

ART

YOUR CREATIVE JOURNEY  
STARTS HERE...

PHOTOGRAPHY

ONLINE COURSE



MARTIN OSNER  
PHOTOGRAPHY SCHOOL

# INTRO

For so many people, photography is mostly about capturing reality as seen through their eyes and recording snapshot memories.

But did you know that photography is also one of the most exciting mediums in art today?

If you are challenged to sketch, paint or draw, then perhaps it's time to consider the camera as a perfect medium to assist.

As we look deeper, you will soon realise that the photographic system is not as perfect as most people think. It comes with its faults, and in this lies the opportunity to use photography as an incredible platform to create fantastic art.





# TRANSFORM YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

## INTO INCREDIBLE ARTISTIC PIECES

First things first, let's address the elephant in the room. What I'm referring to is not digital editing and manipulation to create art. Although Photoshop techniques are not excluded in these lessons, I'm talking about hand-created authentic fine art photography.

You see, I believe there is no digital substitute for the real thing when it comes to creating art. Programs and editing filters become predictable, and an algorithm simply cannot replace the real thing. There is joy and satisfaction in creating art with your own hands. This ensures a unique signature to your artwork; something that only you can do.

In this course, the camera is seen as an alternative instrument on the workbench to create art. Over many years as a fine art photographer, I have developed unique and effective mixed media techniques that deliver an incredible artistic impression and transform photographs into a beautiful creative rendition.

Whether the camera is used in the beginning to take a photograph in the first place, during, or at the end of the process does not really matter. But you can be assured that every time the camera is brought into the creative process, characteristics change which help deliver interesting artistic results.

## 6 LESSONS OVER 7 WEEKS



The course consists of five two and a half hour lessons, taught once a week as well as a final evaluation which takes place a week after the last class.

The course is presented live over Zoom to a small group of up to eight students.

“If you hear a voice within you say ‘you cannot paint,’ then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced.”

- Vincent van Gogh

# SEEING IS LEARNING

## THE POWER OF VIDEO



For many years, I was convinced that I could not effectively teach this course online as I firmly believed that in order to learn, students needed to attend the workshops in person to benefit fully.

Then COVID came along, and at the time, I had several classes booked and had to decide to either postpone or cancel. I decided to take my daughters' advice to video all the techniques taught and present a trial course online.

My goodness was I proven wrong! Within a short time, I had taught several classes, and the artwork being created was incredible and of a higher standard than ever before. One of the reasons for the success was that now students could repeatedly watch the videos and the entire class recording as many times as they liked.

These short videos demonstrate the techniques in great detail, plus students have access to them for life thereafter.

# COURSE OVERVIEW



Classes are interactive and workshop orientated. You will learn to transform photography into art imagery fit for displaying on your wall. Traditional art techniques combined with photography like oil & acrylic painting, sketching, collaging, montaging, double exposure, and transfers are taught. Digital techniques are also demonstrated, but only as a supplementary method, the main focus is on hand-created art techniques.

These comprehensive workshops do not require in-depth knowledge of photography; instead, it is more important that you as a student have a desire to explore photography as an alternative creative medium within the framework of art.

# CONSIDER DOING THIS COURSE IF ...

- YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE REACHED A LEVEL IN YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY AND CANNOT GO FURTHER.
- YOU HAVE "PHOTOGRAPHIC ANXIETY", WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT TECHNICAL CONTROL.
- YOU ARE BATTLING TO PHOTOGRAPH CREATIVELY.
- YOU ARE NOT ACHIEVING THE "WOW" FACTOR IN YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY.
- YOU WOULD LIKE TO CREATE A PORTFOLIO OF ARTISTIC WORK.
- YOU WOULD LIKE TO RE-IGNITE YOUR PASSION FOR PHOTOGRAPHY.

# STUDENT SHOWCASE

SOME OF THE EXCITING TECHNIQUES YOU WILL LEARN ...



