Creating Double Exposure Images

Ideas for Combining Two Images In Camera





Sometimes the hardest decision when making a double exposure is in choosing the two images to combine. There are *many* options for deciding. Here are four basic ideas:

- 1. Add Texture
- 2. Add ICM to a regular layer
- 3. Combine two related images
- 4. Add an out of focus layer

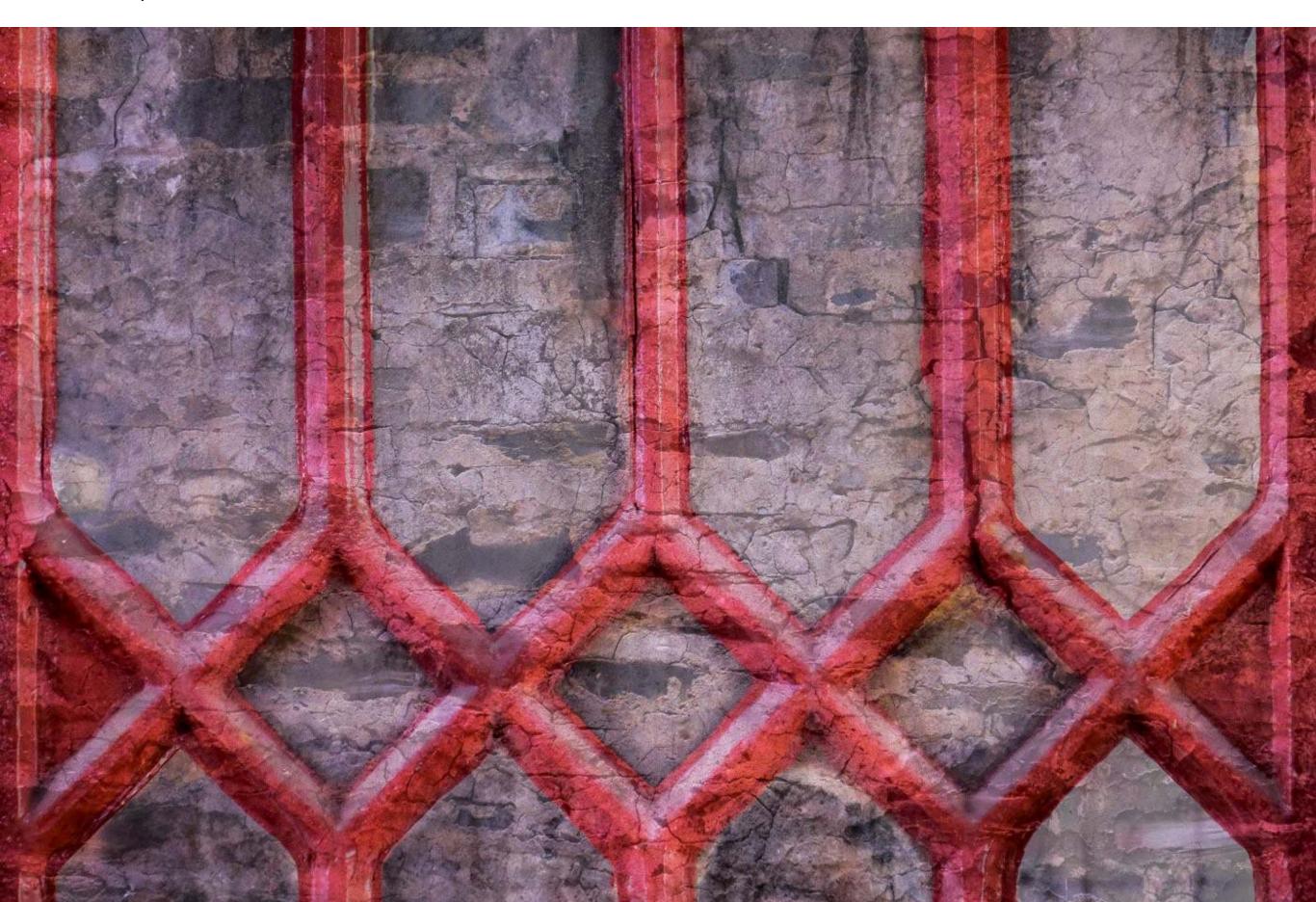


1. Add Texture:

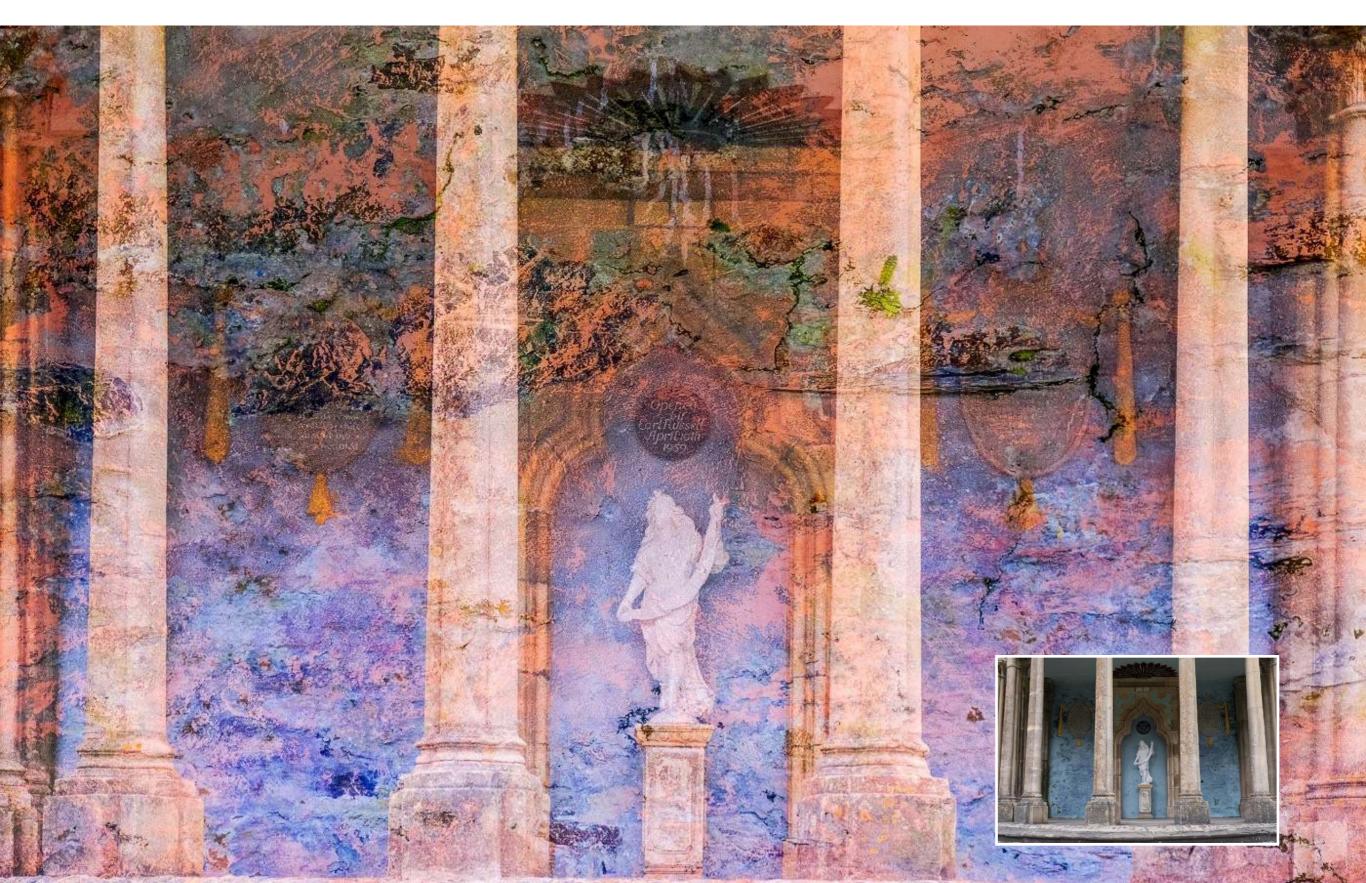
Two unrelated images, such as the building and road surface, add texture and interest.



