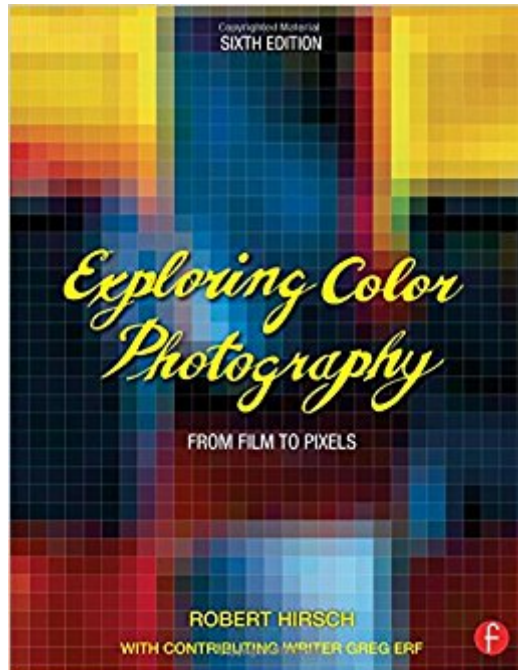




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# Exploring Color Photography: From Film To Pixels



## Synopsis

Robert Hirsch's *Exploring Color Photography* is the thinking photographer's guide to color imaging. Now in its sixth edition, this pioneering text clearly and concisely instructs students and intermediate photographers in the fundamental aesthetic and technical building blocks needed to create thought-provoking digital and analog color photographs. Taking both a conceptual and pragmatic approach, the book avoids getting bogged down in complex, ever-changing technological matters, allowing it to stay fresh and engaging. Known as the Bible of Color Photography, its stimulating assignments encourage students to be adventurous and to take responsibility for learning and working independently. The emphasis on design and postmodern theoretical concepts stresses the thought process behind the creation of intriguing images. Its extensive and inspiring collection of images and accompanying captions allow makers to provide insight into how photographic methodology was utilized to visualize and communicate their objectives. The text continues to deliver inspiring leadership in the field of color photography with the latest accurate information, ideas, commentary, history, a diverse collection of contemporary images, and expanded cellphone photography coverage. A "Problem Solving and Writing" chapter offers methods and exercises that help one learn to be a visual problem solver and to discuss and write succinctly about the concepts at the foundation of one's work. [Exploringcolorphotography.com](http://Exploringcolorphotography.com), the companion website, has been revamped and updated to feature more student and teacher resources, including a new web-based timeline: *As It Happened: A Chronological History of Color Photography*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

'Thoroughly 'user friendly', Exploring Color Photography is an ideal instructional textbook for college and university level photography curriculums and should be considered a critically important acquisition for professional and academic library Photography instructional reference collections and supplemental studies reading lists.' - Michael J. Carson, The Midwest Book Review

Robert Hirsch is a photographer, writer, curator, and the director of Light Research (lightresearch.net). His books include: Light and Lens: Photography in the Digital Age, Seizing the Light: A Social History of Photography, Photographic Possibilities: The Expressive Use of Equipment, Ideas, Materials, and Processes, and Transformational Imagemaking: Handmade Photography Since 1960. Hirsch is a former Associate Editor for Digital Camera (UK) and Photovision, and a contributor to Afterimage, exposure, Contact Sheet, The Focal Encyclopedia of Photography, History of Photography, The Photographic Collector, The Photo Review, and World Book Encyclopedia as well as former Director of CEPA Gallery. Hirsch's work has been exhibited in over 200 solo and group shows.

"Exploring" is the word! I don't expect to ever read this book completely. It is certainly not for a beginner, unless you are determined to set off on a year-long course of exploration. I could see this book as the only subject for a full year of art school. Each chapter is a heavy mix of art, technology, and student exercises, enough to consume all your waking hours for an extended period. So, I think it's for the person who wants to open a chapter by itself and tackle it with full devotion before picking another topic. The basics are there, but each accompanied by such elaboration that a beginner may not be able, in a reasonable time, to pick up what is needed for starters.

outstanding book

Good.

Very interesting with a lot of information on using film. Color info was useful

As expected.

Good read so far. Only one chapter in.

Great book, very informative.

Every time I pick up this book, it surprises me. The depth and range of information contained within this volume is breathtaking. It is hard to imagine a more complete work on how color functions in photography; anything more and the book would weigh over 300 pounds! Whether you work digitally or chemically, you will find valuable information within its pages and a huge source of inspiration. Robert Hirsch has made a significant contribution to the world of photography with his books, including his classic "Seizing the Light: A Social History of Photography." His book "Transformational Imagemaking" rewrites the history of photography by bringing to light decades of work and artists not covered in traditional narratives. This book follows in that tradition by going beyond what other books provide. "Exploring Color Photography" is for those who believe that true art and creativity comes from more than know what button to push (there are already plenty of books on that). Art comes from your head and your heart and this book is designed to help you to see and think like an artist. Color is an immensely complicated subject. This book breaks down the topics into easily grasped chapters - but always with an eye to how an artist can use this information. Even the technical sections become invitations to explore creative possibilities. Throughout the book are many sidebars on "problem solving" that cover key concepts in understanding color as well as technical challenges you might encounter. Many of these can be used as self-directed photography assignments to help you learn the subject in greater detail. This book is encyclopedic in the sheer number of photographers represented in its pages both those who are typically seen and those who's will be new discoveries for you. Each one has a paragraph or two giving you insight into the thought processes behind the artist's work, mostly in their own words. This alone guarantees that this book will be a source of inspiration for many years. This book would function brilliantly as a textbook. It contains far more information than could possibly be covered in any class. Besides jump-starting your personal creativity, it also covers art history, safety, environmental issues with the materials used, as well as archival information and getting your work out into the world. The truly amazing thing about this book is that even within the scope of the technical information presented, it never fails to keep its true focus on making art. A book that reduces photography to pushing a few buttons won't change your life and this book, on the other hand, probably will.

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