How to Compose Pond Photos by Jack Marshall

Aka: How to win the Austin Pond Society Photo contest

Agenda

- Composition
- Ponds
- Flowers
- Fish
- Other Critters

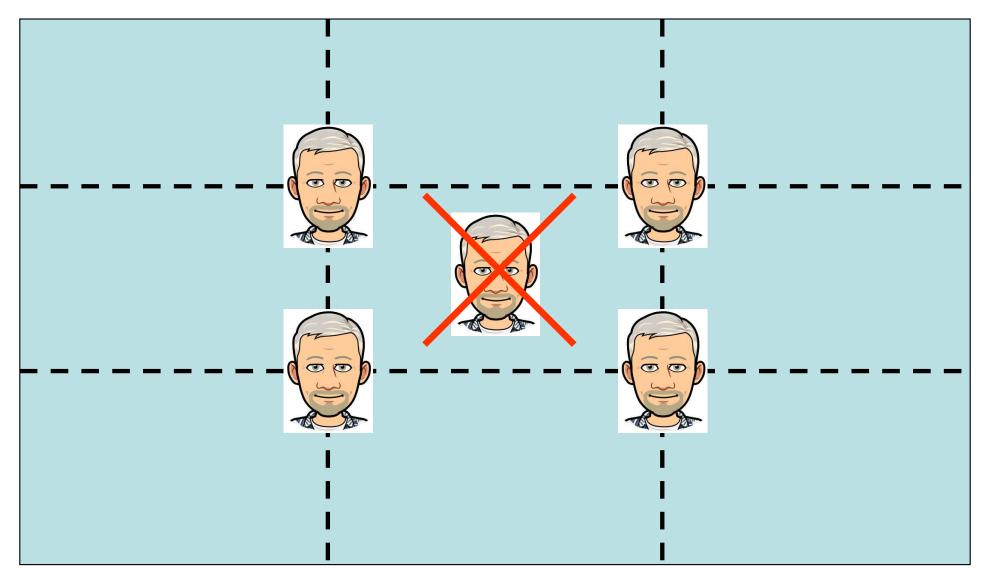


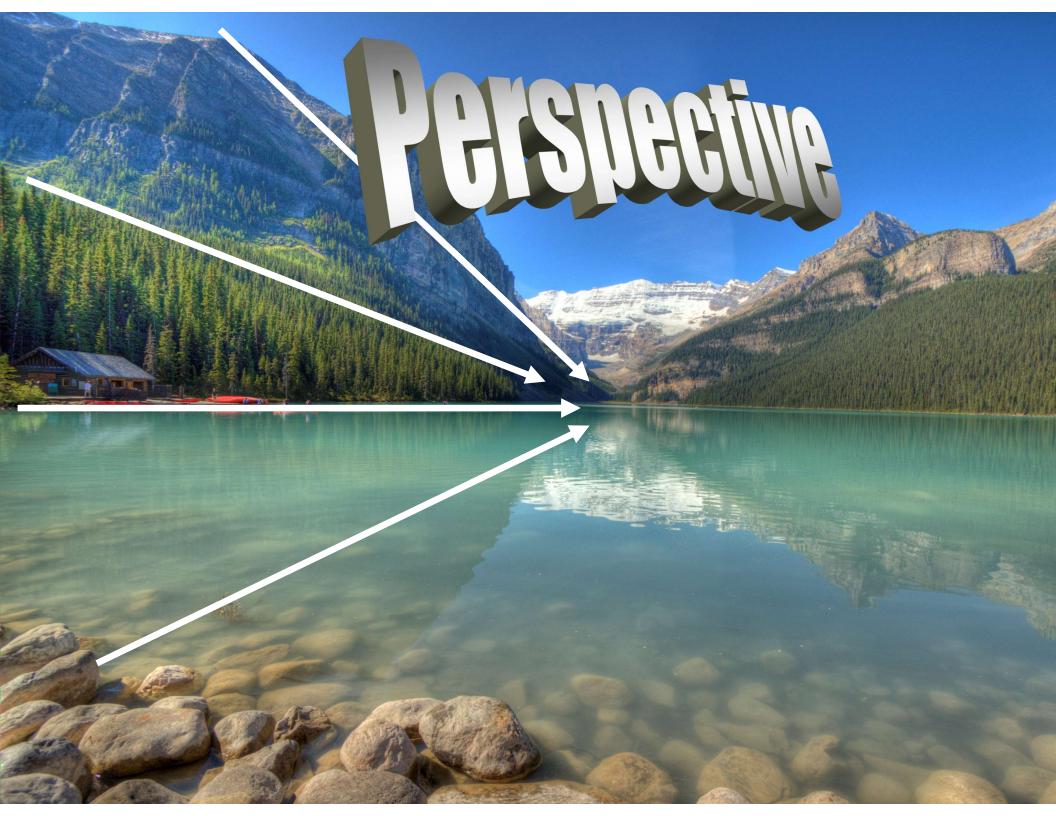
Composition

- Establish Focal Point / Subject
- Rule of Thirds
- Perspective Lines / Vanishing Point
- Horizon / Reflections