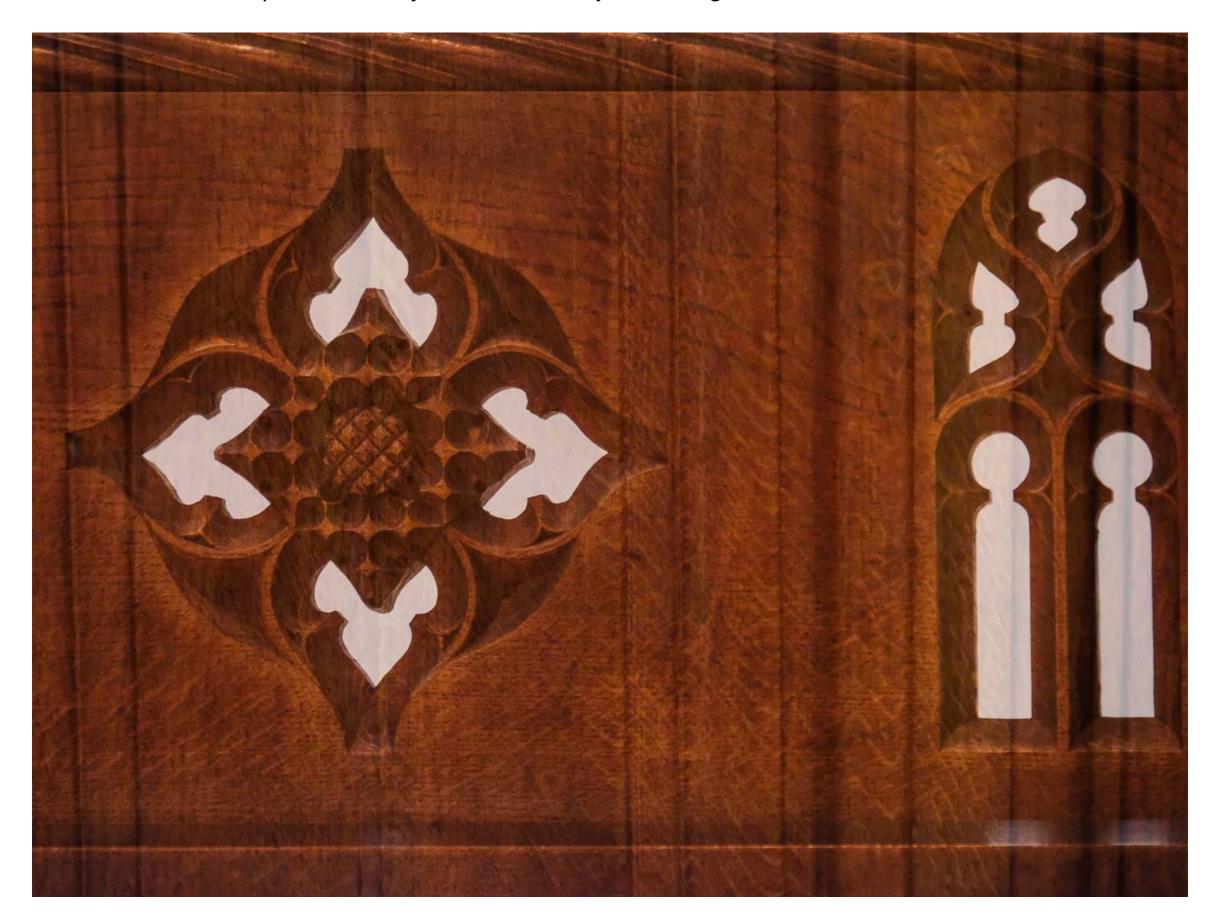
A window pattern receives a stone texture.



