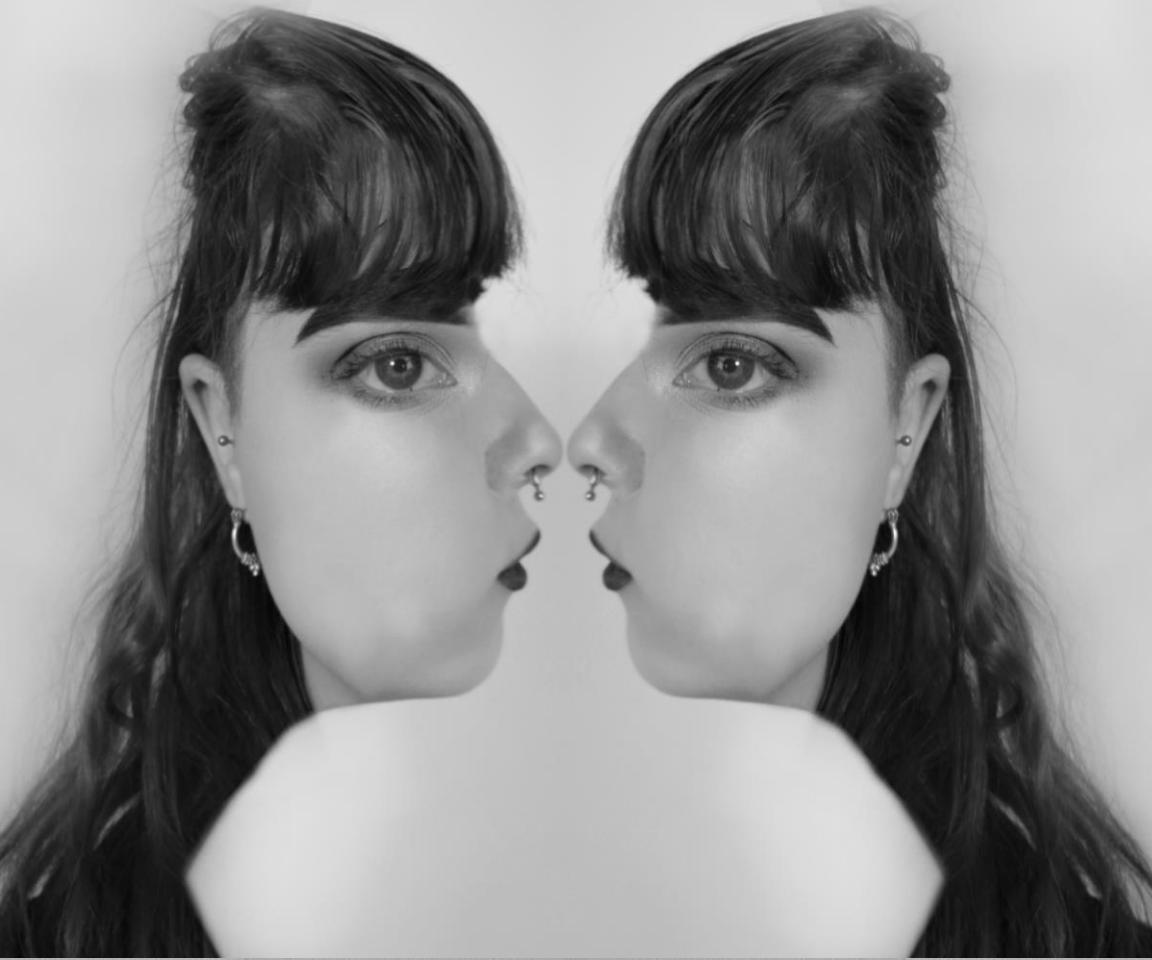




This is my work inspired by the Spanish artist Pablo Picasso, in a similar style to his abstract artwork I used Photoshop to transform my original portraits. I achieved these different effects by using techniques such layering, erasing and cloning whilst using the eraser, clone and lasso tools.

## Further Development

Here is my further development based on the work of Pablo Picasso. For this series of photographs I took a portrait of the model facing both towards the camera and one with their head facing the side. I then overlaid the images in photoshop and erased the majority of the photo facing to the side, just leaving the outline of their profile merged with their portrait. Next I created copies and flipped the photographs so that they replicated both a whole face and two people at once, acting as an optical illusion.



Angles.



## Pinterest

The angle in which you position your camera can completely alter the picture you take. The majority of photos are taken from about eye level, capturing the subject in the same way we view it in everyday life. Taking inspiration from various pictures that I discovered on Pinterest, I am going to explore taking my photos from an unexpected viewpoint, fitting in with my theme. I plan on taking photos of the subject both from above and below, two angles that aren't used a lot.



## Shoot Plan

These are my photos taken from above, in order to do this I climbed a ladder and positioned the camera downwards. This allowed me to capture the model's entire body from an unexpected angle. I took my photos in a studio setting, using tungsten lights.



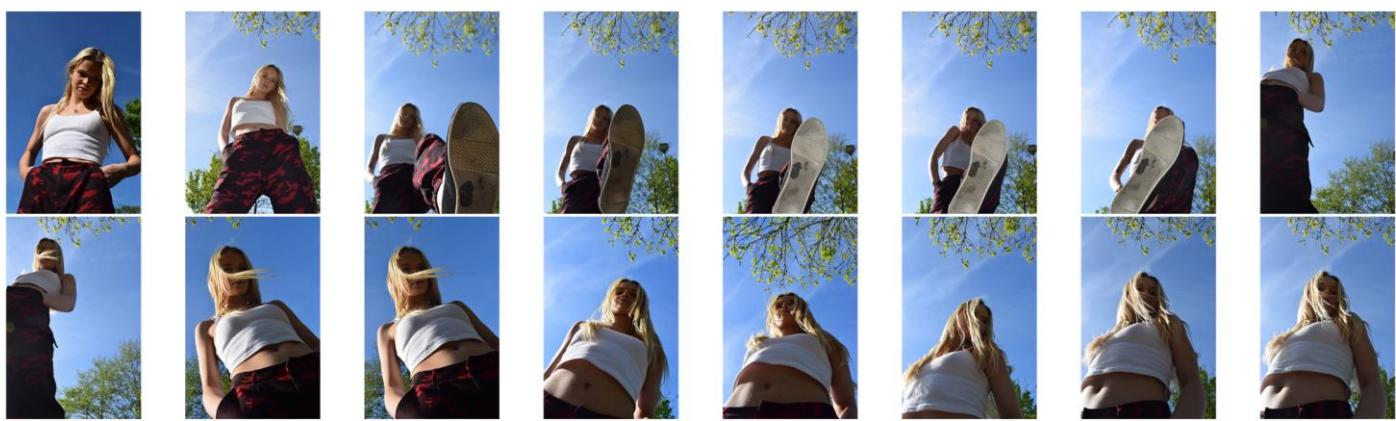




## Shoot Plan

Here are more experimental photographs inspired by Pinterest, this time exploring a viewpoint 'from below'. I took them outside on a clear day from the ground, tilting the camera up at the model. I decided to include the sole of the shoe in some of them to really exaggerate the angle. Overall I am happy with both shoots inspired by Pinterest and feel that they both depict an 'unexpected perspective'





