SOA HIGHER PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT: THE "FORCED" PERSPECTIVE



PROJECT TOPIC

For my project, I plan to do 'Scale Figure Photography'. This is a new type of photography which has risen in popularity over the course of the last few years.

Lego has been one of the most popular children's toys since their introduction in the 1930's, but they can also be used in photography to create "Miniature Realities", as part of the reason that they are so popular is their ability to set up larger than life scenes and images.

In my project, I aim to set up interesting and creative images to show the versatility of Lego as an art form. I will achieve this by using figures and builds from one of the biggest franchises that Lego partners with, "Star Wars", and recreate scenes from the movies and shows that are part of it, this is where my title, "Forced" Perspective, comes from. The backgrounds for the images I will take will be either custom scenery created by myself, or outdoor settings such as the woods.

The main technique I will be using is forced perspective, this involves bringing foreground elements closer to the lens to have them appear larger. I will be adopting a "worm's eye view" to create the sense that the figures I use are real and exist within their own miniature reality. I believe an effective image or media is one that can immerse the viewer in a fictional world.

I have taken inspiration from Samsofy, a French photographer who creates images of Lego figures acting in different scenes which take inspiration from their respective media, such as Darth Vader using the force to lift sugar cubes. He has inspired me with his expert use of scale and lighting.

I have also taken inspiration from Andrew Whyte, who expertly uses forced perspective to portray a Lego figure as a photographer who travels across the world. He has inspired me with his phenomenal miniature worlds.

I will be using professional equipment such as DSLR cameras, and different lenses including macro lenses to capture detail.

I will also be using editing software such as Photoshop and 3D application Blender to enhance the colours and impact of my images; in some instances, I will use editing software to create effects such as blaster fire and smoke.

I believe that this will be an interesting and effective topic as it has many applications that can be exploited to create different types of unique photographs. I hope that my project will be interesting to not only figure collectors but also those who may have never considered Lego as a viable art form.









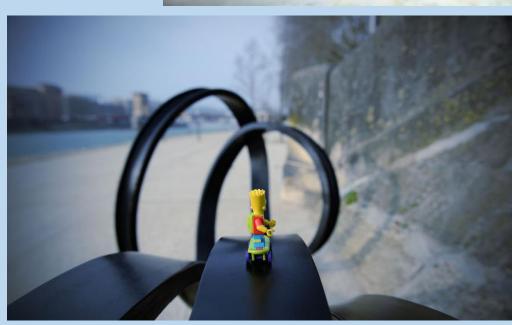


























Andrew Whyte's photograph expertly employs scale and a worm's eye view perspective to seamlessly blend the Lego figure into our world. The contrast between the rough texture of the pavement and the smoothness of the Lego figure enhances the depth and complexity of the composition, crafting an engaging and meticulously detailed image.



This image, taken by Lampert Benedek, uses practical effects to create action by placing a firecracker below the figures to simulate a small explosion. This, combined with a fast shutter speed to capture the individual grains of sand and reduce motion blur, creates an image which looks realistic from ground level.



In this photograph, the adept use of contrasting colours elevates its visual impact. Superman's vibrant blue suit and bold red cape pop against the subdued grey backdrop, naturally drawing the viewer's attention to him as the unmistakable focal point of the image.



This photograph recreates a scene from Star Wars: The Last Jedi. Although not the pinnacle of technical prowess, the understated editing of the luminous lightsabers adds an intriguing dimension to the image. Such photos have inspired me to embark on my own journey of recreating beloved movie scenes using Lego.



TECHNICAL RESEARCH

Canon EOS 2000D DSLR Camera with

EF-S 18-55 mm f/3.5-

5.6 IS II Lens



The Canon EOS 2000D DSLR Camera with EF-S 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 IS II Lens is an excellent choice for scale figure photography due to its versatile lens and features. The EF-S 18-55mm lens provides a useful focal length range suitable for capturing scale figures in various compositions, from wide-angle shots to closer portraits. Its image stabilisation feature helps reduce blur, ensuring sharper images even in lower light conditions, ideal for indoor figure photography setups.

The Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM Lens is a popular choice for scale figure photography for several reasons. Its wide maximum aperture of f/1.8 allows for excellent low-light performance and shallow depth of field, making it ideal for isolating subjects and creating stunning bokeh effects. The 50mm focal length provides a natural perspective, rendering scale figures with pleasing proportions and minimal distortion.

Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM Lens



Sigma 105mm f2.8
Macro EX DG OS HSM
for Nikon F



The Sigma 105mm f/2.8 Macro EX DG OS HSM lens for Nikon F mount is an exceptional choice for scale figure photography, particularly for capturing intricate details and achieving stunning close-up shots. With its macro capabilities, this lens allows photographers to magnify small subjects with remarkable clarity and sharpness, making it perfect for capturing the fine textures and features of scale figures. The fast f/2.8 aperture enables beautiful background blur, isolating the subject and creating a visually appealing separation from the background.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

Canon RS-60 E3 Remote Switch



The Canon RS-60 E3 Remote Switch is a valuable accessory for scale figure photography, offering convenience and precision when capturing shots. This remote switch allows photographers to trigger the camera shutter remotely, minimising the risk of camera shake and ensuring sharper images, particularly when using slower shutter speeds or shooting in low light. Its simple design and ergonomic button make it easy to operate, providing seamless control over the camera without the need to physically touch it.

Velbon M43 tripod with ball and socket head



The Velbon M43 tripod with ball and socket head is a versatile and reliable tool for scale figure photography. Its sturdy construction provides stability and support for cameras, ensuring sharp and steady shots, even in challenging shooting conditions. The ball and socket head offer fluid movement and precise adjustments, allowing photographers to easily compose their shots and capture different angles with ease.

INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS



INSPIRATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS - SAMSOFY

Sofiane Samlal, known as Samsofy, is a French photographer and postwar & contemporary artist born in Lyon in 1981. His artistic journey began in extreme sports photography in urban areas, but a pivotal moment occurred following the birth of his son, leading him to immerse himself in the world of LEGO® minifigures. Samsofy's work has been prominently featured at the Burton Art Gallery and Museum, and his pieces have graced auction houses multiple times, attesting to his growing influence in the art world.

Driven by a childhood spent playing with LEGO, Samsofy has made it his mission to break down the generational barriers surrounding the beloved toy, advocating for its appreciation among individuals of all ages. Through his imaginative photography, Samsofy transports viewers to whimsical worlds where everyday objects take on new dimensions and LEGO characters inhabit vibrant landscapes.

Samsofy's creative process often unfolds outdoors, where he harnesses natural light and explores diverse locations around the globe, infusing his work with rich textures and captivating backdrops. Drawing on his background in extreme sports photography, he seamlessly integrates popular culture icons into his compositions, adding an element of familiarity and nostalgia.

Using a blend of photography techniques, street art influences, and meticulous model making, Samsofy's work transcends traditional boundaries, conveying messages that intertwine politics, humour, and poetry. By manipulating scale and perspective, he challenges viewers to reconsider their perceptions, inviting them to delve into his miniature universes where imagination knows no bounds.

With over 20,000 followers on Instagram, Samsofy continues to captivate audiences with his innovative imagery, inspiring others to see the world through a lens of creativity and wonder. For Samsofy, LEGO photography has evolved from a passion project to a full-time profession, embodying his belief in the transformative power of art to shape our perceptions of the world around us.



SAMSOFY - SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INFLUENCES





Samsofy's work is deeply influenced by social and cultural phenomena, particularly through his use of popular franchises that partner with LEGO, including Star Wars, Marvel, DC, and The Simpsons. By incorporating characters from these beloved franchises into his imagery, Samsofy taps into a vast reservoir of collective nostalgia and fandom, infusing his photographs with layers of cultural significance and emotional resonance.

The diversity of characters featured in Samsofy's work not only reflects the breadth of popular culture but also enhances the distinctiveness of each image. From iconic superheroes to beloved animated characters, the eclectic mix of figures adds depth and dynamism to Samsofy's compositions, ensuring that each photograph offers a unique and captivating experience for viewers.

Moreover, Samsofy's creative use of these characters goes beyond mere representation, imbuing his images with a sense of authenticity and immediacy. By skillfully integrating the LEGO figures into scenes that evoke their original media, Samsofy blurs the lines between reality and fiction, inviting viewers to suspend disbelief and immerse themselves in his whimsical worlds. This clever juxtaposition not only enhances the realism of the photos but also infuses them with humor and charm, eliciting smiles and laughter from audiences.

Through his innovative approach to LEGO photography, Samsofy not only pays homage to the cultural icons that have shaped our collective imagination but also celebrates the enduring power of storytelling and creativity in shaping our social and cultural landscapes. By leveraging the universal appeal of these beloved franchises, Samsofy bridges generational divides and fosters connections between people of all ages, reminding us of the timeless magic inherent in our shared cultural heritage.