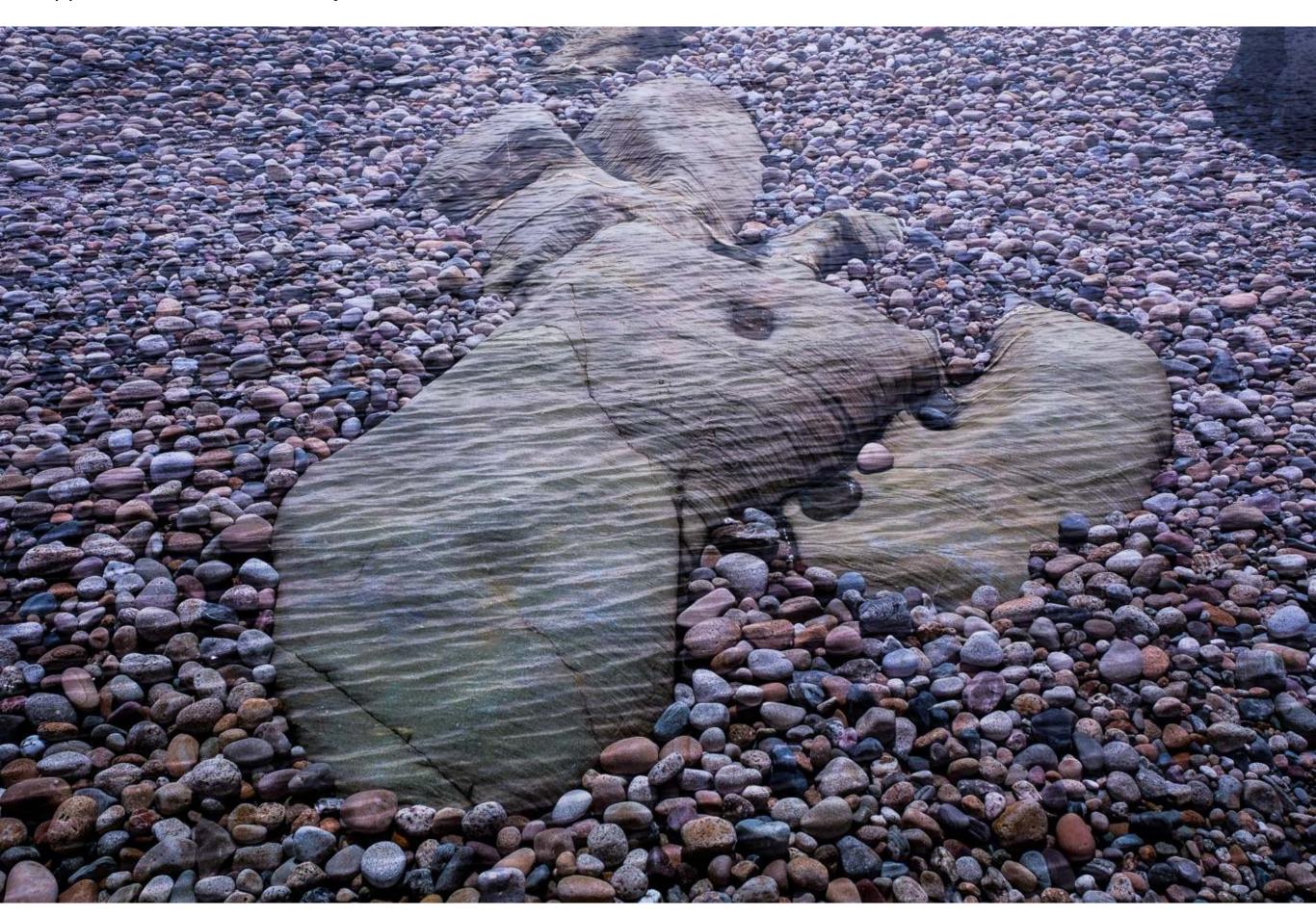
The building and statue alone held little interest (inset) but when the colour and texture of the marbled floor tiles were added, the image came to life.



This beautiful wood panel has a layer added that is just wood grain.

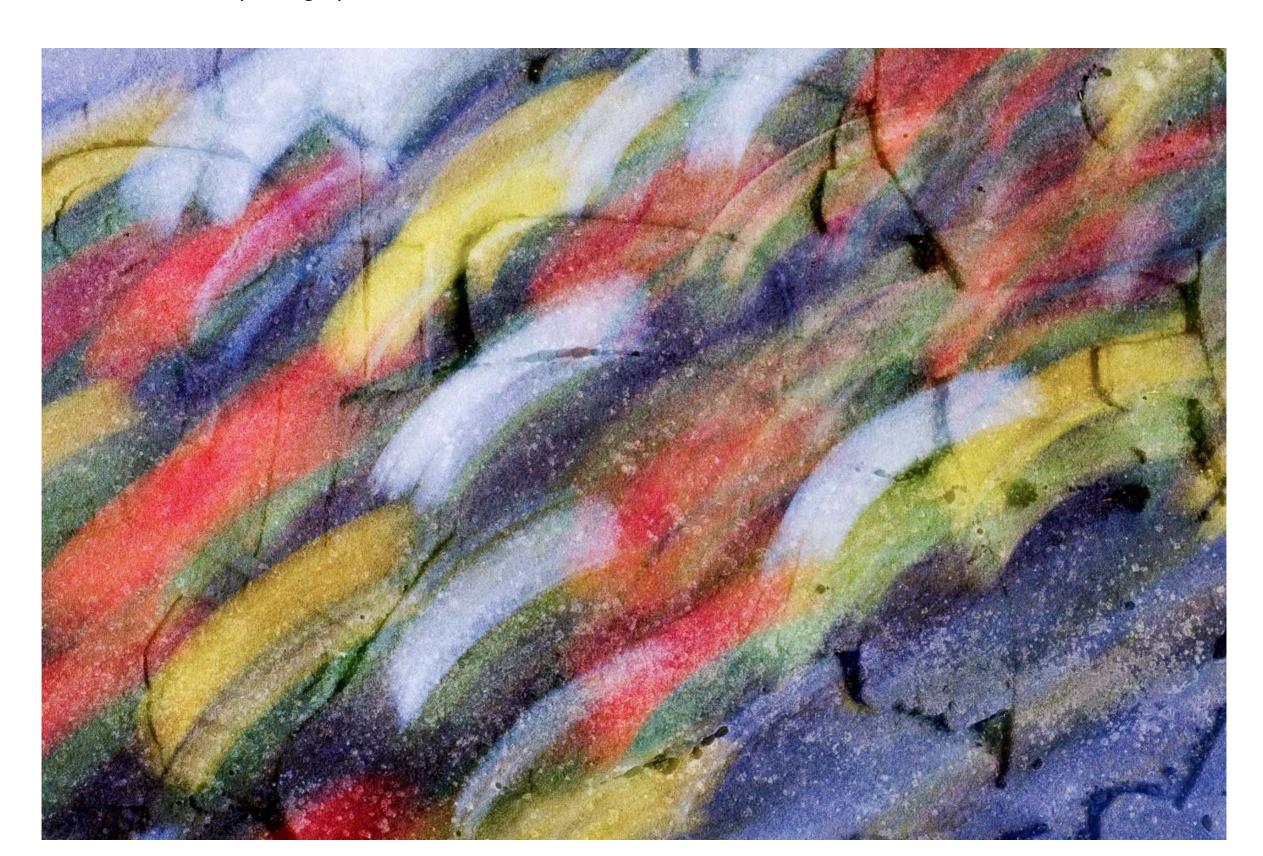


Ripples from the water nearby are added to the stone lobster.

