

# A LOOK BACK AT 2012

Hello friends! Here we are, at the end of another year. As I reflected back on 2012, I realized this was the first year in a while that I actually didn't have any major life changes like moving, changing jobs, or starting a new business. So this year became an opportunity to challenge myself and to see where this photography-, adventure-, and food-filled life would take me. I started some really exciting new projects, I went on a lot of mini adventures, and I just felt so lucky all along the way. Thank you for helping me to chase this dream. It's been a beautiful year, and I look forward to seeing what 2013 will bring!

## TRAVELS

Given two weeks with no other commitments, I took a little road trip down the California Coast. I stopped by Hearst Castle, spent a night each in Cambria and Ventura, and stayed in LA a while before venturing all the way down to San Diego.

*California Coast Solo Road Trip*

*Los Angeles*

*Las Vegas*

*Salton Sea*

*San Diego*

*Seattle*

*Portland*

The best kind of friends are the ones who don't balk when you say you want to go visit a post-apocalyptic wasteland in the middle of the California desert. They come with you. And so it was with an excursion to Salton Sea that we kicked off 2012!

*Chicago*

*Ancinatti*

*Pittsburgh*

*Philadelphia*

*Durham*

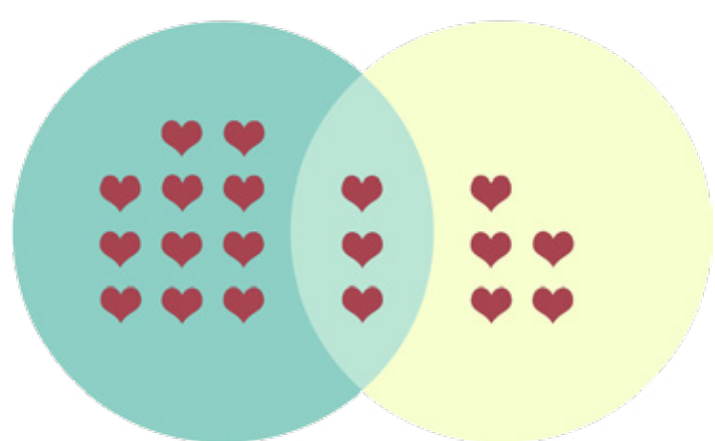
*New York City*

*Ireland!*

In August, I tagged along with my friend Mitha to Ireland, and it was every bit as green as promised. I flew to Dublin, and then we went on a three-day rail tour around the entire country.

Can you believe it's been five years since I graduated from college? I returned to Duke for my reunion in April, and then again in May when I photographed one of my bucket list items—a wedding at the Duke Chapel!