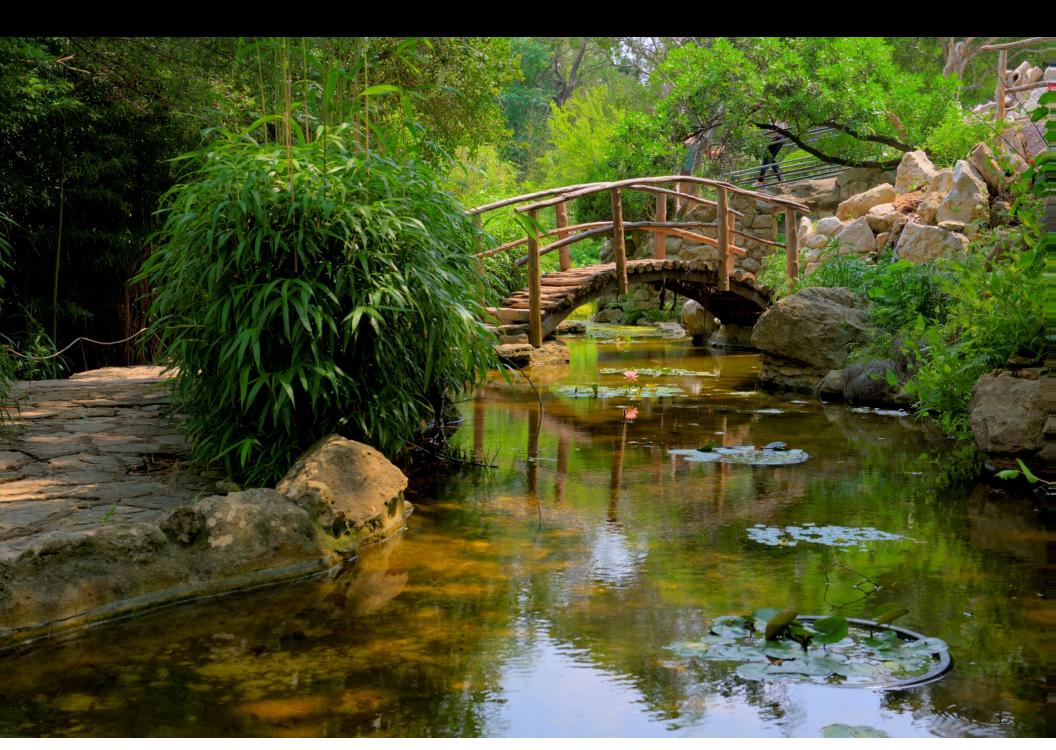
Horizon & Reflections

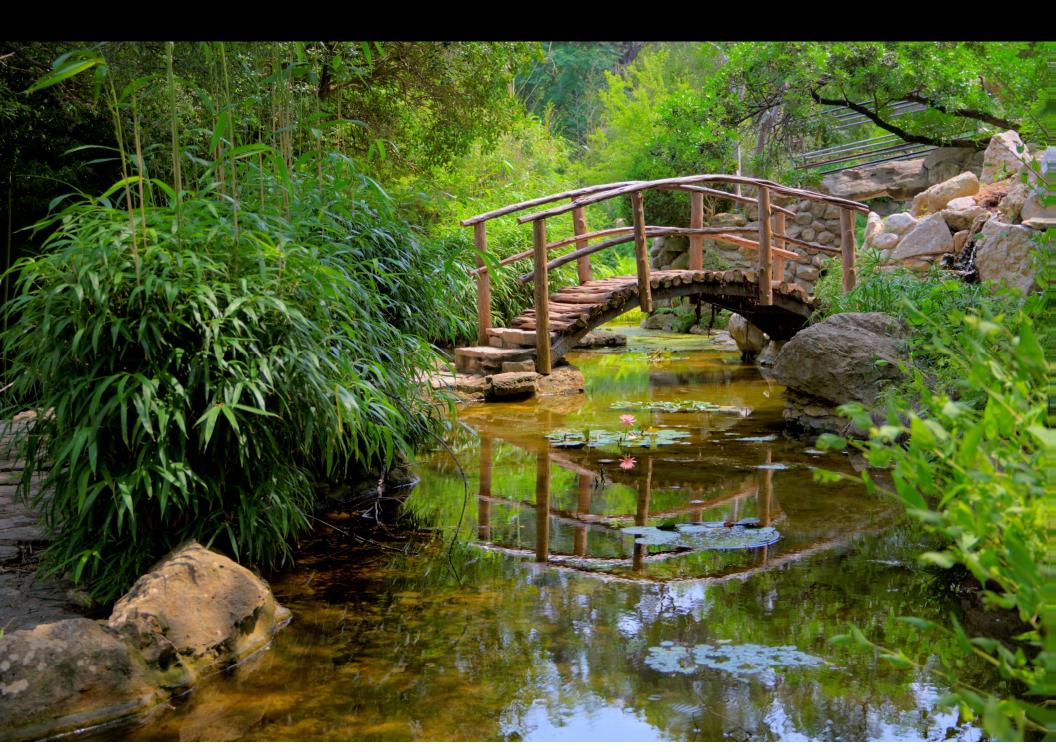
Reflections

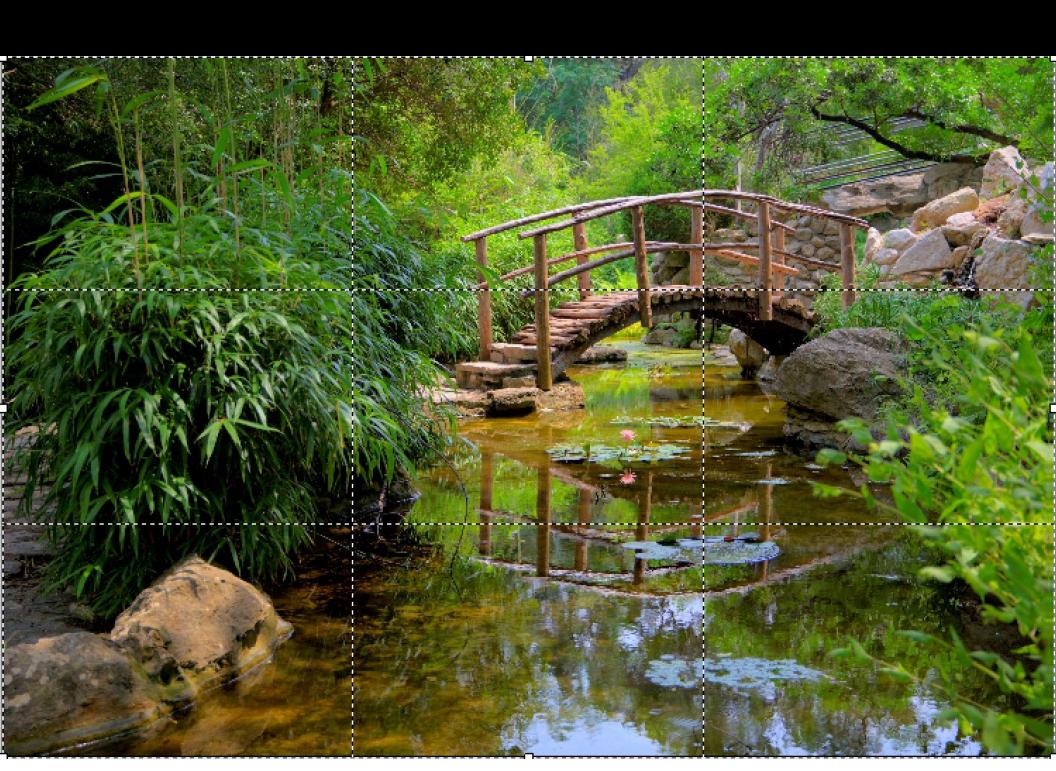
"Now let's see how to apply these rules of composition to our photographs!"

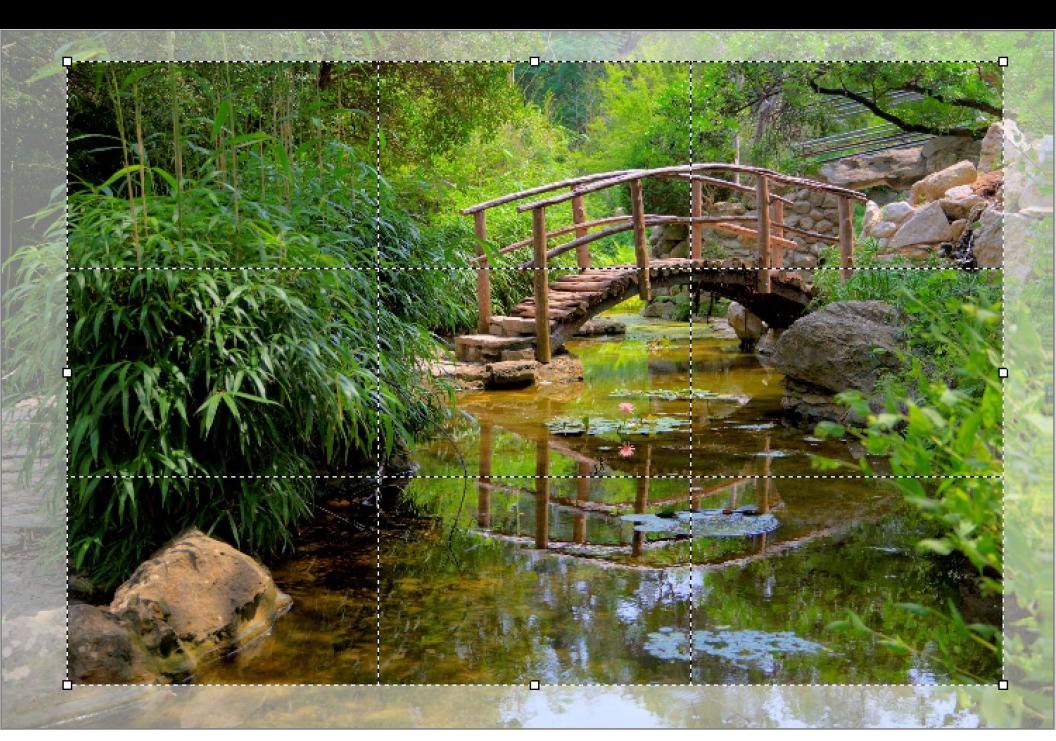


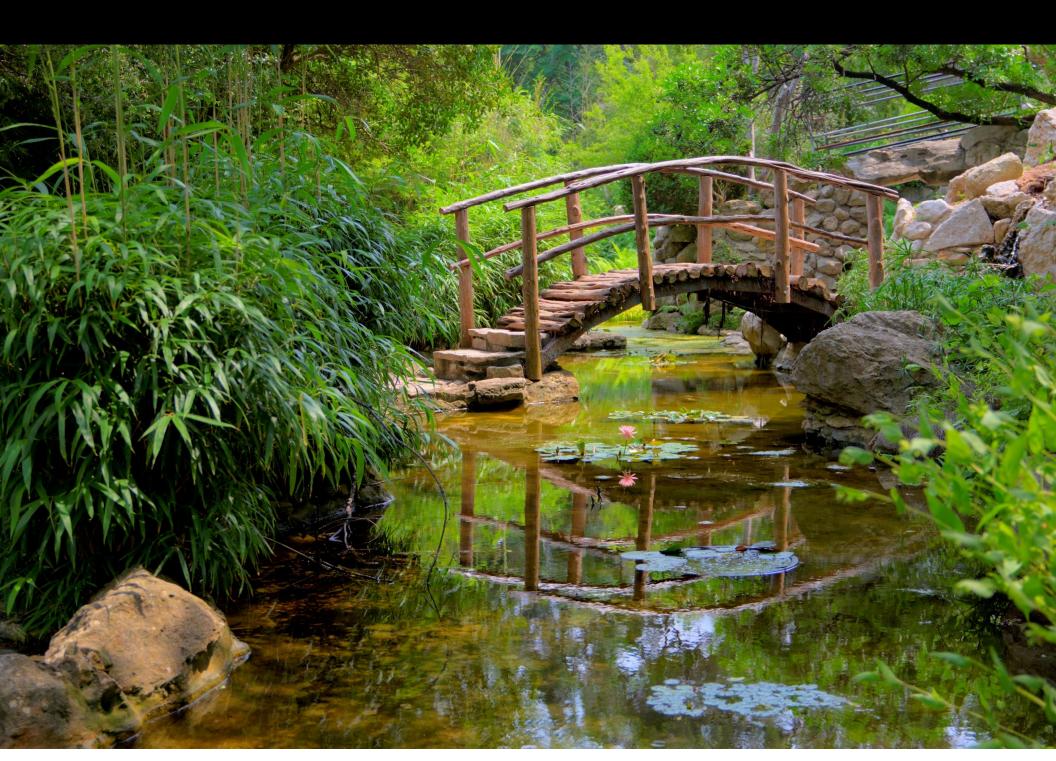
"We'll start with ponds"