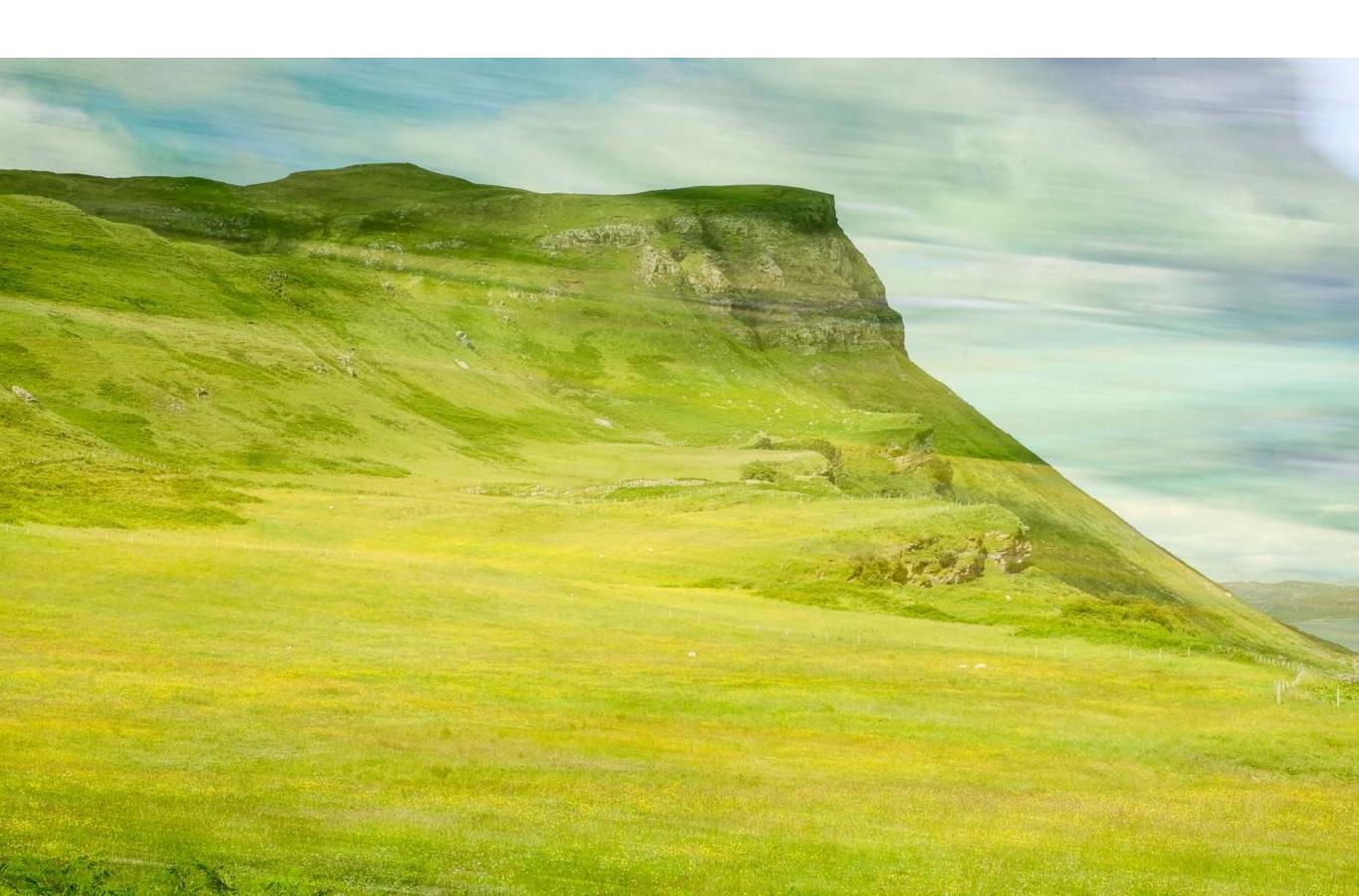


2. Add ICM to a sharp layer.

A bed of flowers, photographed with camera motion, adds colour to a stone wall.



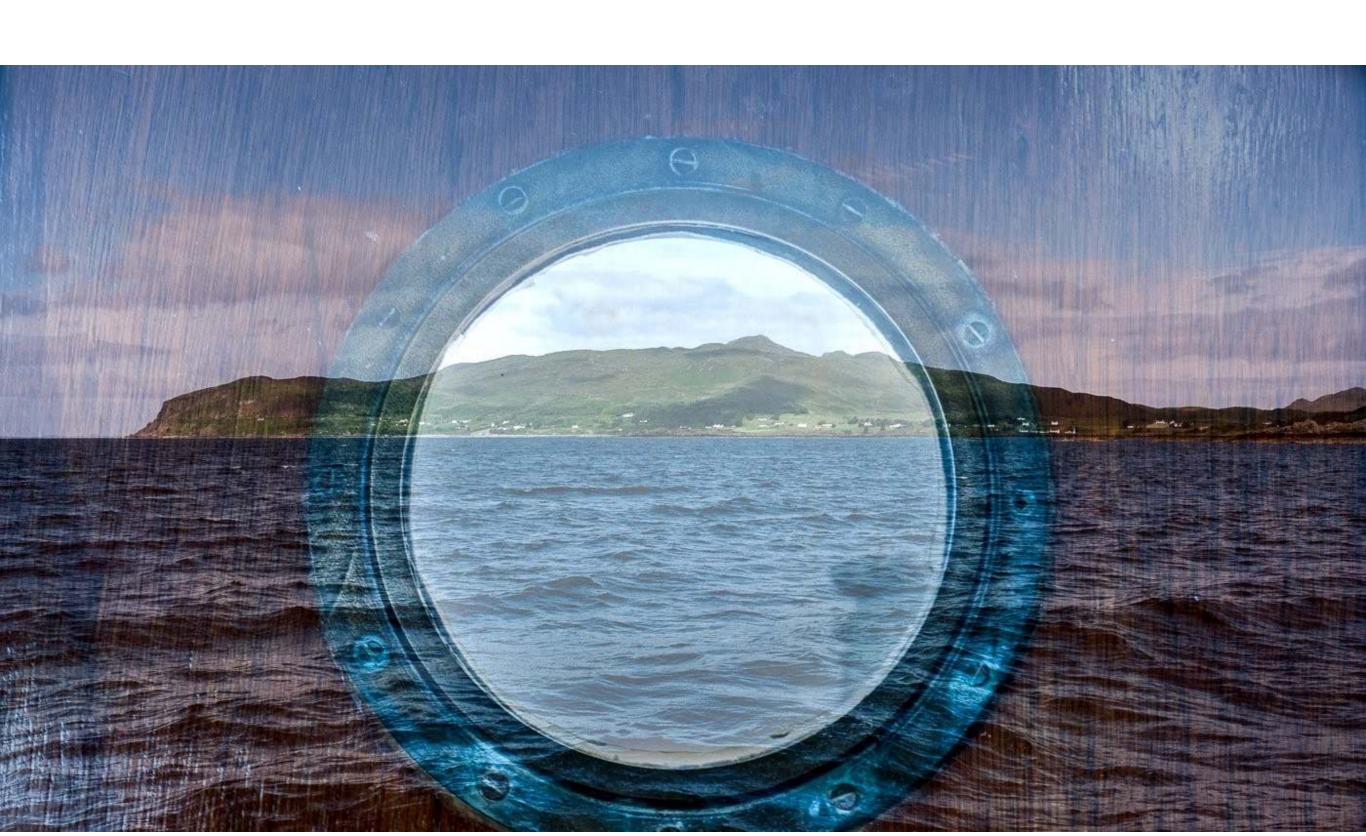
A simple landscape is given a painterly effect when a second layer with camera motion is added.



