

# Refining Your Image:

Eliminate Distractions; Enhance Positives  
Session 2

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## Goals

1. Become more aware of distractions
2. Learn to draw the viewer's eye to your main character



Understanding what draws the eye allows us to more intentionally direct the eye, and that's key to creating compelling images that we want others to feel drawn to.”

- David duChemin

David duChemin



# Impact of the Subject

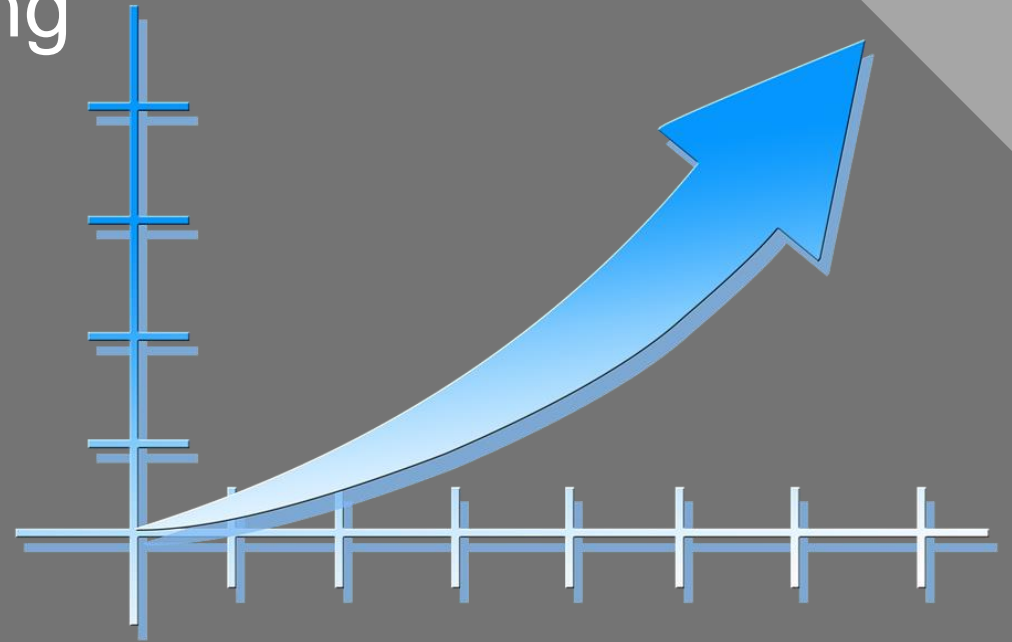


<https://mymodernmet.com/mongolian-eagle-hunters/>

Leo Thomas

# Getting a Handle on “Impact”

- Drama
- Heightened tension
- Engaging, impressive, striking





# Impact: Before and After



David duChemin

**The Equation:**

**Eliminating the Negative  
+  
Accentuating the Positive  
=  
Refined Image**

# Second Half of the Equation: Accentuating the Positive

It's about what you see...  
and what you **do** with what you see.

# Impact: Before and After



Marsden Hartley

ca. 1937

Gardener's Gloves and Shears



# Impact: Before and After



RAW File



Final Image



# Impact: Before and After



Raw File



Final Image

- Luminosity
- Overall Color Temperature
- Contrast
- Warm-to-Cool Gradation

# Getting the Viewer's Attention

(in a good way)



