

## Bridging work for Year 11 leading to Year 12

### Component 1: Photography 'Portraiture'

Dear Photography students,

The following is a general guide to the beginning of Component 1 Year 12, incorporating Year 11 bridging work.

#### **Aim**

Shadows, projections, natural and artificial lighting have provided inspiration for many photographers and artists. Consider appropriate examples and make a personal response to this topic.

You will produce a portfolio sketchbook showing:

- AO1 Use of historical and critical studies
- AO2 Use of appropriate Techniques
- AO3 Development throughout the research (Written and Visual).
- AO4 Quality of final pieces. A personal and meaningful final response.

## **First Tasks**

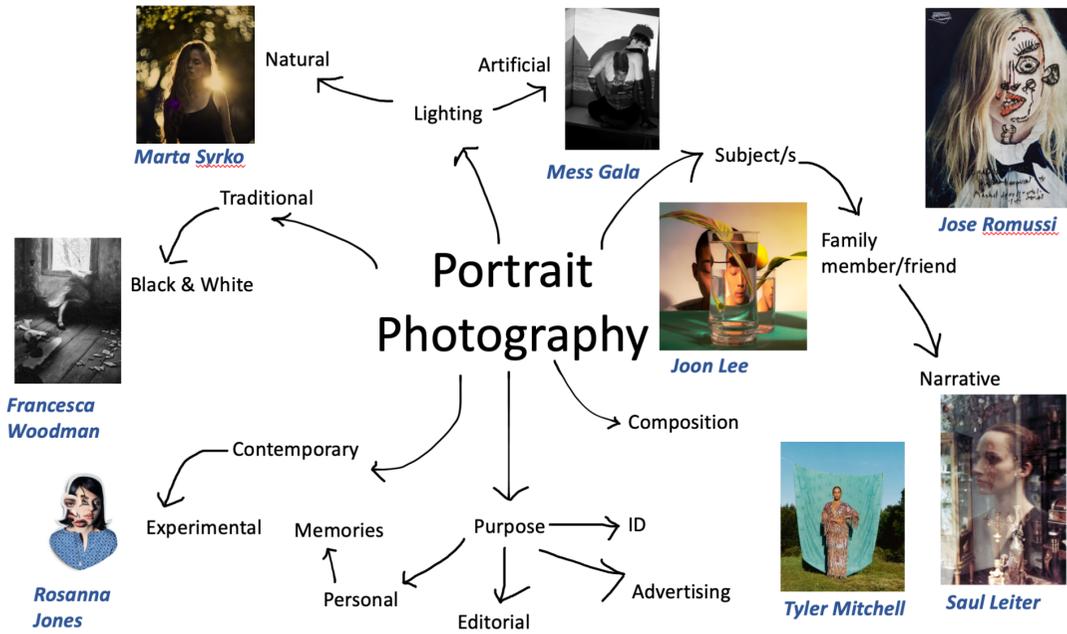
- Create a Powerpoint and upload it onto Google Drive. Share this document with Miss Sykes (sykesa@presdales.herts.sch.uk) . You will be working digitally for the duration of the course therefore, this will be your portfolio.
- Create a **Pinterest board/s** for your theme and follow **Miss Sykes** on Pinterest. This where you can store imagery and gain inspiration.

### **1.Visually Mindmap** the theme of 'Portrait Photography'.

- Create a visual mind map including images, photographers, artists, words etc. Think about all aspects - you do not have to be literal.

- Choose Photographers that interest you
- How many connections can you make to each word?
- There is no right or wrong way to do this. You decide your own layout! If you are physically writing you need to ensure that all the text is clearly visible when uploaded to your PowerPoint.