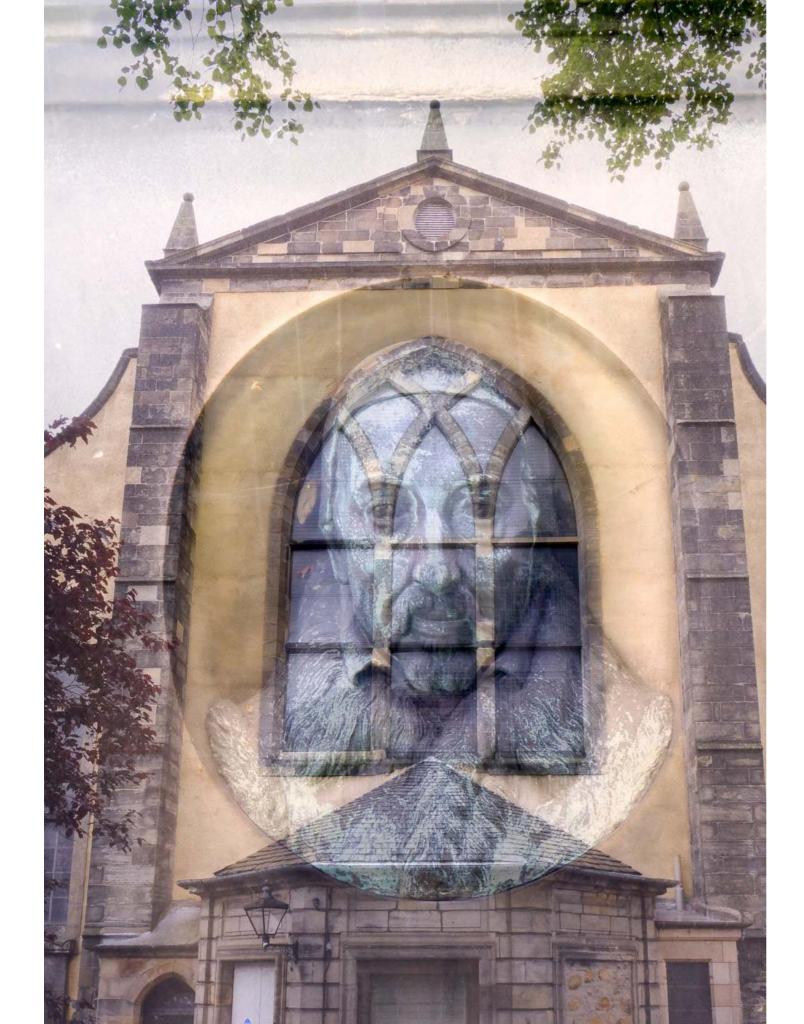


3. Combine two related images:

The ship's porthole adds interest to the view outside.

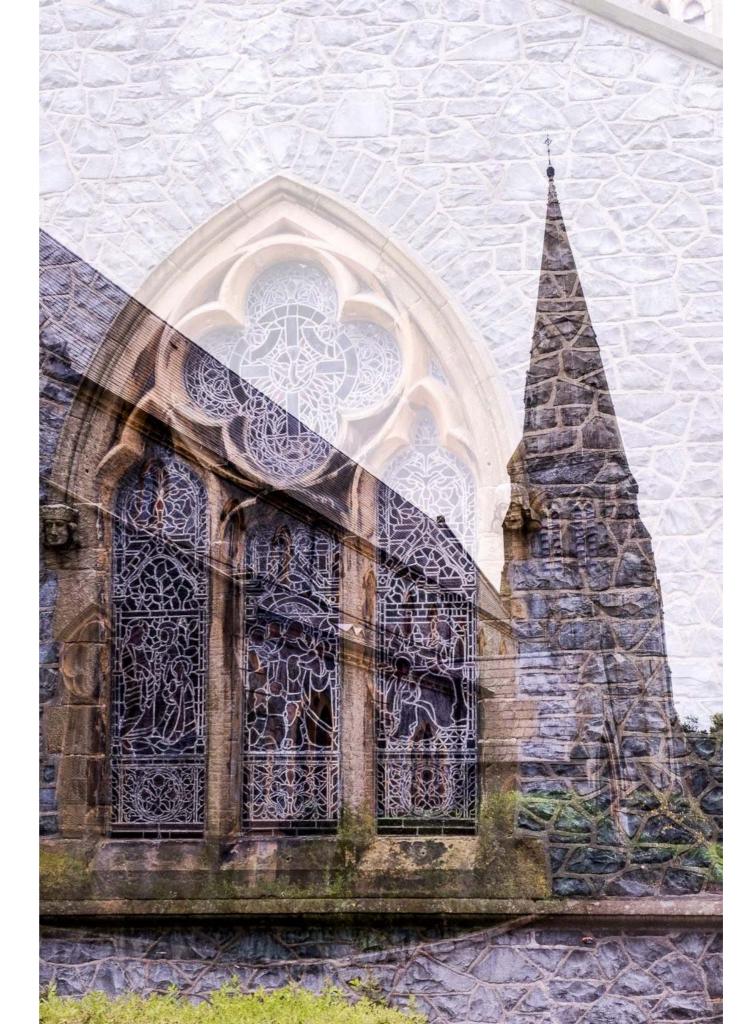


A gravestone benefits from the addition of a nearby flower.



An architect is memorialized on the building he designed.

The detail of the stained glass window is superimposed on the church building, showing the architecture as well as the intricate design of the window.

