Digital Photography as Reflexive Practice

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A Photography Production Craft Practice Perspective

- A Visual Effects Craft Practice approach; Preconceived look with flexibility for change (Zia 2019)
- The Photography stage (time critical state) and the Post stage (leisurely state)

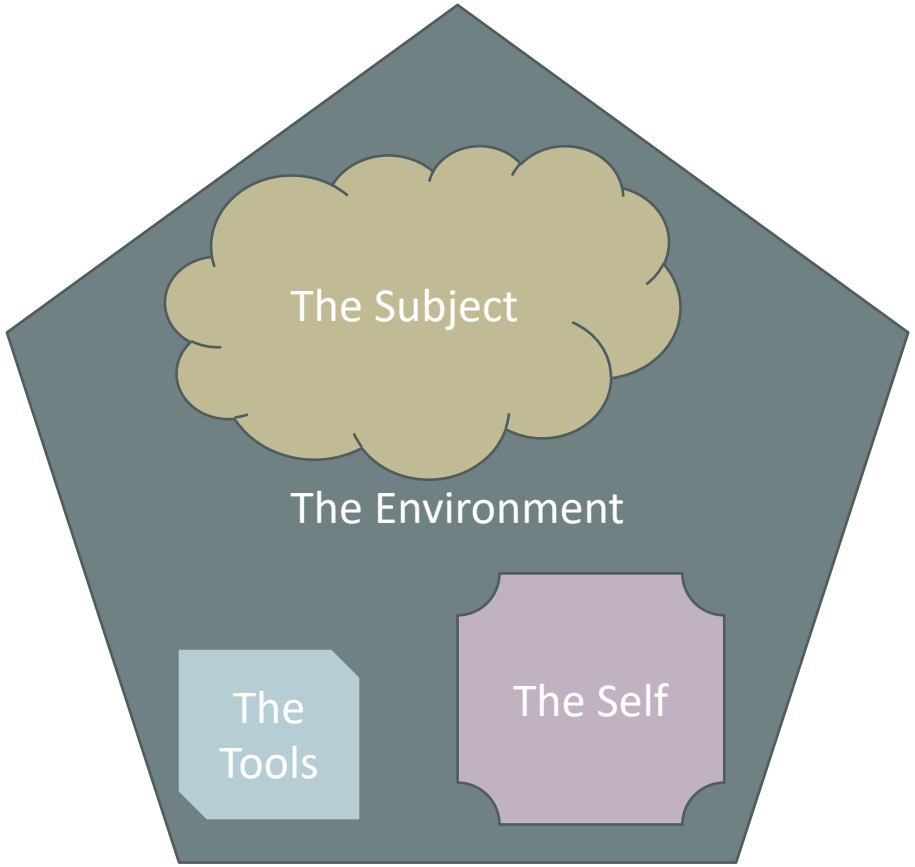
The Digital Photograph

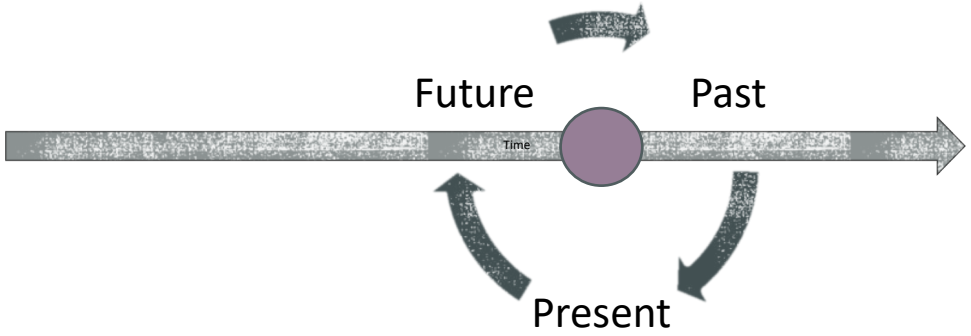
- The plasticity of the digital photograph far exceeds its film counterpart (Ritchin 2010)
- Digital photographs can provide instant feedback in the form of images and image histograms immediately after taking the photograph
- Image editing softwares allow you to see the impact of the changes you are making as you are making them such as increasing contrast, exposure or sharpening.
- These softwares also allow you to compare between different image looks to inform creative decision-making.

Reflexive Practice

- Rapid reflection - Refection-before-action, reflection-in-action and on-action
- Holistic reflection; situation, tools, process, workflow, self, working environment
- Reflection combining past, present and future (past experiences and tacit knowledge, situation at hand and present condition [tools, self], plan for how to deal with the data set captured in the future)
- Improvisational; the reflection is not happening after the fact but is intrinsically inherent in every production craft decision being made in response to the changing parameters of the environment and as such is an improvised performance
- Self awareness and mindfulness
- Immediate response to the changing scene due to practitioner intuition informed by tacit knowledge

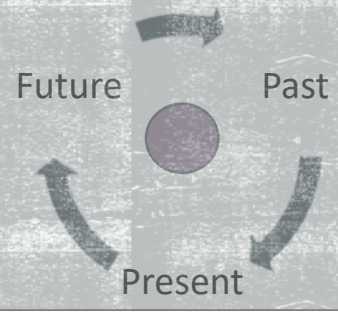
The substance of reflexivity

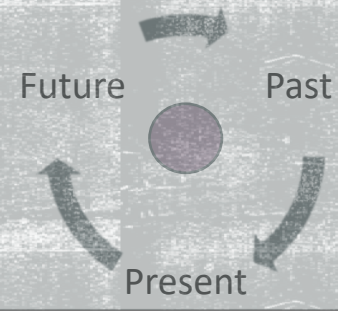


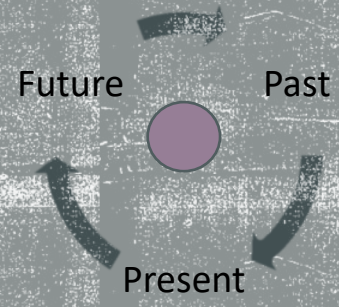


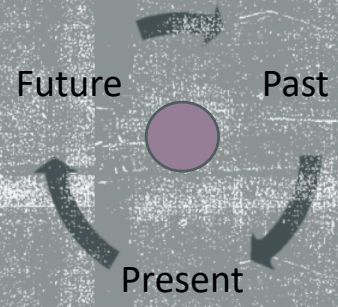
The artefact and the practice

Photography









Post

Is it critical?

- A common critique for reflection-in-action is to do with how critical it can be (Finlay 2008)
- Nelson (2013) has argues that rigour in practice research lies in syncretism rather than depth-mining

The Subject

Dynamic range

Scale

Movement

The Environment

Light

Weather

Distractions

Accessibility

The Tools

Precision

Applicability

Appropriateness

Adaptability

The Self

Tacit knowledge, Competency/Expertise

Responsiveness

Self awareness

Mindfulness

Workflow preferences

Creative intent

Latitude

metabones
EF - E mount
SONY

α7

LEE Filters
LEE Filter
Canon
SONY
RAINSLEEVE
LEE FILTERS
SUPER STOPPER
Little stopper

OPTICAL STABILIZER
SIGMA
Canon
EXTENDER
2x
SONY
MENU

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