Final Project Writeup

For my final project for SP.757, I decided to concentrate on the columns that are present all around the MIT campus. I became interested in looking at the columns because I chanced upon some rooms on the 3rd floor of building 10 where the top of the columns are visible right out the windows. This was a very different and startling view of the columns as it is not every day that one is able to view the tops of the columns so closely. It was also startling to me to see them surrounded by everyday objects as are seen in most offices. While I was hoping to incorporate some of these more startling images of the columns into my final project, that didn't wind up happening. Instead, I took pictures of smaller parts of the columns and then brought them all together in one photo collage of a column. I was able to use one of the pictures of the top of a column that I took from a room on the 3rd floor of building 10. The rest of my pictures were taken from ground level outside lobby 10.

I took all the pictures using a manual camera and black and white film. Then I developed the film and the pictures using the chemical darkroom. After the pictures were developed, I scanned them into the computer and worked with Photoshop to construct my final image. Using Photoshop, I first corrected some minor problems with contrast and blemishes on the pictures. Next, starting with a white background, I resized the pictures and played around with the spacing that I wanted to end up with on the end result. I experimented with different size images, different crop portions of the images, and different spacing of the images before I settled upon my final product.

(above: a picture of the top of a column that I incorporated into my final project.)