SAMSOFY - SCIENTIFIC INFLUENCES

Incorporating both scientific and technical influences into his photography, Samsofy employs a range of advanced equipment and techniques to capture and enhance his imagery. Central to his process is the use of a digital camera, often equipped with telephoto or macro lenses, allowing him to achieve sharp and detailed images regardless of whether his subjects are in close proximity or at a distance. By leveraging these specialised lenses, Samsofy is able to explore intricate details and nuances, capturing the essence of his miniature worlds with precision and clarity.

While many of Samsofy's photoshoots take place outdoors, he harnesses the power of artificial lighting equipment, such as softboxes, to meticulously illuminate his subjects and accentuate their features. This careful manipulation of light not only adds depth and dimension to his photographs but also enhances the overall visual impact, ensuring that every aspect of his compositions is brought to life with vivid clarity.

In post-production, Samsofy uses editing software like Photoshop to refine and enhance the colours, textures, and details of his images. Through digital manipulation, he fine-tunes every element of his compositions, from adjusting lighting and contrast to enhancing the vibrancy of colours, resulting in images that are as visually captivating as they are technically precise.





INSPIRATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS - ANDREW WHYTE





Andrew Whyte is a British photographer renowned for his diverse portfolio spanning landscapes to light trails, reflecting his belief that photography, particularly light photography, is a medium for self-expression and creativity. With a passion for experimentation and exploration, Whyte continually broadens his skills as a photographer, pushing the boundaries of traditional techniques and artistic expression.

One of Whyte's most notable projects is "The Legographer," where he immortalises the adventures of a LEGO photographer through his iPhone lens. This whimsical series, born out of a 365-day project, sees Whyte following the miniature figurine across the UK, capturing fictional yet charmingly relatable scenes of daily life. With each photograph, Whyte infuses nostalgia and humor, breathing life into the beloved childhood toy and sparking joy in viewers of all ages.

Throughout "The Legographer" series, Whyte masterfully navigates challenges such as low-light conditions and weather fluctuations, demonstrating his dedication to his craft and his unwavering commitment to storytelling. By seamlessly integrating the LEGO photographer into real-world settings, Whyte adds a playful and imaginative twist to his landscape photography, captivating audiences with his unique perspective and keen eye for detail.

Beyond his LEGO project, Whyte continues to explore new themes and techniques, constantly evolving as an artist while staying true to his signature style. Through his work, he inspires others to embrace creativity, embrace the joy of storytelling, and find beauty in the everyday moments that surround us. Andrew Whyte's photography serves as a testament to the enduring power of imagination and the limitless possibilities of artistic expression.

ANDREW WHYTE - SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INFLUENCES

Andrew Whyte's artistic journey has been shaped by a rich tapestry of social and cultural influences, which have played a pivotal role in shaping his unique approach to photography, particularly through projects like "The Legographer."

Cultural influences have deeply impacted Whyte's work, inspiring him to infuse his imagery with elements that resonate with viewers across different generations. By personifying the LEGO photographer as "The Legographer," Whyte draws upon the universal appeal of nostalgia and childhood imagination, inviting viewers to reconnect with their own memories of play and creativity. Through this lens, "The Legographer" becomes more than just a photography project—it becomes a cultural touchstone that bridges generational divides and sparks conversations about the enduring power of storytelling and imagination.

In addition to his LEGO-centric work, Whyte's incorporation of other iconic figures such as Batman reflects his keen awareness of popular culture and its influence on contemporary society. By integrating these familiar characters into his compositions, Whyte not only pays homage to cultural icons but also imbues his images with a sense of relevance and relatability that resonates with audiences of all ages.

Furthermore, Whyte's exploration of themes such as adventure, exploration, and the joy of discovery in "The Legographer" project speaks to broader cultural narratives surrounding the human experience. Through his inventive use of scale figures and landscapes, Whyte invites viewers to embark on a journey of imagination and wonder, challenging them to see the world through a fresh perspective and discover beauty in the ordinary moments of everyday life.





ANDREW WHYTE - SCIENTIFIC HNFLUENCES





Andrew Whyte's photography is characterised by a minimalist approach to equipment and a mastery of technical and scientific principles that enable him to create captivating images. Despite primarily using an iPhone 4s/5s camera, Whyte demonstrates that technical sophistication is not defined by the complexity of gear, but rather by the skill and creativity of the photographer.

The choice of a mobile phone camera highlights Whyte's emphasis on simplicity and accessibility in his craft. By using a device that is readily available to many, he democratises photography, showing that remarkable images can be captured with even the most basic tools. This minimalist approach has inspired others to explore photography within a similar style, demonstrating the power of ingenuity and resourcefulness in the creative process.

While Whyte's equipment may be modest, his technical prowess shines through in his ability to compose and capture compelling images. Through masterful techniques and dynamic posing, Whyte infuses his photographs with a sense of energy and dynamism that draws viewers in. Whether it's the playful interaction of LEGO figures or the striking silhouette of a familiar character against a city backdrop, Whyte demonstrates an intuitive understanding of composition, lighting, and storytelling that transcends the limitations of his equipment.

Additionally, Whyte's minimal use of editing software and advanced equipment underscores his commitment to authenticity and integrity in his photography. Rather than relying on digital manipulation to enhance his images, Whyte relies on his keen eye for detail and expert use of practical techniques to create visually striking compositions that speak for themselves.

INSPIRATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS — LAMPERT BENEDEK

Benedek Lampert, a 28 - year-old self-taught photographer hailing from Hungary, has carved a niche for himself in the world of photography with his hypnotic LEGO Star Wars series. Born and raised amidst the picturesque landscapes of Hungary, Benedek's fascination with the miniature world sparked during his childhood. Little did he know that this childhood fascination would blossom into a passion that would captivate audiences worldwide.

His journey into the realm of LEGO photography began as an experiment in June 2016. Initially faced with technical constraints, Benedek's determination coupled with a thirst for knowledge led him to acquire the necessary tools of the trade – a camera, lenses, and other equipment.

What sets Benedek's work apart is his unwavering commitment to authenticity. Unlike many in his field, Benedek eschews digital manipulation, opting instead for real-world elements to breathe life into his creations. From swirling fog to cascading rain, each effect is meticulously crafted using everyday substances. Semolina, salt, flour – these are not merely ingredients but the building blocks of his fantastical worlds. Mud, smoke, rain – all are tangible, sourced from the very earth and sky.

Benedek's creative process is as dynamic as the scenes he captures. Each photograph is a labour of love, requiring hours of meticulous planning and execution. Whether indoors or in the sprawling expanse of a park, Benedek spares no effort in ensuring that every detail is just right. His commitment to authenticity extends even to the most challenging of conditions, where unpredictability reigns supreme.



LAMPERT BENEDEK - SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INFLUENCES





In 2016, Benedek Lampert embarked on a transformative journey into the world of LEGO photography, driven by a desire to break free from the constraints of reality and explore boundless realms of creativity. Yet, behind Benedek's lens lies a tapestry woven from the threads of cultural influences and personal inspiration, each contributing to the vibrant mosaic of his artistic vision.

At the heart of Benedek's work lies a deep reverence for cinematic storytelling, particularly the iconic narratives of films like Star Wars. Drawing inspiration from these beloved classics, Benedek meticulously recreates scenes using LEGO sets crafted with an artisan's touch. But his artistic alchemy doesn't stop there – it extends to the realm of practical effects, where he employs techniques like throwing sand and dust into the air to infuse his images with a sense of motion and vitality.

Benedek's journey into LEGO photography is not merely a solitary pursuit but a testament to the collective influence of a diverse array of cultural touchstones. From the timeless saga of Star Wars to the innovative techniques of practical effects pioneers, each facet of Benedek's craft is imbued with the echoes of those who came before him.

Moreover, Benedek's work serves as a cultural touchstone in its own right, resonating with audiences around the globe who share his passion for storytelling and creativity. Through his lens, he invites viewers to embark on a journey of imagination and wonder, where the boundaries between reality and fiction blur and anything is possible.

But perhaps most importantly, Benedek's LEGO photography stands as a testament to the enduring power of art to transcend boundaries and inspire generations. In a world where digital manipulation often reigns supreme, Benedek's commitment to practical effects harkens back to a time when creativity knew no bounds and innovation knew no limits.

LAMPERT BENEDEK - SCIENTIFIC INFLUENCES

Armed with a Nikon D750 camera, Benedek deftly wields his tool of choice, embracing its simplicity and ease of use to bring his imaginative visions to life.

But Benedek's technical prowess extends far beyond the choice of his camera. Through his innovative approach to LEGO photography, he has pioneered new techniques and pushed the boundaries of what is possible within the medium. One such innovation is his mastery of practical effects, where he employs elements like sand and dust to add depth and dynamism to his images. By harnessing the power of these real-world elements, Benedek imbues his creations with a sense of authenticity and vitality that is truly captivating.

Moreover, Benedek's status as an official LEGO photographer speaks to his standing within the community and his dedication to his craft. Through platforms like Instagram and Twitter, he not only shares his own expressive pieces but also collaborates with LEGO on official shoots, further cementing his influence within the world of LEGO photography.





