

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

The Wizardry of Odds

Maurice Amiel · Monday, November 1st, 2021

The visual preference for odd number of stimuli in a photograph was convincingly presented by the photographer Ted Forbes in his didactic video.

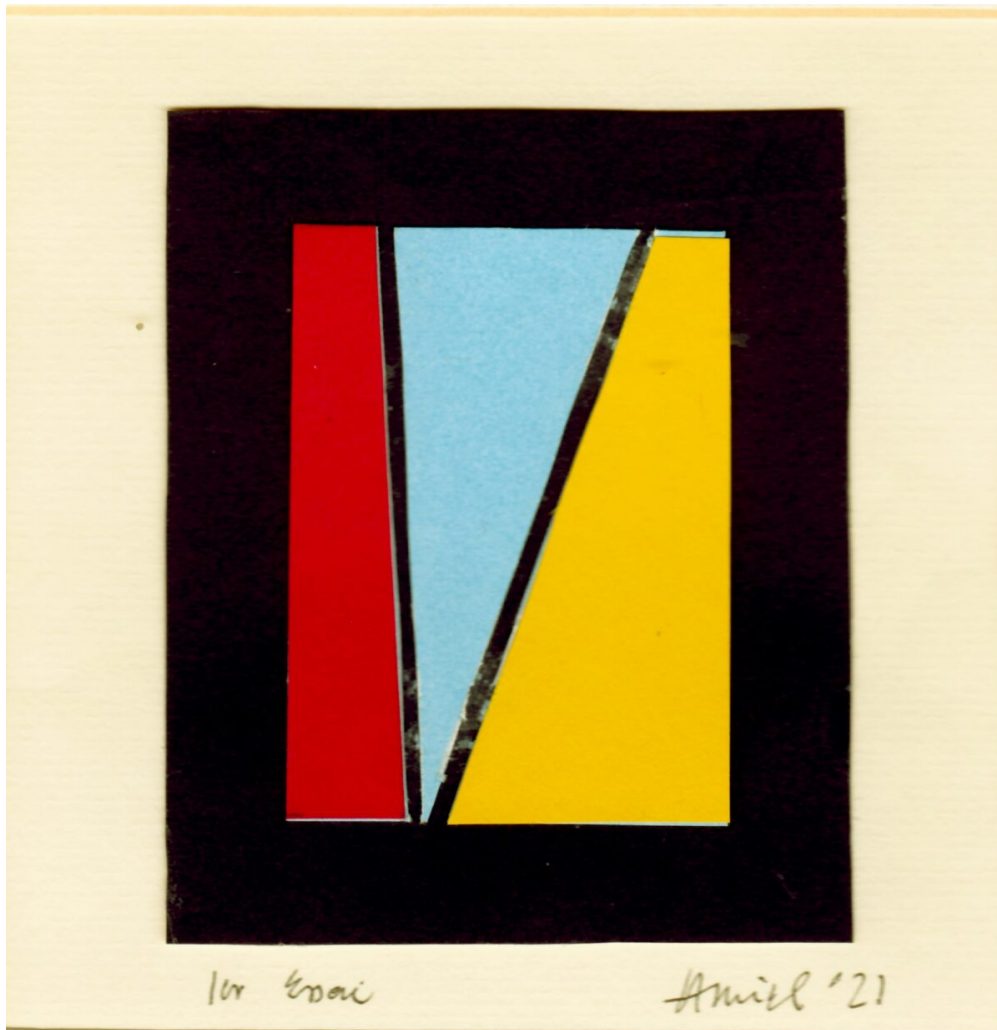
When transferred to another visual medium such as collage, the creative process is quite different than photography of existing subject.

In the feature image, reprised below, I show my first attempt at creating a three parts collage, to be followed with similar ones varying in geometric pattern and colour combination, but all based on Forbes' "Rule of odds."



