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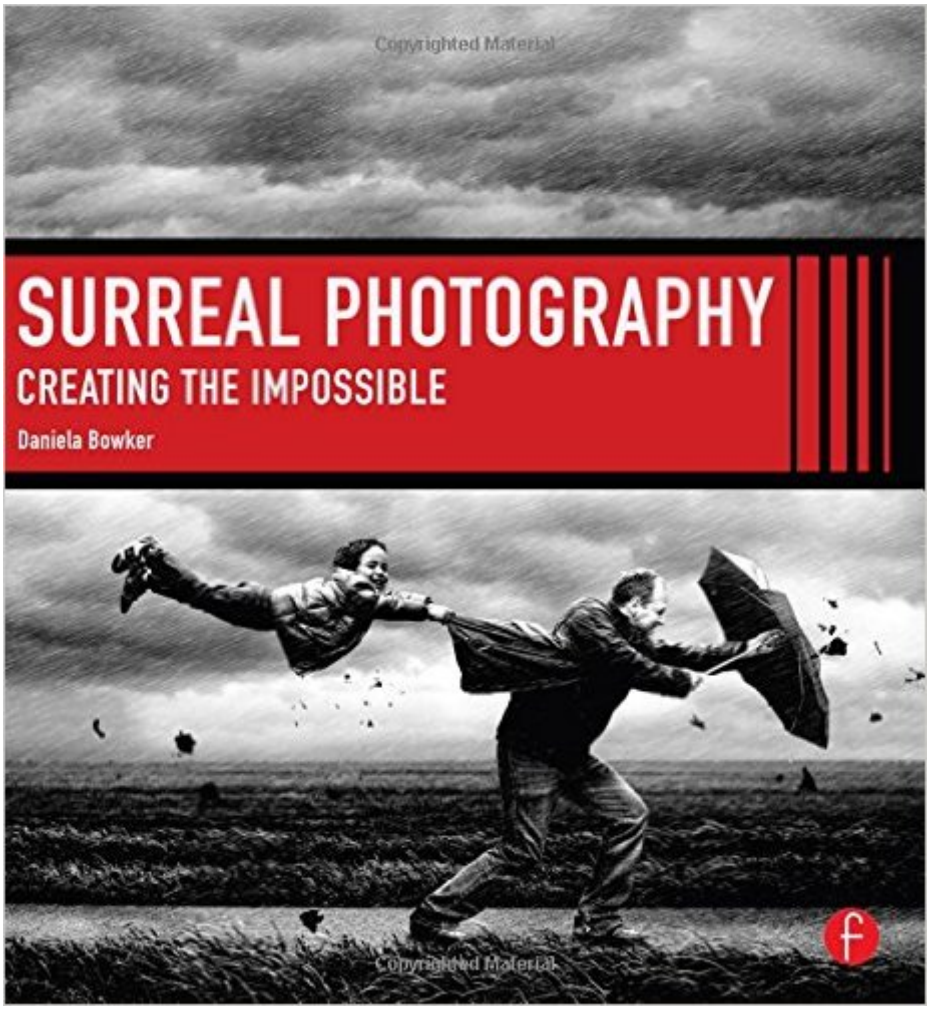
Surreal Photography: Creating The Impossible



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Synopsis

Surreal digital photography is not only an enjoyable extension of many enthusiastâ ™s repertoire, but is has firmly established a foothold in the world of art. This book reveals the latest developments in the field and demystifies the techniques used by modern surreal photographers, whether they favor SOOC (straight out of the camera) or sophisticated digital manipulations. Breaking down the shooting and editing process for any reader to follow and emulate, this book provides step-by-step instructions for creating extraordinary scenes. With contributions from numerous artistsâ •including Natalie Dybisz, Jon Jacobsen and Dariusz Klimczakâ • readers will be able to explore many different artistic styles from impossible landscapes to unsettling portraits.

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Focal Press (June 5, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0415662672

ISBN-13: 978-0415662673

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (23 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

"Surreal Photography" is an odd book in the sense that it tries to cater towards beginners with little to no experience in photography or image manipulation, and yet covers a topic that is really best suited to people that already have a fair bit of knowledge and experience. As an advanced Photoshop user, I can tell you that many of the techniques shown in this book will be difficult if not impossible for a novice to pull off effectively (if they even really understand what’s being described at all). Realistically, creating believable composites requires hundreds of hours of experience to understand the tools and techniques available, and a keen eye to be able to discern why certain things work and others do not. If you’re really a beginner attempting these techniques, in all

likelihood, you'll end up with badly 'cut out' looking composites that look unnatural (and even cheesy).In my opinion, if image manipulation is something you're interested in, you want to find dedicated training materials on Photoshop and carefully study these first. Then you will want to learn how people create composites with Photoshop's tools, and look carefully at why some composites don't work. You'll find there are a ton of subtleties in lighting, shadows, colour, masking, and other properties that make a huge difference in your end result. So, a book like this that shows you a final image and gives you "step by step" walk through of using X tool, then Y tool will do little more than give you an idea of what went on, but not come anywhere close to giving you enough detail to (a) reproduce this yourself, or (b) give you insights into why a particular technique was chosen (and just a description of the step itself).

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