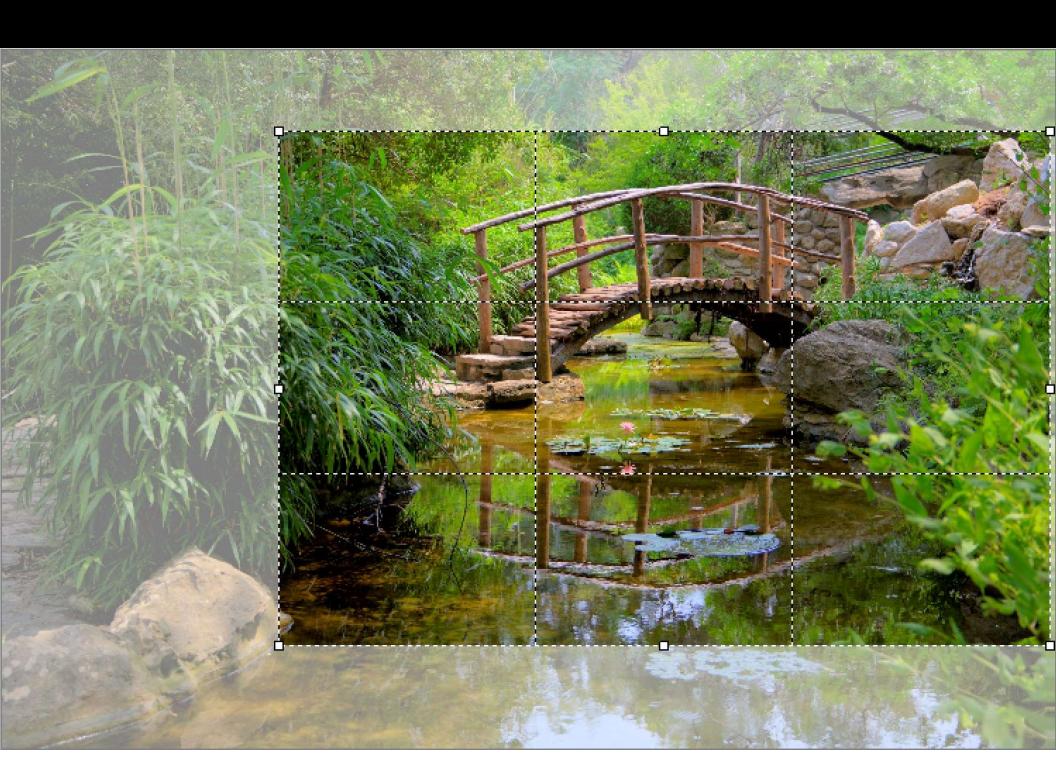


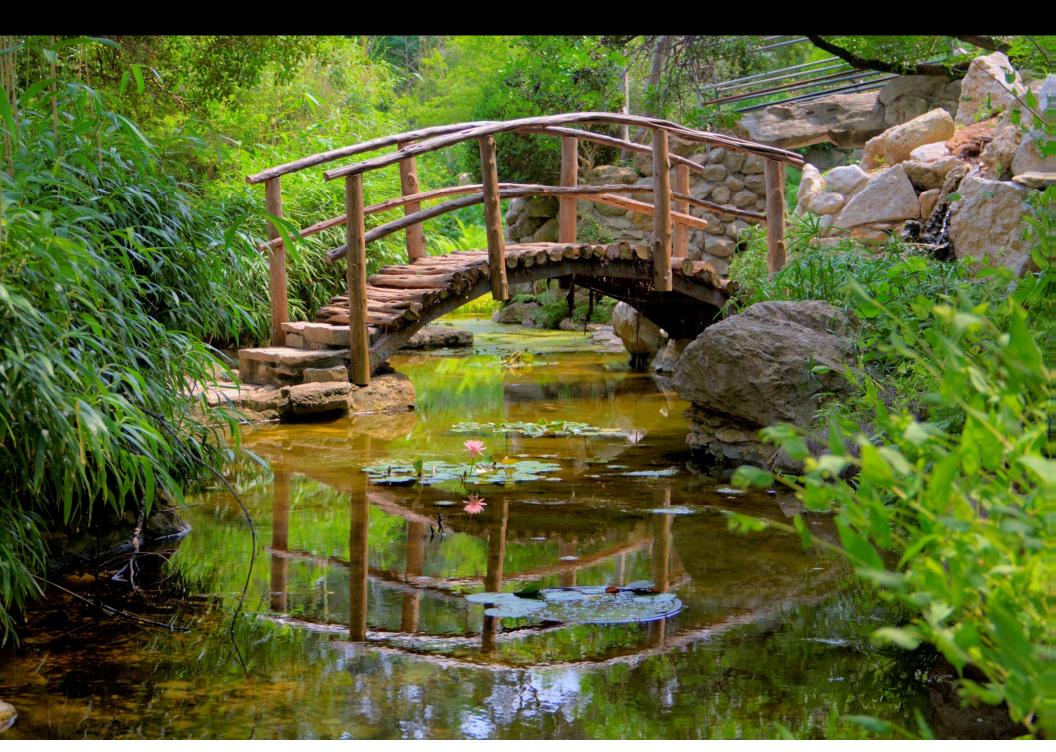


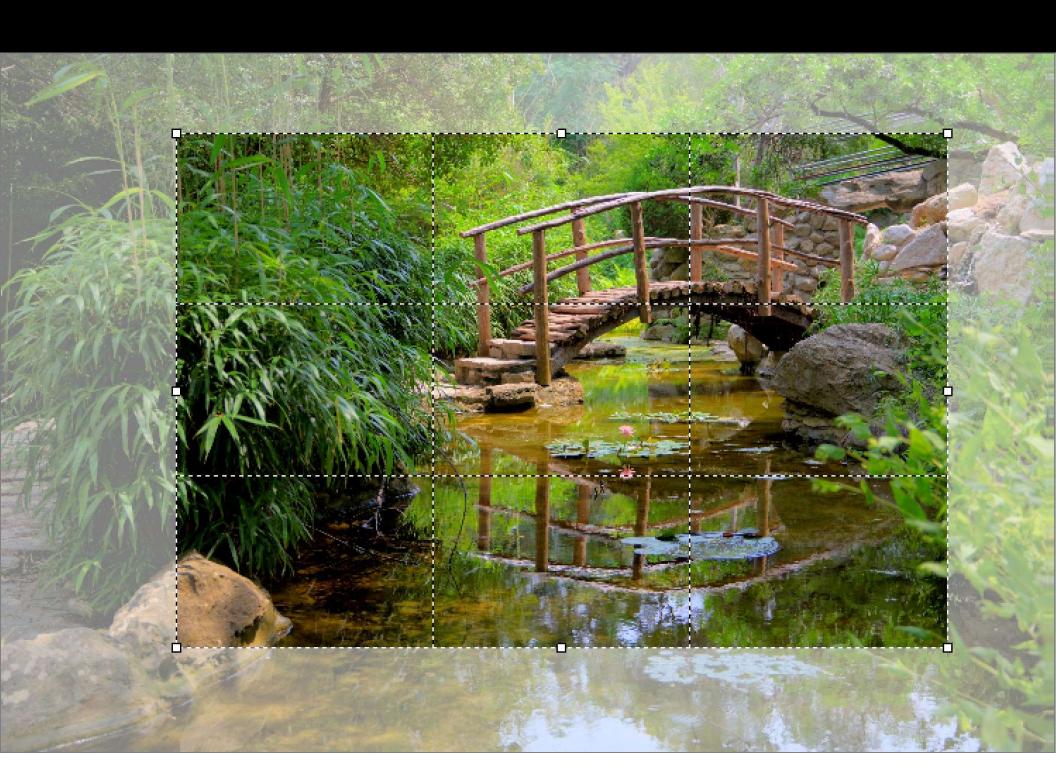


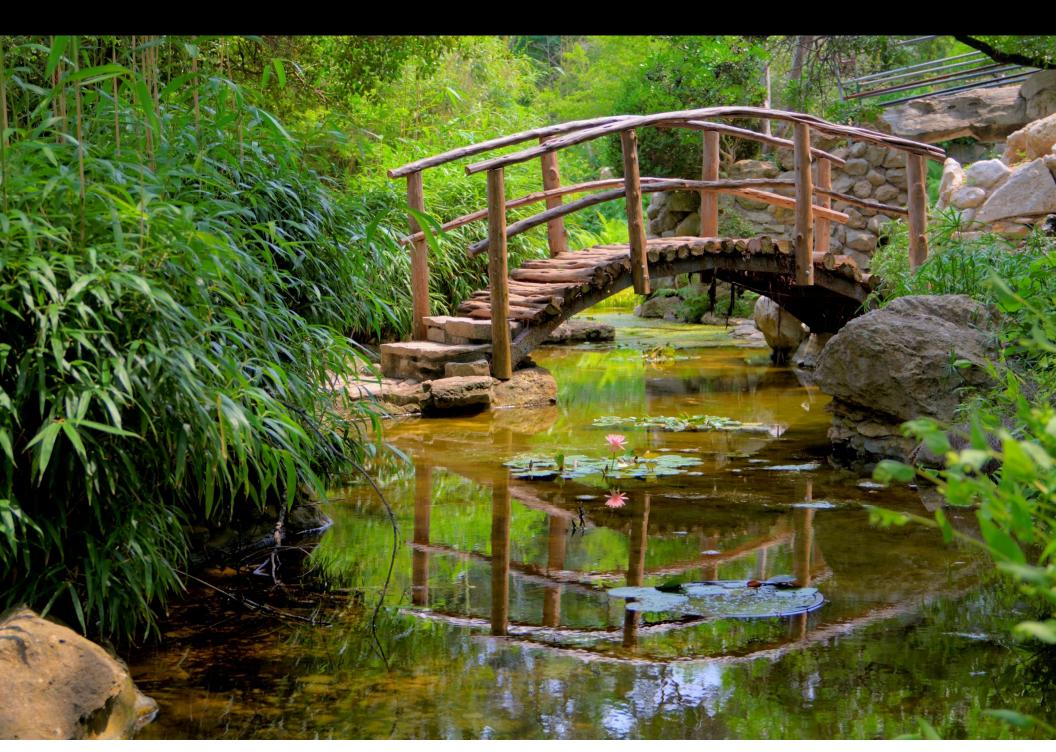


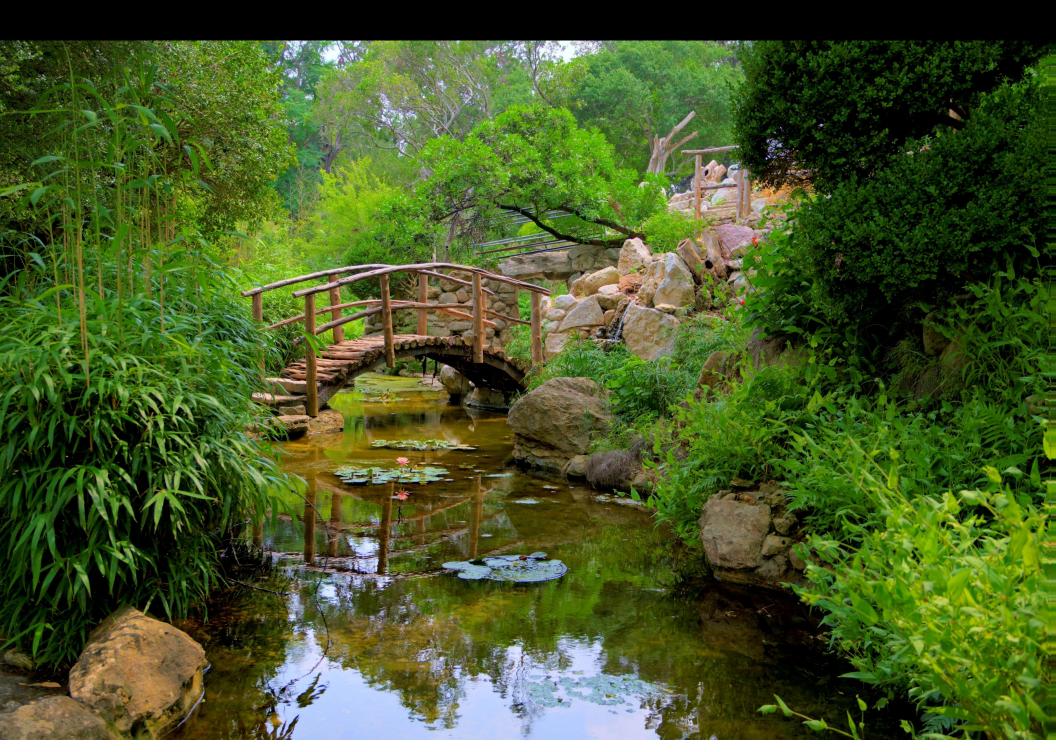