## WEDDINGS



*Anna Wu Photography*

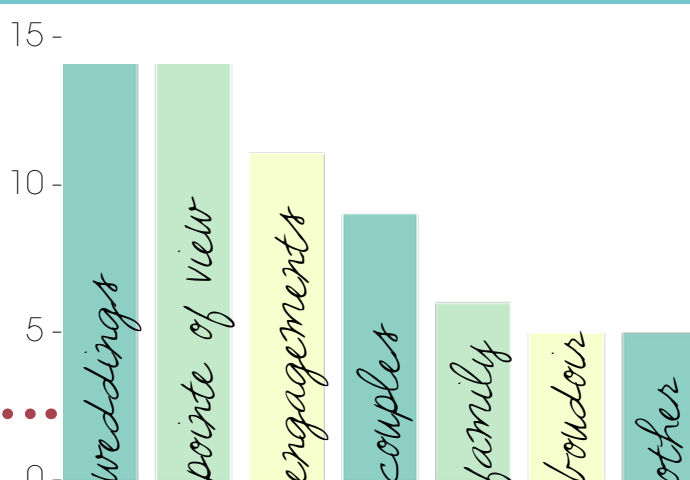
*Seaglass Cinema*

### MOST VIEWED WEDDINGS:

1. Sun & Elliot (Chicago, IL)
2. Carla & Matt (Durham, NC)
3. Cami & Eric (Seattle, WA)

1. Becky & David (Walnut Creek, CA)
2. Cat & Dan (Santa Monica, CA)
3. Anny & John (Woodside, CA)

## ALL PHOTOSHOOTS



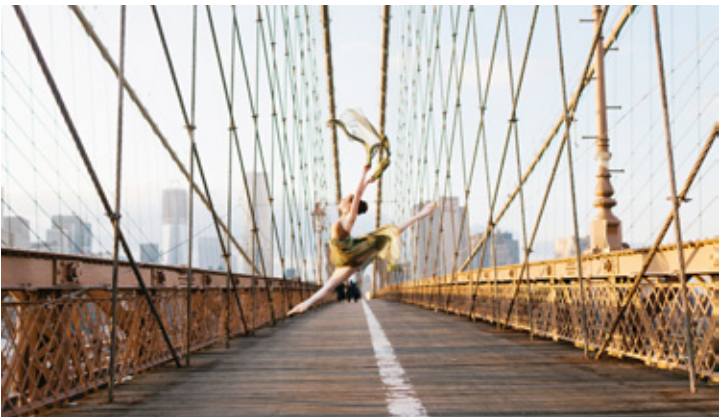
### MOST VIEWED SHOOTS:

1. Shang & Rico, "Love in Berkeley"
2. Anika & Vijay's Surprise Proposal
3. Boudoir by Anna Wu Photography

## POINTE OF VIEW

The Pointe of View project has definitely been one of the greatest highlights of my year. There is just something so liberating and yet challenging about doing a personal project just for yourself. You have total creative freedom and total creative responsibility. Right away, I felt myself returning to the reasons why I had fallen in love with photography in the first place. This isn't the last of the Pointe of View series, either... I will be making a big announcement about a certain BOOK project very, very soon!

### SOME FAVORITE MOMENTS FROM THE SERIES:



**1** Getting a clear shot of Lexi jumping on the Brooklyn Bridge on the very first try. It was only about 40 degrees out, which was cold enough to thwart most of the usual foot traffic on the bridge, but not quite cold enough to stop Lexi!



**2** Driving around the bend on a country road in Ireland and finally seeing the Irish castle that we had been looking for, after we had taken an inadvertent detour into Northern Ireland, nearly run out of Diesel, and made it through a small patch of flooded roadway.



**3** Being back at my alma mater, doing a shoot with Melissa, a Duke student. We walked into the Gothic Reading Room, the quietest room on campus, and she did the splits on top of the library table while the students at the next table just kept studying.

## SMALL TRIUMPHS

Small triumphs and tribulations happen all the time, but below are ten of the best little things that came together for my business this year and didn't even cost me any extra to make happen!

### MY **POINTE OF VIEW** SERIES

----- AND -----

*boudoir photography*

**1** and overall just doing a lot of shoots I WANTED to do, regardless of money and profits. this is a luxury that I try not to take for granted!

HAVING AWESOME ASSISTANTS AND **INTERNS**

ADDING THIS ONE QUESTION TO MY INQUIRY RESPONSES: "IT'S **IMPORTANT** TO ME TO GET TO KNOW YOU . PLEASE GIVE ME --- a little intro --- TO YOU AND YOUR FIANCE(E)." -SO SIMPLE AND SO EFFECTIVE!-

SWITCHING FROM **SMUGMUG** to **ZENFOLIO**.

- HAVING MY **MAJOR IMPACT** LETTER featured by my alma mater **DUKE UNIVERSITY**

### GETTING FEATURED BY

*Style Me Pretty--* THREE TIMES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, and five times for **SEAGLASS CINEMA**.

BECOMING A PREFERRED VENDOR OF THE **BERKELEY CITY CLUB** and getting to photograph there -- all - the - time. --

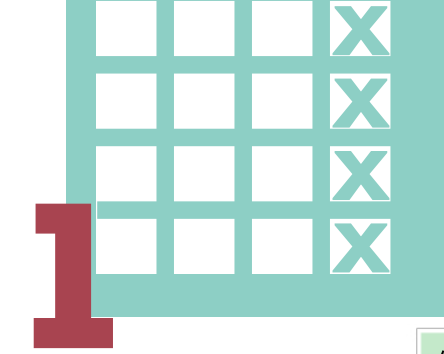
COLLABORATING WITH GREAT VENDORS LIKE JULIANNE OF **PRETTYBYJULIANNE**.