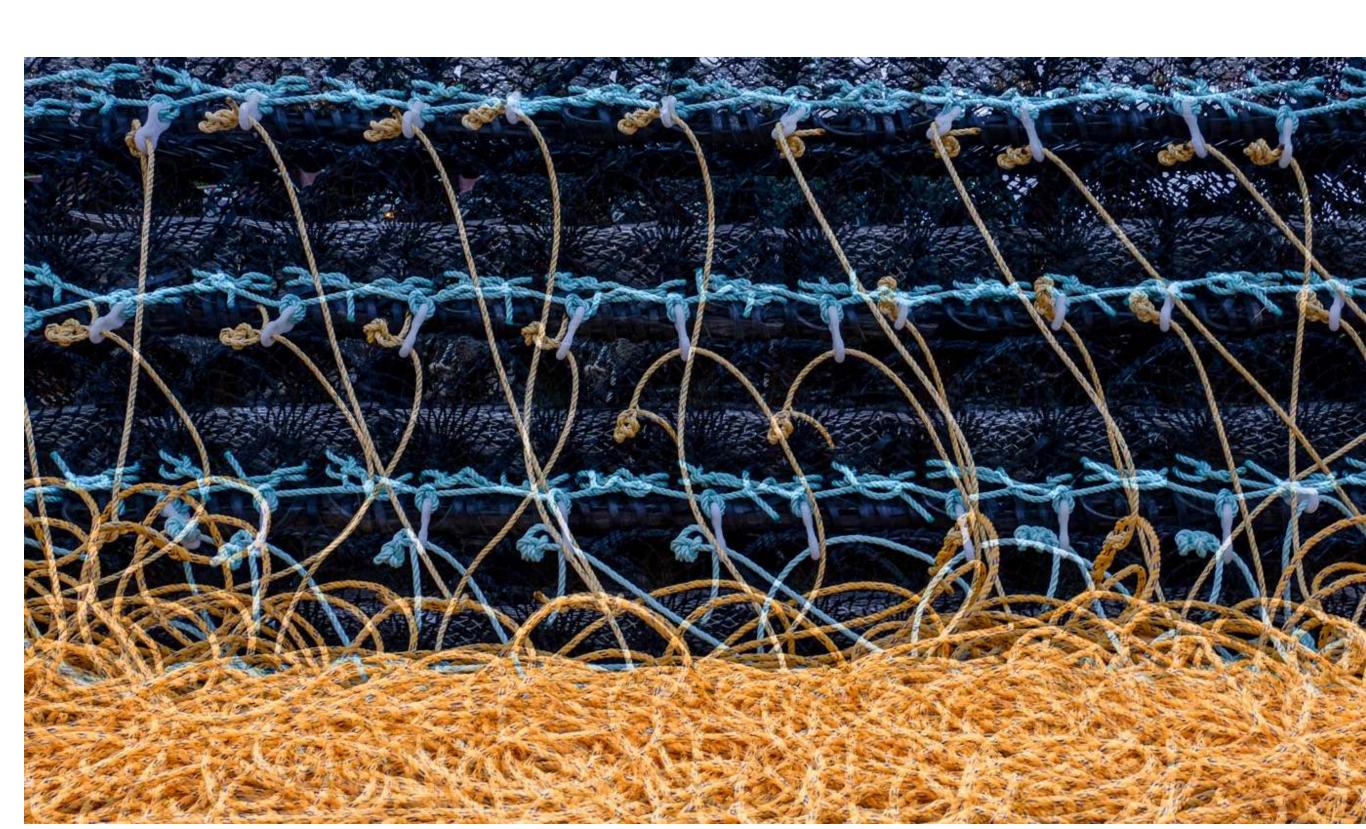


Bird's Eye View!





To accentuate the feeling of repetition and strengthen the pattern, a stack of lobster traps were photographed twice, with slight lateral movement between them.



To add to the feeling of abundance, the foxgloves were photographed twice with an upward movement of the camera.



Twice as many with two exposures!

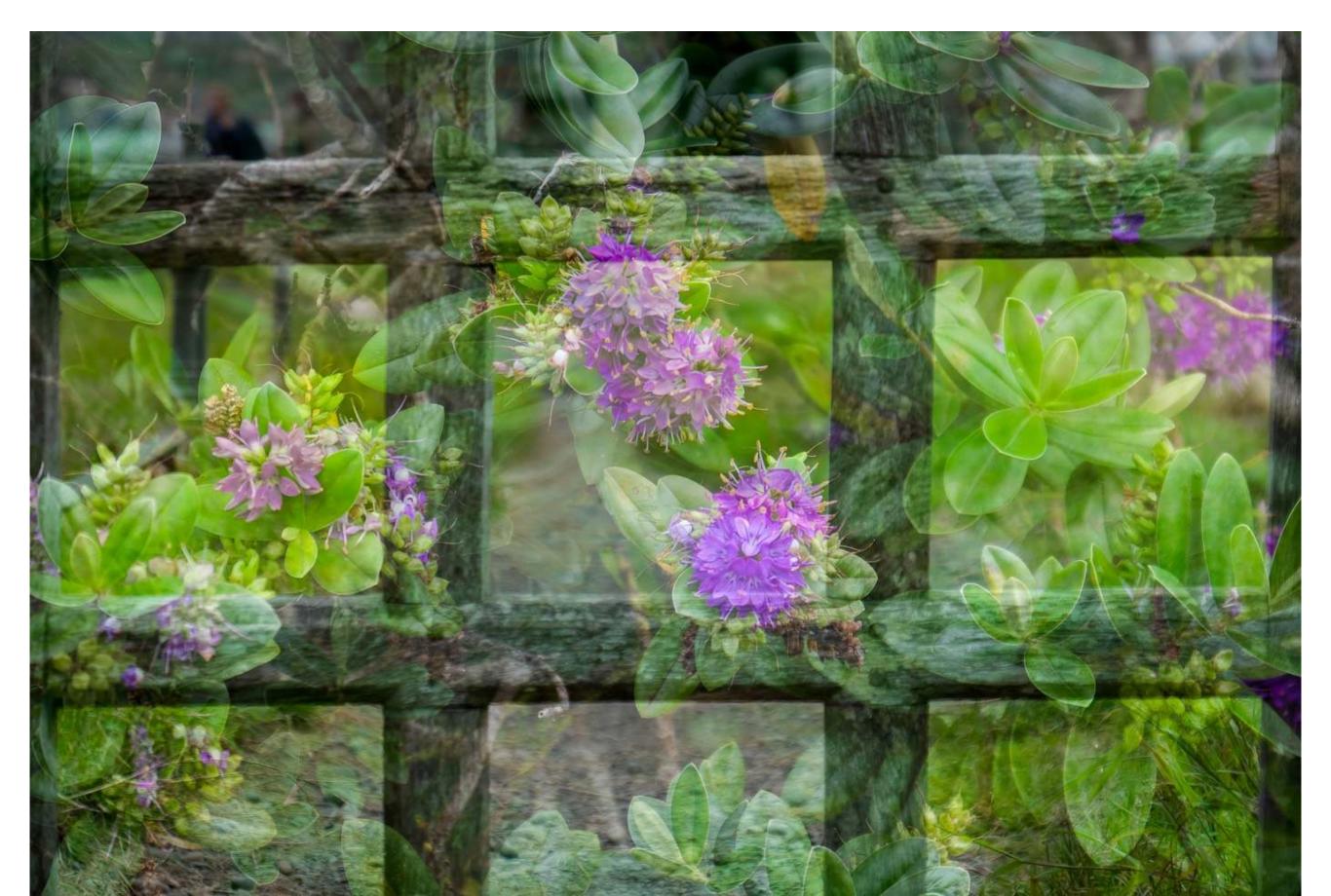


A white wall was photographed first with the trees showing through the arches (inset), then the trees were photographed a second time.

The white colour of the wall is important for the second layer to show.

