Pinhole Image (Camera Obscura Effect)   *Photography 11/12*

Very early experiments with the science behind photography date back nearly a thousand years. These experiments consisted of light-proof box with a pinhole that would pass through light and reflect an inverted image on the opposite side, inside the box. Known later as 'Camera Obscura', these lens-free style of camera became somewhat common during the initial development photography technology in the 1800s.

Today we can recreate this Pinhole image style in Photoshop in a few easy steps…

Step One
Open your picture.
Duplicate the Background layer.
Set your colour palettes to black and white.
Turn the picture to black and white – IMAGE – ADJUSTMENTS – Black & White
Create a NEW LAYER – LAYER – NEW LAYER
Select the ELIPTICAL MARQUEE TOOL and create a circle of what you want the image to be.
SELECT – INVERSE
Now press – OPTION/CONTROL/DELETE

Step Two
Select – Deselect
Filter – BLUR – GAUSSIAN BLUR (Blur it to your liking – 400 is good starting point) - PRESS OK
Repeat this step – use a lower number this time. The goal here is to soften the edge of the circle.
Now bring down the OPACITY to bring up some detail in the black area. (Do this to your liking).

Step Three
Click on the Background Copy LAYER (Layer 2) and DUPLICATE LAYER (Layer - Duplicate Layer)
FILTER/BLUR/RADIAL BLUR – select the ZOOM BLUR and anywhere around 40.

Step Four
If you want more of your subject to be in focus you can add a Layer Mask to Layer 3. Then you can adjust the Brush Opacity and go around your subject and hide parts of the Radial Blur.

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spaces, action, a specific item, etc.
You can use photos that you have taken.

Postproduction:

- Save your file LastFirstPinhole1(2) as .jpeg
  - Ex. SmithBobPinhole
- Hand in your finished products via email.

Category: Assignments

Total Value: 6 marks