# Transitions

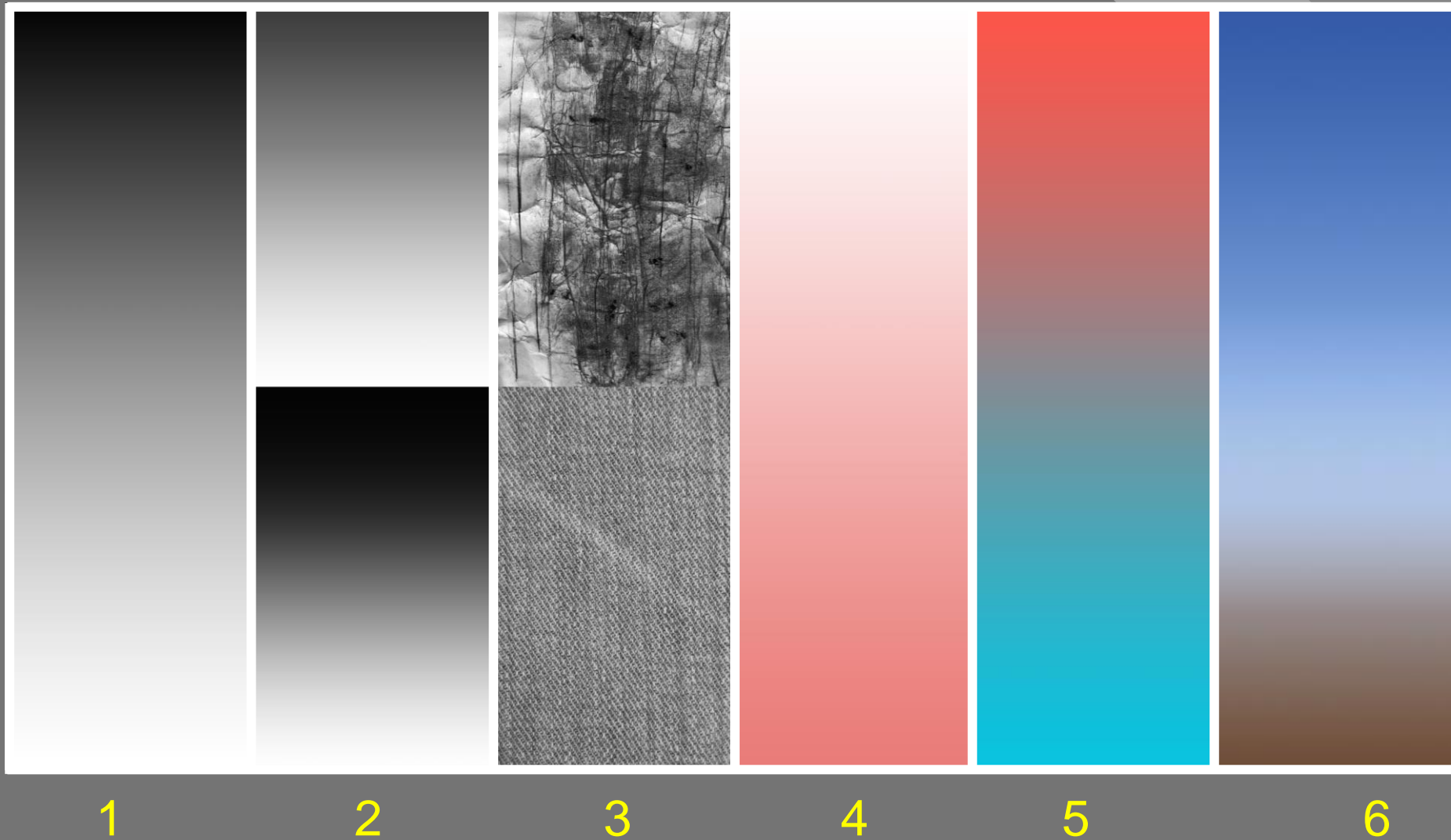


© The Happy Rower

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/thehappyrower/>



# Transition Types



# Transition Types

- Luminosity (lightness, brightness, or value)



Luminosity

# Transition Types

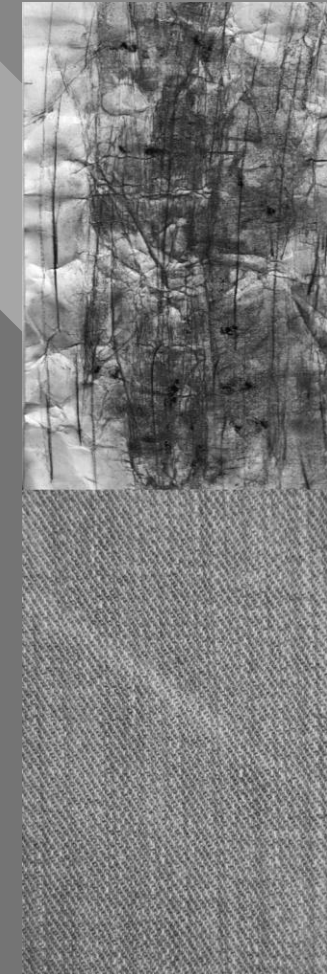
- Luminosity (lightness, brightness, or value)
- Contrast (more dynamic range between adjoining tones in one section than another)



Contrast

# Transition Types

- Luminosity (lightness, brightness, or value)
- Contrast (more dynamic range between adjoining tones in one section than another)
- Detail/texture (more in one section than in another or different across image)



Texture



# Transition Types

- Luminosity (lightness, brightness, or value)
- Contrast (more dynamic range between adjoining tones in one section than another)
- Detail/texture (more in one section than in another or different across image)
- Color saturation



Saturation

# Transition Types

- Luminosity (lightness, brightness, or value)
- Contrast (more dynamic range between adjoining tones in one section than another)
- Detail/texture (more in one section than in another or different across image)
- Color saturation
- Color temperature (cool-to-warm or reverse)



Color Temp.

# Transition Types

- Luminosity (lightness, brightness, or value)
- Contrast (more dynamic range between adjoining tones in one section than another)
- Detail/texture (more in one section than in another or different across image)
- Color saturation
- Color temperature (cool-to-warm or reverse)
- Atmospheric perspective (near-to-far)



Atmospheric



# What's the Purpose of Transitions in an Image?

Transitions are the *Adjustment Variables*



# What's the Purpose of Transitions in an Image?

## For the Photographer

- Lenses to help us see our vision in the image
- Provide a structure for making adjustments
- Tools for the iterative, creative process