TIME MANAGEMENT

First Month:

Planning and preparation: Define the scope and vision of the project, create a timeline, gather necessary resources, and plan logistics for the photoshoots.

Second Month:

Undertake the first two photoshoots: Focus on capturing the essence of "Return of the Jedi" and "The Clone Wars" themes, ensuring to experiment with forced perspective techniques.

Third Month:

Undertake the third and fourth photoshoots: Dive into the themes of "Master and Apprentice" and "Endor," incorporating outdoor settings for added depth and realism. Begin the editing process, ensuring to maintain consistency across all images.

Fourth Month:

Complete editing for previously captured shots: Finalise images for "I Am Your Father," "Battle of Hoth," "The Mandalorian," and "Revenge of the Sith." Continue refining edits and ensuring cohesion among all photographs.

Fifth Month:

Complete any additional photoshoots if needed: Use this time to capture any extra shots or details necessary to complement the project. Finalise the project by selecting the best eight images that best represent the theme of forced perspective. Complete any remaining editing tasks and prepare for presentation.







PHOTOSHOOT 1 RETURN OF THE JEDI PLAN

For this shoot, my goal was to encapsulate the intensity of the climactic battle and the formidable presence of each character involved.

Inspired by the epic final confrontation in Star Wars: Return of the Jedi, featuring Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker, and Emperor Palpatine, I sought to recreate the essence of that pivotal moment.

To achieve this vision, I selected the LEGO diorama set, The Emperor's Throne Room, as the backdrop for my composition. Its intricate design and attention to detail provide the perfect stage for our protagonists' showdown.

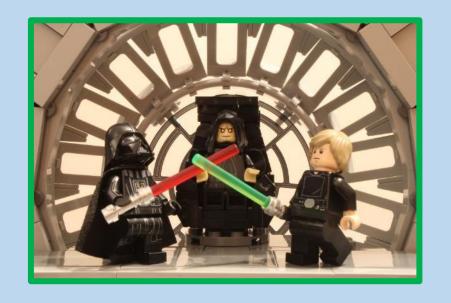
In post-production, I will employ advanced editing techniques to elevate the atmosphere of the scene. This will involve enhancing the background to convey the grandeur of the setting, as well as manipulating the lighting to accentuate the dramatic tension between the characters.

By combining meticulous set design with sophisticated digital enhancements, I aim to capture the full impact of this iconic battle and the undeniable power wielded by each of its participants.



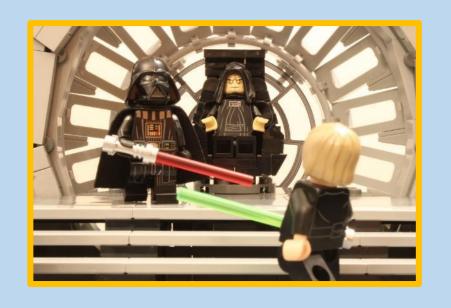






















RETURN OF THE JEDI













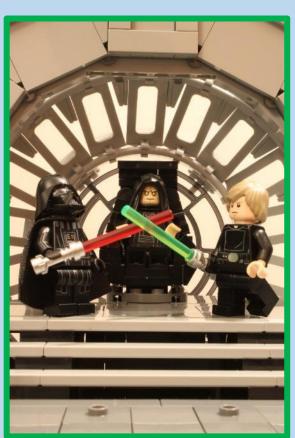
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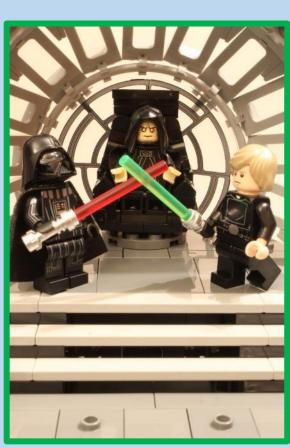




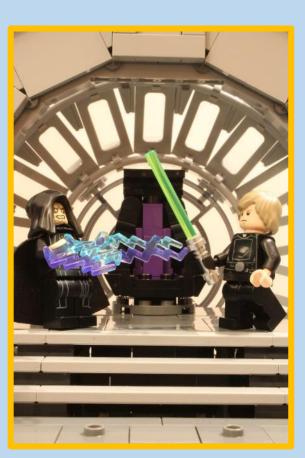


















RETURN OF THE

EDIT1

ORIGINAL



In this image edit, I initiated by eliminating the background, followed by crafting a spherical canvas in Blender, embellished with an Endor image map.
Subsequently, I manipulated the background to emulate a LEGO-like aesthetic.

To enhance visual appeal, I incorporated overlay lighting and heightened highlights for a more pronounced effect. Additionally, I adjusted the lighting to infuse a cooler tone, thereby augmenting the overall tonal range and elevating the scene's ambiance.





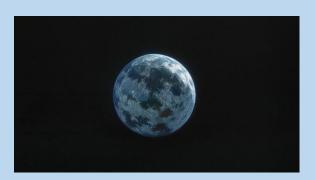


EDIT2

ORIGINAL



In this image manipulation, I substituted the original background with a LEGO rendition of the Endor planet. To achieve the iconic lightsaber effect, I applied glow blur and intensified highlights.



Moreover, I fine-tuned the tonal range to accentuate shadows, lending depth to the composition. To enhance the dramatic impact, I introduced glows emanating from the lightsabers onto the characters' faces and extended the lightsaber glow to illuminate the surrounding stairs.





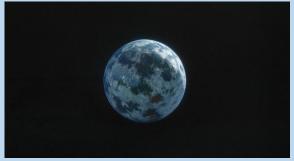
EDIT3

ORIGINAL



In this image edit, I introduced the Endor backdrop, adjusting the perspective to seamlessly integrate with the scene's dynamics. To emulate the iconic lightsaber effect, I applied glow highlights, extending them to illuminate Darth Vader and the adjacent floor with a vivid green hue.









Through dynamic posing, this image masterfully conveys a palpable sense of power dynamics. Luke Skywalker's stance exudes a feeling of vulnerability and hopelessness, starkly contrasting with the imposing presence of the Emperor, who dominates the frame with an aura of strength and menace.

The use of lightning as a lighting element further enhances the mood, casting a cold, blue hue across the scene. This illumination not only adds visual interest but also contributes to the overall atmosphere of despair and foreboding. As it illuminates the characters, the lightning underscores the stark contrast between Luke's struggle and the Emperor's unwavering dominance, deepening the emotional impact of the image.



In this image, the rule of thirds is effectively employed to create a compelling composition. The Emperor's position acts as a distinct barrier between Luke and Darth Vader, emphasising the pivotal role he plays in their conflict. This segmentation mirrors the manipulation seen in the film, where the Emperor orchestrates a battle between the two.

Adding to the visual impact are the contrasting colours of the lightsabers wielded by Luke and Darth Vader. This detail not only enhances the aesthetic appeal of the image but also symbolises the deep-rooted opposition and conflicting loyalties at play. The vibrant hues serve to underscore the tension and complexity of the scene, drawing the viewer's attention to the central conflict between the characters.



Once again, the rule of thirds is strategically employed in this image to convey the intricate power dynamics at play. Here, the Emperor's commanding presence looms menacingly behind both Luke and the defeated Vader, serving as a visual representation of his manipulative influence over the two characters.

By positioning the Emperor within the upper third of the frame, the composition underscores his dominance and control over the scene. This placement accentuates the sense of manipulation and coercion exerted by the Emperor, as he orchestrates the conflict between Luke and Vader.

The deliberate use of the rule of thirds not only enhances the visual impact of the image but also reinforces the central theme of manipulation and power struggle depicted in the scene.

MY BEST THREE IMAGES



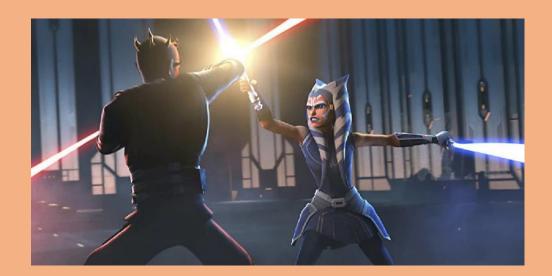
PHOTOSHOOT 2 THE CLONE WARS PLAN

For this shoot, my objective was to encapsulate the intense duel between Maul and Ahsoka Tano from Star Wars: The Clone Wars. The contrasting dynamics of Maul's raw power and anger juxtaposed against Ahsoka's agility and speed promised to make this photoshoot exceptionally impactful.

To bring this vision to life, I will use the LEGO set, Duel On Mandalore, as the foundation for my composition. Additionally, I have crafted a custom background to further immerse the viewer in the dramatic confrontation between these iconic characters.

In post-production, I will leverage editing software to enhance the image's effects, ensuring that every aspect of the duel is heightened to its fullest potential. Through careful manipulation, I aim to amplify the intensity and emotion of the scene, capturing the essence of this legendary battle in a visually stunning manner.















