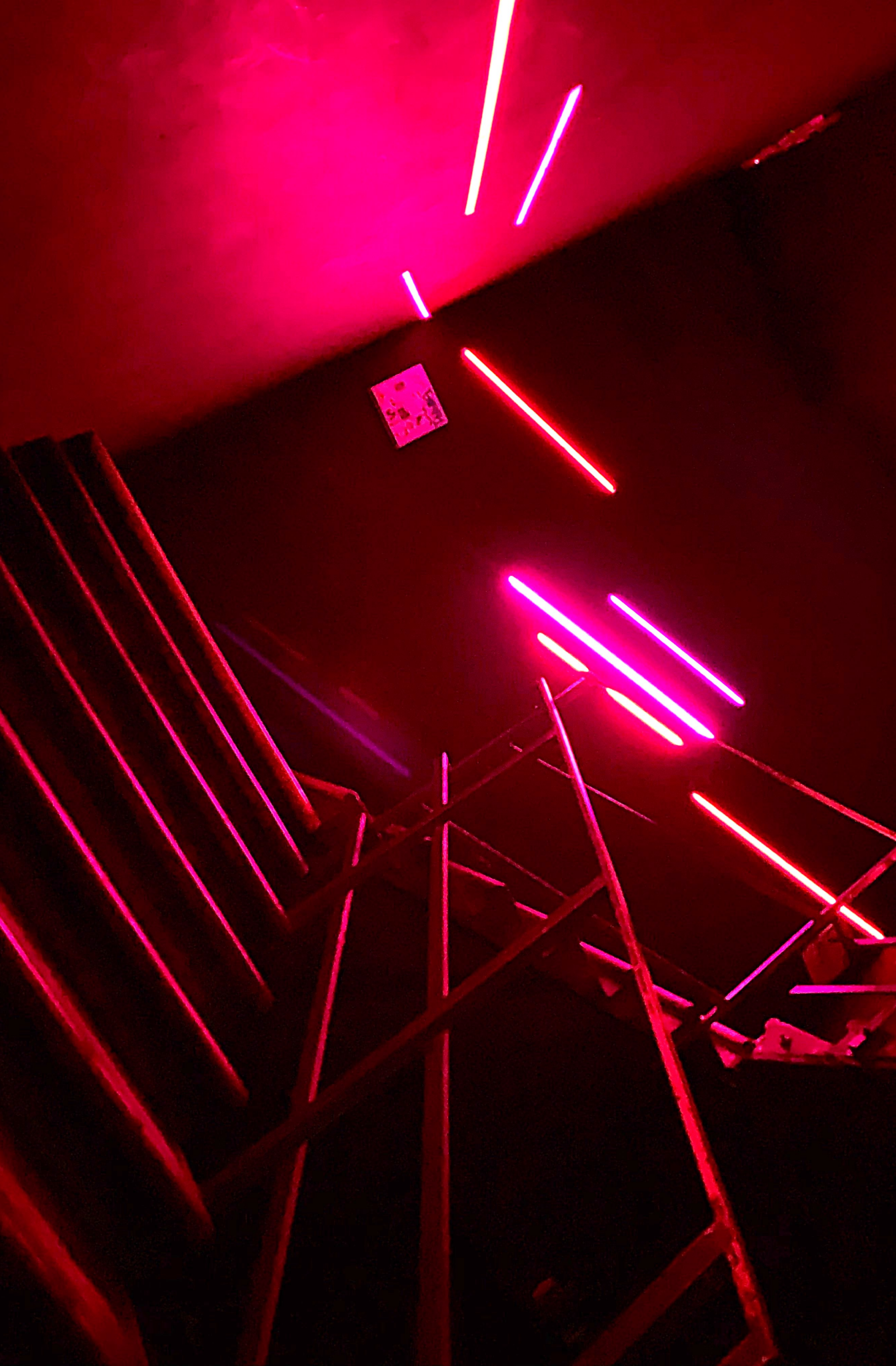


A close-up photograph of a small kitten with brown, black, and white fur, perched on a thick, textured tree branch. The kitten's head is tilted downwards, and its eyes are closed. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting foliage. A teal-colored rectangular box is superimposed over the middle of the image, containing the text "DUTCH TILT" in white, serif, all-caps font.

DUTCH TILT





Dutch Tilt effective when you want to introduce emotions into your image. These emotions could be simple drama, anger or sadness, movement and even uncertainty. The key word is emotions and you are not limited to the few words I've used here. Let's look at some Dutch Tilt examples.





This image has a slight tilt and there is an obvious movement downward. We know the skateboarder has only one way to go with her uphill climb. There is a slight tilt to the image that adds to the anticipation or excitement - whichever way you want to look at it. In fact, as we look at the image we can easily think how physically difficult the skateboard ride must be. Are you out of breath? The diagonal and Dutch Tilt work nicely here.





I like this image of the young man in the dark room peering out through a sliver of the torn fabric. The muted colors, the darkness of the shadows and the light illuminating his face work amazingly well together. The slight tilt of the photograph gives an edgy feel. There is suspense, mystery and unease. What is he looking at? Is he hiding from someone? Notice, too, the line implied by the direction the boy is looking. The implied line created by the direction he is looking and his arm extended toward the window lead us to look at the opening in the fabric covering the window. All in all this is brilliant and the photographer has achieved a strong composition.





If you look at the top of the wooden fence you can see that the photographer tilted the camera for this shot. This is a nice example of the Dutch Tilt - a slight tilt of the camera. By tilting the camera the photographer has given a sense of movement and a little bit of suspense. Luckily the expression on the face of the child in the background tells us, everything will be fine for the little jumper. Nicely done.





This image tells a great story and is a good example of Dutch Tilt. What story can you think of? Could you write a caption for the photo? The young woman on the telephone who appears to be looking out the window while on the phone and with her hand placed under her hair already gives a feeling of unease. Something is not right. I'm nervous just looking at the photo. Tilting the camera for a Dutch Tilt adds more unease to the shot. Do you notice any other element of photo composition used in the image? Yes, that's right. Leading lines. Notice her folded arms lead to her face. More than this and far more effective is the implied line from her eyes. What is she looking at? Who or what does she see? The effect is brilliant and the photographer achieves a strong photo composition.





There is one thing I would change about the image is placing her more to the right and not so much in the middle of the frame. Since I did not capture this image, I simply cropped out the unnecessary space. Do you notice how much stronger the photo composition is with the young lady off-center. As you practice you will increasingly notice details and then instinctively make adjustments within your camera as you capture images.





Lastly, the woman in the truck looking past the mirror is fantastic. We don't know the story but the photographer gives us the freedom to come up with our own. We are involved and this is what we want as photographers. The tilt gives the image a feeling of unease as does the line of sight from the young woman. What is she looking at? Is someone out there or is someone following her? Great composition and with the frame filled, our attention is drawn only to the young woman and this is where our attention should be. As a side note, notice the colors. The darks and reds worn by the woman stand out brilliantly against the pale blue paint of the truck. We will discuss the importance of color in a future lesson and you can see firsthand how it was used effectively.



# NOTES



# NOTES