

ABSTRACT VIDEO

After having seen the clip from "The Godfather Part II" where the sound is disconnected from place and other videos that do not have discernable or narrative images, you can see that an artist or filmmaker doesn't necessarily need actors, scenes, narrative, or even anything that can be recognized to make an interesting series of images and sounds.

Non-narrative doesn't mean no content or intention, however. The way these images flow can give very specific sensations: think of the Eisenstein piece we watched and how a crashing wave happening very fast with loud sounds can be aggressive and explosive whereas a very slow-motion wave crashing is a beautiful and serene image.

Pick images that you find interesting and beautiful... or completely un-beautiful or horrible, just feel strongly about them! This assignment is all about experimenting so try out weird and unorthodox ideas.

For next week I would like you to do the following:

+ Shoot at least 10 minutes of abstract footage. Think of this as a way of exploring ways to use the camera and the world around you. Stick the camera up close to objects, steady shots of textures, and in any way you can find interesting and dynamic compositions. Be sure to get shots that are long enough to work with, but keep in mind that you can always repeat images.

Don't worry about shooting in a way that you can use right off the tape. This is more a process of gathering – you can rearrange later in FinalCut.

+ Also, shoot at least 10 minutes of sound-only. You can leave the lens cap on (so the image is black but the sound records) or record with video as well. Try to capture interesting sounds. These will be used as the backdrop for your piece. No music or other outside sounds will be allowed, so try to get useful and interesting sounds!

+ Capture your footage to your server folder. *Remember to set all the scratch discs before capturing or you will lose your footage!*

Next week:

We will be looking at and editing footage together in class. Be prepared for a full work-day and please bring a pair of headphones to class.