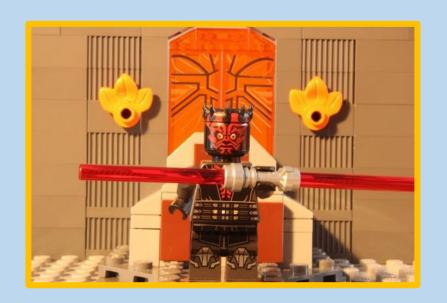










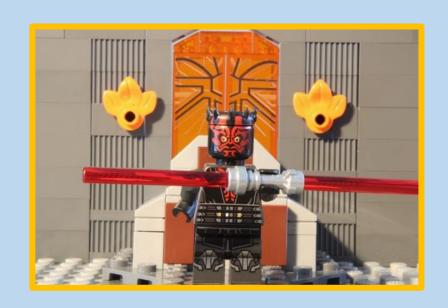


















THE CLONE WARS

















ORIGINAL



This image underwent several stages to achieve its final form. Initially, I used Blender to craft a 3D throne reminiscent of the animated clash. Subsequently, I constructed a backdrop featuring two pillars using a LEGO pattern brush overlay and blending blue and red hues.

Following this, I meticulously colourmatched the foreground characters, ensuring seamless integration with the scene. The throne was strategically positioned as a central focal point, framed by lightsabers crafted with glow effects and highlights, adding depth and intensity to the composition.





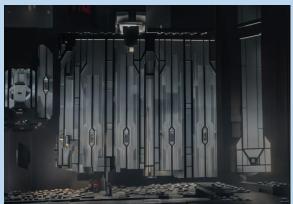


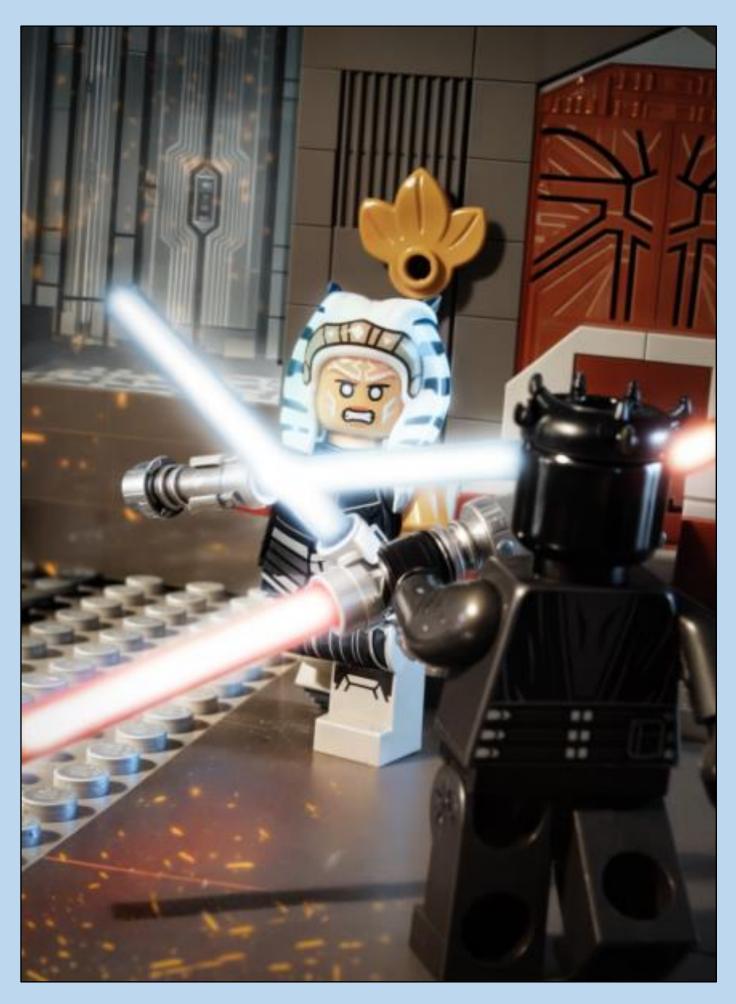
In this image enhancement, my focus was on perfecting the lightsaber effects by adding highlights and glow, ensuring their authenticity within the scene. To infuse vibrancy, I introduced sparks, elevating the overall energy.

Moreover, I meticulously crafted lightsaber reflections to enhance realism, meticulously attending to detail.
Additionally, I dedicated considerable effort to meticulously painting a backdrop using cloning and the art mix brush, effectively amplifying the room's scale and enriching the visual narrative.

ORIGINAL





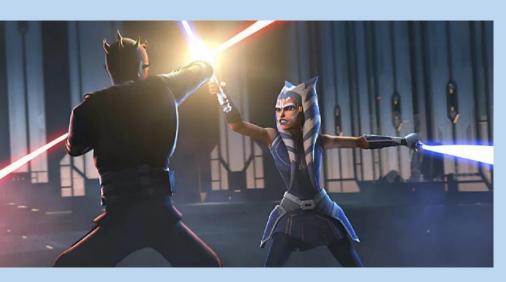


ORIGINAL









In this image, I maintained continuity by employing the abstract pattern background from the previous rendition. To enhance coherence, I colour-matched elements and incorporated smoke and spark overlays for added dynamism.

Furthermore, I meticulously crafted reflections and highlights on the characters induced by the lightsabers, heightening the visual impact. Lastly, I delicately framed the characters with a subtle vignette, effectively drawing attention to the focal action.



In this image, Maul is depicted as a formidable presence, towering over Ahsoka, emphasised by the subtle incline that positions him as the dominant figure.

Additionally, the interplay of light reflecting from their blades creates a striking contrast of colours, enhancing the visual impact and underscoring the inherent conflict between the two characters.

The strategic positioning of the characters, accentuated by the fiery visual effects, imbues the image with a dynamic sense of motion, effectively transporting viewers into the heart of an action-packed scene.

Furthermore, Ahsoka's defensive stance conveys a narrative of vulnerability, juxtaposing her against the imposing figure of Maul and intensifying the dramatic tension, thus compelling viewers to engage deeply with the image.



The dynamic posing of the characters coupled with the fiery effects imbues the image with a palpable sense of kinetic energy, evoking the intensity of a live-action scene in motion.

Additionally, Ahsoka's defensive stance subtly communicates a narrative of conflict and tension, suggesting her formidable opponent's dominance and amplifying the dramatic tension within the composition.



PHOTOSHOOT 3 ENDOR PLAN

For this photoshoot, my goal was to capture the breathtaking beauty of the forested planet Endor. To achieve this, I opted to photograph LEGO figures amidst the natural backdrop of the woods.

Endor's resemblance to Earth inspired me to conduct the shoot outdoors, leveraging the lush surroundings to authentically recreate the planet's stunning scenery. However, I also saw this as an opportunity to introduce challenges by carefully selecting effective shooting locations.

Using various builds and figures from LEGO sets, including the iconic AT-AT, AT-ST, Speeder bikes, and Princess Leia/Scout trooper figures, I aimed to craft immersive scenes that transport viewers to the heart of the Star Wars universe.

Safety was a top priority throughout the shoot, ensuring that I selected safe areas for photography and remained considerate of others sharing the space.

To preserve the natural beauty of the outdoor setting, I opted to keep editing to a minimum. However, I will use editing software to enhance the lighting subtly, accentuating the natural ambience and bringing out the vibrant colors of the LEGO figures against the backdrop of the forest.



































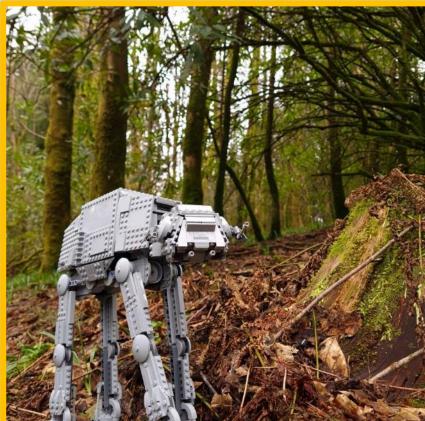


















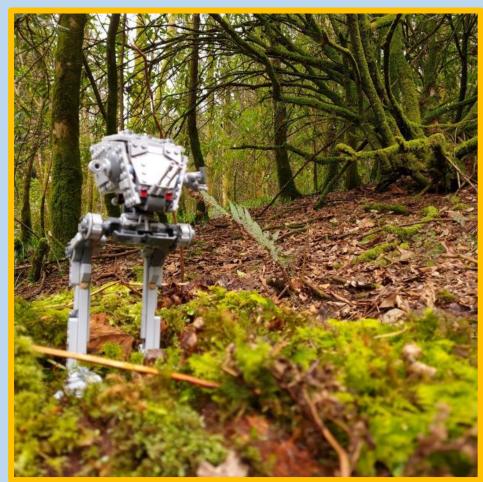














The juxtaposition of the pristine white
Stormtroopers against the vibrant green foliage serves as a powerful visual contrast, drawing the viewer. Moreover, the skilled use of depth-of-field enhances the composition, offering viewers an immersive journey into the intricate details of the scene.