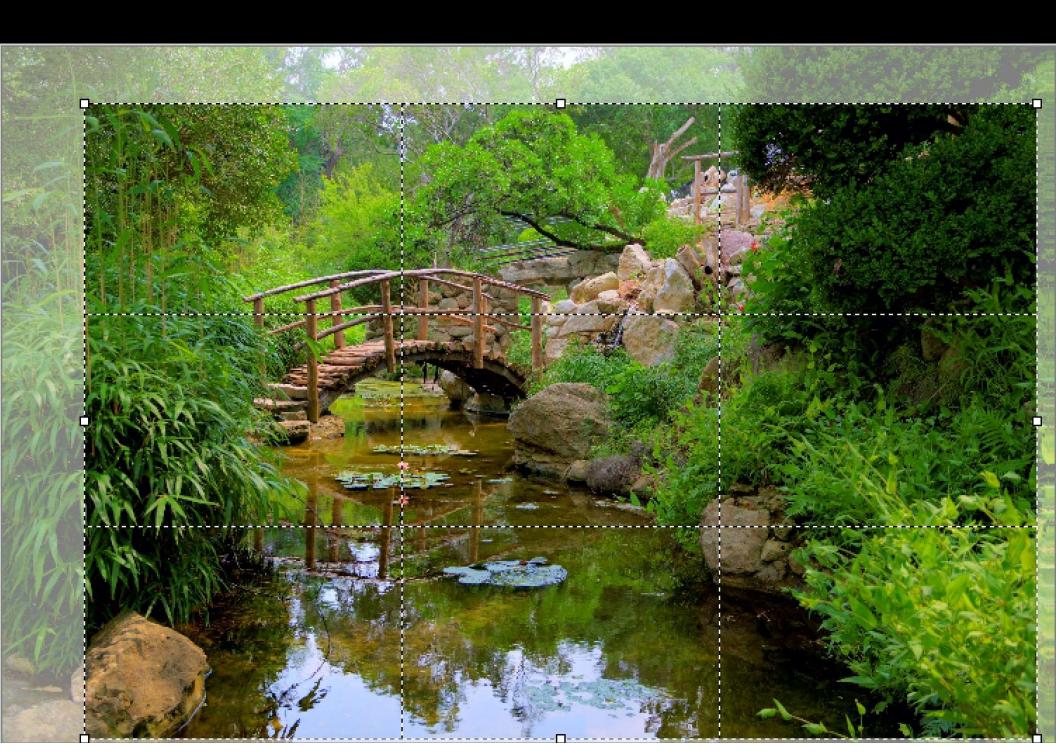


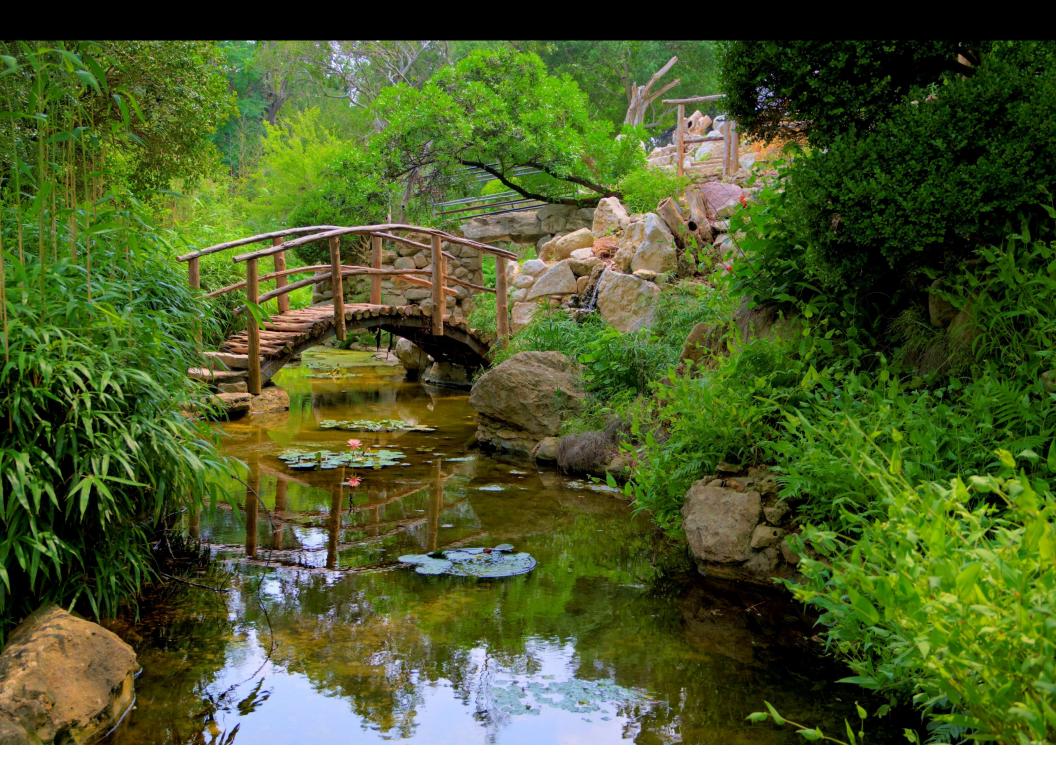


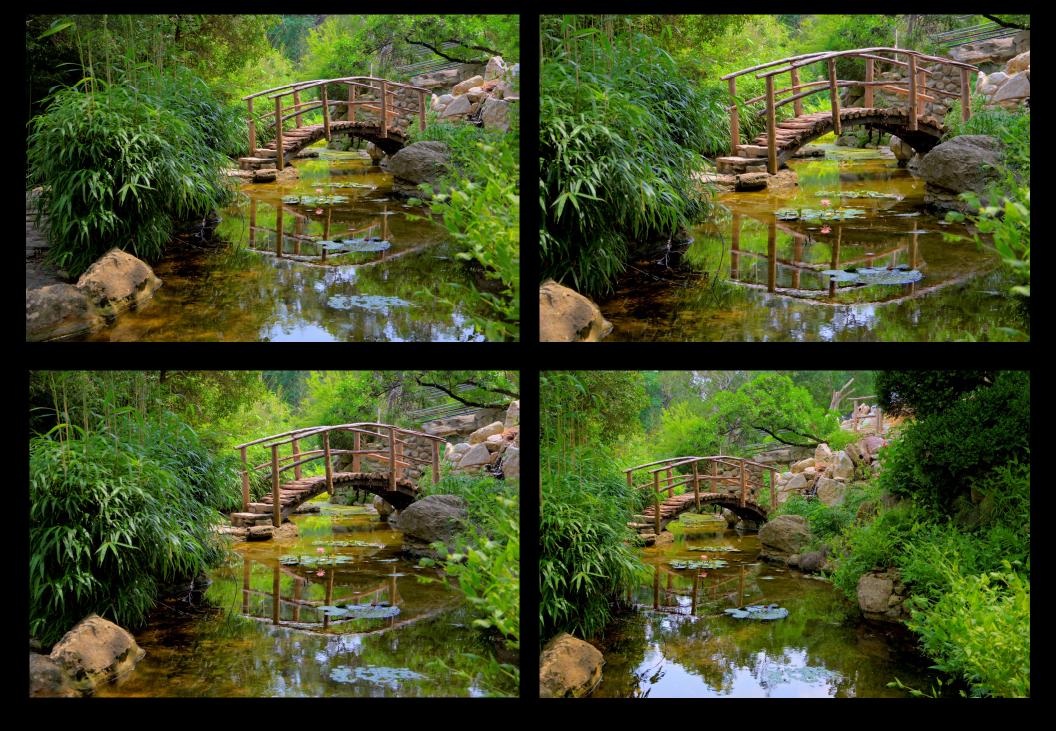


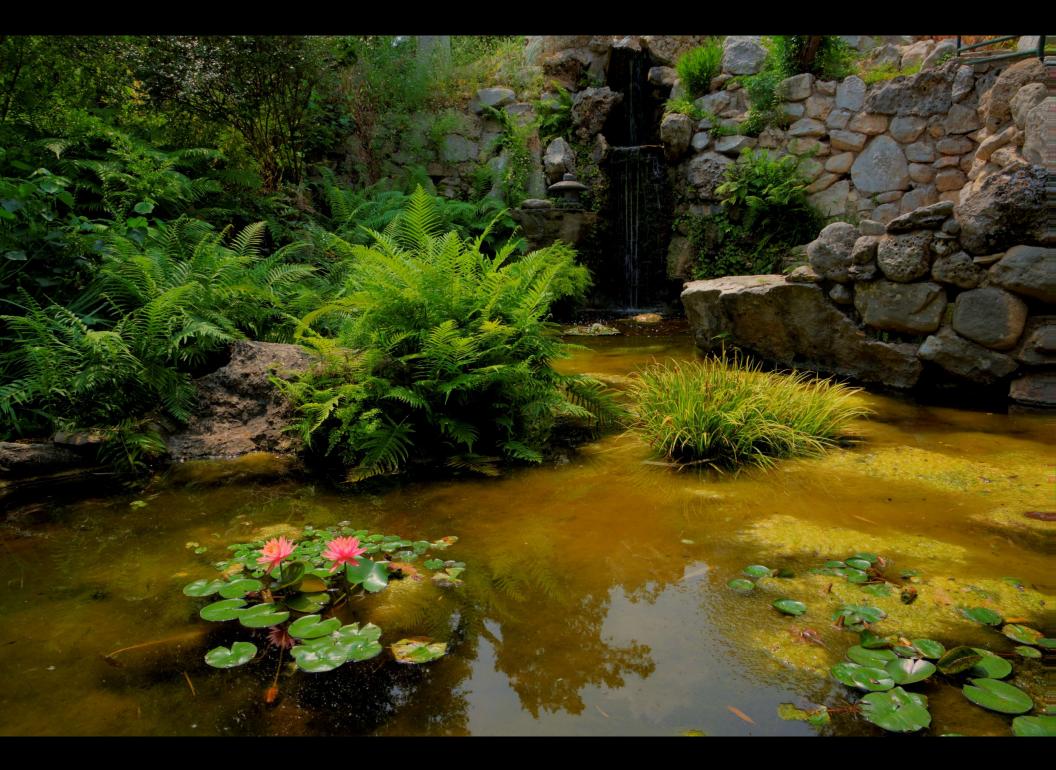


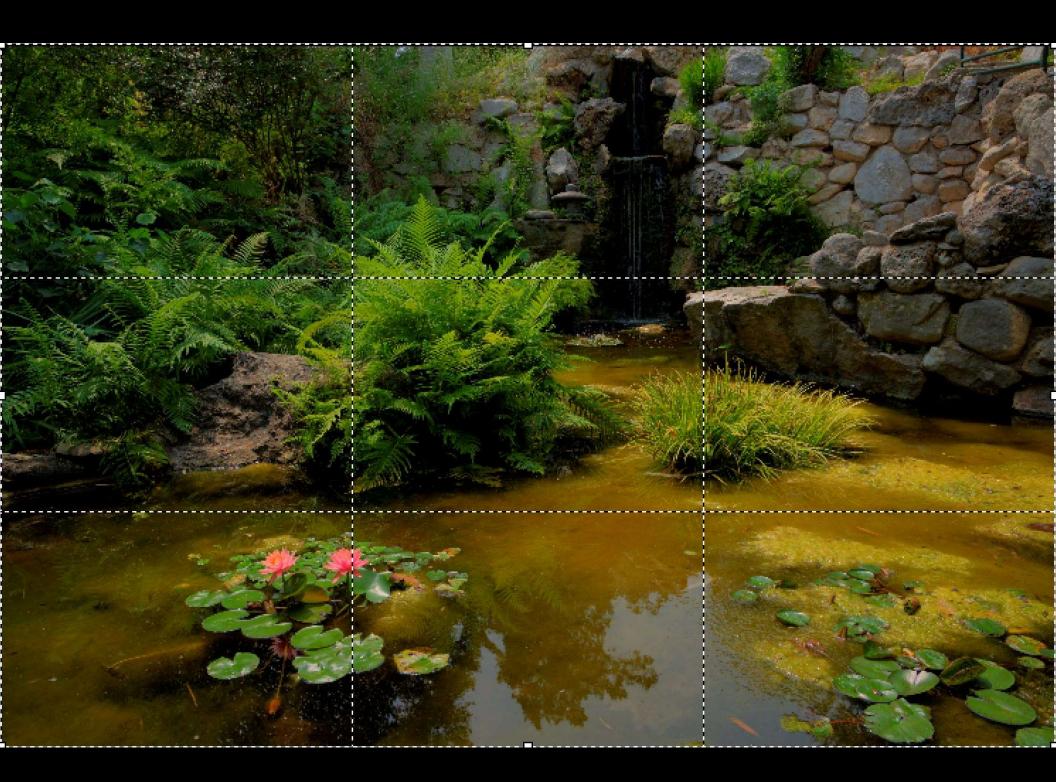