# Forced Perspective

Tying into unexpected angles, I instantly thought of well known forced perspective photos tourists usually take with landmarks (Most famously at the leaning tower of Piza). These really compliment the theme 'unexpected perspectives' as from the right viewpoint and pose from the model, it can trick the eye into thinking that the person is a lot taller than they are. as Inspired by the concept of these world known photographs, I am going to try and achieve the same effect.





## Shoot Plan

Here are my photos inspired by the tourist photos taken in front of famous landmarks. I took these photos outside in Leyland, from the ground. I tilted my camera up at my model, capturing their whole body and asking them to pose in different ways. I took extra time to be precise, lining up the buildings/ vehicles with my model to get a convincing outcome. I am happy with how my photos turned out, for my further development I plan on taking the same type of photo but with a famous landmark like the original.





## Further Development

For my further development, I wanted to incorporate a famous landmark into my work inspired by popular tourist photos. I managed to use Blackpool Tower, using them same technique as my previous work.

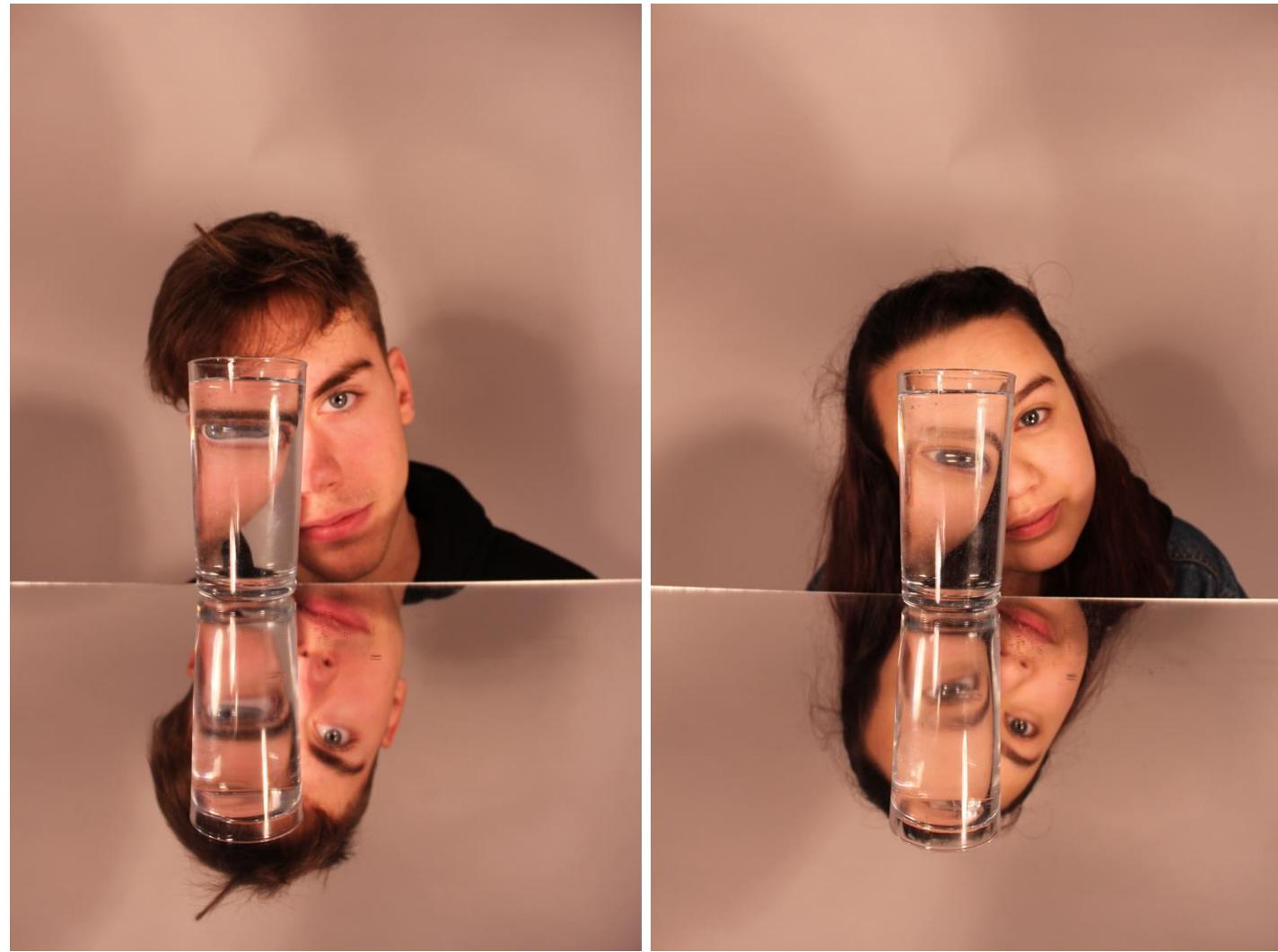
Distortion.