## For the Viewer

- Direct the viewer's eye
- Help increase overall impact

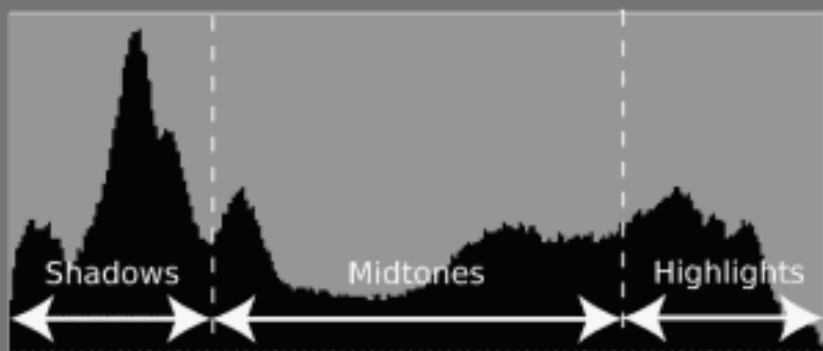
# Luminosity



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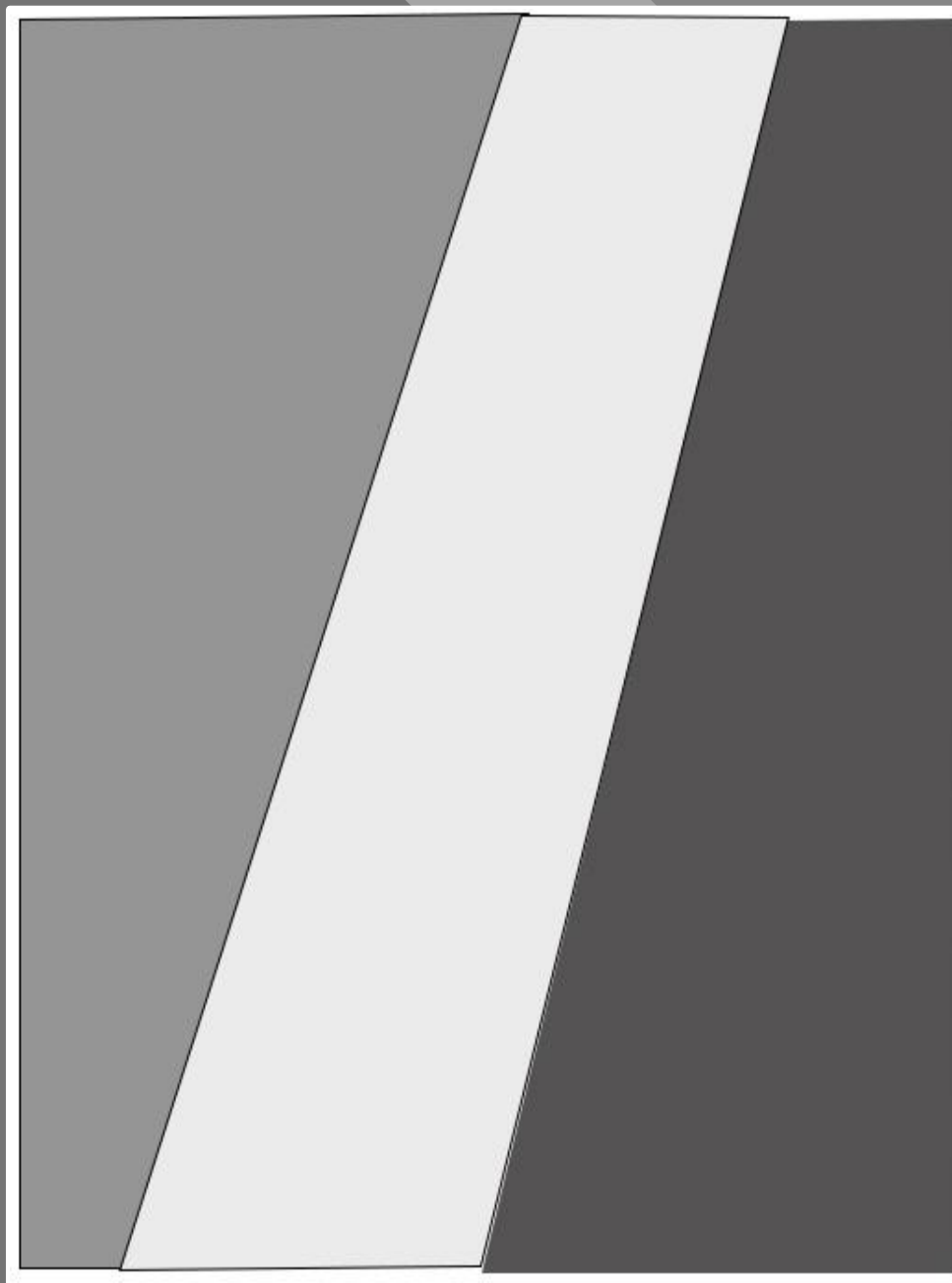
Final Image