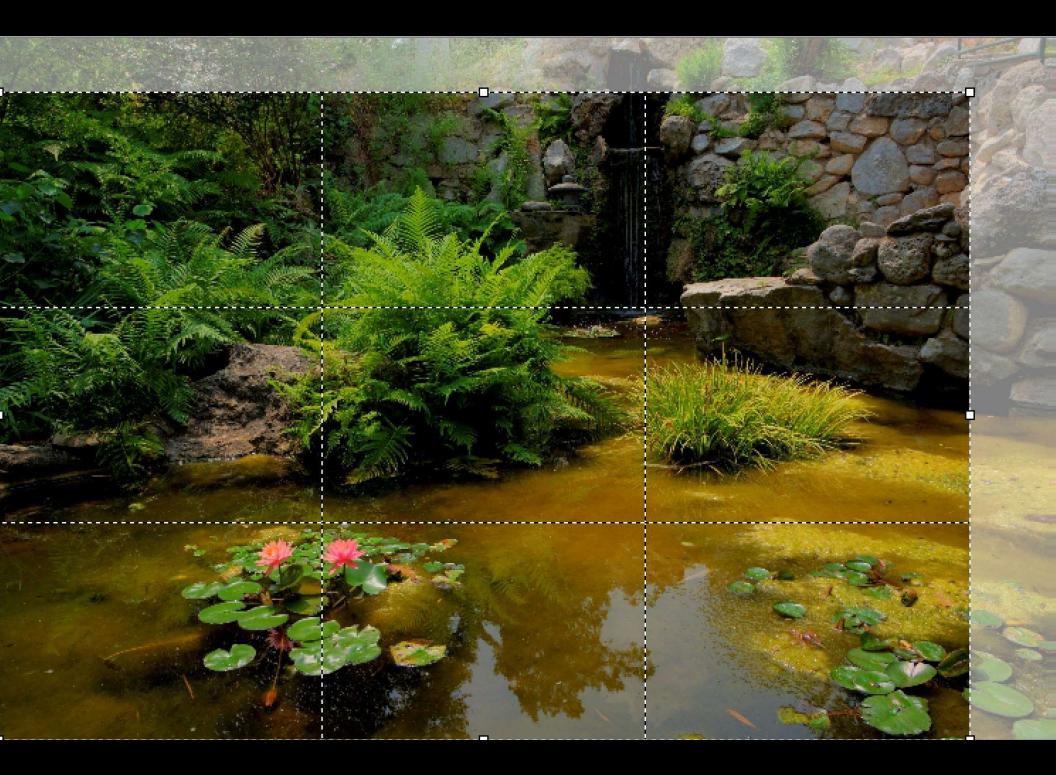


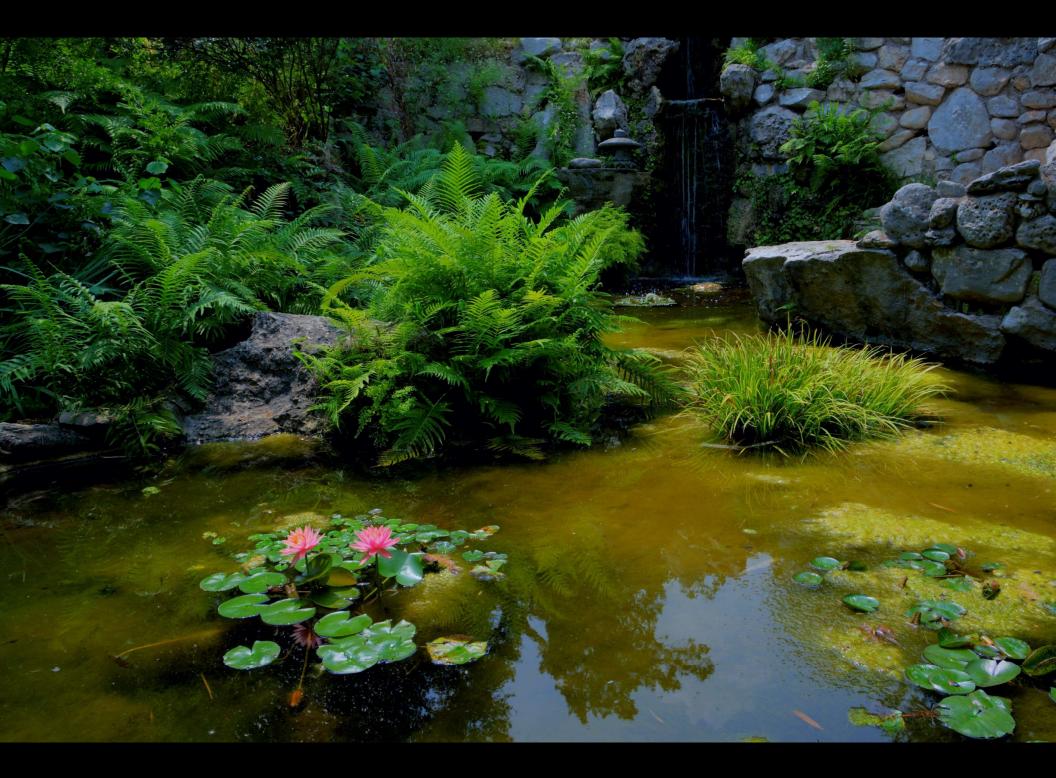










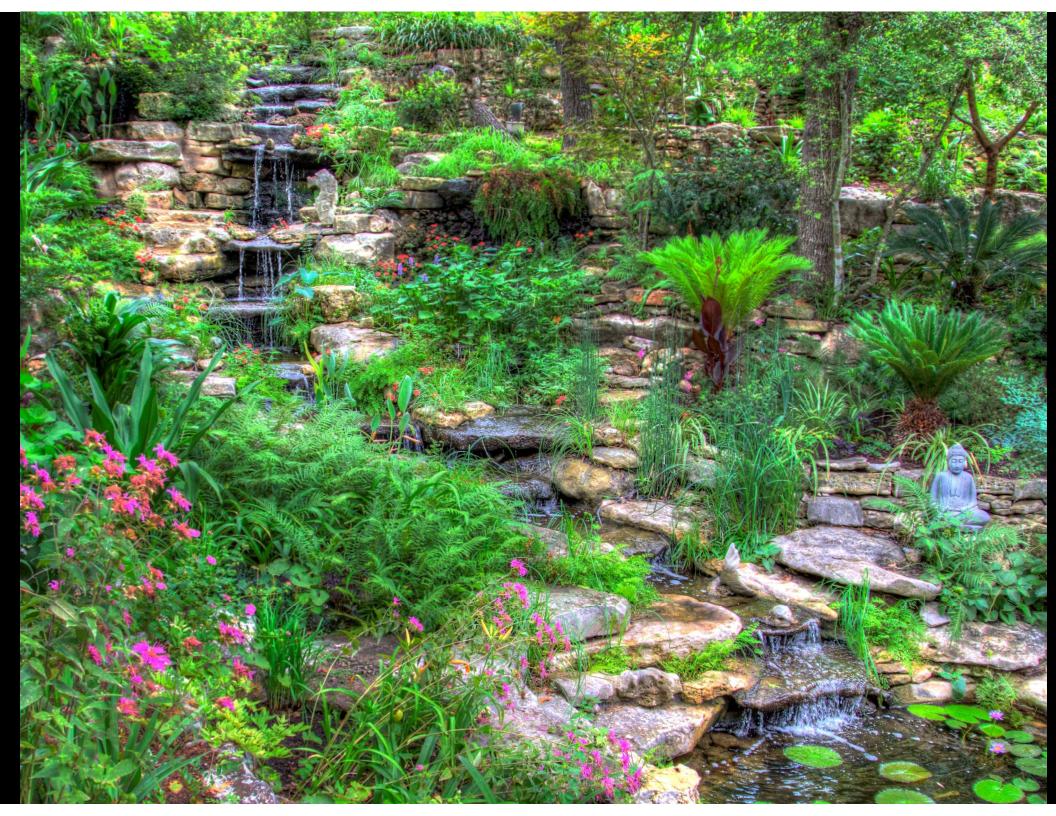


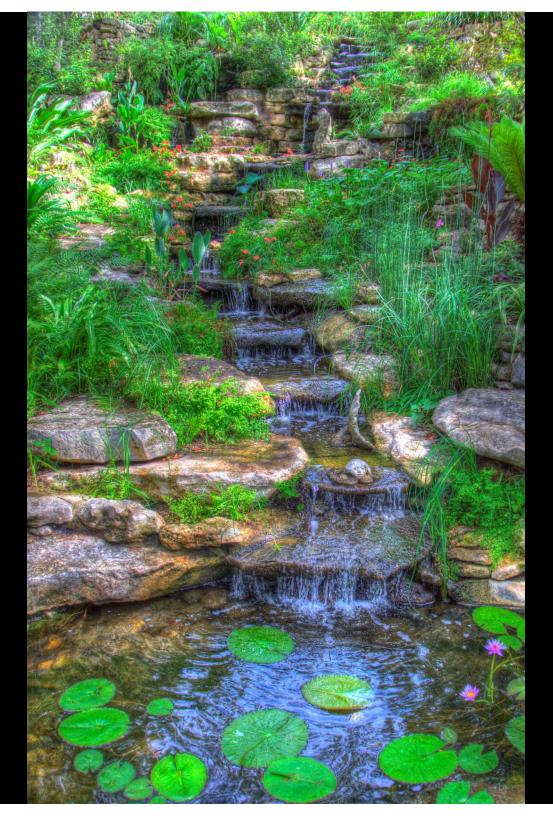










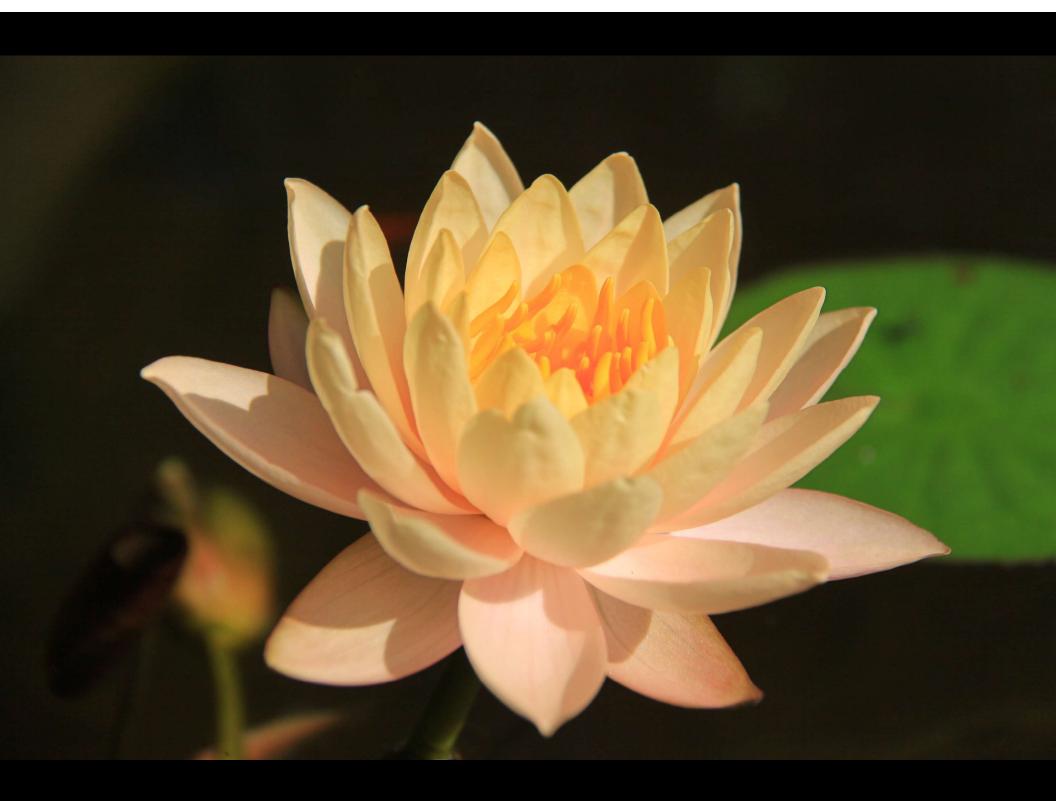


