

## Project #1: Representation (B/W)

“Art is an additive process and the thing about photography is we go out and we're at the mercy of what we find. That's the real discovery.”

- Frederick Sommer

### Conceptual Requirements:

In this assignment you will be asked to make a series of portraits, using photographs, and should represent one person you know well and have regular access to photograph. Write a 1 page description of this person as it relates to their personality, or essence. In describing this person, do your best to isolate their manner of being over identifying their interests or profession. For example: It is more important to describe your friend's nature as a meticulous introvert over the fact that they might also be a tattoo artist or musician.

After you've thought about and written your proposal, shoot pictures that describes those things about them. Is it possible for you to project aspects of their personality through a series of photographs? Make some of the pictures without having the person in the frame to communicate the same thing. Is it possible to do this by showing us their or environment, or something else entirely, varying the point-of-view, distance, body language, time of day, lighting, etc. Experiment and have fun with it.

Avoid documenting the objects they own or describing their activities and interests literally. Consider the psychological and emotional aspects of portraiture, as well as your relationship with the sitter. There is usually a collaboration that happens with successful portraiture. Definitely take the environment into consideration and how much or little of it appears in your pictures. The subject is entirely up to you as long as it serves the written guidelines you've set in your written proposal. The images, a cohesive group, should also lead us (the viewers) to understand the aspects of your friend's personality you've written about without a verbal explanation.

### Technical Requirements:

For this project you will shoot at least 300 images, then make digital contact sheets. Your first 100 can be shot as JPG or RAW, but the remaining 200 should be shot as RAW files. Although the RAW files are in color, you should shoot (and see) as if you had black & white film loaded in your camera. Make contact sheets using Adobe Bridge as shown in class, and also be sure some of the images are shot as brackets as described in class. From your contact sheets, edit 6 images to enlarge. You will learn how to prepare black and white images for printing. Do not manipulate the image other than converting them to B/W and adjusting tones and contrast to reveal maximum information using Adjustment Layers. Have 6 good quality prints with equal margins for the critique, and be prepared to discuss them.

### Deliverables:

- **See the syllabus for pacing and due dates:**
- Walker Evans Reading, 1 page reading response paper & discussion
- 1 page written project proposal.
- 100 digital images (JPG or RAW) for the first part of the project & make contact sheets for all.
- 12 brackets (a total of 36 exposures) & 164 remaining (all RAW format) + contact sheets for all.
- 6 Good B/W Prints on the critique day.