

# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## The Wizardry of Odds

Maurice Amiel · Monday, November 1st, 2021

**The visual preference for odd number of stimuli in a photograph** was convincingly presented by the photographer Ted Forbes in his didactic video.

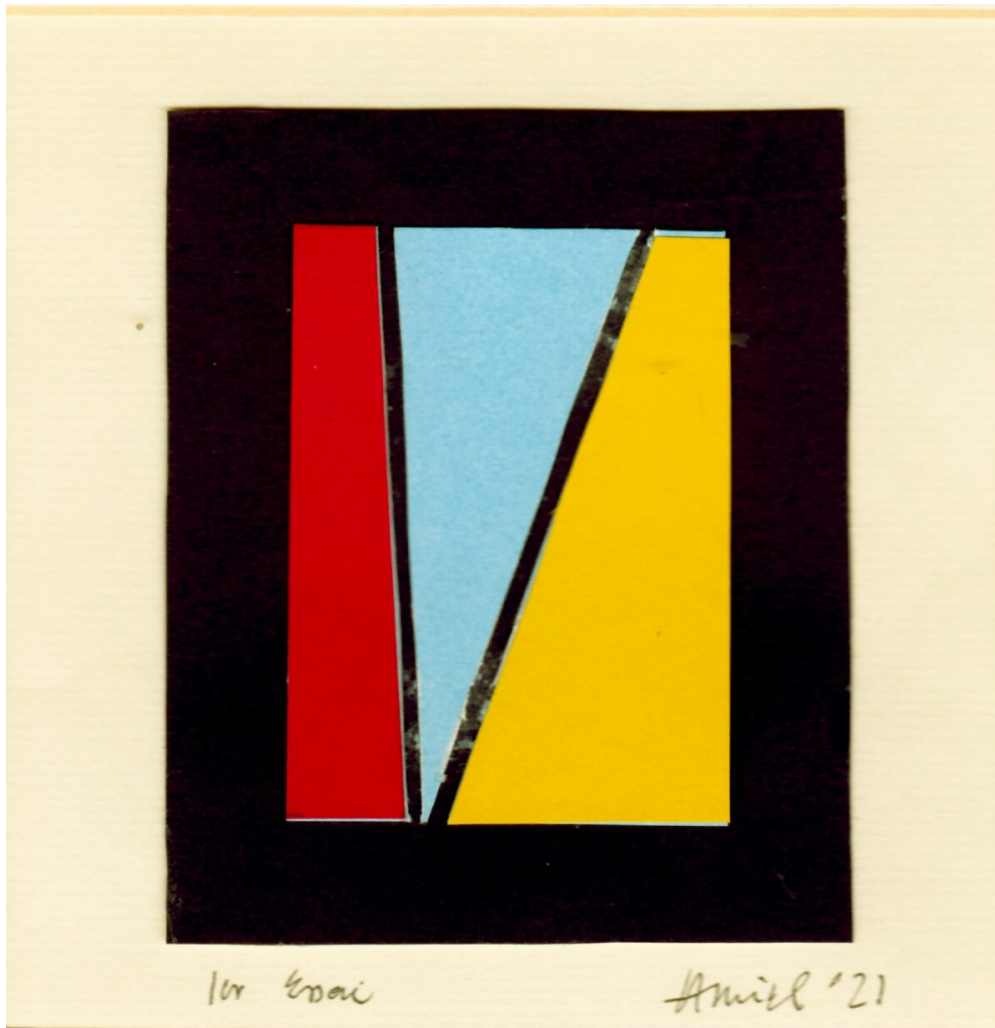
When transferred to another visual medium such as collage, the creative process is quite different than photography of existing subject.

In the feature image, reprised below, I show my first attempt at creating a three parts collage, to be followed with similar ones varying in geometric pattern and colour combination, but all based on Forbes' "Rule of odds."