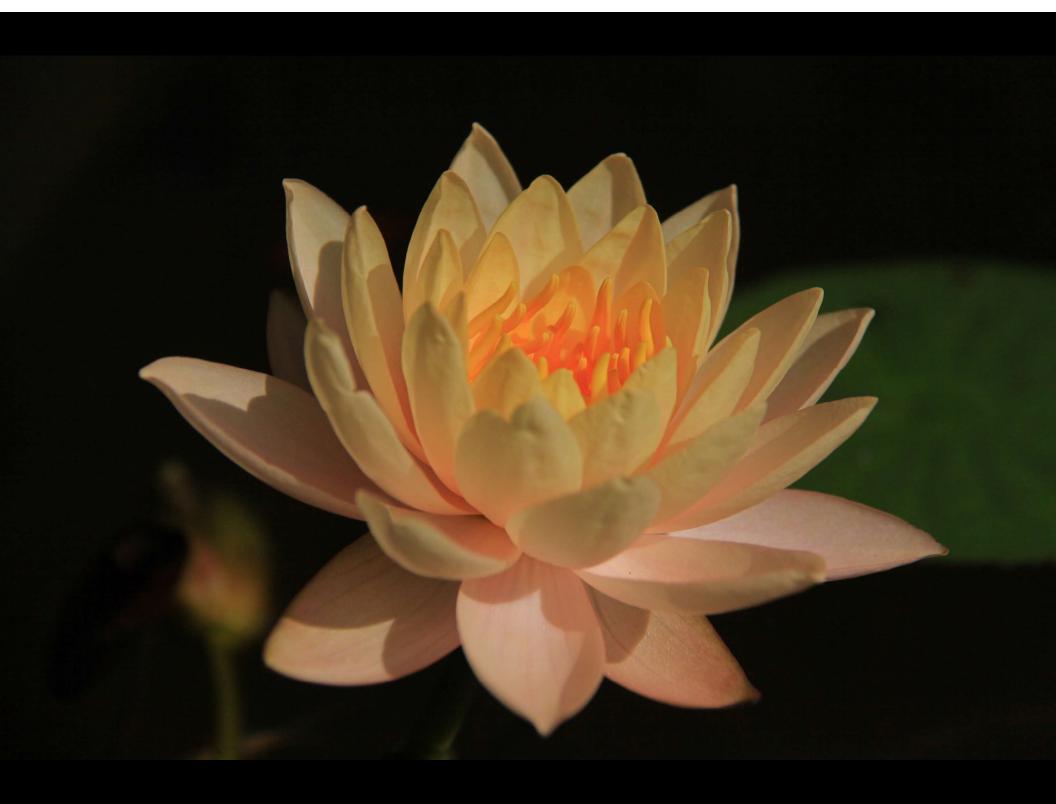


Rules for Photographing flowers:

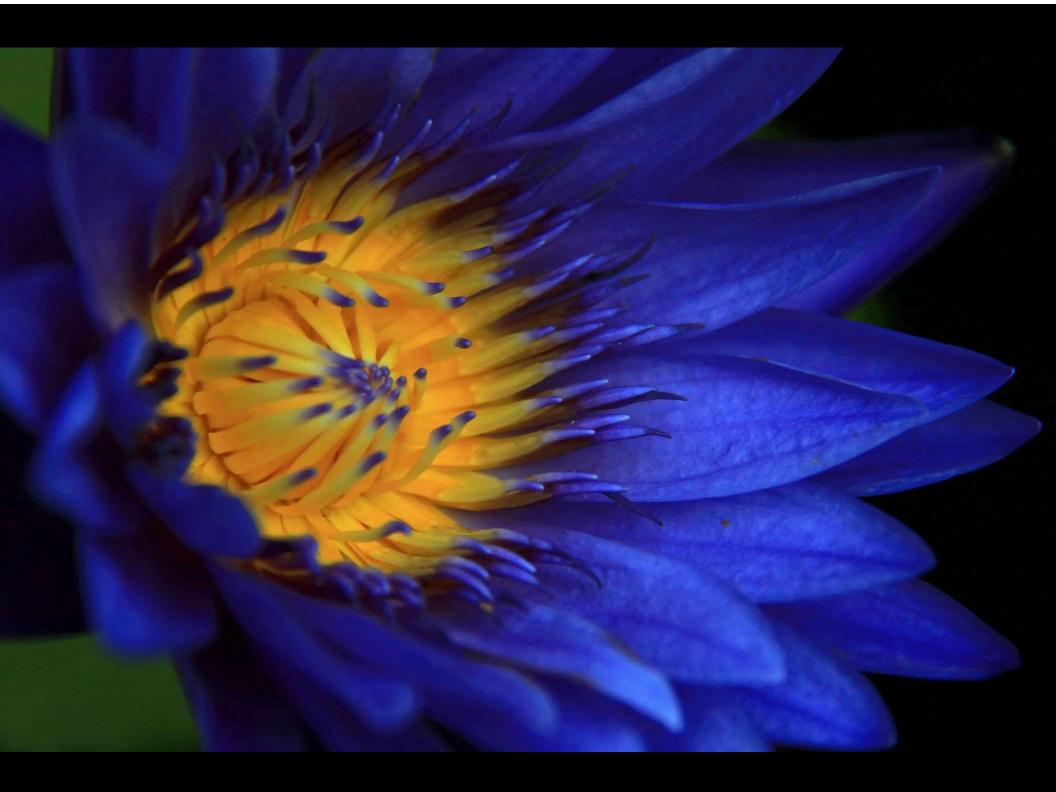
- Compose your shot
- Get close! Get real close don't need to include entire flower in photo
- Watch out for "stuff" in the background move around, step back & zoom
- Shoot midday water lilies close up before evening.
- *Trick:* Stop down your exposure compensation (EV) to darken the surroundings











