

# How the Rest Was Done

## Head 'em up

Just some notes for thee, o' students o' me...

**Photoclub** will continue to meet on alternating Tuesdays and Wednesdays afterschool so check with me or look on the calendar.

**The "F" word** : Everyone will review for the final on December the 12th and 13th and the "dreaded event" will take place on December 14th and 15th. As a result the darkroom will shut down for the semester on December the 11th.

**"What will be on the final?"** you ask. I will pass out a study guide of what will be covered, but it is your responsibility to know what is on it. (From History of Photography, darkroom etiquette & practices, types of cameras, equivalent exposures, and composition elements to anything else we have covered...gee I hope you didn't throw anything away.)

## And mooove 'em out

**Grades** : (they're all major, babycakes)

**Two Looking Reports** : We will once again have two looking report grades this six weeks. We will be taking a break from them on Monday, November 20th and Tuesday the 21st. Also, there will be no looking reports December 11th through the end of the semester. Bring interesting photos instead of boring ones and if you forget the first day that's your tail I guess.

**Diversity vs. Stereotyping Paper** : Submit a typed three page paper [Three pages of text (not coversheet and other fluffing tactics) or 6 pages written...do not skip lines] and four photographic examples on the following topic: **Diversity or Stereotyping: How are the Media Portraying Ethnicities in Popular Culture?** Look through a magazine or newspaper and answer whether the media are portraying cultures in stereotypical or culturally accurate way. You can apply this to gender, or generational stereotypes also. (i.e. Are some groups only represented in an athletic context? What is the social message thereby saying?) Back up your opinions by referring to the four examples. Look at the ads and take into account the photos of models and regular people. Do not count photos of celebrities or supermodels. **Turn in** your paper and examples at the beginning of class on Monday, the 20th (A-Day) and Tuesday, the 21st (B-Day) of November and be prepared to share what you learned with others.

**Self Portrait:** A production which has been at least 16 years in the making...who are you? Photograph yourself with an entire roll of film in order to try to define your personality. Be creative. A tripod and self timer would be helpful for this assignment but not necessary. **Turn in two full frame 8x10 prints. Due November 14th (A-day) and 15th (B-day).**

**Self Portrait Extra Credit** : 10 points added to Self Portrait assignment. The take it

yourself Auto-Foto. Have your photo made by yourself in one of the automatic photo booths. Don't just sit there...make them look interesting. These machines are located in the lower section of the Parks Mall by Sears and at the Venture store off Cooper and I-20. These are **due the day of your Self Portrait assignment** and I will keep these pictures for ~~blackmail~~ posterity.

Read Joseph Sudek's **essay** *A Self Portrait* and answer the **questions** .

**Night Photography:** Photograph a well lit landscape, cityscape or building scene at night without flash. Brace your camera well and do not hand-hold your camera. Again, be sure that your subject is well lit...if you shoot a very dark subject you will get a very dark result. Use 400 ASA film and set your camera to the "bulb" shutter speed. Shoot your scene for 5 seconds at the following F/stops: F/2, F/4, F/8, and F/16. Next, shoot the same scene for 20 seconds at F/2.8. Now try a different perspective or subject and repeat the shooting process. **Turn in** your negative and contact sheets along with two 8x10's. **Due Tuesday, December 5th (A-day) and Wednesday, December 6th (B day).**

Some notes about night photography...

1. **Be careful !!!!** Photographers can be easy targets because they are too busy looking for "the shot" and not paying attention to what's going on around them. You might want to do this assignment with a friend in the early evening and not shoot at 3 or 4 AM.
2. **Brace you camera** on something sturdy. A tripod is perfect but we don't have enough to go around and you may not have access to one. So what can you use? You're all bright people...improvise, adapt, overcome! Just brace you camera on something that will eliminate shake. A small bean bag (beanie baby) is good or you can use brace the camera on a brick or against a pole. If you use your car:  
1) be sure that the engine is off, 2) no one is inside and that  
3) it is not windy. Also keep in mind that if you choose to shoot from a bridge those things are designed to flex. Therefore, keep in mind that you will get vibrations if a car or truck is going by.

**Toning/Copy Work** : And now for some really cheap (inexpensive) gifts for the holidays. OK...grab that old picture of Grandpa Schlemplexer in his WWI uniform off the wall and bring it to class on November 27th through December 1st. We are going to make copy negatives of it so that you can turn around and print up some photos of it to give to Aunt Elmira and her side of the family. You do not need film for this assignment (I'm buying!!!) but you will need a photograph (out of the frame) to be copied. When we are through printing up the photos we are going to sepia tone or blue tone them to give them that *this-was-your-grandfather's-grandmother's-grandfather's-drycleaner's-niece's-photo-and-now-I'm-giving-it-to-you* look. **Show me** two toned photographs of any size. **Due Thursday December 7th and Friday, December 8th.**

**Self Portrait:** *Part Uno...* The penny arcade, once an electromechanical battleground contested by belligerent metal gunslingers, space invaders and eternally doomed tin ducks, has spawned a new art form: The take it yourself Auto-Foto. Like the Zen painters of the ancient Orient who set themselves the task of producing a masterpiece with a single brush stroke, so you, too, must act quickly and decisively with the Auto-Foto machine to complete your four images within the 30 second time limit. You may alter the background any way you wish as long as there is no damage to the booth. You may certainly bring any props into the booth that will aid in revealing the "real you." But remember: if the Auto-Foto artist is not sure and swift, the work will be flawed and the vision lost, not to mention losing \$2 (or more). These machines are located in the lower section of the Parks Mall by Sears and at the Venture store off Cooper and I-20.

*Part Dos...* Using your own camera and in complete control of both the environment and equipment, take another series of self portraits. Here the double role of being simultaneously artist and model places extra demand on technique. The major problem to solve is that the composition must be in the mind's eye; the viewfinder will show nothing of the subject until you are in front of the lens and unable to see yourself. Please, no help from friends...this is entirely your own, very personal, production; it must be a personal statement all the way. The final presentation can be any size and take whatever form you wish. You have more freedom to display your imagination and ability in this project than in most. **Turn in** your negative and contact sheets and at least one creative image along with your Auto-Foto strip. **Due** Wednesday, February 4th (A day) and Thursday, February 5th (B day).