# Luminosity



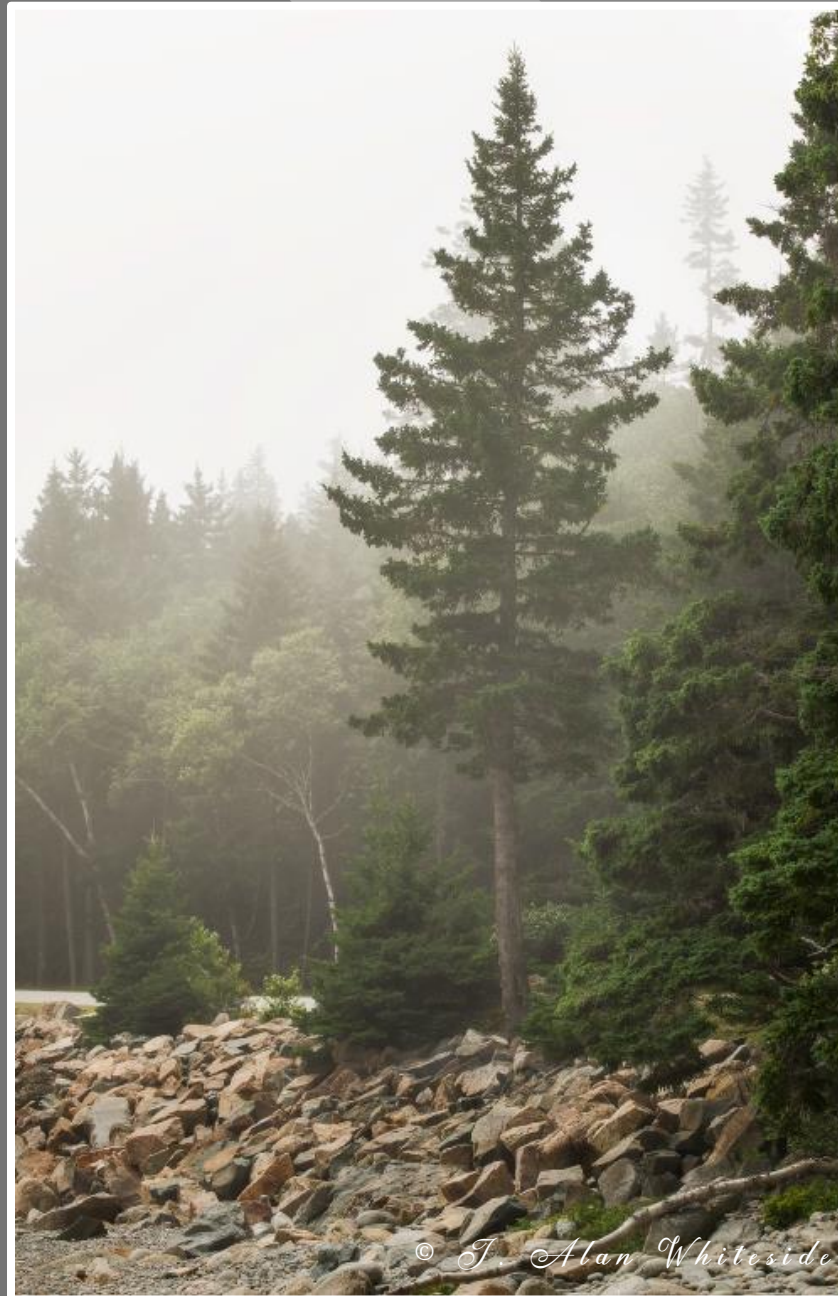
**↑ NOT This**

**BUT This**



Final Image

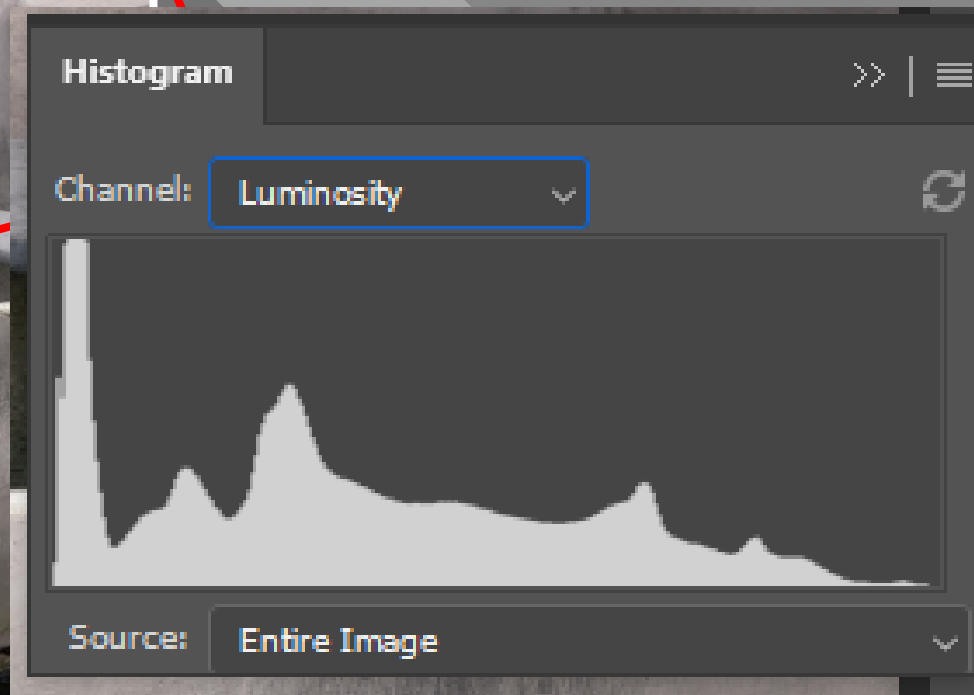