Basic try keyed on the red triangle

First try using similar vertical shapes of differing colours on black background



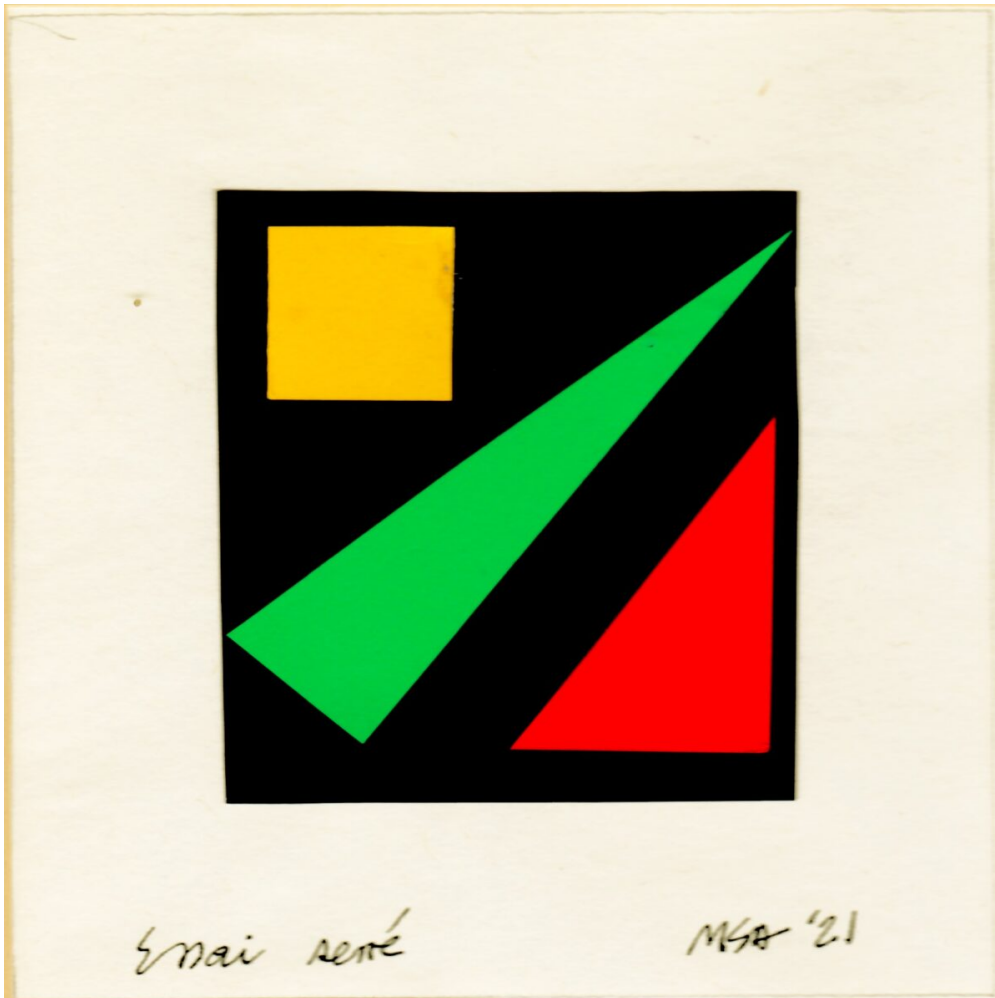
Emphasis on colour difference and shape similarity

First attempt at embedding one element in another



Bringing the background as a shadow separating element

First attempt a shape differentiation on narrowing in black background



Exploring colour and shape variety on tighter black background

Exploring the drawing power of centrality



Playing on size, shape and positioning of elements around the center

Testing the “rule of odds” by introducing a shadow background as fourth element



Playing on the visual back and forth between three distinct elements and shadow fourth one

End image

Here is a reprise of **first try** with an attempt to bring in the background as a shadow version of the central element



Playing with bringing background as shadow inversion of an element

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