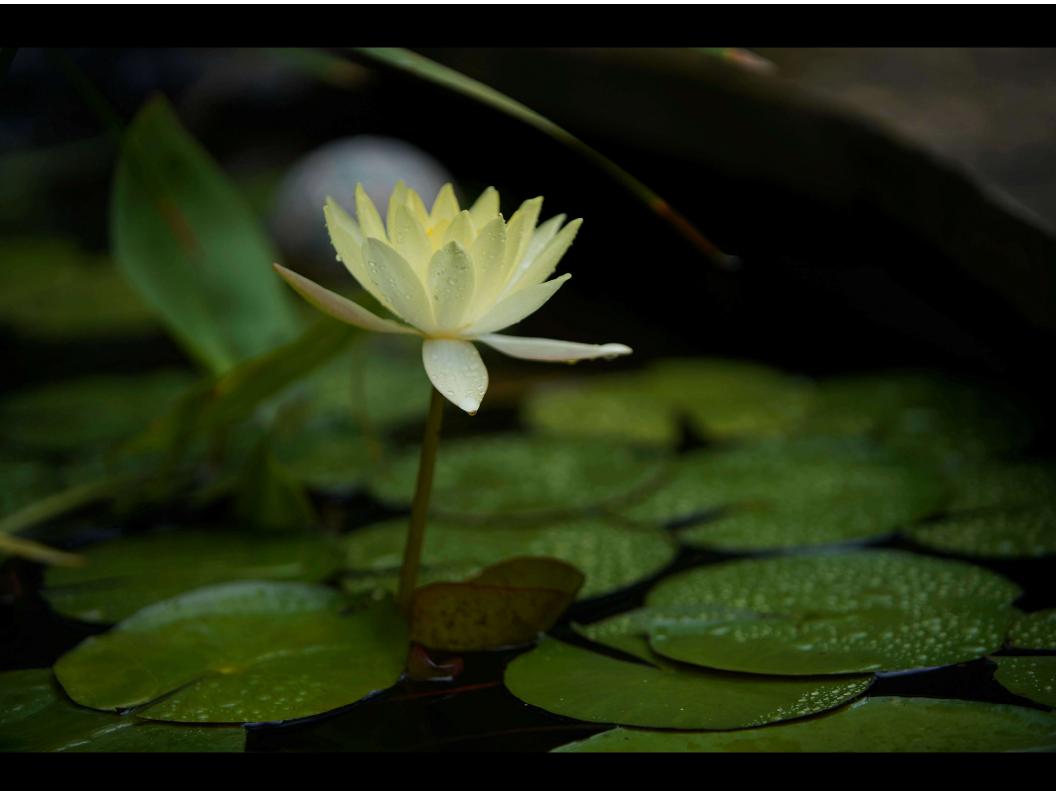






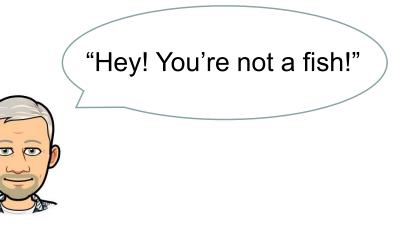






Photographing Fish

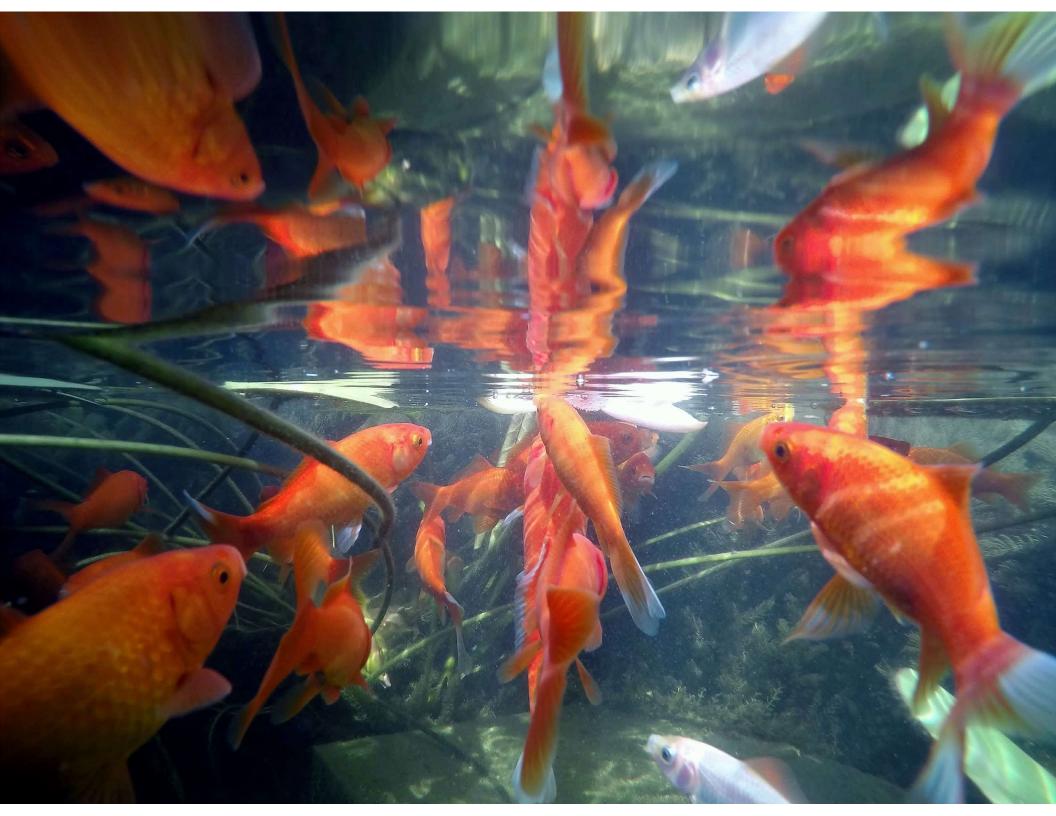
- Use high vantage point
- Remove reflections with circular polarizer filter
- Overcast sky is best
- Compose shot considering: fins, variety, direction, colors, grouping, number of fish
- Watch out for: reflections, fish blending into the background, camera shake, fish too small (get closer!), artifacts like rocks or leaves or shadows in your photos.
- Wear your camera strap!
- Get Creative! Think of unusual "poses" or situations for fish















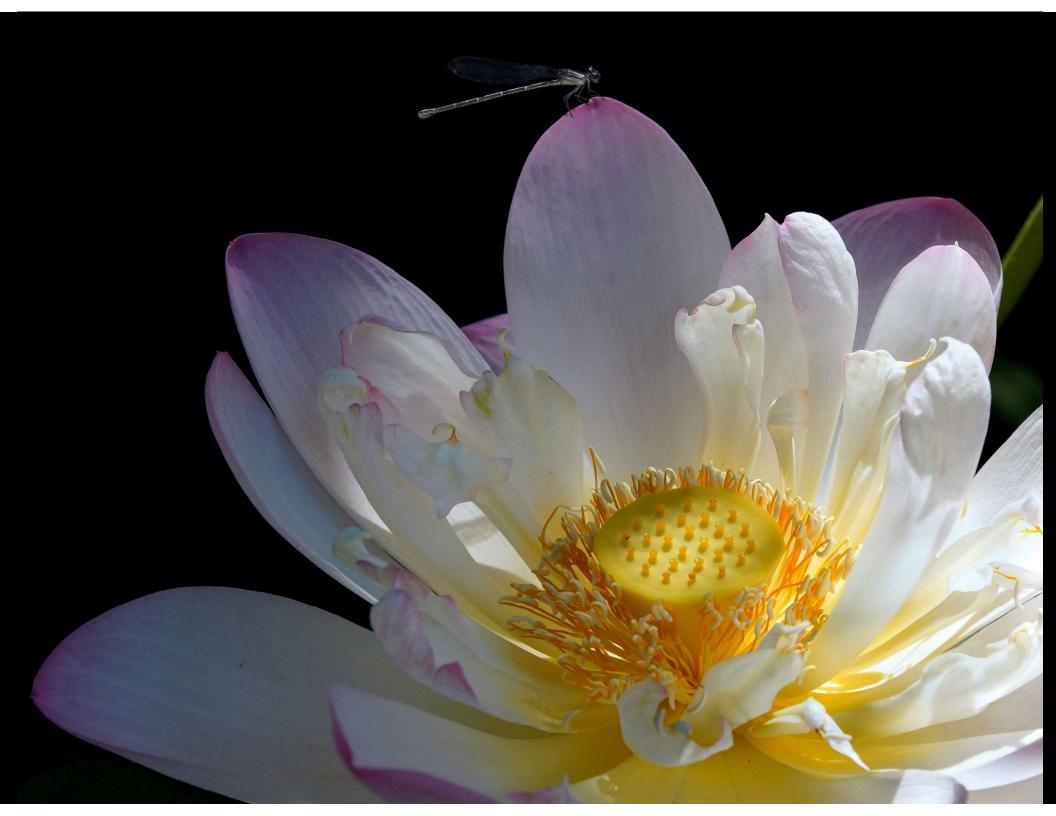
Photographing Animals

- Animals typically show up unannounced difficult to compose photos with random animals So you are free to shoot away !!!
- Take LOTS of photos you might get "the one"
- Some photos can be composed later depending
- Get close if you can move slowly and deliberately
- Try to include pond in photo















Good Luck!

Take lots of photos

Get Down Low!

Move around

Try to Remember the Composition Rules

Have Fun

Don't fall in

Check your photos before you leave !!!