# Luminosity



Final Image



# Contrast



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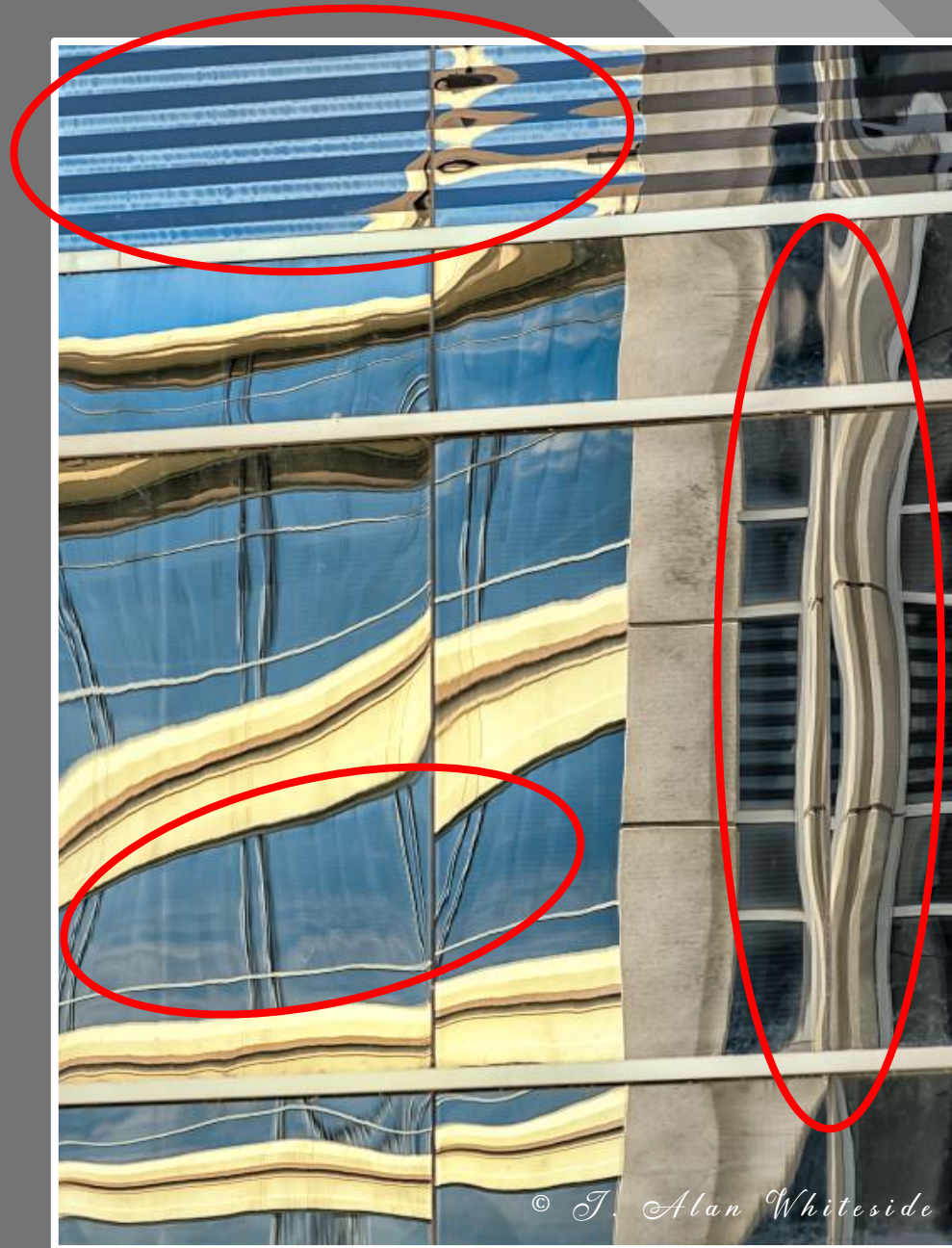
Final Image