----switching from---- **KISS** to **REDTREE** ALBUMS. I'M STILL **O B S E S S E D** WITH THE **DEBOSSED COVERS**.

discovering little tricks like **BOOMERANG FOR GMAIL** so I can schedule emails to go out or bounce back later.

## GOALS FOR 2013

*Book 15-20 weddings*



**2** Visit Europe, South America, Australia, or at least Hawaii!

*Find my next personal project*



*Hire another second shooter for Seaglass Cinema*

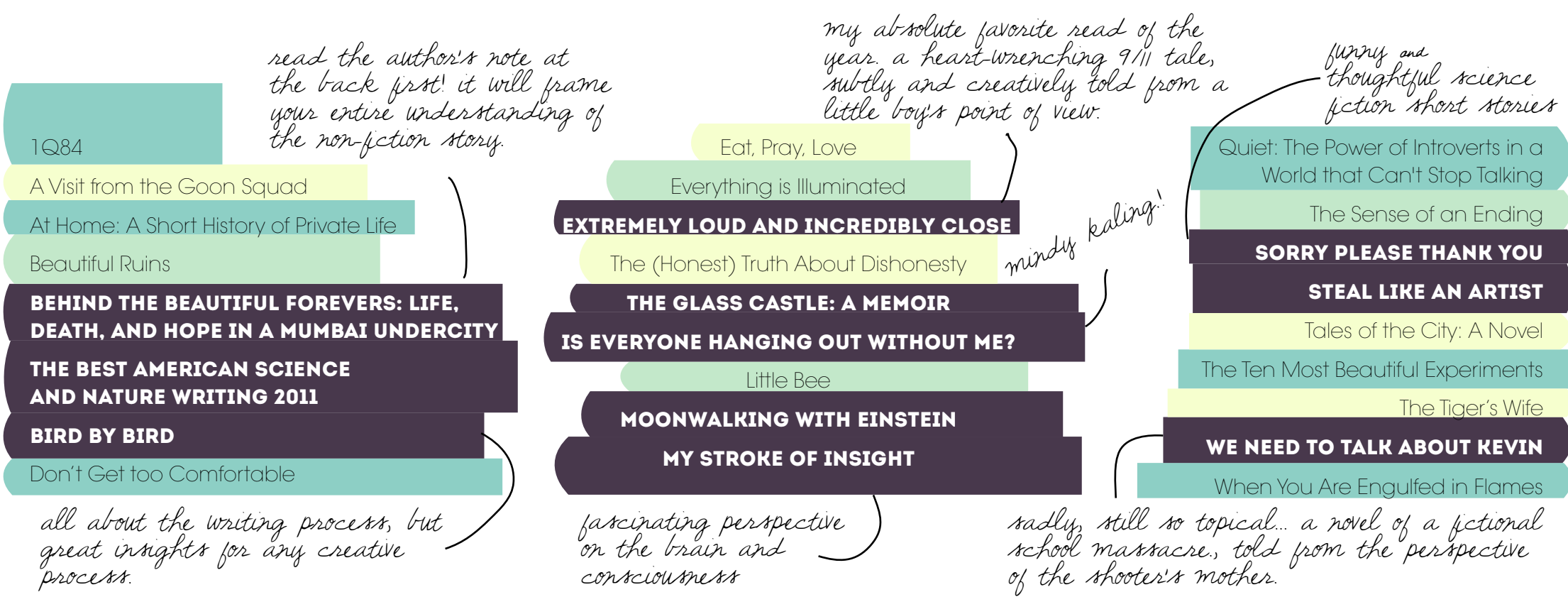
**4**

*Publish the Pointe of View book*

**5**

## BOOKS

I read 26 books this year, which is not quite the 36 I read last year, but I still found a great collection of favorites! I get most of my books by borrowing them from the local libraries as e-books and reading them on my iPad. The lending period gives me a built-in deadline to read faster and more often. Below, the bolded ones are the books I enjoyed the most, with a few annotations thrown in too.



*That's all for this year! Thanks for reading! Have a happy 2013!*