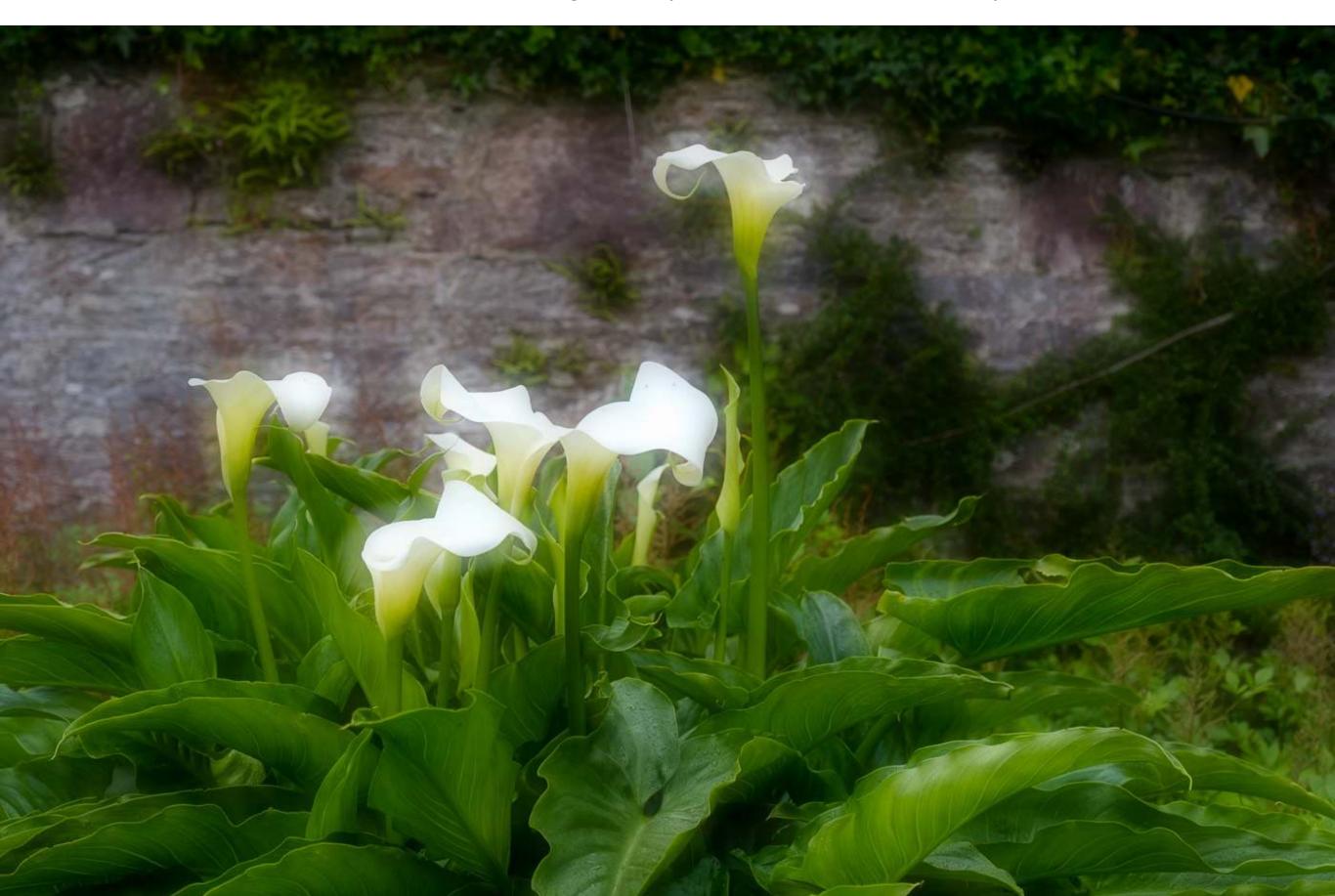


Adding the gate creates the effect of peeking into a neighbour's garden.

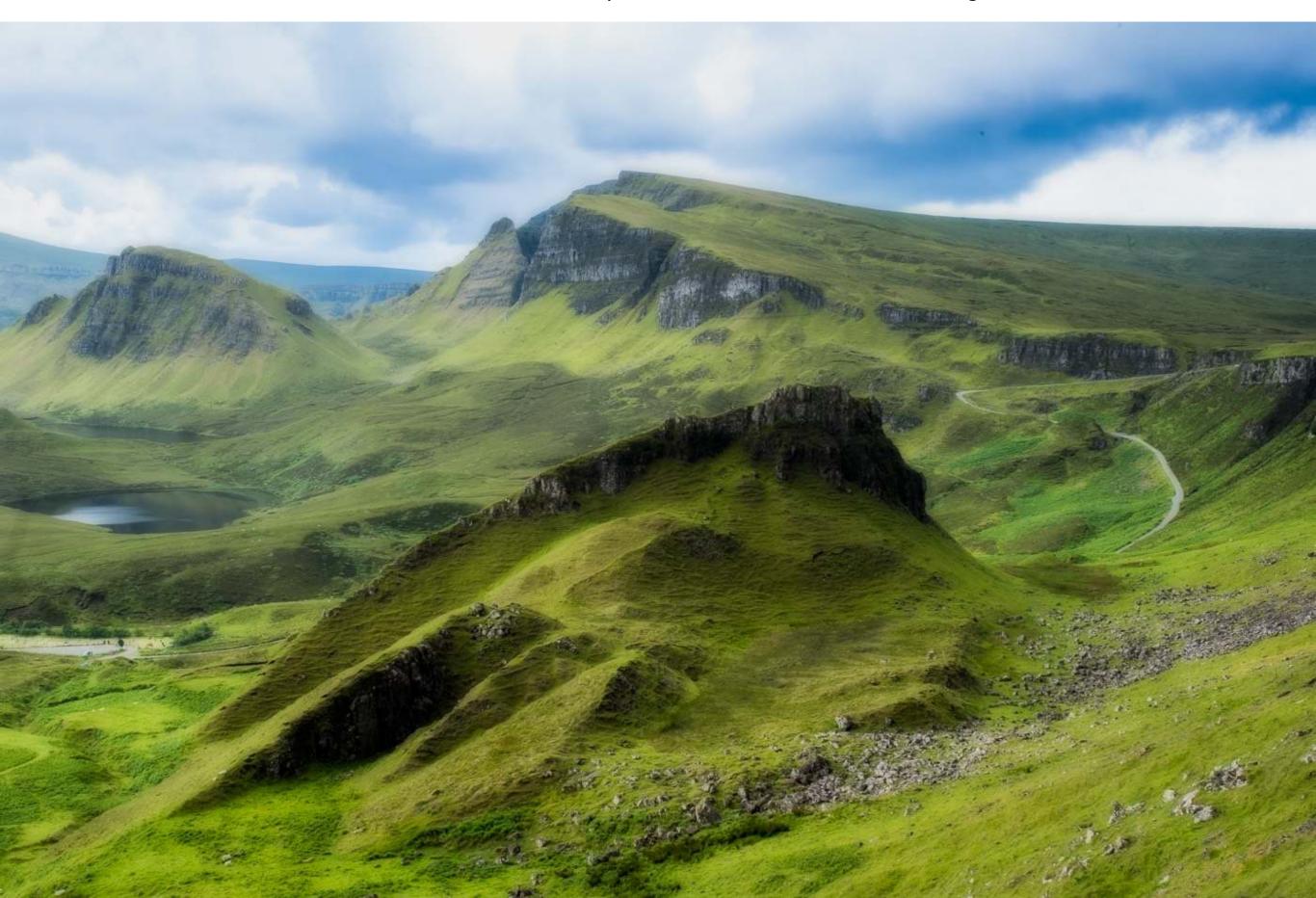


4. Add a layer that is out of focus:

An in-camera Orton effect is created when one image is sharp, the second, of the same subject, is out of focus.