This image cleverly employs leading lines, particularly evident in the sleek front of the speederbike, to convey a dynamic sense of motion and velocity, even within a stationary setting.

Furthermore, the textured ground enhances the overall visual allure, contributing an additional layer of interest to the composition while seamlessly complementing the central focal point.



Using forced perspective, this image masterfully conveys a profound sense of scale. Through skilful manipulation of depth of field, the towering AT-ST walker is juxtaposed against the backdrop of trees, accentuating its monumental presence and magnifying the grandeur of the scene.



PLAN

For this photoshoot, my objective was to encapsulate the emotional intensity of the duel between Ahsoka Tano and Darth Vader. While this conflict shares similarities with Maul vs. Ahsoka, particularly in contrasting Ahsoka's agility with her opponent's power, I felt it warranted a distinct photoshoot to fully capture its unique essence.

To bring this pivotal moment to life, I will use LEGO figures depicting an older Ahsoka Tano and Darth Vader. Additionally, I will craft a custom set tailored to evoke the atmosphere of the confrontation.

In post-production, I will leverage a combination of Photoshop and Blender to enhance the images, ensuring that every aspect of the duel is elevated to its fullest potential. Through meticulous editing, I aim to convey the emotional depth and intensity of the fight, immersing viewers in the gripping narrative of this iconic showdown.











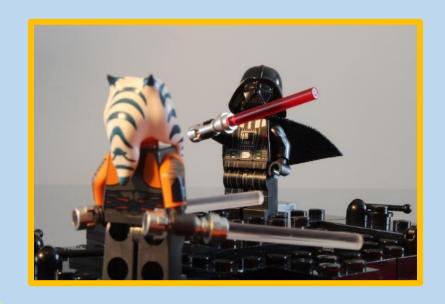


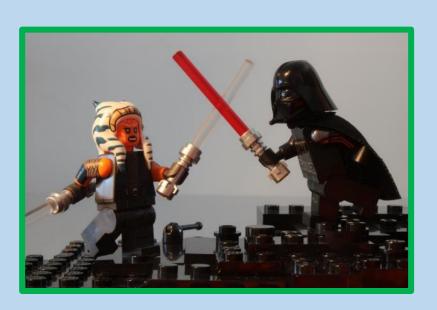










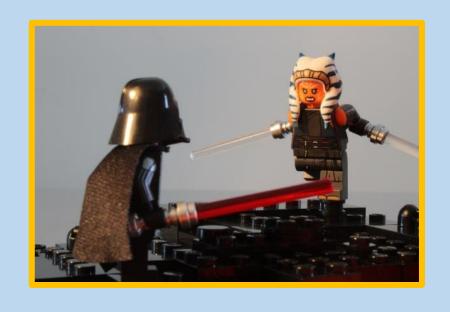


MASTER VS APPRENTICE

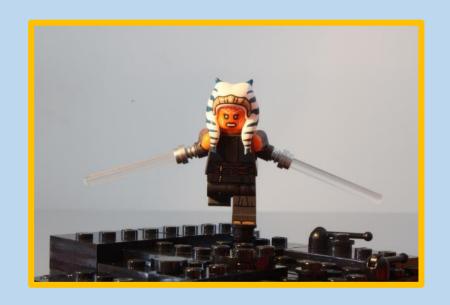










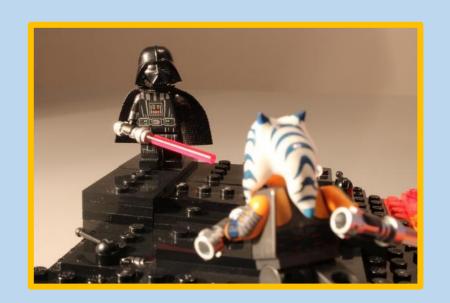








MASTER VS APPRENTICE

















ORIGINAL



In the initial phase of crafting this scene, I painstakingly assembled the iconic background by meticulously painting and cloning LEGO parts to ensure authenticity. Subsequently, I meticulously colour-matched the figures to seamlessly blend with the background, elevating the overall cohesion.

Furthermore, I heightened the shadows to add depth and dimension to the composition, while incorporating additional highlights derived from the lightsaber glow, crafted in alignment with previous iterations, to accentuate key elements of the scene.





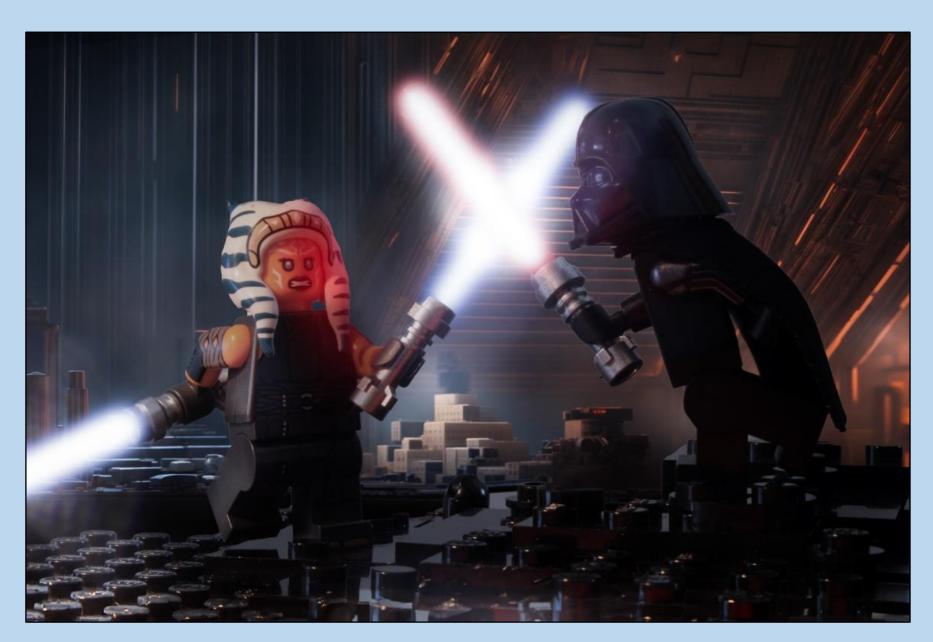


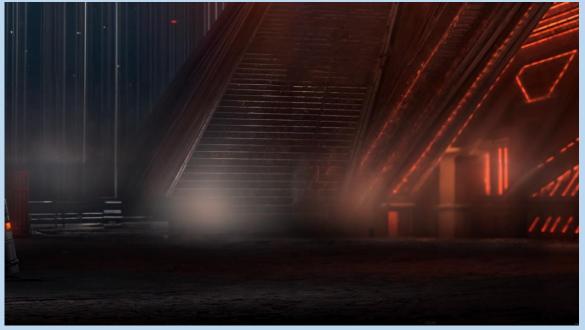
ORIGINAL



This image was meticulously crafted, beginning with the background carefully balanced between blue and red hues to delineate the characters effectively. Utilising primarily pattern brushes and cloning techniques, I meticulously composed the backdrop to achieve the desired effect.

For the foreground elements, I introduced subtle smoke effects to enhance the ambiance and applied depth of field adjustments to bring the characters into sharper focus. Finally, the addition of highlights and lightsabers injected vibrancy and dynamism into the scene, elevating its overall impact.





ORIGINAL



In this image, the primary emphasis was on highlighting Ahsoka as the central focal point, with the added spotlight in the background serving to enhance her prominence dramatically. The backdrop, featuring meticulously crafted pillars constructed in Blender to emulate a LEGO aesthetic, contributes to the scene's distinctive charm.

The vivid glows emitted by the blue and red lightsabers are particularly eye-catching, drawing attention and intensifying the visual impact. Finally, the inclusion of a lens flare adds an extra layer of brightness, further accentuating the dynamic energy of the composition.







The presence of the building in the background, along with the striking red light reflecting from it, contributes to the overall depth and intrigue of the image. These elements create a sense of spatial dimension, immersing the viewer deeper into the scene and adding layers of visual interest.

Moreover, Darth Vader's larger framing compared to Ahsoka in the image echoes the dynamic established in her encounter with Maul. This deliberate choice in framing not only emphasises Vader's imposing presence but also reinforces the thematic parallels between the two confrontations, enhancing the narrative continuity and emotional resonance of the image.

In this image, Ahsoka's pose closely mirrors her stance during her duel with Maul, a deliberate choice made to maintain consistency and enhance the narrative cohesion of the images. By aligning the character's poses across different scenes, I aimed to create a sense of continuity and progression within the story.

Additionally, the lightsabers in the image serve as prominent leading lines, intersecting with each other and guiding the viewer towards the focal point of the scene. This compositional element not only adds visual interest but also reinforces the dynamic energy and tension inherent in the confrontation between Ahsoka and her adversary.

This image employs leading lines that guide the viewer towards both characters, serving to highlight them as the central focal points of the composition. The strategic use of leading lines directs attention to Ahsoka and Vader, accentuating their significance within the scene.

