

AFPG - LABORATORIO DI FOTOGRAFIA I

Creative and Experimental Photography:
PHOTOGRAPHY & THE SENSES

Workshop-Based Photography Course

w/ Aaron Schuman

COURSE DATES:

3 - 5 JUNE 2026

+

8 - 9 JUNE 2026

(FINAL EXAM: 9 JUNE 2026)



Walker Evans, *Berenice Abbott*, c. 1930

*"The photographer is a joyous sensualist,
for the simple reason that the eye traffics in feelings, not in thoughts...
The matter of art in photography may come down to this:
it is the capture and projection of the delights of seeing;
it is the defining of observation full and felt."*

- Walker Evans, *Photography* (1969)

In this course students will collectively explore the relationship between photography and the senses:

- Sight
- Touch
- Smell
- Taste
- Hearing
- Vestibular (Balance)
- Proprioception (Body-Awareness)



Aaron Schuman, *Sonata*, 2022



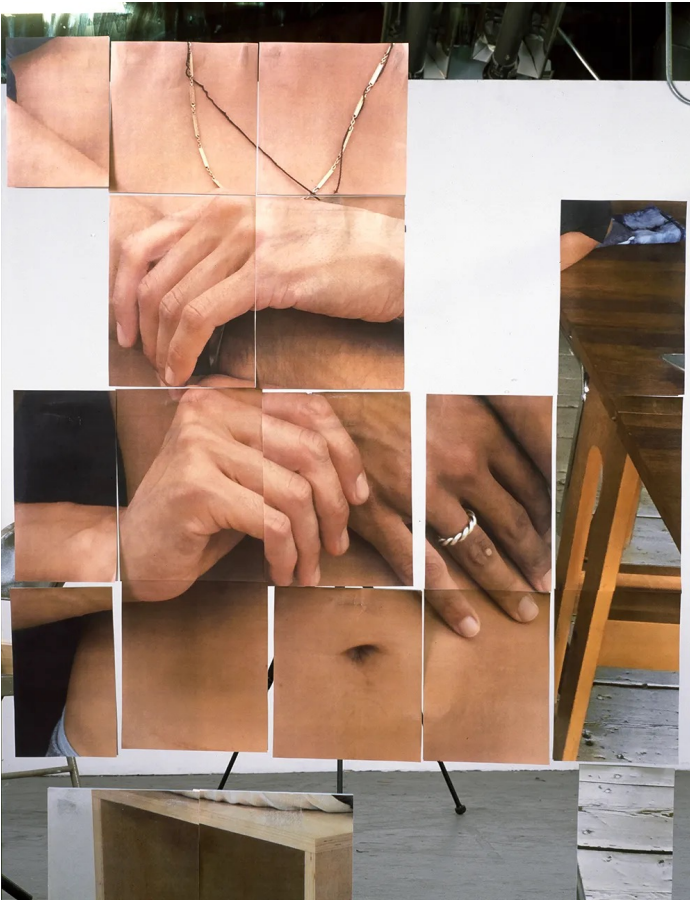
Raymond Meeks, 2018



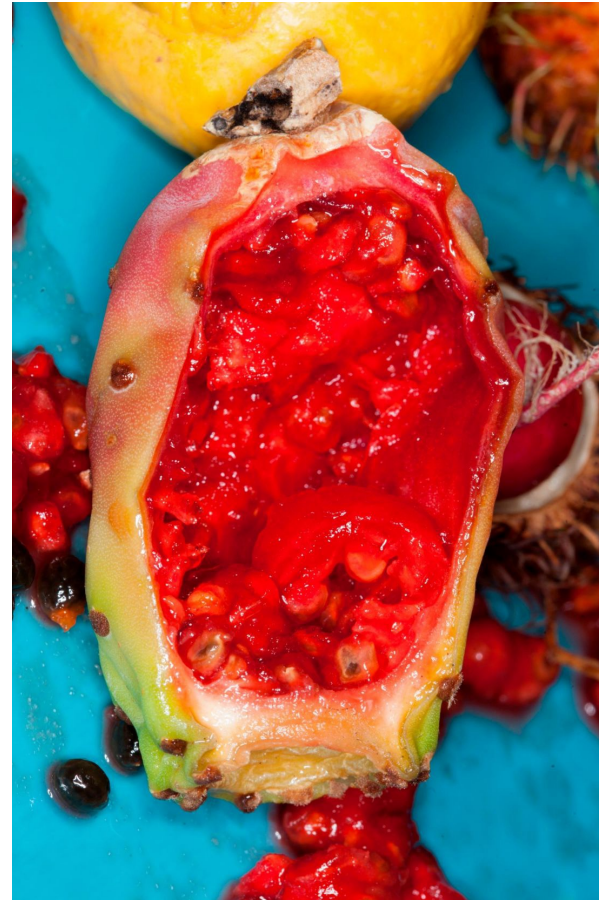
Senta Simond, 2019

The aim of this course is to encourage students to intimately explore and connect with their experience of environment through the creative processes of photography.