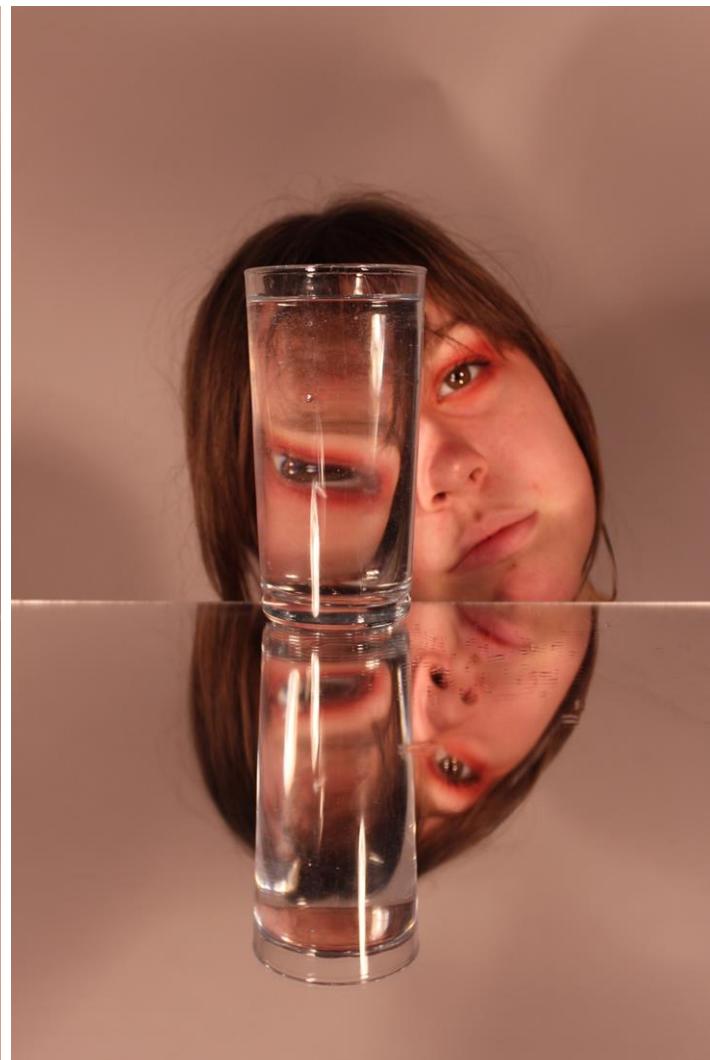


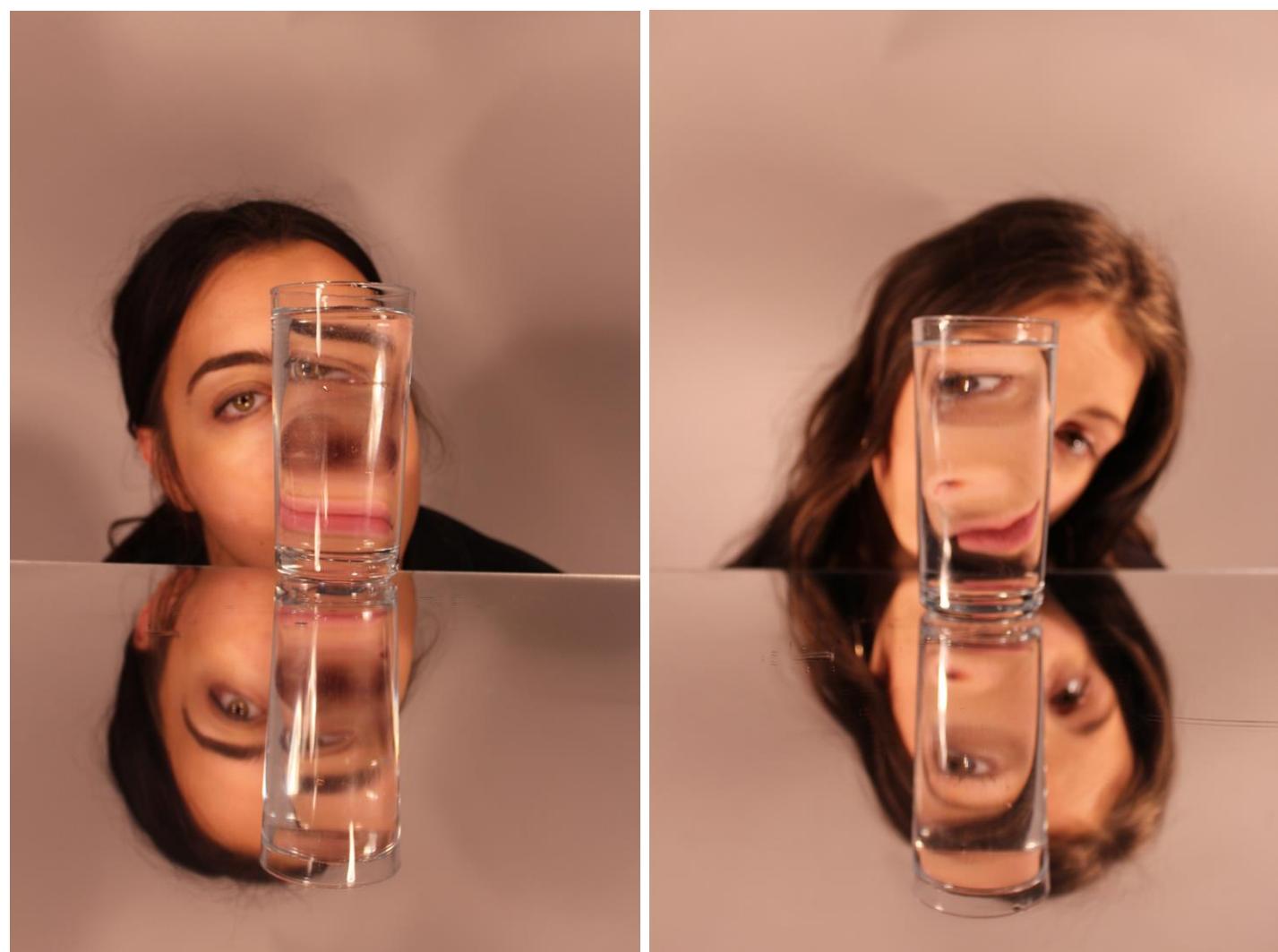
## A Night at Hotel Metro

Photographer Meredith Jenks created a series of photographs named 'A Night at Hotel Metro, Trendland.com describes the story ominous story behind it," their heroine enters a hotel room for her over-night stay. After relaxing over a bath and some well-deserved room service, things start to get a little strange. Our heroine realizes that she may not be the only person staying in this room." Two images in this editorial caught my attention, they involve the distortion created by a glass of water that is positioned in front of the model's face. This has inspired me to try out the same technique, coinciding with my theme.