Furthermore, Ahsoka's positioning further from Vader and in motion, running towards him, adds depth and dynamism to the image. This spatial arrangement not only creates a sense of distance between the characters but also enhances the overall action and intensity of the scene, contributing to its visual impact.

PHOTOSHOOT 5 - BATTLE OF HOTH



PHOTOSHOOT 5 -BATTLE OF HOTH - PLAN

For this photoshoot, my objective was to capture the chilling, unforgiving atmosphere of the icy planet Hoth. I aimed to convey the brutality of the battle that unfolded there, where the Empire's formidable power nearly crushed the Rebel Alliance.

To bring this vision to life, I used a range of figures and sets, including an AT-AT, multiple rebel figures, and the Snow trooper battle pack. These elements were carefully chosen to authentically recreate the iconic conflict on Hoth.

Given the importance of capturing the starkness of the environment and the intensity of the battle, I relied heavily on editing software. Through meticulous post-production work, I altered the background of the images and manipulated the lighting to evoke the cold, blue bitterness of Hoth. This allowed me to enhance the dramatic impact of the scenes and transport viewers to the heart of the icy battlefield, where the fate of the galaxy hangs in the balance.

























BATTLE OF HOTH

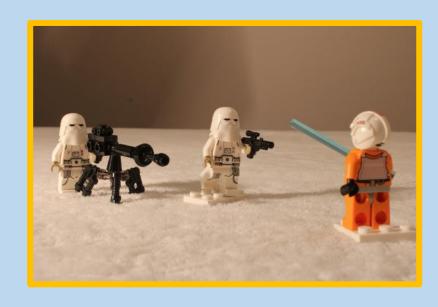


















BATTLE OF HOTH



















BATTLE OF HOTH







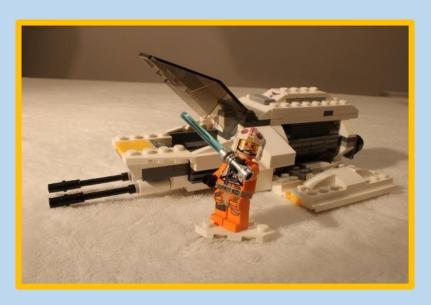












BATTLE OF HOTH



ORIGINAL



This image was meticulously crafted through a variety of techniques to achieve its final result. The background was skilfully composed using snowy peaks, clouds, and various LEGO elements, seamlessly merged together through layer editing to create a cohesive scene.

To bring the lightsaber to life, highlights and glow effects were applied, imbuing it with a vibrant and dynamic appearance. Additionally, point lights were strategically placed to illuminate the cockpit hatch, adding depth and realism to the image.

Furthermore, original elements were meticulously colour-matched to ensure visual harmony, while subtle smoke effects were delicately added to enhance the overall atmosphere.



ORIGINAL



In crafting this image, I prioritised building foreground LEGO structures, employing a combination of cloning from existing images and hand-painting for added diversity. To amplify the visual impact, glow effects were applied to the laser blasts and lightsabers, intensifying whites and highlights to enhance their luminosity significantly.

The characters were meticulously sharpened to ensure clarity and definition within the composition. Adding to the atmosphere, snowy fog and snow overlays were introduced for an extra layer of depth and realism. Finally, a subtle shallow depth of field was implemented to focus attention on key elements of the scene.



For this project, I integrated an image of a spacecraft with one of Luke Skywalker, ensuring seamless blending and colour matching to the pre-existing background I had developed earlier. The AT-AT was meticulously constructed in Blender, using a standard model and transforming it using 3D LEGO pieces to maintain consistency with the scene's aesthetic.

Additionally, I crafted LEGO outcroppings using a combination of 3D geometry and cloning techniques, complemented by the art mixer brush for added detail and texture.



ORIGINAL



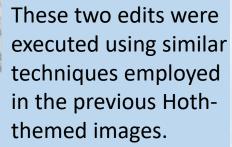




OTHER EDITS























I find the simplicity of this image's composition particularly appealing. The edited background enhances the overall impact by incorporating complementary colours that harmonise with certain parts of the ship, while also introducing contrasting colours that accentuate Luke and other elements of the vessel. This balance of complementary and contrasting hues adds depth and visual interest to the scene, creating a compelling composition that draws the viewer's attention and enhances the overall narrative of the image.

Presented as an action-packed moment, this image uses the laser's dynamic leading lines to guide the viewer across the frame, enhancing the sense of movement and intensity. Furthermore, the juxtaposition of the natural snow on the ground against the plastic texture of the Lego elements adds depth and visual interest to the composition, highlighting the tangible contrast between the organic and artificial elements within the scene.

In this image, a profound sense of scale is conveyed through the stark contrast between Luke's diminutive stature and the towering presence of the AT-AT walker. This juxtaposition effectively captures the magnitude of the battle, making it stand out among my other photographs.

The strategic use of negative space surrounding the figures serves to accentuate the central focal point of the image, directing the viewer's attention to the dramatic encounter between Luke and the imposing AT-AT. This deliberate composition heightens the visual impact of the scene, further emphasising the scale and significance of the conflict depicted in the photograph.



PLAN

For this photoshoot, my objective was to capture a series of scenes inspired by The Mandalorian, drawing upon its distinctive westernstyle aesthetic. I saw this as an opportunity to diversify my portfolio and explore a new visual direction.

To bring this vision to life, I selected a range of figures and builds, including Din Djarin, Boba Fett, Grogu, and various other sets released over the years. These elements were chosen to authentically recreate key moments from the acclaimed series.

The shoot was conducted outdoors, amidst the natural backdrop of the beach and rocky terrain, to evoke the rugged landscapes often seen in The Mandalorian. This setting provided an ideal environment to capture the adventurous spirit and frontier atmosphere of the show.

In post-production, I will use editing software to enhance the backgrounds and imbue the images with an action-packed, western-inspired aesthetic reminiscent of The Mandalorian. Through careful editing, I aim to transport viewers into the heart of the Star Wars galaxy, where every frame tells a story of adventure, danger, and intrigue.







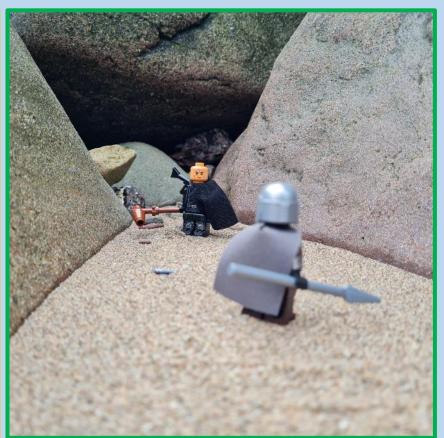












THE MANDALORIAN

























THE MANDALORIAN





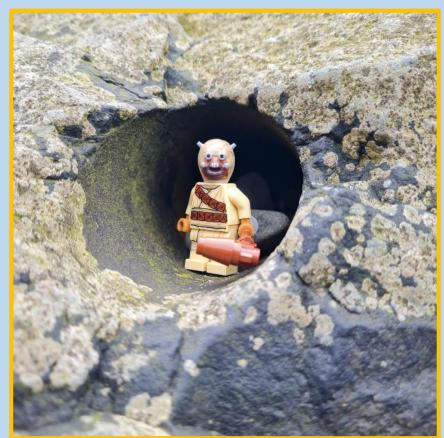








THE MANDALORIAN











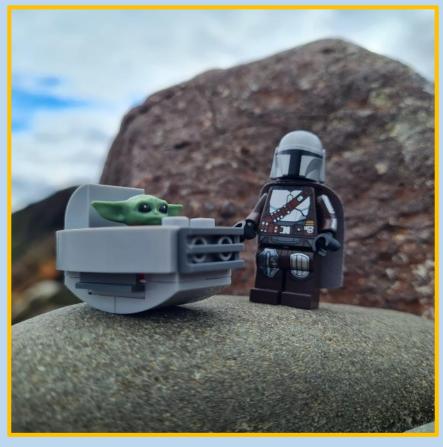


THE MANDALORIAN













THE MANDALORIAN

























THE MANDALORIAN













THE MANDALORIAN







This particular image stands out as one of my personal favourites due to its striking composition. The silhouette of the Boba Fett minifigure lends an aura of power and dynamism to the scene, capturing the essence of action and intensity.

To enhance the illusion of motion and heighten the dramatic impact, I employed a practical effect involving a clear stand. This technique creates the illusion that the minifigure is soaring towards the camera, adding a sense of excitement and energy to the overall composition.

In this image, I've leveraged the power of contrasting colours to craft a visually captivating composition. The vibrant red of the laser sharply contrasts with the lush green of the ground, creating a striking visual juxtaposition that draws the viewer's attention.

Moreover, the laser itself serves a dual purpose: not only does it add a dynamic element to the scene, but it also functions as a leading line, guiding the viewer through the image. The choice of the specific piece used to represent the laser further accentuates its power and length, adding depth and dimension to the overall composition.

