

Project #3: In the Style of...

"Imitation, if it is not forgery, is a fine thing. It stems from a generous impulse, and a realistic sense of what can and cannot be done."

– James Fenton

Conceptual Requirements:

In this project, you will do your best to emulate the style of a particular photographer who interests you. You'll do some research on them as well as their work in order to make photographs that have a signature look, mood that is specific to them, and add your own interpretation.

Guidelines:

1. Start with the list on the back of this page, and start web searches for these photographers. All the ones listed are masters in their own right and a good starting point for you to begin your search. If you choose someone not on the list, be sure they are an easily recognized name with a distinct style.
2. After choosing a photographer, go on the web and to the library to check out books on them, read interviews, and look at every image you can that is made by them. Learn as much as you can.
3. Write a 2 page research paper on your chosen photographer. Be sure to include basic information such as when and where they were born, where it is that they did their work, what kind of camera and film formats they used, their own personal history, etc. Be sure you can talk about the relevance of their work in the sphere of photography as well as formal and technical strategies they employed when making their images. It is important that you speak about why you are drawn to the artist and what it is about these pictures that really excite you. Also include one or two samples of their work especially if you refer to them in your paper. Please be as specific, and **cite your sources**.
4. Now prepare everything you'll need to make photographs in the style of your chosen artist. **Shoot this project entirely on film.** Be sure you stay on pace with shooting 2 rolls of 35mm (or equivalent) per week and evaluate your contact sheets regularly.
5. On critique day, present your final prints along with printed samples of your photographer's work. Be ready to discuss your photographer in detail and speak about their work as it relates to you.

Technical Requirements:

Type your name, date, and "Project 3: In The Style Of..." at the top of a Letter sized page. Write research paper on two pages and discuss the points mentioned above.

Over the course of this project you will shoot and sleeve at least 6 rolls of 35mm color film (pref. Portra 400 NC), then make digital contact scans and sheets for all. If you are shooting other formats we can discuss minimum quantities for those formats. You will then select your best shots and scan the film in order to make 7 final digital prints in color. Do not manipulate the image other than with color/tonal corrections retouching and sharpness.

Deliverables:

- Research paper due on Week 7.
- A minimum of 2 rolls (or equivalent), cut and sleeved & contact scan sheets per week.
- 7 high-quality Final prints from your scanned negatives, to be presented in class on critique day
- See the syllabus for pacing and due dates

A few Photographers to choose from:

Robert Adams
Diane Arbus
Lewis Baltz
Tina Barney
Uta Barth
Bernd and Hilla Becher
John Berger
Richard Billingham
Bill Brandt
Harry Callahan
William Christenberry
Larry Clark
Lois Conner
John Coplans
Gregory Crewdson
Thomas Demand
Bruce Davidson
William Eggleston
Elliot Erwitt
Mitch Epstein
Walker Evans
Robert Frank
Lee Friedlander
Anna Gaskell
Frank Gohlke
Nan Goldin
Jan Groover
Andreas Gursky
Josef Koudelka
Helen Levitt
Danny Lyon
Sally Mann
Robert Mapplethorpe
Mary Ellen Mark
Joel Meyerowitz
Richard Misrach
Jack Pierson
John Pfahl
Thomas Roma
Cindy Sherman
Stephen Shore
Aaron Siskind
Joel Sternfeld
Larry Sultan
Wolfgang Tillmans
Jerry Uelsmann
Jeff Wall
Weegee
Garry Winogrand
Joel-Peter Witkin