See examples below:



**LIGHT AND DARK SPACES**

**LIGHTING**

- Neon
- Photography
- Shadows

**CONTRASTS**

- Monochrome
- Architecture
- Weather

**SPACES**

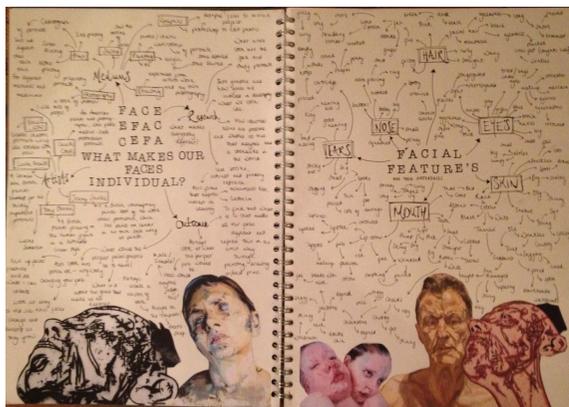
- Architecture
- Weather

**Narrative**

**Artists and Works:**

- Doro Arbus, Child with a toy hand grenade in Central Park, NYC, 1962
- Ben Nicholson, 1934 (relet), 1934
- Tadeo Ariza, mask up of Chanch of the Light, 2017
- Utagawa Hiroshige, Night View of Sarusaki a-machi, 1850
- Stanh Vedrat, Untitled, 1990
- Goode Monet Haystacks (Snow effect), 1891
- Francz Kline, Meryon, 1914
- Tim Noble and Sue Webster, Miss Understood and Mr Measor, 1997

Click on images or artists' names link to websites.



**2. Research 2 Portrait Photographers** that appear within your mind map and choose 1 of their photos to analyse for each research page

You will create a response to this image for each photographer by taking photographs in the style of your chosen photographer. You should include the following:

- a) A title of the photographer you have chosen
- b) Images of the photographers work which link to your theme
- c) Your analysis and descriptions of their work

I have attached a question sheet to prompt you (some of the more technical questions might be a little tricky at this point - so leave them if you are unsure).

Some questions will be relevant and others not, so use your judgement. Try to be as descriptive and interpretive as possible, imagine the person who is reading this has no idea of what the work looks like.

You also need to analyse - provide your opinions!

Examples of research pages:

**Analysing Photographs**

**Content** – looking at the subject of the work

What is it? What exactly can you see? What is happening? What does the work represent?

What does the artist call the work?

Does the title change the way we see the work?

What is the theme of the work?

landscape, portrait, journey, moment, memory, event, surreal, fantasy, abstract, message, energy

**Technical** – Explain the composition, focus, aperture, exposure, shutter speed, depth of field.

**Composition** - Explain the balance, proportion, unity, variety, emphasis, rhythm, contrast and visual movement.

What is in **focus** and therefore the most important part of the image?

**Exposure** (light) - is the image over exposed (too light) or under exposed (too dark)

Describe the light in the photograph.

Does the photo have a shallow **depth of field** (blurred background) or long depth of field (everything is focus)?

**Form** – looking at the formal elements

What colours does the artist use? Why? How is the colour organised?

What kind of shapes can you find?

What kind of lines and marks does the artist use?

What is the surface like?

What kind of textures can you see?

What kind of patterns can you see?

How big is the work?

light, delicate, layered, strong, rough, dark, peaceful, dripped, textured, scale, vivid, bright

**Mood** – looking at the communication of moods and feelings

How does the work make you feel?

Why do you feel like this?

Does the colour, texture, form or theme of the work affect your mood?

quiet, contemplative, thoughtful, hopeful, peaceful, elated, joyful, celebratory, reflective

**EXTENSION: Interpretation and Justification** – looking at the meaning of the work

After analysing the context, form, process and mood:

What do you think the artist is saying? Why?

What message is the work/artist trying to communicate? Why?

