

I paint self-portraits because I am so often alone, because I am the person I know best."

- Frida Kahlo

Saturday, January 14, 2012

Worksheet #7

Assignment 7

Alien Self Portrait

Create a self portrait using your self-timer and a slow shutter speed. Move parts of your body during the exposure to blur yourself into something else.

Find a neutral, empty background that contrasts with what you are wearing so you stand out. This will need to be inside and probably at night so it is dark enough to get a slow shutter speed.



To get a long shutter speed, like 1-3 seconds, set your ISO to lowest setting and turn the flash off. If you are indoors at night this should probably do it. Set your camera on a table and frame the area where you will stand and set the timer. Jump in front of the camera and start squirming around until the camera takes the shot.

This will take some trial and error. If you can't get a long exposure, try using a "night-time" mode. Some point and shoots have a "long exposure" mode.

If you have a manual mode, set the aperture to smallest (big number) setting and the shutter speed will go to a long exposure.

It also helps if you can point a lamp at (you) from the side. This will create an edge light that will make you stand out from the background.

