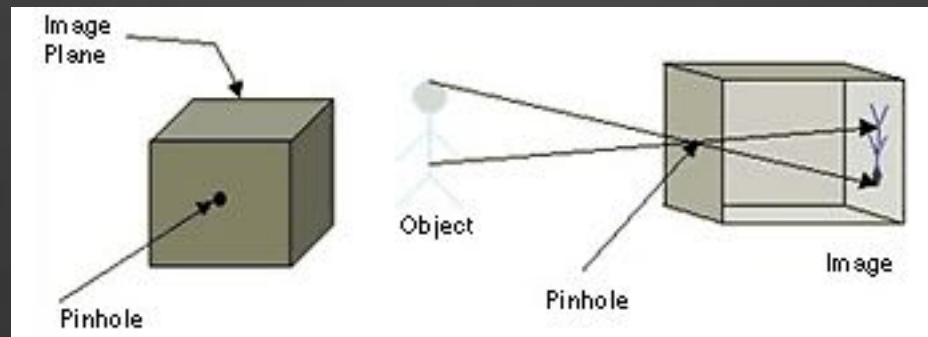


Documentary Practice

10.10.2017

Taking Great Photographs

- ⦿ Your camera is just a box with a hole in it...



“..taking great pictures is less about technical knowhow and much more about mastering the most valuable piece of kit – **your eyes...**”

Composition

- ⊗ Think of composition as the foundations of your image – like those of a building, foundations need to be strong

Look for leading lines



Henri Cartier Bresson

The shape of things

- ⦿ Horizontal images (landscape) encourage our eyes to move from side to side
- ⦿ Vertical images (portrait) make them move up and down
- ⦿ Choosing the format has nothing to do with whether you're shooting landscapes or portraits.
- ⦿ Match the format of your picture to the dominant lines or natural flow of your subject.



Ansel Adams



Marc Asnin

Think inside the box

- 🎬 Framing draws your attention to a particular part of your composition – especially useful if you are shooting a busy scene.



Denis Darzaq



Lee Miller

The layered look

- ⦿ Foreground interest offers the viewer a stepping stone into your image and heightens its sense of depth



Edward Burtynsky

Get in close.
And then get closer.



Martin
Parr

Symmetry

- ⦿ There's a fine line between balance and boring



Alkan
Hassan

The rule of thirds

- ⦿ Splitting your frame into three sections – either horizontally or vertically – and positioning your focal point in line with this imaginary grid.

Guy Bourdin



Working the frame

- ⦿ Make every inch count



Lars Tunbjork



Joel Meyerowitz

Visual Weight

- ⦿ Don't see the world as it is...see it as a photograph



Breaking the rules



Bill Brandt

Good photographs conform to
the rules.

Really great photographs often
break them.

Exposure

- ⦿ Slow shutter speeds

Create blur

Light trails

- ⦿ Fast shutter speeds

Freeze movement

🎬 Shallow depth of field

Portraits

Close ups



Slinkachu

🎥 Deep depth of field



Richard Misrach

Light is your subject

- ⦿ Light is intangible, but to take great photographs you need to start thinking of light as an object.
- ⦿ Light creates mood and can make the mundane beautiful



Tom Hunter



Vermeer

Hard light creates contrast



Trent Park

Soft light is more even



Ryan McGinley

Hard light creates depth



Fay Godwin

Soft light can be flat



- ⦿ Hard light is brutal/dramatic
- ⦿ Soft light is flattering and draws out forms and features

Don't look. See.