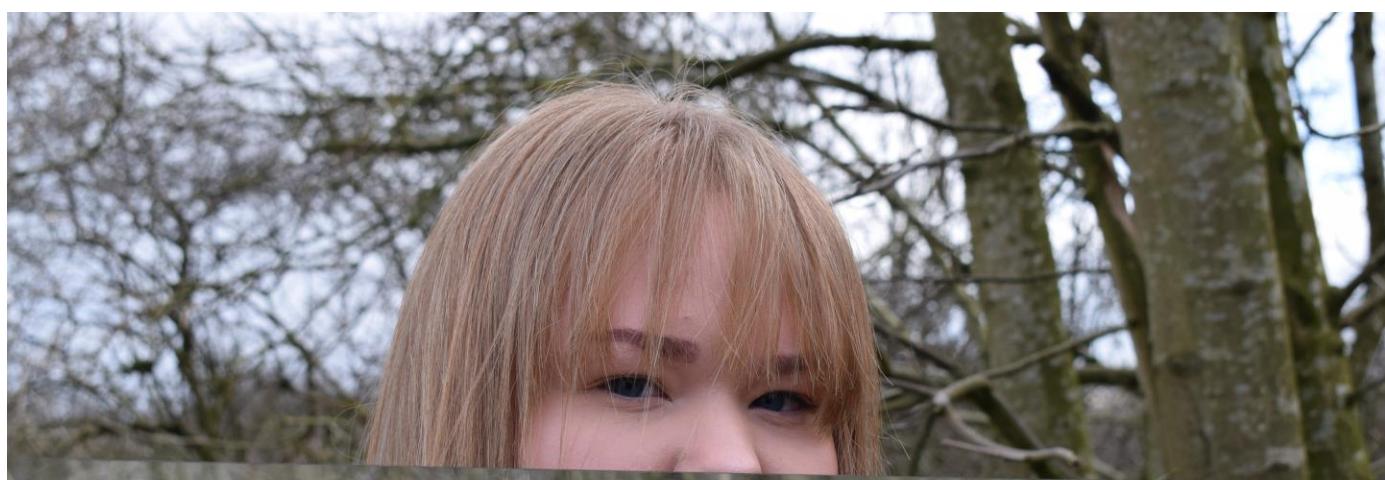
## Shoot Plan

These are my photos inspired by the editorial titled 'A Night at Hotel Metro' by Meredith Jenks. I incorporated a mirror, placing the glass of water on top of it, before getting a variety of different models to position their faces behind it. I am really happy with the outcome of this shoot and the distorted effect that the glass of water created. This takes a regular one step further, relating to the theme unexpected perspectives really well.

## Laura Williams

Laura Williams is an independent photographer who has experimented with the use off frames in her work. This is what she says on her website, "I like to use photography to blur the lines between real life and fantasy to create unusual artworks. I am inspired by everything around me in my daily life, by objects that tell stories which can be used as props in my photographs". I am in particularly inspired by the photos on the right, although it appears that Williams has used a frame and photoshop to replace the inside of the frame with the background, I am going to use a real mirror and reflection to achieve a similar effect.







## Shoot Plan

Here is my shoot inspired by Laura Williams. My shoot took place outside and shows my models holding a square shaped mirror. I got them to angle the mirror in different ways to achieve different effects. I'm really pleased with the outcome as the reflection from the mirror distorts the perspective of the photo. On the following page is my further development, I took the same idea but replaced the reflection in the mirror with an optical illusion using photoshop.





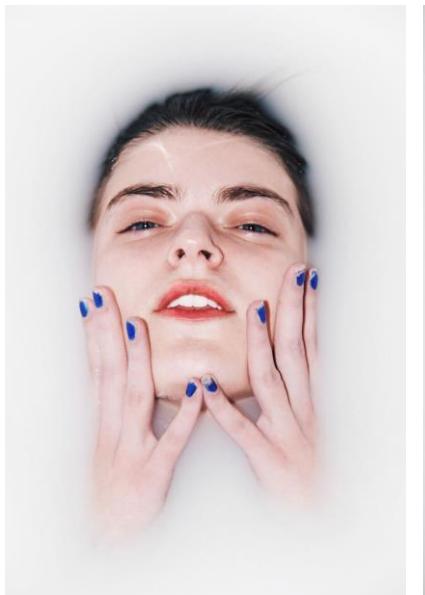


## Additional photos

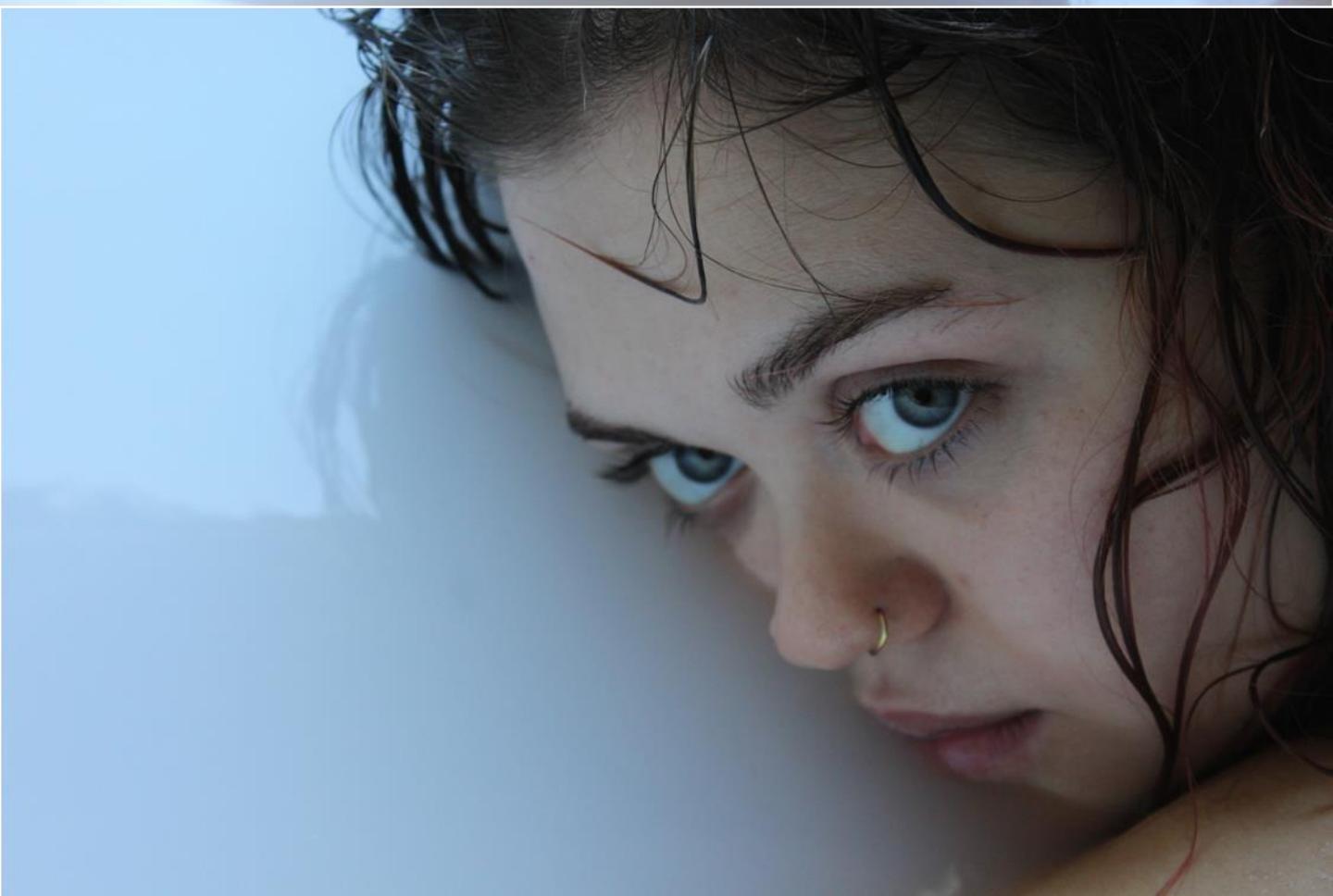
Here are some more photos that I have taken that involve reflection. I took them in a studio setting, using mirrors to show another perspective of both my model and the flowers. I really like the effect of using two mirrors as you get 4 different perspectives of the model.