# Photographer Research

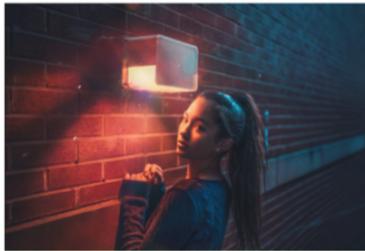
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## Brandon Woelfel

Brandon Woelfel is a freelance portrait photographer, who is based in Long Island, New York. Woelfel uses different types of lighting and a wide variety of colours to give his photos a magical and unique look. He also edits his photos so that the lighting and colour is really vibrant, enhancing the beauty and creativeness of his shoots.

The gear he uses helps to make his images seem more magical and produces really interesting and stunning pieces. He uses moon balls and prisms for different lighting effects.

Most of Woelfel's images are taken with a short depth of field, which is how he creates the bokeh effect. This lighting is achieved by using a large aperture to allow more light in, making the lights appear out of focus.



He often uses fairy lights to create unique patterns and to make his photos more enchanting, however he uses other lighting as well, for example lights on the side of buildings, natural light and fire.

I really like his work, because his use of experimental lighting creates really captivating outcomes, and each photo is so unique and creative. The lighting often lights up the model's face from the side, creating a shadow on the right side of the face. In some photos it lights up the face from below, forming a completely different effect, and highlighting different features of the face. Each photo also seems to tell a story, as the models are looking directly at the camera, giving the images more intense atmosphere.

He started pursuing his career in photography when he was a college student studying computer graphics. His style changed a lot over the years till he began shooting photos in these styles, with different lightings and techniques. He has worked with lots of companies, including BuzzFeed, Apple, Nikon and Urban Outfitters.

Composition: Woelfel often uses patterns in his images, created with the lights and the background. He also uses rule of thirds, with the subject slightly off-centre, to make it more visually appealing.



# Personal Response Images with Analysis

## Brandon Woelfel Shoot



Before



After

For this photo, I decreased the vibrance to create a slightly cooler image. I did this because the original image was very warm, and I wanted to make it look more similar to the style of Brandon Woelfel. After I edited the vibrance, I increased the exposure very slightly, in order to lighten some of the shadows on the model's face. I didn't want to increase the exposure too much for risk of the fairy lights being too bright and blown out. I really like the layout of the lights in this photo, and how the model's clothes match with the setting and the colour of the lights.

Improvements:

To improve this, I could perhaps add some lights to the backdrop in order to create a bokeh effect, which Woelfel uses in some of his photos.



For this image, I simply decreased the vibrance in order to get rid of the warmer tones, and create a cooler photo. I also cropped the photo because the original image had too much empty space, but made sure to keep the model at the centre of the photo. I am happy with this outcome because it reflects Woelfel's work and the symmetrical composition worked really well.

Improvements:

To improve my photo I could add a more patterned backdrop behind the model, in order to make the image more interesting to look at and add more depth to the piece.

The following websites might be useful to aid your research:

<https://www.art2day.co.uk/photography2.html>

<http://photography-now.com/exhibition>

<https://fixthephoto.com/best-portrait-photographers.html>

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/ali3137/photography/>

Here are a few photographers to begin with; however, if you wish, please find your own.



Chloe Sheppard



Saul Leiter



Roccio Montoya



Arielle Bob-Willis

**4.Experiment** by taking your own photographs inspired by your chosen photographer/s. Use whatever means you have, i.e. phone, camera etc.

You should be taking a minimum of 24 images for a shoot and you will probably only choose 4-6 that are successful. If you use editing software on your phone, you may want to screenshot these. Analysing why you made these decisions provides further marks.

**5.**Produce a short **written evaluation** of your successful outcomes (see above example)

[Be creative](#)

[Good luck!](#)

### **Photography Equipment List**

If you believe you might be eligible for the student bursary please contact Miss Sykes

- SD Card (32G or higher)
- Memory Stick
- Double sided tape
- Lined paper notepad
- LapTop (Mac or PC. Unfortunately **NOT** a Chrome Book)
- Camera (optional)