PAINT OVERLAYS



3D OVERLAYS



POWDER TRANSFERS



TEXTURE AND DISTORTION



PINHOLE PHOTOGRAPHY



GEL AND SPRAY TRANSFERS



CRYSTAL OVERLAYS



HAND COLOURING B&W PRINTS



HEAT AND EMULSION



MIRROR MONTAGE



ABSTRACT ART



HAND ASSEMBLED MONTAGE



“Don’t think about making art, just get it done. Let everyone else decide if it’s good or bad, whether they love it or hate it. While they are deciding, make even more art.”

- Andy Warhol

YOUR **CREATIVE JOURNEY**  
STARTS HERE...



PAINT TEXTURE OVERLAY



3D PHOTO MONTAGE





ART PHOTOGRAPHY  
GETTING STARTED | LESSONS 1-5

HEAT AND EMULSION





ART PHOTOGRAPHY  
GETTING STARTED | LESSONS 1-5

TEXTURE OVERLAY





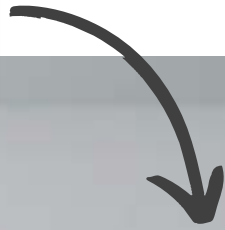
ART PHOTOGRAPHY  
GETTING STARTED | LESSONS 1-5

3D PHOTO-MONTAGE

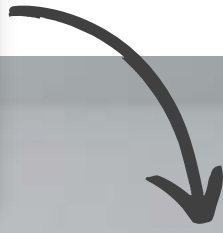




HAND PAINTING A B&W PRINT



TEXTURE OVERLAY





"Every child is an artist. The problem is to remain an artist once they grow up"

PABLO PICASSO

**PAUL LEVIN**

Brisbane Australia | February 2021

I enrolled in the fine art photography course as I looked for new techniques to further my art photography. This course delivered well above my expectations, with in-depth teaching delivered in a friendly and encouraging environment. Martin and Sam have been excellent to deal with throughout. Professional, responsive, and just an absolute pleasure to be guided by them. I attended the course online, and it was excellently presented with great interaction between Martin, myself, and the other five attendees. Martin and Sam's artworks are simply stunning, and it is great to see behind the scenes and be taught how to achieve this level. I highly recommend this course to anyone wanting to delve into their creativity and find new ways of expressing it. It has massively inspired me, and I am now creating some amazing new work. I can not thank Martin and Sam enough. Cheers Paul

**STEVE TRIMBY**

Cape Town - SA | February 2021

I have had the first two lessons of this Fine Art Photography course, and I am loving it. Martin is not only an amazing artist and photographer but also a wonderful teacher. His communication skills are excellent, and he is a great guy with a good sense of humour. The course presentation is clear and concise, and the information is delivered very professionally with excellent course notes and back up instruction videos. I wondered if I would get value for money for an online course, but we are a small group of students, and Martin can give us individual attention. I am now enjoying the fact that I can enjoy the lessons in my own home's comfort (and safety). A bonus is that most of the group are from other countries. I always enjoy international interaction with other students. Martin is helping us to think creatively, and I am enjoying a whole new aspect of photography. I feel privileged to learn the creative techniques that Martin has developed over the years and is generous to share with us. To summarise, this course is enjoyable, exciting, stimulating, well presented and good value for money.

**DEBBIE BASSON**

Cape Town - SA | November 2020

When I signed up for the Fine Art Photography Course, I knew that I wanted to do something different with my photographs but didn't know how and what to do to make it different. Well... Martin opened up a whole new world for me! With his kind and gentle way, he encourages thinking out of the box and trying things that you would never have thought of doing. At the same time, he was always there to give advice and encouragement. I learned and enjoyed it so much that I decided to do the follow-up course as well. If you want to learn how to make beautiful fine art photographs... do this course. It is so worth it!