# Danny Rothschild

This collection pf photographs taken by 'creative director' and photographer, Danny Rothschild depict a model being submerged in an opaque liquid. This has inspired me to do try and replicate his technique in my own photos. This fits in with my theme as it hides the rest of the body, distorting the portrait in an unexpected way. I am going to use a milk bath in order to achieve this effect.

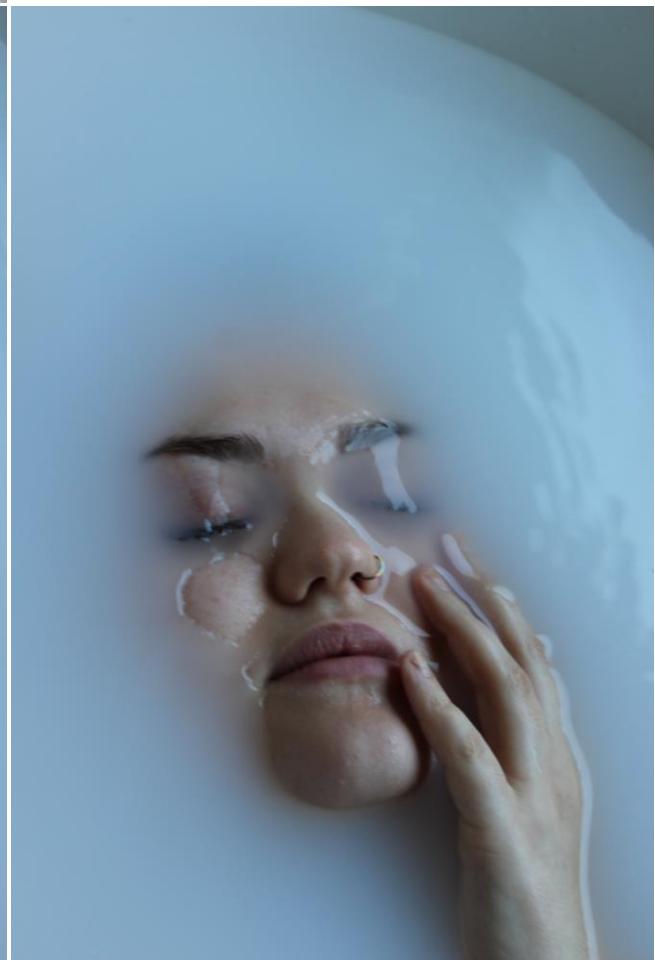






## Shoot Plan

Here is my shoot inspired by the work of Danny Rothschild. I used a bathtub filled with milk and water in order to give the water the opacity I wanted. The photos were taken in daylight in order to avoid the reflection in the water that overhead lighting may give. Overall I am happy with the submerged effect that the water gives and wish to explore this in my further development.





## Further Development

For my further development, I decided to delve deeper in effect of submerging my model.

Contrasting from my previous shoot where I used liquid, I decided to use lighting techniques in the same way. card to control the amount of light hitting my model as well as a high aperture to let in the small amount of light in the room.



## Pinterest

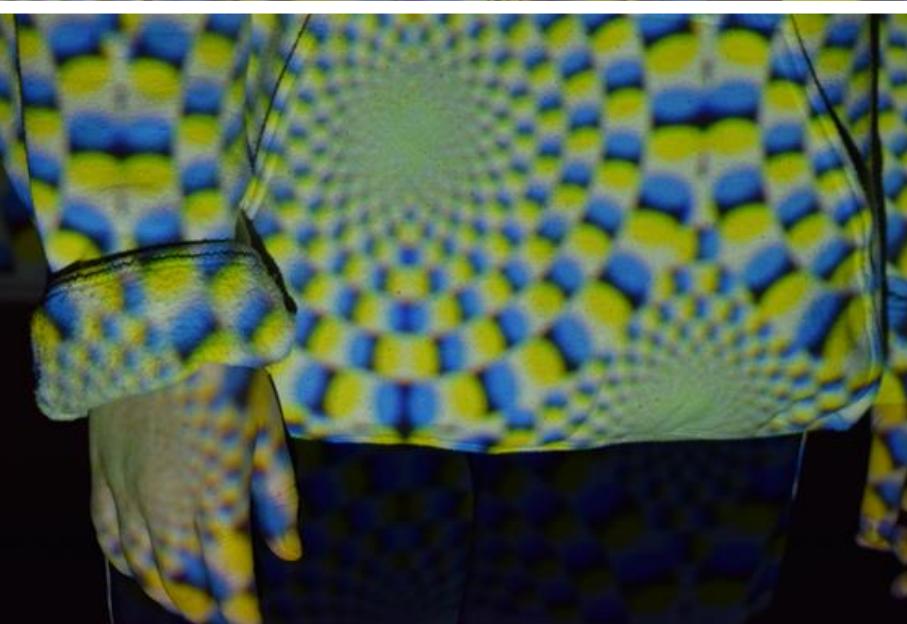
Here are some photographs from the website Pinterest that have inspired me to incorporate projection into my project. I feel that it fits in well with my theme of distortion within unexpected perspectives as the light acts as a screen, changing the surface of the model's body and camouflaging them into the background. Despite this, they are still the focal point of the photography.