⦿ Decisive moments



🎬 The dangers of perfection



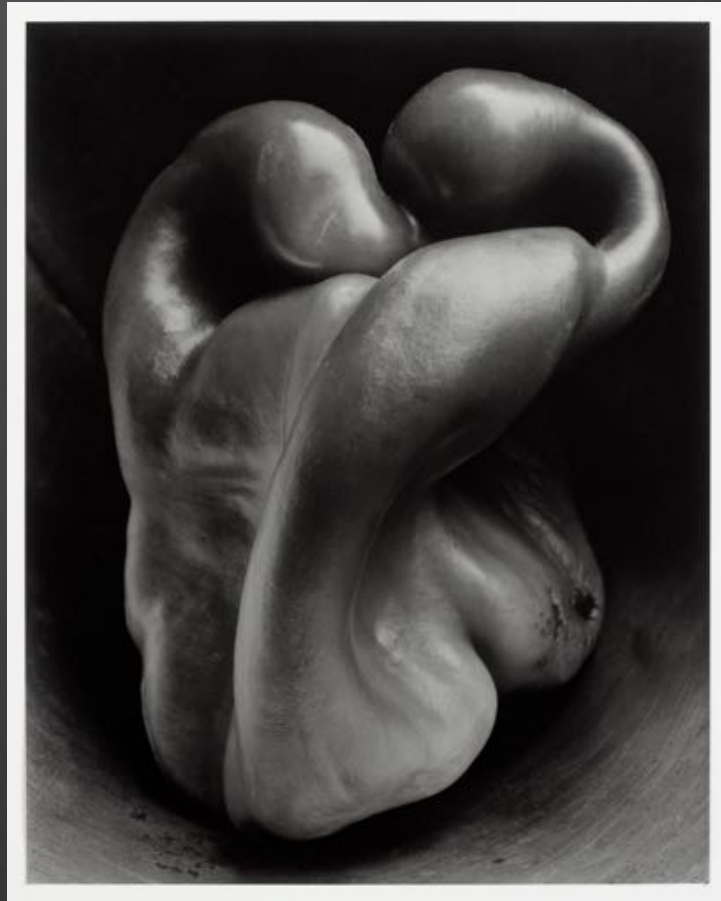
Robert Capa

- ⦿ Unexpected beauty – don't always look for 'nice'



See with your eyes, not your camera

- 🎥 If you're too quick to pick up a camera, you risk seeing nothing



Edward Weston

A different point of view



Elliot Erwitt

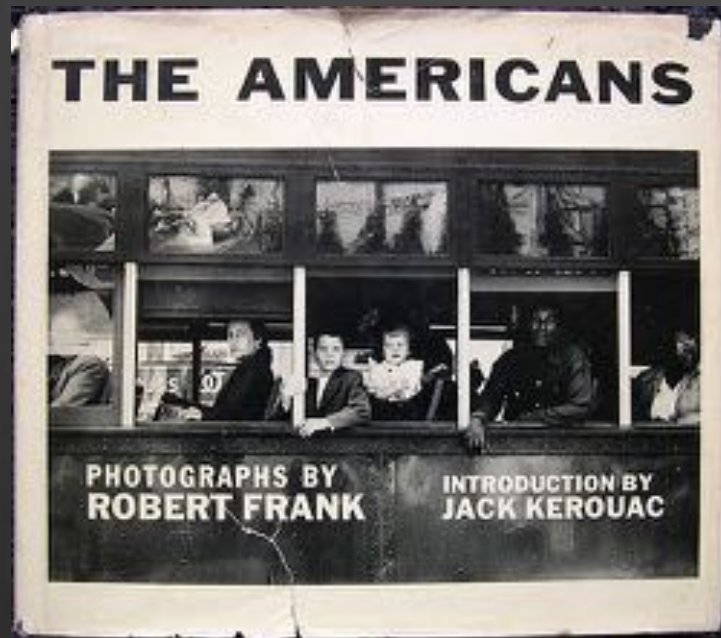
Pose questions not answers



Alec Soth

Photographs need Photographs

- ⦿ By committing to a series – whether it's about a place, a person or whatever interests you – you're able to tell a very carefully constructed story: one where the the specific style and order of photographs is essential to their meaning.
- ⦿ A story that articulates exactly what you really feel.



That extra something...

Don't overthink things. Photograph what you feel.