[MORE REVIEWS >>](#)



## **NEXT COURSE**

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Starting date: 23 February 2022

Price: ZAR 9500

Deposit: 50%

Time: 15h00 - 17h30 (GMT+2)

**Lesson 1** - 23 February '22  
Understanding Art Photography

- Ethics of the medium
- Hand painting

**Lesson 2** - 02 March '22

- Black powder transfers
- Colour embellishment
- Distortion

**Lesson 3** - 09 March '22

- Emulsion lifts

**Lesson 4** - 16 March '22

- Image transfers

**Lesson 5** - 23 March '22

- Photomontage

**Evaluation** - 20 March '22

[More Info >>](#)

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# MARTIN OSNER

**ARTIST STATEMENT:** On a winter's day in 1984 "photography" and I met quite by accident, an encounter that redirected my life and changed it forever. Over the past twenty-eight years, while walking a path of self-discovery, my methodology has taken numerous detours. A journey that has refined a relaxed subconscious attitude, with a desire to express simplicity and honesty through my work. For me, a photograph holds an undeniable sense of realism, a new correlation that is easy to associate with. I see I understand; I experience, I connect. In my photography, I allow day to day life to provide inspiration and treat all subjects as a potential composition. I enjoy the conceptual transformation that a lens and camera offer. Although I have never been a dedicated painter, I see and experience the world in this way. Life is my canvas, and I often feel like a painter trapped in a photographer's body where lens and light have become an expressive substitute for paint and brushes. I usually create themes and grouping of images within my portfolio and on a given day, find myself working on a variety of projects at once, often taking years to complete. One of my great joys is using photography as a base to create mixed media pieces. I have adopted an intuitive approach resisting restriction to specific substrates, mediums or technique. Emotion and experimentation drive my creative process, and I allow the final artwork to evolve rather than containing its finality. In my work, I intently concentrate on elemental form, rhythm and pattern, allowing simplicity to engage visual impact. I contribute my style to several artists and photographers. The great artist and photographer Henri Cartier Bresson have inspired my social commentary and documentary work, and the teachings of Ansel Adams have influenced my landscape photography. On the other hand, many of my still-life and abstract studies have been described as painterly expressionistic, drawing influences through the works of Henri Matisse and of late Jackson Pollock. In my spiritual walk, I experience hours of peace and contentment when behind the lens of my camera and in my studio, creating art. I believe that my steps have been guided along an inventive and purposed path by an awesome and caring God. I have never doubted my love for photography or my burning passion for art. It is something I could never stop. It's what I do; it's what I love, it's who I am.



**BIOGRAPHY:** Born in Johannesburg, South Africa (1963), Martin Osner opened his first photographic studio in Johannesburg (1985), where he established a solid reputation as a professional photographer and artist. In 1993, he relocated to Pretoria and co-founded the National College of Photography, which today has become the premier photographic training institution in Southern Africa under Advtech, a listed company under the branding (Vega school). During this time he continued to run his commercial photography studio and earned numerous Professional Photography awards. In 2008, Osner moved to Cape Town to establish a photographic art gallery, which opened its doors in 2010 under his name. At the same time, he ceased all commercial photography pursuits, as he felt that he had to devote his full creative energy to his art. Then in 2013, still committed to teaching, Osner opened the "Martin Osner Photography School" in Hout Bay, where he lives. In 2012, he was invited by Canon Europe to take part in brand video production called "Power to your next step - landscape and portrait photography", a tutorial video that was packaged with new DSLR Canon cameras as an instructional aid. At the same time, he served as a Canon Ambassador / Explorer for seven years. Recently in May 2017, Martin expanded the gallery in Cape Town, and it was rebranded to the Art Photography Gallery. Shortly after that, in 2018 with his daughter, Samantha Lee Osner, who shares his passion for photographic art, they opened a private gallery in Hout Bay where they exhibit as a father-daughter collaborative. Over the last twenty-five years, Martin has taught hundreds of students pursuing photography as a career and thousands of keen amateur photographers. In his work, Osner eschews "straightforward" photography, favouring a more artistic vision that accords with his visual understanding and spiritual appreciation of the world. A multi-award-winning artist, including voted the best contemporary international artist 2008/2009 by Arteque art volume 3 (Masters of Today), his photography is characterised by an urge to explore, with the willingness to experiment and a desire to create. Concentrating intently on an elemental form, pattern and shape, paired with an inherent sense of restraint, he bears out his belief that simplicity is the cornerstone of successful imaging. Today Osner specialises in a contemporary portfolio of fine art photography, offering limited edition Gicleé and traditional black & white vintage prints, into a collectors' market. His collection consists of ghostly abstract renditions, moody landscapes and social documentary and mixed media prints.