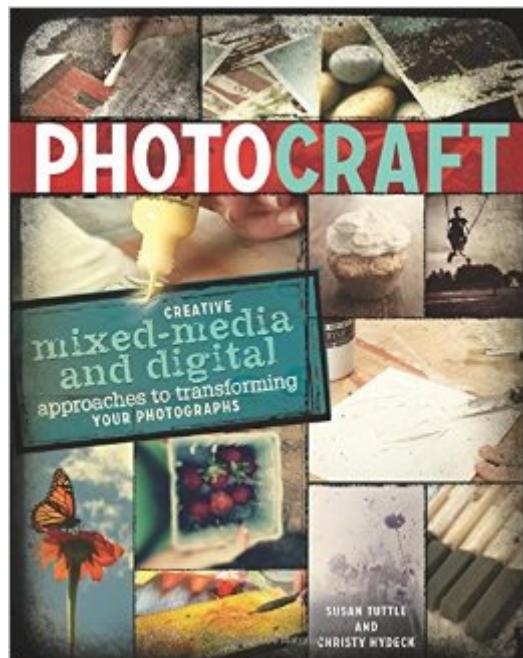


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# Photo Craft: Creative Mixed Media And Digital Approaches To Transforming Your Photographs



## **Synopsis**

Digital Photography and Mixed Media--a creative match made in heaven! Love photography? Want to make yours better? Want to use your photography as a springboard for fabulous and diverse mixed media and digital projects? Photo Craft will help you elevate the average into the extraordinary! Using Adobe Photoshop Elements and following thorough, easy-to-follow step-by-step instructions, you'll learn to make basic adjustments to your photographs that will yield stunning and artistic results. You'll also learn to use those photographs -- along with some everyday mixed-media supplies -- to create unique and personal art. Inside You'll Find: 13 stepped out mixed media techniques and projects 16 stepped out digital techniques 9 stellar techniques and projects from contributing artists including Michele Beschen and Claudine Hellmuth Dozens of great examples of and tips for iPhoneography Countless inspirational suggestions for photo field trips and photo shoots An author curated list of recommended apps to take your photos to the next level Access to exclusive online materials including new techniques and projects and downloadable materials for your personal use So get to it! Take new pictures today (and every day!), look through those boxes of old and long-forgotten photos, and free those lonely images from your hard drive. Make them better, make them new and make them art. Soon you'll be seeing things in a whole new way!

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: North Light Books (November 16, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1440318700

ISBN-13: 978-1440318702

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.3 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (73 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #192,633 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 inÂ  Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Toys & Models > Miniatures #82 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Digital #142 inÂ  Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Mixed-Media

## **Customer Reviews**

The title of Susan and Christy's book, PhotoCraft, fits this book perfectly. It is CRAFTED with great

detail, thought, illustrations, photographs, written directions, new techniques, easy to follow photo manipulation and layout design. One can sense the energy and ideas that flowed through their hearts and hands into creating this book for a wide market. I am a photographer and a painter. This superb book gave me many ideas to mix painting with photography. Reading some of their specific chapters, gave me ideas to use in my own way. They lay the ground for both photographers and artists in mixed media or painting.... The book layout is very impressive: laid out in steps that are logical, well written and illustrated. The reader understands what to do, there is no residual guessing. I have taken several of Susan's photography workshops and she puts her whole heart and soul into them. One is always inspired to do better and have the skills necessary after taking one of her classes. I own her other books, but this one is my very favorite. It is very diverse, something for everyone. I look forward to seeing more of Christy's work. They make a great team. If I could only purchase one book this year, it would be PhotoCraft.

Photo Craft focuses on the unique combination of both digital techniques using Photoshop Elements (PSE) and mixed media techniques by hand. In my initial "flip" through the pages, I was immediately struck by the amount of information that this book offers. This initial impression was confirmed when I read through the book page by page: Photo Craft has the feel of a comprehensive, go-to guidebook. The book starts off with a brief mixed-media toolkit and a more in depth introduction to PSE. On the photography side of things, sections cover taking great photos, making digital improvements, depth of field, composition, light, texture, blending modes, photo effects, brushes, and more. Many mixed-media techniques and supplies are covered, including faux plaster, crackle paste effects, foil transfers, PanPastels, watercolor, woodburning, charcoal, tissue, wax, and more. There are tutorials on both the digital and the mixed-media techniques - and more importantly the combination of both in single projects, hints on iPhoneography, additional tips & prompts for all the step-out projects, lists of recommended apps, and artwork and instruction from 9 invited artists including Pam Carriker, Susanna Gordon and Madelyn Mulvaney. The sample photography is beautiful, the written instruction clear and concise, and you can feel the passion for the subject that both Susan and Christy clearly have.

I was so excited to receive this book in the mail. Coming from someone who has always enjoyed shooting photos I was hoping to gain a glimpse of how to take my amateur photography to the next level. In Photo Craft, Christy Hydeck and Susan Tuttle have created quite a gem. It is a personalized tutorial of how to get the creative juices flowing in unexpected and exhilarating ways.

Everything about the book is inviting. They have each found a way to make the complicated seem manageable and approachable. Christy and Susan seem to have left nothing out. How many times have each of us yearned to know how someone was able to create something, only to have them tell you how to do it, but leave out a few steps so it doesn't quite turn out the same? Christy and Susan guide you through every project and method step-by-step, in so far as letting you in on their methods and the tools and materials they used to create their brilliant works of art. They have invited you into their personal and professional world in a witty and whimsical way. I especially enjoyed Christy's sentiments and methods throughout. It felt more like she invited you into her home, treated you like family and let you in on her trade secrets. Her inspiring, words of encouragement will foster a level of creativity in you that you never knew you had. She gives you more than just a tutorial and step-by-step method into how to create works of art and emotionally impactful images. She invites you in with a method of story telling that showcases just how photography can change our lives in a myriad of heartbreak, joyful and inspiring ways. You won't be disappointed in this one!

I purchased this book in hopes of getting only one or two ideas from it, as I have from so many other "photo crafting" type books. I was so pleasantly surprised at the amount of information included in this beautiful book. This book is filled to the brim with ideas, techniques, tips and tricks. It's not just for the seasoned professional photographer, but for those of us who play at photography. At first it seems like an overload of information, but they've made it so easy to take all that information and run! There are general photoshop tutorials to take your photos to the next level. There are so many fun ways to make your photos into amazing art pieces. Not just your typical print your photo out and frame it...but really interesting ways to create stunning artistic masterpieces. I love the format of the book. It's less like a lesson plan, or "do it this way" book, and more like an old friend taking the time to show you their favorite way of doing things. Teaching you how it can be done, and giving you hints on how to make it better. Most of the artistic techniques use easy to source (or already on hand) supplies. The only problem is deciding what you want to try first!

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