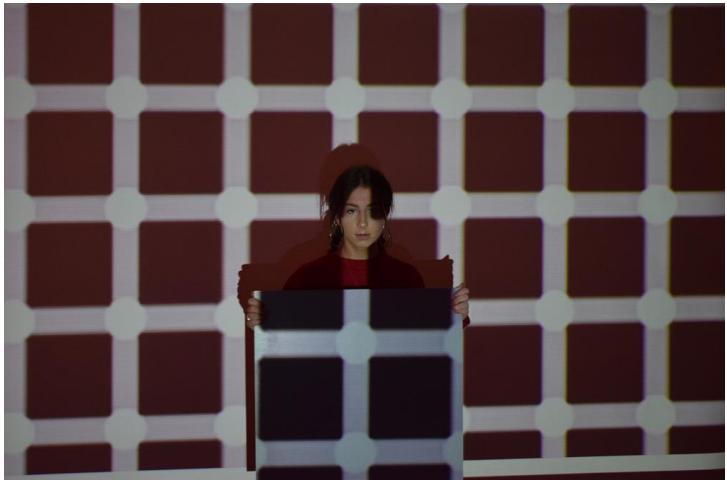




## Shoot Plan

Throughout this shoot I have projected images of optical illusions, skylines and water over different models. I captured them in a studio setting, against a white backdrop, using a projector. I am happy with the outcome of the photos, particularly with how vibrant the colours turned out.









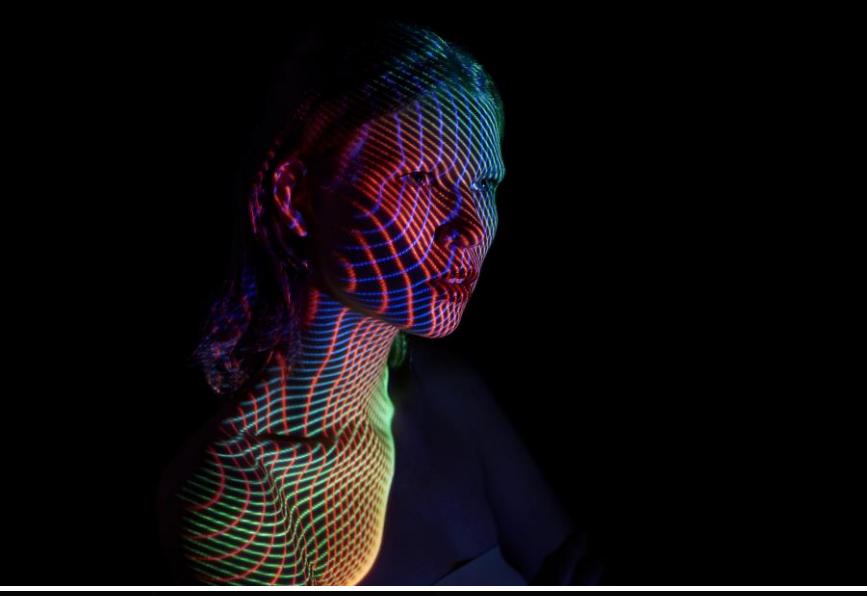


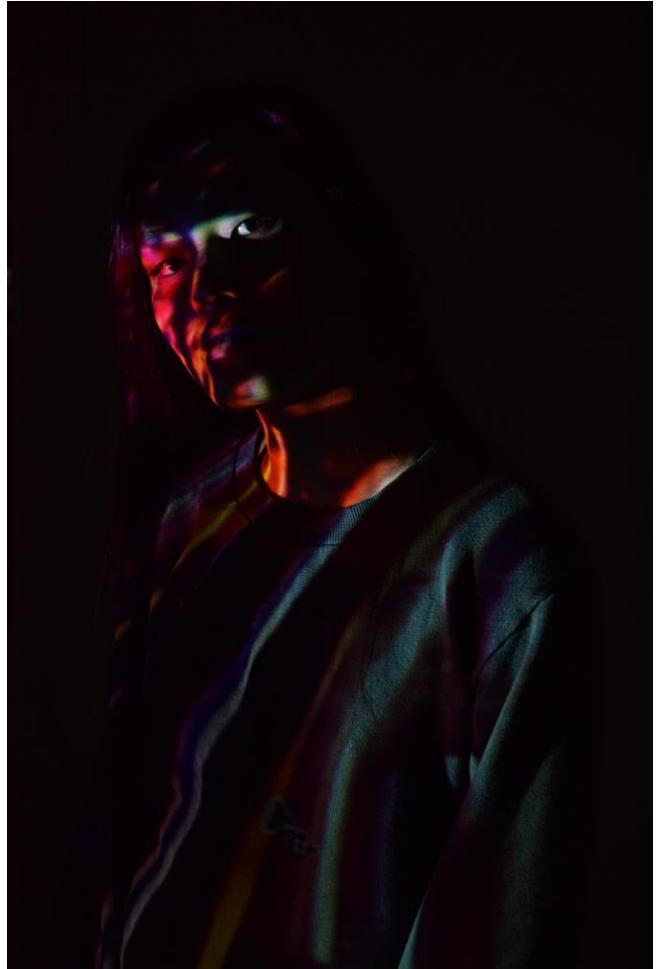
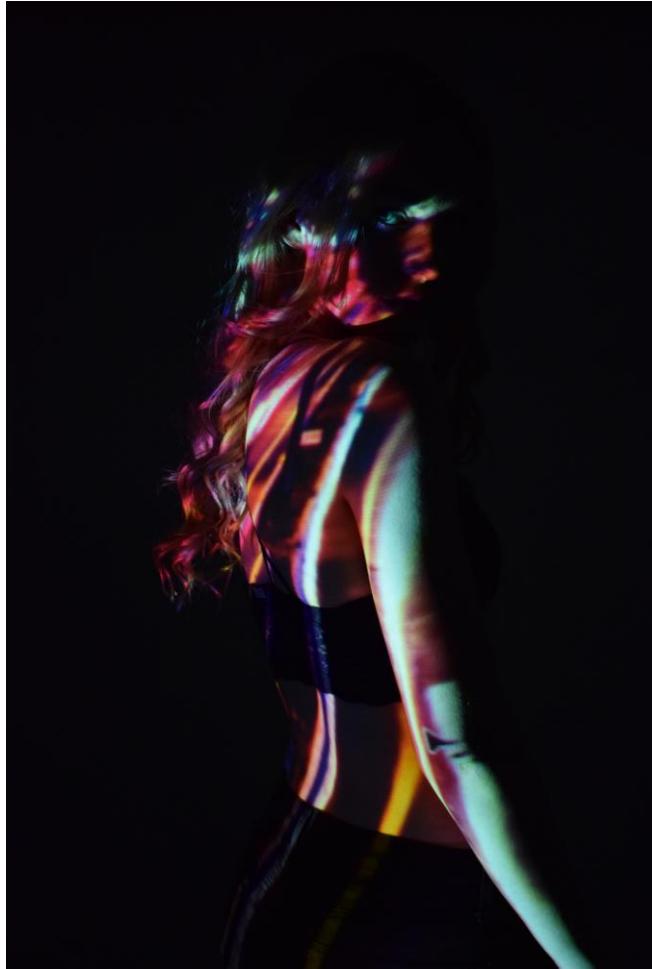




# Mads Perch

According to his website, "Mads is a Danish-born London-based photographer. He has shot editorials for magazines such as Fast company, Wired, i-D, The Pitchfork Review and Oki Ni." His projection photos really caught my attention as they only include the projected image on the model themselves and not on the background. This is a very unique style of projection that I want to explore in the studio.