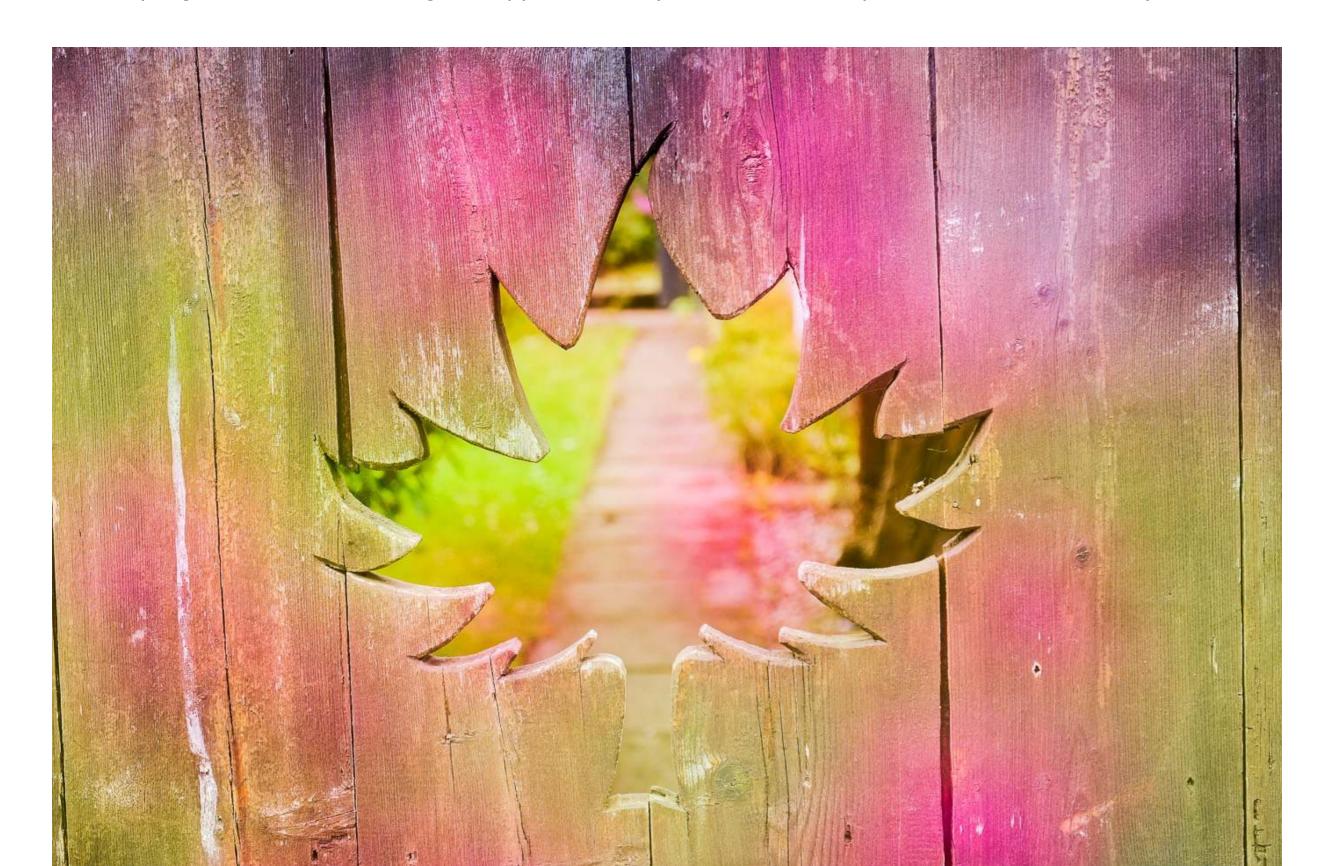
An in-camera Orton effect can also be used on a landscape scene. Here, it accentuates the greens of the Scottish scene.



Orton effect on a castle wall.



The simple gate with a cutout design is supplemented by the out of focus splash of colour from nearby flowers.



And out of focus image of rusty metal is layered on top of the old boat.



Add a second layer out of register with the first.

The sailboats were photographed twice, with just a little space between them.

The details in the sky and hills were added in Topaz Impression.

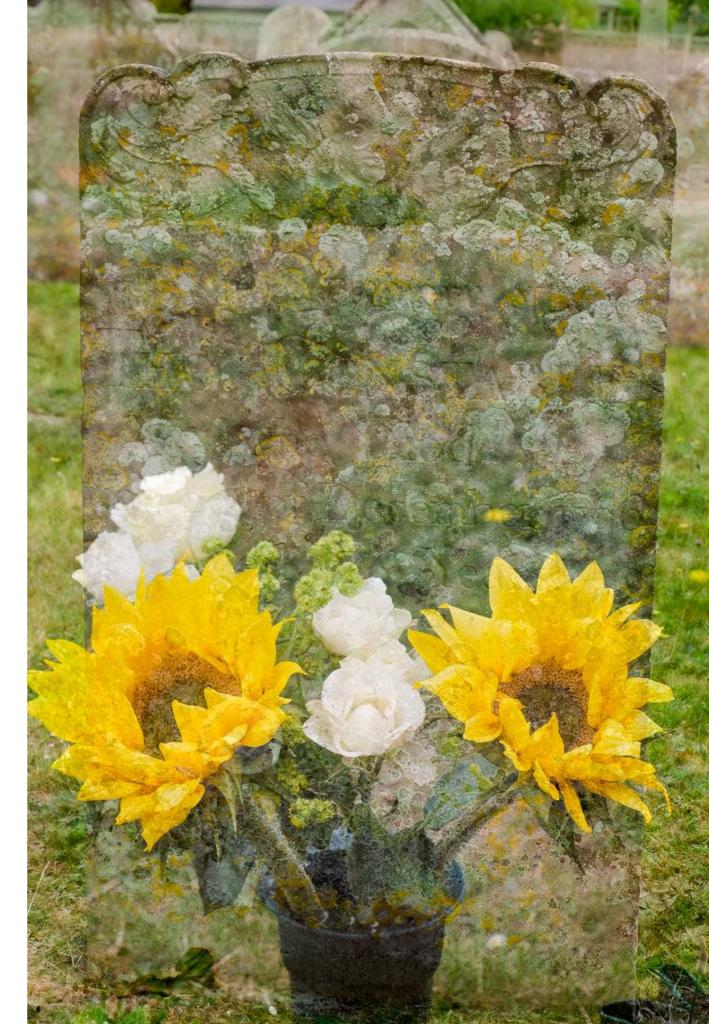


In summary:

Double exposure images can be created when one layer:

- adds texture or colour or both
- has intentional camera movement
- is related to the other and adds to the message
- is out of focus

All photos made in Scotland, July 2017





Have fun! Next topic ...

Multiple Exposures!