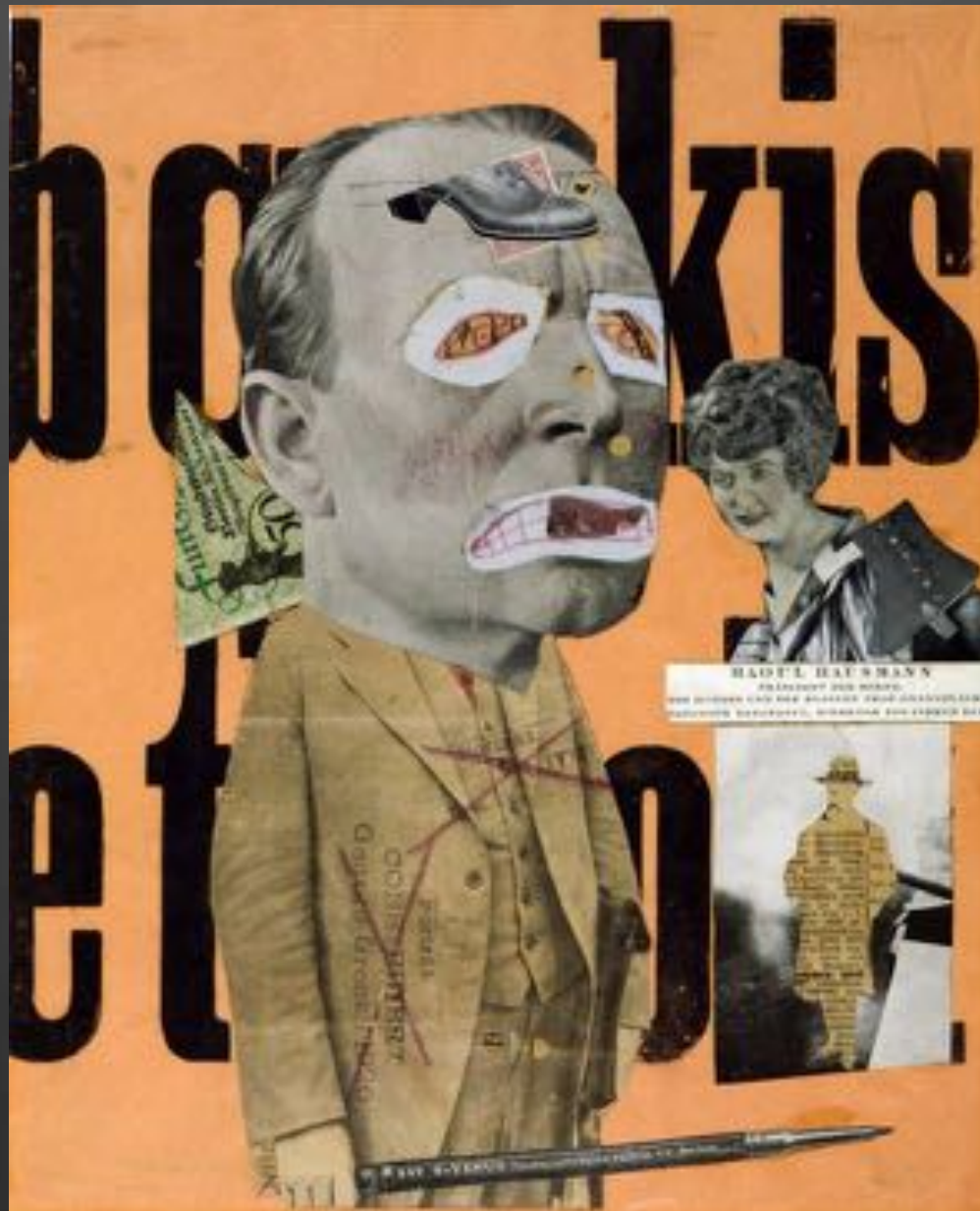
Photomontage

⦿ DADA



Hannah Höch.





HADIT L. HAUSMAN

ADOLF HITLER

DER FÜHRER DER DEUTSCHEN ARBEITERSCHAFT
HERRSCHER DER DEUTSCHEN ARBEITERSCHAFT



Kennard-Phillips



Kennard-Phillips



Hannah Hoch



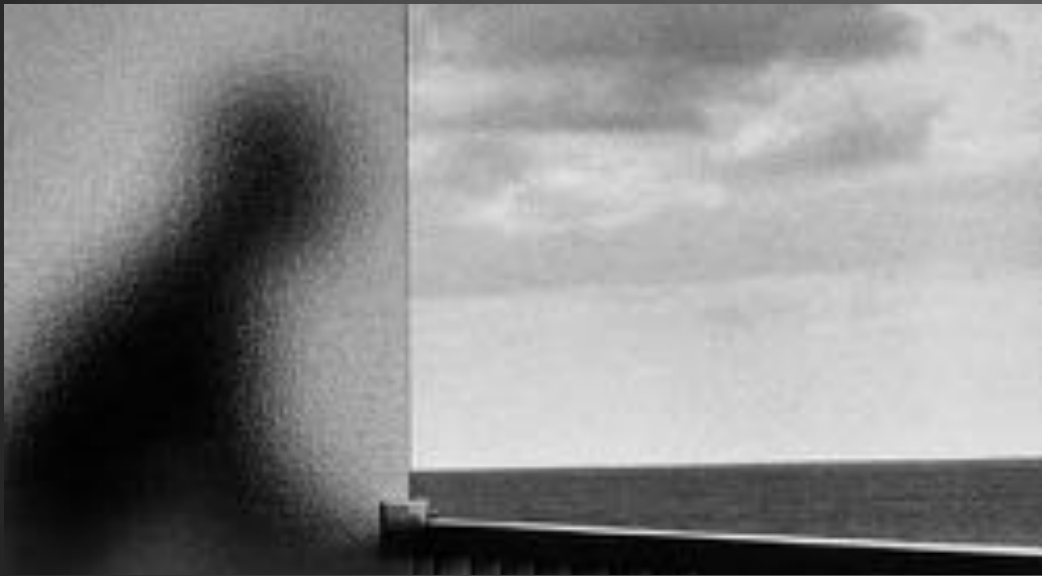
Nan Goldin



Vivian Maier



Salvador Dali and Philippe Halsman



Robert Mapplethorpe

Andre Kertesz

