

**Project 4:** Influential Artist\_ in character (two parts/ research+presentation and printed image)

Purpose: Understanding photographic compositional components, both graphic and aesthetic, are the primary purpose of this exercise. In addition, it is important for each student to learn how to look and talk about photographic methods, technically and conceptually, using the techniques to construct a framework for reference in this character work.

Objective: for the student to creatively develop his/her own work and to critically think about the technical methods as well as conceptual content of the work. The photographer becomes the 'character' in this work, based on a direct imitation of an artist/photographer's image.

Part 1: Presentation **due April 30**

- For this project, you will select an artist/photographer whose work interests you. You may not choose a commercial photographer, but a photographer (or artist) that is using the medium of photography for personal artistic purposes.
- You will conceptually and technically investigate one piece of artwork by the artist of your choice. You will be given a handout of specific questions on which your presentation will be structured. These include compositional elements, stylistic choices.
- The most important aspect of this presentation is for you to do an in-depth critique on a single image. This means that you should explore and evaluate the content, the context and concept of the work. As a research project, you must use outside resources to help you, but you should make this project a collaboration—not simply a reproduction of the artist's work.
- You may work either with film or with digital process, and as a part of the project, provide a high-quality image for projection. (if you work with film, you might scan the final image) You will present this image in both print and with an artist presentation.
- If necessary, you may show other work from your artist during the presentation. The presentation must be 4-5 minutes long. Presentations will be held during class.

Part 2: Printed image(s) **due May 5**

- Once you have finished your research on a specific artist's work, begin to explore ways you can emulate a similar method and idea that you have discovered within the artwork. Use your presentation as a guideline to develop your own thoughts within your personal artwork. The goal is to use this artist's work as a resource, not to copy the work but expand your own work and ideas as a result of your research. You will be making a character reproduction, photographing yourself as the main character in the image—but consider how this becomes you as the character, expanding the work of your selected artist to include you. This part of the project requires you to experiment and push yourself artistically. I expect you to think critically about the methods you use, as well as having a consciousness about your concept.

Materials:

\*This project may be done digitally or traditionally (or both)/ black and white or color – The choice is yours. You may use the darkroom and/or the computer to make your prints.

\*There is no specific amount of film that must be shot for this project, but I want to remind you once again the more images you take the better your results will be.

Due:

Part 1: Presentation

Part 2: (minimum of 2) 8x10 or larger prints

Due Date: April 30 (presentation), May 5 (prints)