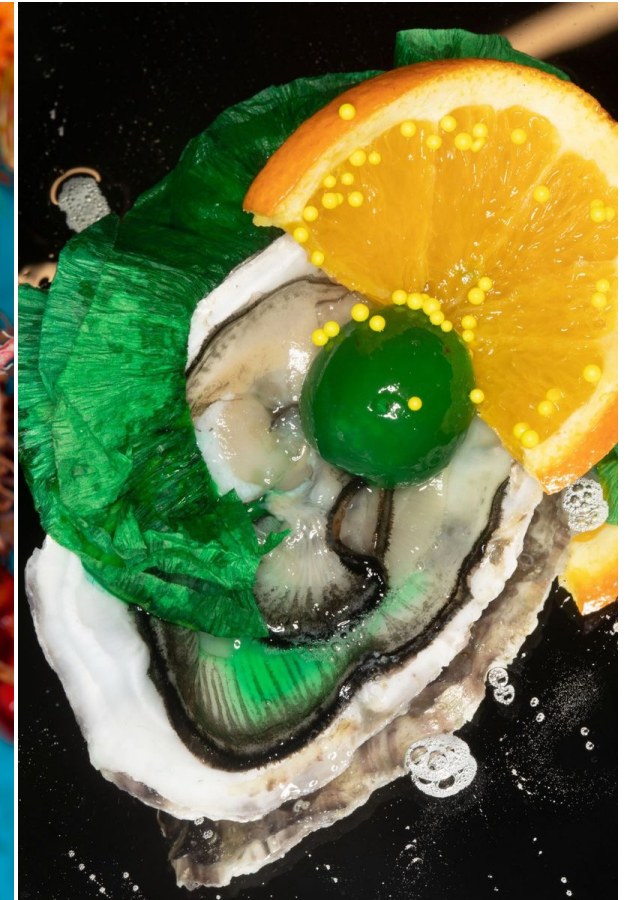
We will carefully consider how the photographic medium can be used to capture, interpret, understand and project one's own physical experiences of the surrounding world in moving and meaningful ways.



Paul Mpagi Sepuya, 2020



Maisie Cousins, 2023



A few of the questions we will consider are:

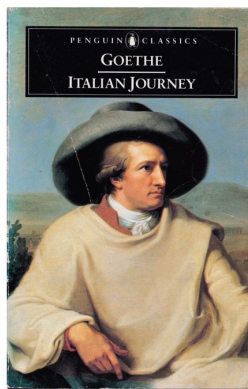
- Can we make photographs that not only communicate what we see, but also what we hear, smell, taste, and feel?
- Can a photograph engage with balance and imbalance, or in some way convey the intensity of our physical sensations?
- How can we create images that are genuinely "full and felt"?



Josef Breitenbach, *Fragrance of a Pink Rose*, 1945



Thomas Struth, *Paradise*, 1998



*"At present I am preoccupied with sense-impressions...
In putting my powers of observation to the test,
I have found a new interest in life...
Can I learn to look at things with clear, fresh eyes?
How much can I take in at a single glance?
Can the grooves of old mental habits be effaced?
This is what I am trying to discover."*

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Italian Journey* (1786)



Olivo Barbieri, Gabriele Basilico, Gianantonio Battistella, Vincenzo Castella, Andrea Cavazzuti, Giovanni Chiamonte, Mario Cresci, Vittore Fossati, Carlo Garzia, Luigi Ghirri, Guido Guidi, Shelley Hill, Mimmo Jodice, Gianni Leone, Claude Nori, Umberto Sartorello, Mario Tinelli, Ernesto Tulliozi, Fulvio Ventura, Cuchi White - *Viaggio in Italia*, 1984



Guido Guidi, 1985

During the course, the participating students will engage in practice-based research, will individually make new photographic works of their own, and will collectively create a collaborative group project in relation to the “photography and the senses”.