In this image, The Mandalorian exudes a palpable sense of scale and power, accentuated by the low-angle perspective employed. This perspective effectively emphasises the imposing presence of the minifigure, imbuing the scene with a heightened sense of grandeur and significance.

The colour palette of the minifigure, comprised of brown and grey tones, harmonises seamlessly with the surrounding rocks. This complementary colour scheme not only enhances the visual appeal of the image but also fosters a sense of cohesion and balance within the composition. Together, these elements contribute to the overall impact of the photograph, capturing the essence of The Mandalorian's formidable presence amidst the rugged terrain.



PHOTOSHOOT 7 -REVIEW OF THE SITH

For this photoshoot, my objective was to capture various iconic scenes from Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith. I was drawn to the film's diverse range of visually impactful moments, which I believed would translate effectively into photographs.

Central to this photoshoot was the recreation of Mustafar, the lava planet featured prominently at the film's climax. To authentically recreate this pivotal scene, I painstakingly crafted my own set of Mustafar, ensuring every detail mirrored the fiery landscape depicted in the film.

In addition to the custom set, I enlisted a range of figures, including Anakin Skywalker, Obi-Wan Kenobi, and General Grievous, to bring the scenes to life.

In post-production, I used editing software to further enhance the images, focusing on refining the background and lighting to capture the intense and dramatic atmosphere of Mustafar. Through careful editing, I aimed to transport viewers into the heart of the climactic duel between Anakin and Obi-Wan, where the fate of the galaxy hangs in the balance amidst rivers of molten lava.

























REVENGE OF THE SITH



















REVENGE OF THE SITH

































REVENGE OF THE SITH



In bringing the Mustafar scene to life, I sought to emulate LEGO-like lava by employing a mix of 3D geometry and cloned LEGO pieces sourced from different images. These components were then infused with vivid orange tones and carefully blended using the art mixer brush to achieve a cohesive appearance.

Furthermore, I integrated the customary lightsaber glows, along with dynamic sparks and intensified character highlights, to amplify the scene's energy. Adding to the visual allure, a shallow depth of field was introduced to enhance the overall impact of the composition.

ORIGINAL



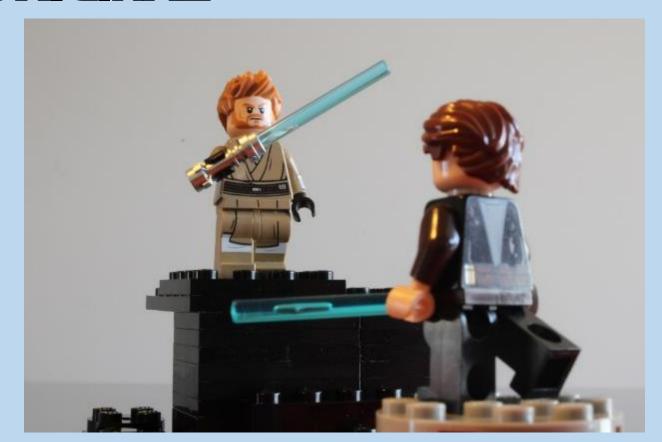


Obi-Wan certainly holds the high ground in this image, and to underscore this, I introduced an additional foreground element of lava from the existing background, maintaining continuity with previous images.

To intensify the atmosphere, I incorporated smoke to evoke heat haze and sparks to infuse vitality into the scene. The customary lightsaber glows were also integrated for added authenticity.

Furthermore, overlay sparks were carefully introduced to strike the perfect balance, enhancing the overall composition.

ORIGINAL

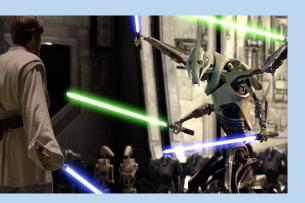






For this epic battleground, I embarked on a meticulous recreation of the background from the Obi-Wan and Grievous duel, employing techniques similar to previous endeavours. This involved crafting 3D models of LEGO bricks rendered from various angles, seamlessly assembled in Photoshop.

Layer blending techniques using masks and the art mixer brush, alongside pattern brushes, facilitated the integration of elements for a cohesive look. Ensuring harmony, I carefully colour-matched the characters to the background, while enhancing depth with additional shadows and intensifying the lightsaber glow. Subtle smoke effects were also introduced to add atmospheric realism to the scene.







ORIGINAL





The subtle blur in this image imparts a sense of warmth and action, adding dynamism to the scene. The juxtaposition of the fiery lava against the cool blue glow of the lightsabers creates a striking contrast that disrupts the harmony of the composition, making it more visually captivating and engaging.

Moreover, the presence of the lava introduces a rugged texture to the image, enhancing its depth and realism. This textural element not only adds visual interest but also reinforces the hazardous environment in which the characters are engaged in their intense duel. Overall, these compositional choices contribute to the overall impact and intrigue of the image, drawing the viewer deeper into the narrative of the scene.



In this image, both figures are strategically positioned to create a sense of balance, using a "fill the frame" approach that emphasises their presence and significance within the composition. The contrast in height between Kenobi and Anakin not only highlights their physical differences but also conveys a palpable sense of scale and power.

Drawing inspiration from one of the most memorable scenes in "Revenge of the Sith," I recognised the importance of recreating this iconic moment in some capacity. By capturing the essence of this scene, I aimed to evoke the emotional resonance and significance it holds within the broader narrative of the film.



In this image, the presence of numerous leading lines guides the viewer fluidly throughout the composition, creating a sense of visual movement and engagement. Amidst this dynamic interplay, Kenobi emerges as a focal point, standing out prominently against the backdrop as one of the few colourful elements in the scene.

Additionally, the stark size difference between Kenobi and General Grievous adds depth and scale to the image, emphasising the power dynamic between the two characters. Kenobi's smaller stature in comparison to Grievous further underscores the challenges he faces, heightening the tension and drama of the moment captured in the photograph.



PHOTOSHOOT 8 -I AM YOUR FATHER

For this photoshoot, my goal was to capture the iconic moment from Star Wars: Empire Strikes Back, wherein Luke Skywalker learns the startling truth about Darth Vader's identity as his father. Recognised as one of the most memorable scenes in cinematic history, I was drawn to the opportunity to recreate its emotional impact.

Using the figures of Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader, along with a meticulously crafted Bespin set, I aimed to authentically capture the essence of this pivotal scene. The distinctive setting and character portrayals were essential in conveying the gravity of the revelation.

In post-production, I will leverage Photoshop software to refine the lighting and background of the image, ensuring that every detail contributes to the atmospheric ambiance and narrative significance of the moment. Through careful editing, I aim to evoke the same sense of awe and revelation that defines this unforgettable scene from the Star Wars saga.