# Texture/Detail



Final Image

# Texture/Detail



Final Image

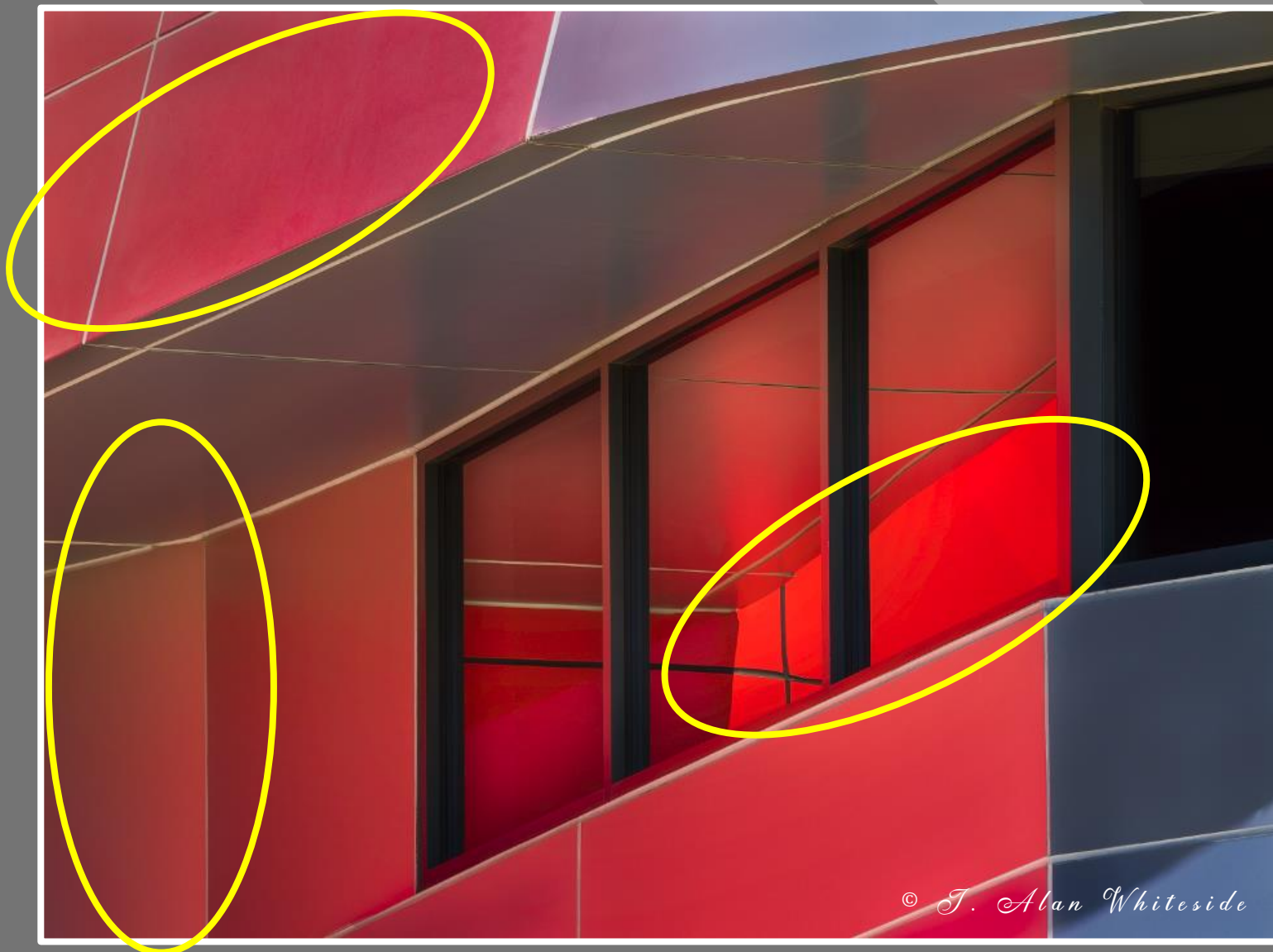


# Saturation



Final Image

# Saturation



Final Image



# Color Temperature

- Warm-to-cool color temperature gradient

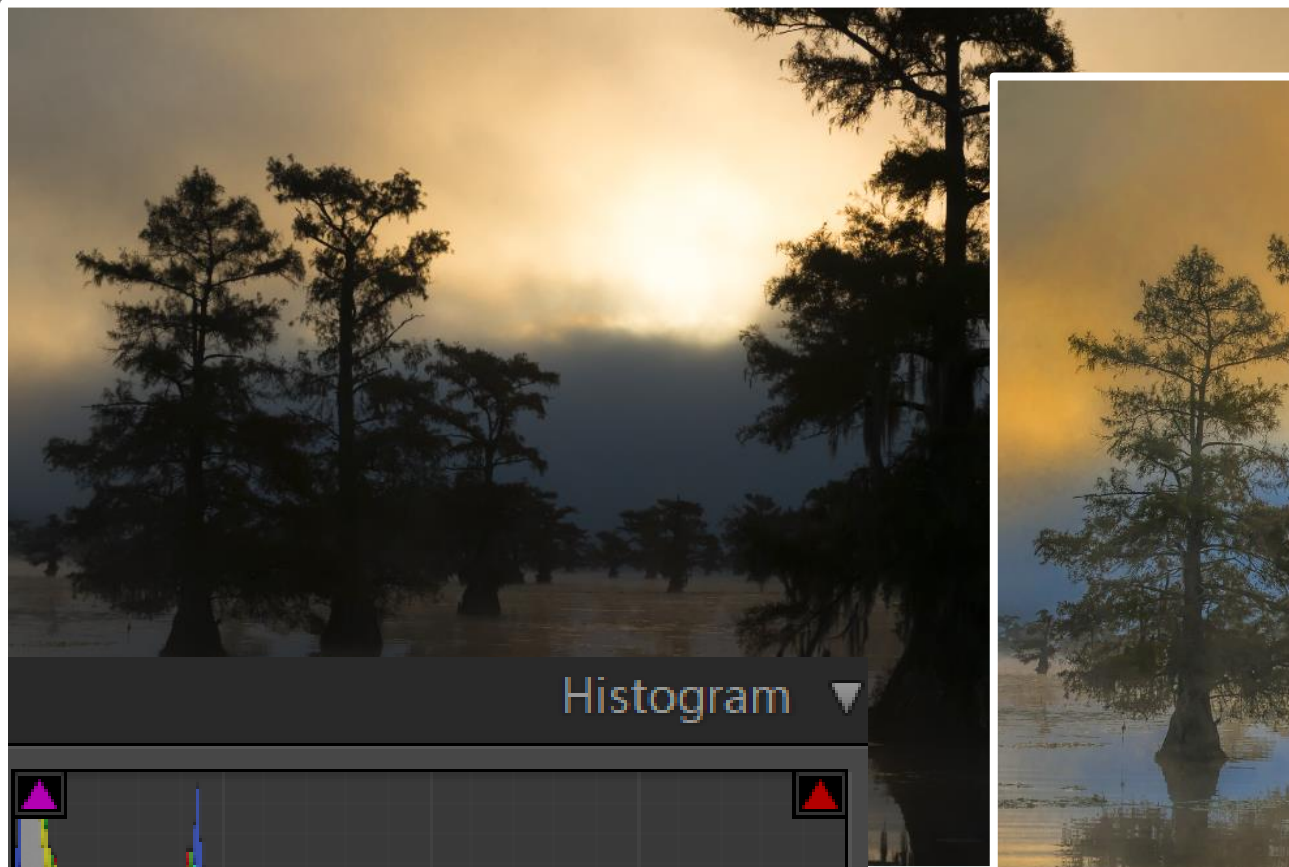
Final Image



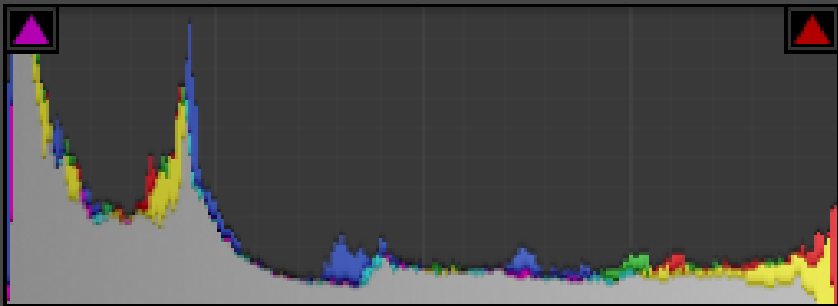
© J. Alan Whiteside



# Color Temperature



Histogram ▼



R 99.1 G 97.4 B 91.3 %



Final Image



# Color Temperature



Final Image

# Atmospheric Perspective



Todd Vorenkamp

# Atmospheric Perspective

Final Image



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# Combination of Transition Types