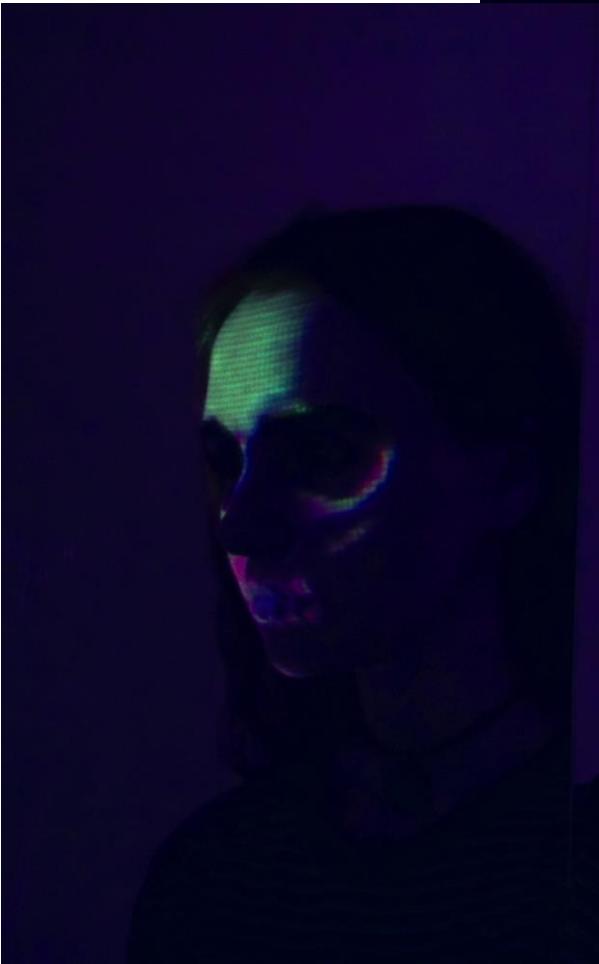
## Shoot Plan

Here are my photos inspired by Mads Perch, I projected an image of neon stripes onto my model from the side, avoiding the black background. I feel that this supports my theme of 'Unexpected perspectives' in the same way as my previous projections, the light acts as a screen, distorting the portrait.



## Further Development

For my further development of Mads' work I projected a picture of a skull onto the face of my model. I kept the background of the photo black, showing the illusion that it is real and distorting the portrait.





## Liz Atkin

Liz Atkin is an artist based in London, she says, " "I am interested in the availability of the skin to bear inscriptions. Whether it is mortified or glorified, marked or scarred, I employ my skin as both a boundary and point of correlation. My skin is unavoidably personal." Her scenography in particular caught my attention as it explores a different viewpoint of photography as well as distorting the face through movement.