Basic try keyed on the red triangle

**First try** using similar vertical shapes of differing colours on black background



Emphasis on colour difference and shape similarity

**First attempt** at embedding one element in another



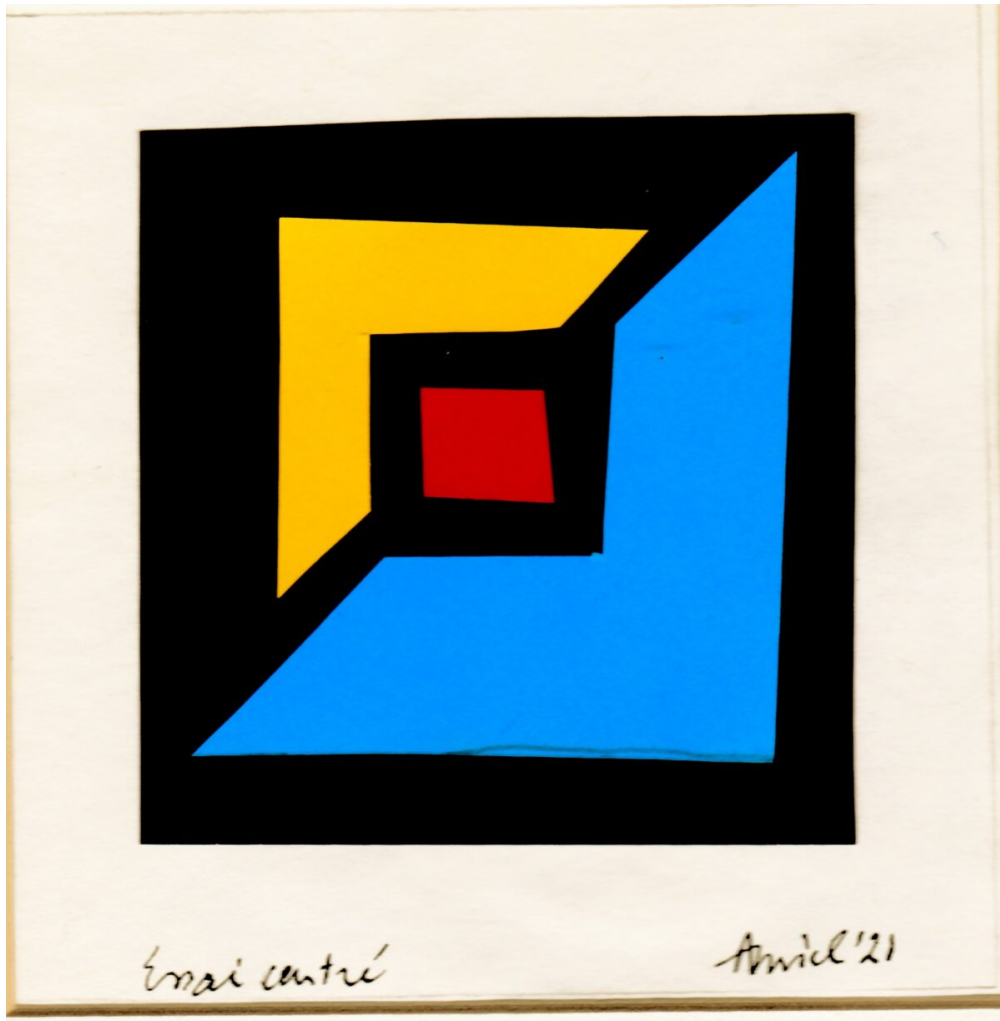
Bringing the background as a shadow separating element

**First attempt a shape differentiation on narrowing in black background**



Exploring colour and shape variety on tighter black background

**Exploring the drawing power of centrality**



Playing on size, shape and positioning of elements around the center

**Testing the “rule of odds” by introducing a shadow background as fourth element**



Playing on the visual back and forth between three distinct elements and shadow fourth one

### End image

Here is a reprise of **first try** with an attempt to bring in the background as a shadow version of the central element





Playing with bringing background as shadow inversion of an element

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