RAW File



Final Image



# Combination of Transition Types

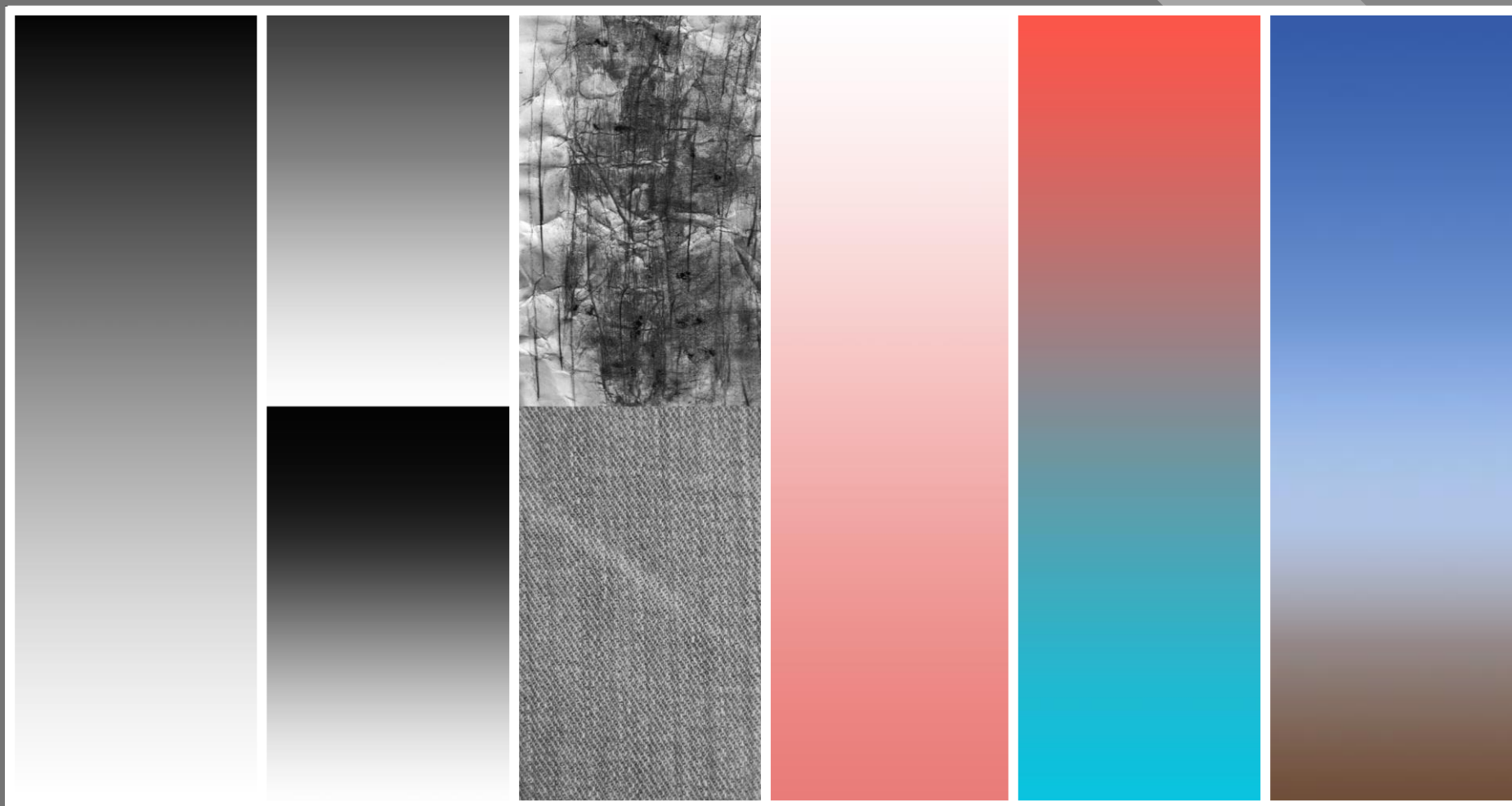
- Luminosity
- Contrast
- Color temperature
- Saturation
- Focal point



Final Image



# Transition Types Recap



Luminosity

Contrast

Texture

Saturation

Warm-to-Cool

Atmospheric

# Tools for Enhancing or Accentuating the Positives



# Consider Using These Tools

- Cropping
- Dodge and Burn
- Saturation Adjustment (plus or minus)
- Blurring
- Foreground to Background Transition
- Transposition (flipping the image)
- Vignette and Spotlight

# Optional Participation

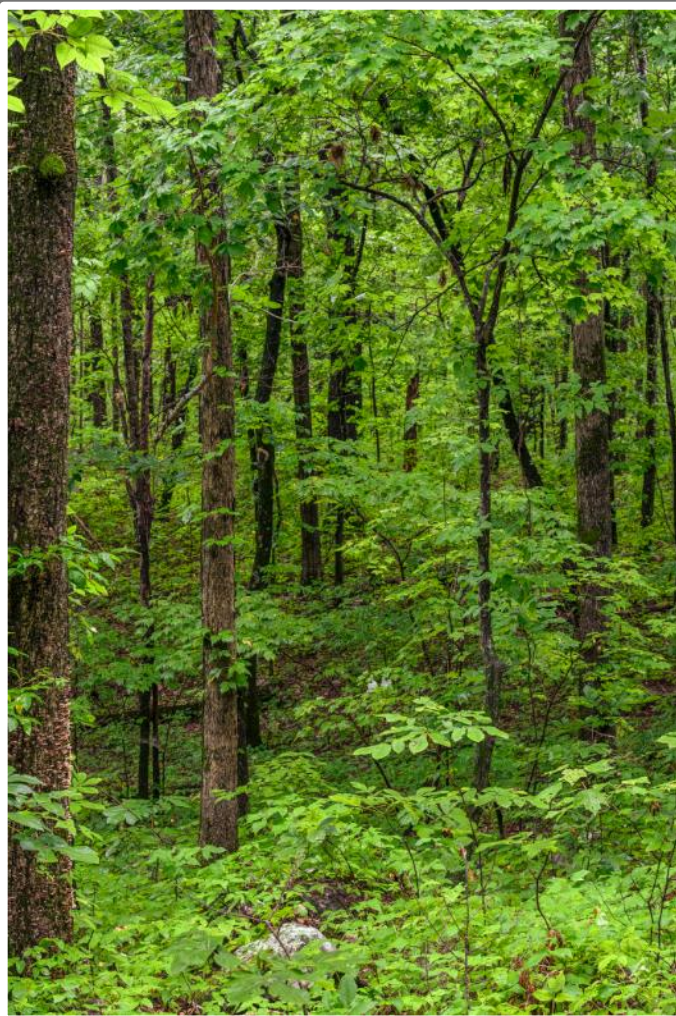


- **WHAT TO DO:** Submit 1 **unedited** JPEG photo (**1920 x 1280 – competition size**) and identify what type(s) of transitions you want to modify to accentuate the positives of the image
- **BY WHEN:** At least a few days prior to next session, June 27th (the sooner, the better)
- **HOW:** [j.alan.whiteside@gmail.com](mailto:j.alan.whiteside@gmail.com)
- **THEN WHAT:** I'll show a few images and discuss the types of transitions