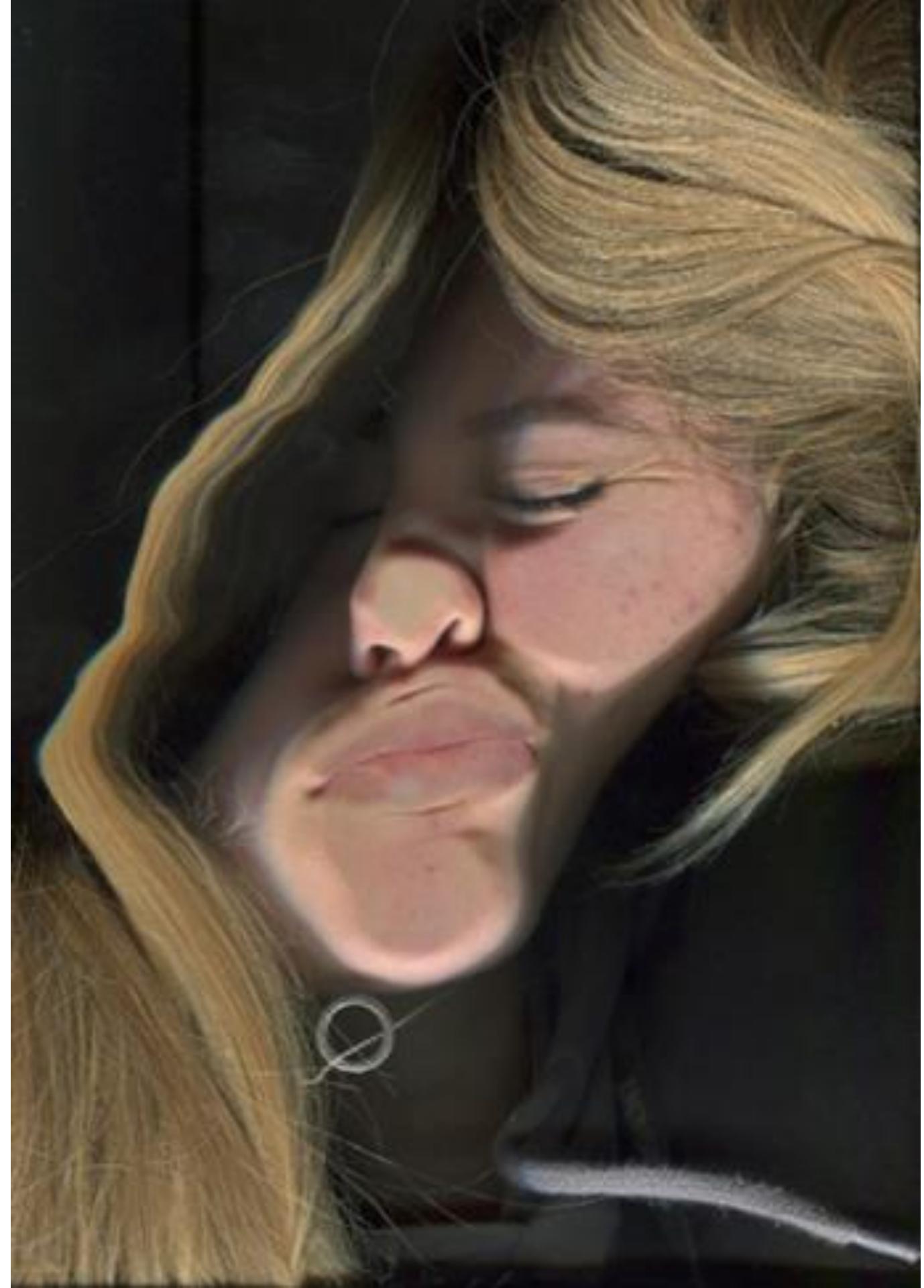




## Shoot Plan

Taking inspiration from the work of Liz Atkin, I used Scanography to first capture somebody's face pressed up against the scanner. Then I incorporated movement to achieve the motion distorted images below. I feel that Scanography as a technique fits in well with my theme it isn't even using a camera, it is using a scanner that is most commonly used for photocopying paperwork and images.





Surrealism.

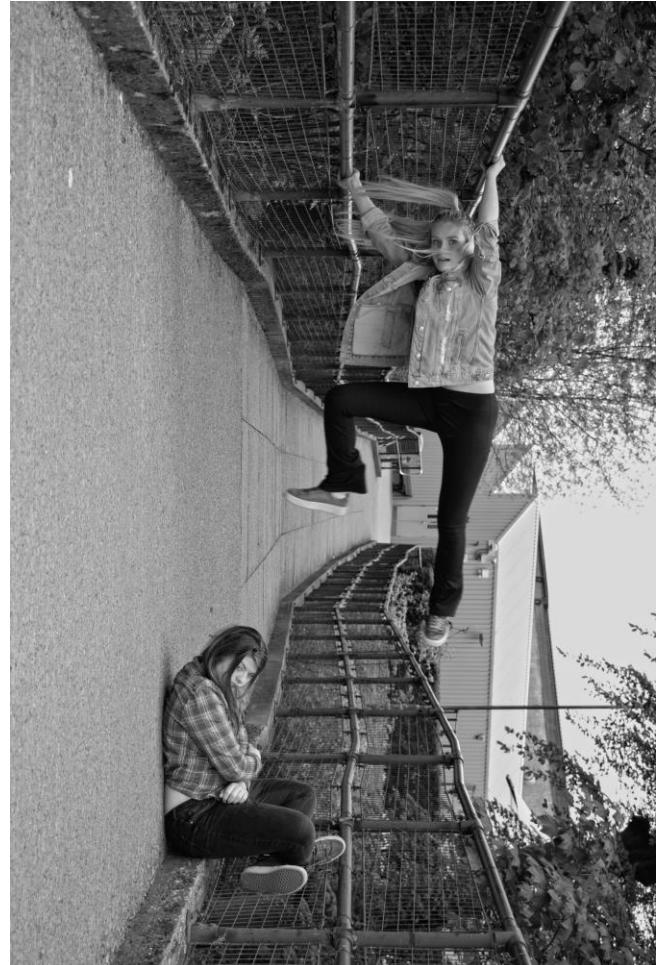
# Pinterest

Pinterest is full of photos that explore surrealism, however these really caught my eye. I plan on trying to recreate these in which gravity appears to have flipped, by the models making walls look like the ground, as well as actually flipping the image. This surreal approach coincides well with my theme as it plays with the perspective of the photo in an unexpected way



## Shoot Plan

Here are my photos inspired by Pinterest that were taken on a bridge, outside similar to one of the images on the previous page. I placed one of my models to sit with their legs crossed against one railing (acting as the ground), whilst the other jumped into the air clutching the other railing. I used a high shutter speed in order to freeze my model in the air and create this illusion.



## Further Development

For my further development I have created a series of photographs in which my model lay upside down, before flipping it to create the effect that she is 'stuck to the ceiling'. I think that this works well with both them theme of 'unexpected perspectives' as it creates a surreal, anti gravity affect like the photos prior.





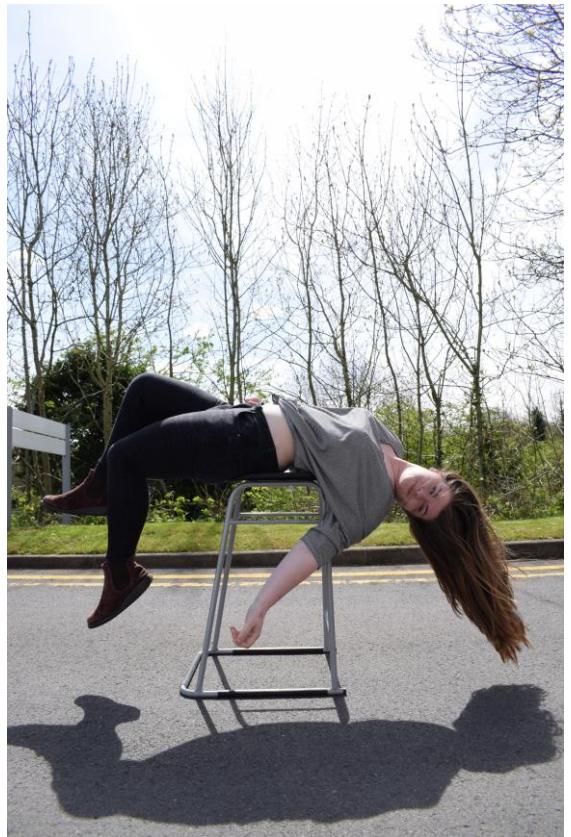






## Rosie Hardy

Above is one of the levitation images by Manchester based photographer, Rosie Hardy. I plan on recreating the conceptual illusion of levitation in the same style, using photoshop.



## Further Development

For my Rosie Hardy inspired shoot I used a stool to create the illusion that my model was levitating in the air. I used a tripod too to capture a picture of the background by itself from the same place. This was so that when editing in photoshop, I could layer the images and erase the stool from the picture entirely.









## Further Development

For my further development I used the same technique of capturing multiple photos from the same place on the tripod to layer in photoshop. However this time, I changed the opacity of the model to create a ghostly image.





I decided to layer a two of the images together without the opacity to create the illusion that the same individual has a duplicate.



In addition, I took this idea even further and created these two images that were shot in a studio setting with tungsten lights. I created this effect by layering images and then erasing elements of one. Below shows the process of creating the first image.