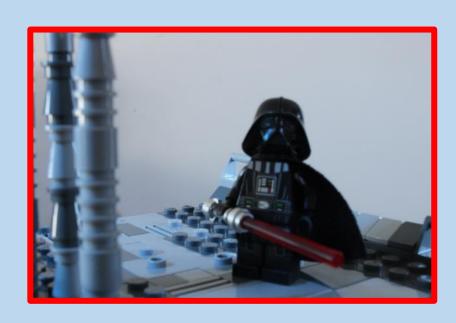


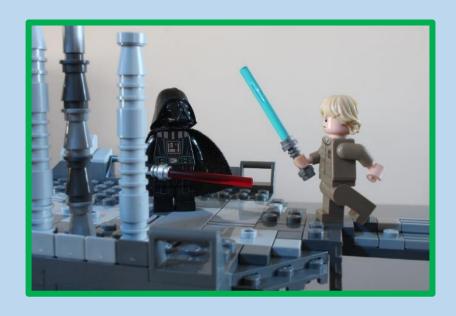


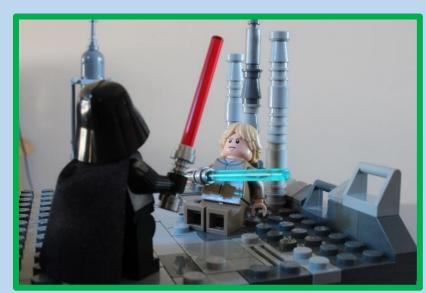


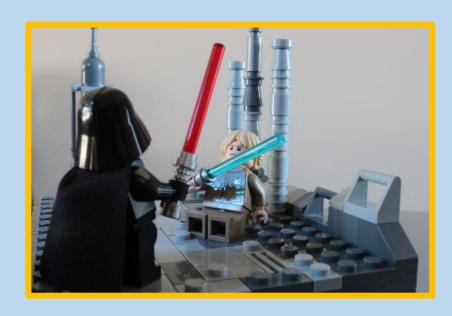




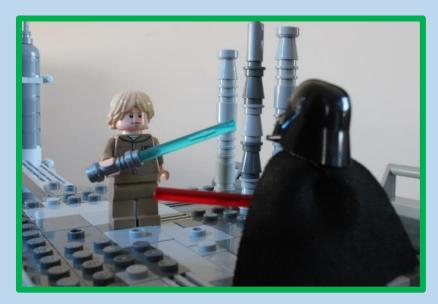










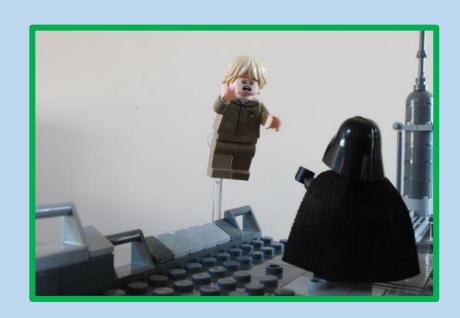




I AM YOUR FATHER



















AM YOUR FATHER





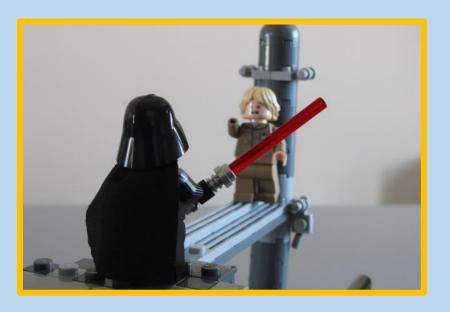


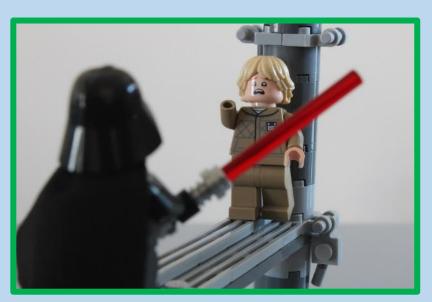




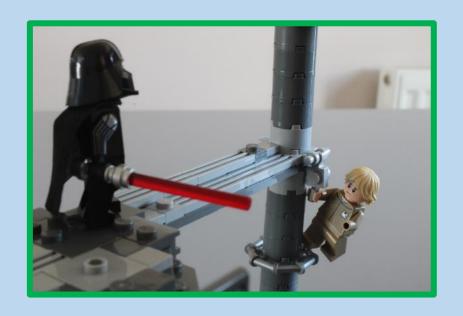


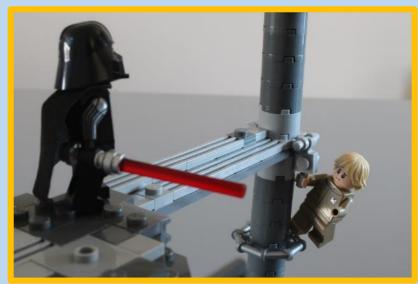




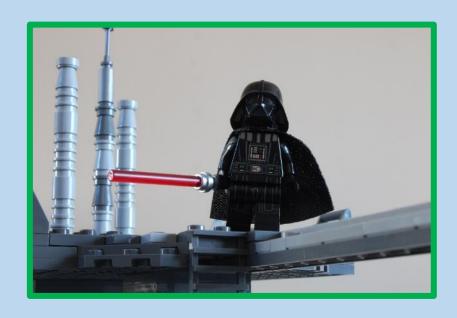


I AM YOUR FATHER

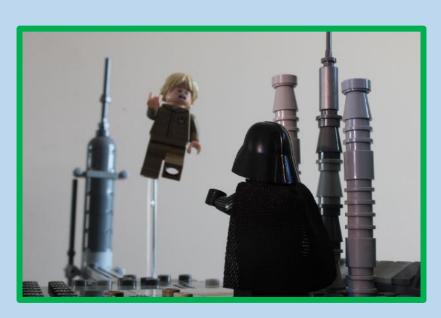












I AM YOUR FATHER





ORIGINAL





To finalise this image, my initial task was recreating the iconic background, requiring extensive use of glow effects. However, one element remained paramount: crafting the iconic red circles to ensure a striking colour contrast. I'm particularly satisfied with how this background turned out.

The inclusion of a smoke overlay enhances the overall atmosphere, complemented by meticulous colour correction to heighten impact. The character highlights are predominantly sourced from the lightsaber, achieved through a combination of glow effects and highlights. Notably, the added reflection on Darth Vader seamlessly integrates with the subtle blue glow on Luke, enhancing the image's realism and overall authenticity.





ORIGINAL





This image was intentionally kept low-key to emphasise strong shadows, with the red lightsaber serving as the focal point for maximum impact, guiding the viewer's attention directly to Vader.

The background colour was subtly adjusted, with tones lowered to enhance cohesion. Careful colour matching ensured harmony with the original photo, while sharpening techniques were applied to refine details.

Additionally, a smoke overlay was introduced to add depth and texture, breaking up the darkness and enhancing the atmospheric quality of the image.





ORIGINAL





The force emanates powerfully in this scene as Darth Vader raises Luke, initially positioned on a clear stand for the photograph but subsequently removed to enhance realism. Smoke was skilfully introduced to accentuate Luke's presence.

To evoke a sense of coolness and mystique, strong blue hues were incorporated into the composition. The iconic red circles form a striking frame around Luke, positioned between Vader, adding visual impact and symbolic significance.

Additionally, a subtle shallow depth of field was applied to draw focus to the central characters, further intensifying the dramatic tension of the moment.



This image effectively conveys a sense of scale by juxtaposing Luke's small figure on the ground with Darth Vader's imposing posture, highlighting Luke's vulnerability and portraying him as an outmatched novice in the face of Vader's power.

Additionally, the use of contrasting colours enhances the visual impact of the scene. The red and blue lightsabers symbolise a dichotomy of good and evil, further highlighting the dynamic between the two characters. This colour contrast not only adds visual interest but also reinforces the thematic elements of the narrative, underscoring the ongoing struggle between light and dark forces within the Star Wars universe.



In this image, Darth Vader is depicted with a scale that highlights his immense power, a crucial element to convey. Placing Luke in a position of vulnerability, backed into a corner, and juxtaposing his figure against a menacing red glow amidst a predominantly blue image effectively characterises Vader in a manner consistent with his portrayal in the films.

This visual representation not only underscores Vader's formidable presence but also serves to evoke the same sense of respect and fear that he commands onscreen. Through strategic composition and lighting choices, this image capture the essence of Vader's character, ensuring that his dominance and authority are unmistakably conveyed to the viewer.

I found the positioning of this image particularly striking, as it offers a perspective almost akin to Darth Vader's own. The balanced framing adds a sense of visual satisfaction, drawing the viewer into the scene.

To create the illusion of Vader using the Force to lift Luke from the ground, I used a practical piece during the shoot. However, in post-production, I chose to remove this element to enhance the mystical quality of the image. This decision added a layer of magic and intrigue, elevating the overall impact of the composition.























For my project I used Lego figures to show that things typically seen as only for children can be enjoyed and appreciated by anyone of any age. Lego has always been something I have enjoyed and collected, so when I was given the chance to involve it in my work, I was very excited.

For some of my photoshoots I created my own set pieces, such as Mustafar and Mandalore. I did this to immerse the viewer in the world of Lego, as I knew that using too many real-life objects and areas would take away some of the magic I was trying to convey.

Photography was initially a difficult subject for me to improve in, though I soon came to understand my DSLR camera.

Photoshop was also something I had to learn, as there was only so much I could do in scale figure photography without the help of editing software. Photoshop allowed me to create visually impactful scenes through editing lighting and enhancing backgrounds.

For my photoshoots I was able to take my time, as one of the benefits of scale figure photography is that I was able to attempt photoshoots indoors without the worry of weather or the time of day. In my shoots I also played around with the dynamic poses of the figures, this made the project much more enjoyable as it made me feel like a director moving around actors on a set.

For my final eight photographs, I aimed to make each one iconic and easily recognizable in terms of the scene or characters it depicted. It was crucial for each photo to highlight the characters and convey its own story. To achieve this, I used modern digital editing techniques to attain a level of visual fidelity that is impossible with in-camera techniques alone.

For example, my photoshoot on Mustafar conveys the harsh wasteland of the lava planet. The deep red of the lava and blues of the lightsabres contrast with each other, making it a visually appealing image. Anakin Skywalker vs Obi-Wan Kenobi is perhaps the most important battle in the series, as it sets in motion the events that would lead to suffering across the galaxy, so it was important for me to capture this scene.

The harshness of my Mustafar photoshoot is contrasted with my photoshoot of Endor, it was important for me to capture the beauty and lushness of this planet, which I achieved by using real-life locations. While I kept the use of real locations to a minimum, I would not have been able to capture true nature of this planet solely through Lego. This photoshoot focuses less on the characters and more on the diversity of the Star Wars galaxy, which I captured by using minimal editing.

In my final eight photographs I have included many contrasting colours, such as reds, blues, greens, and greys. It was important to show a range of colours which portray the beauty of Star Wars.

Overall, my project has shown clear inspiration from the works of my chosen photographers, Samsofy, Andrew Whyte, and Lampert Benedek. I believe my images capture the heart of what Star Wars was always made to be, a beautiful, tragic, Shakespearean drama. Thanks for viewing my project and 'May the Force Perspective be with You'

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