# Which Transition Types?

- Luminosity
- Contrast
- Saturation



Initial Image

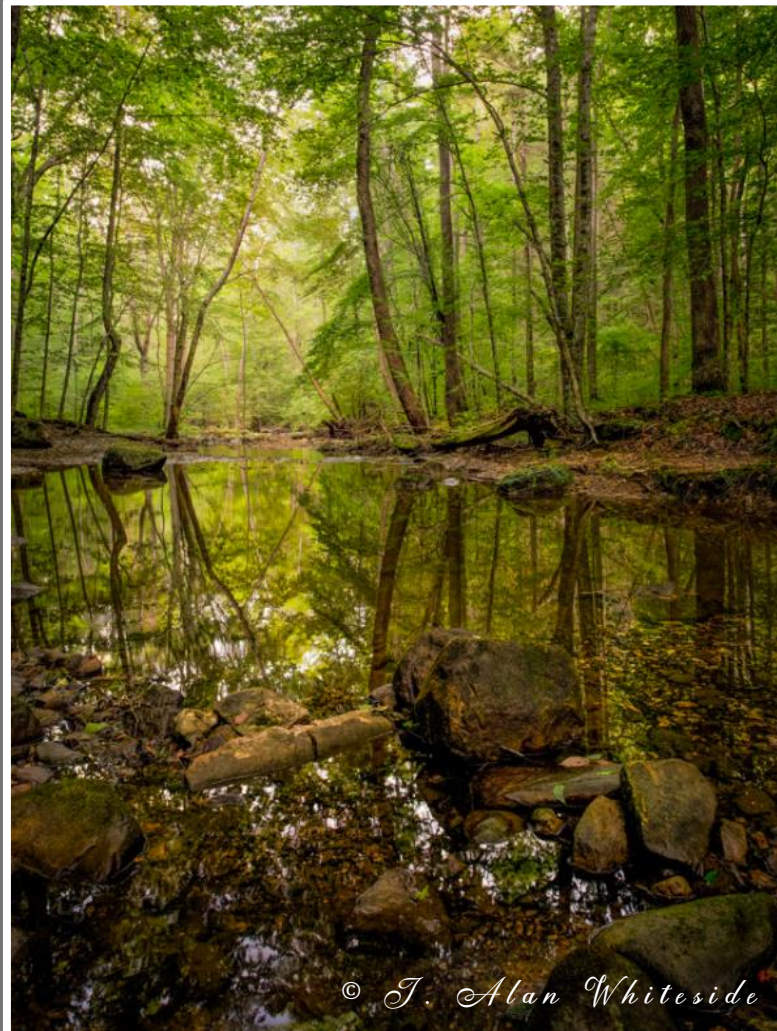


Final Image

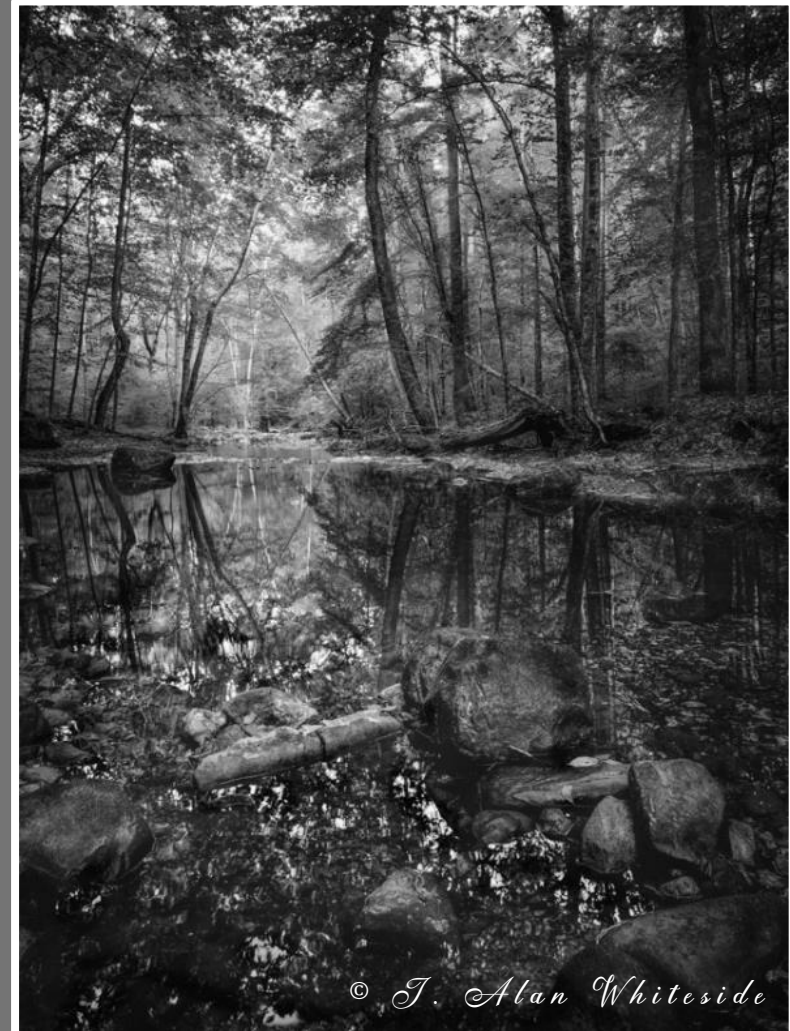


# Which Transition Types?

- Luminosity
- Contrast



Original Image



Final Image



# Which Transition Types?

- Luminosity
- Saturation
- Warm-to-Cool



Original Image



Final Image