

PHOTOGRAPHY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

The compulsory element should take no longer than **2 hours** to complete, although an extension task is also provided. Your summer assignment for each course must be submitted in the **relevant first lesson in September**. Failure to do so will automatically place you on your **first warning** during the induction period. Your induction grade will be reported home in September.

Congratulations you have chosen to embark on an art and design course at LaSWAP

One of the key objectives of all art and design courses is to develop your ability to respond to the work of artists, designers or photographers. The summer assignment gives you an opportunity to demonstrate your skills in recording photographically and visually responding to a famous photographer. We are starting a project called 'Memory and Time' in September and this artist links directly to that theme.

Task.

- To take a series of photographs that respond to the street photographer **Henri Cartier Bresson**.
- Use a digital SLR, film camera or mobile phone
- Select **5-10 of your best photographs** and present in a PowerPoint
- Explain how and why you think they are responses to Henri Cartier Bresson.



Henri Cartier Bresson

Henri Cartier Bresson is one of the most famous photographers of the 20th century; renowned for pioneering *Street Photography* and capturing candid moments that span from iconic moments in social history to simple humorous or beautiful moments of humanity in the streets.

Most famously he coined the term 'The Decisive Moment' which means to photograph a moment in time in a way that visually captures the essence of that event whether it be through visual poetry, a poignant or humorous juxtaposition or the creation of a story in one image. As he put it: ***"To me, photography is the simultaneous recognition, in a fraction of a second, of the significance of an event as well as of a precise organization of forms which give that event its proper expression."***

Cartier Bresson used a 50mm Leica film camera – a light and discrete camera. He would wander the streets and often wait for hours to get the right frame. He saw taking photographs of people in streets as a way of exploring humanity, society and the medium of photography itself.



Extension Task: To visit any photography exhibition – try *the Photographers' Gallery* in Oxford Circus. Document your visit and write a 500 – 1000 word review of the exhibition. Include:

- Summary - what the exhibition is about
- Main - select 2 works and write about them (What is going on in the image? What do you think the meaning is? Do you like it? Why?)
- Conclusion (What did you think of the exhibition? Are there any elements in the artists' work you would like to explore in your own?)



The Basement, Gregory Crewdson, 2014

Mark Scheme

Grade A: Confident and Assured

- The explanation shows they are confidently inspired by the artist
- The photographs taken are highly skilled, sensitive, inventive, independent, thoughtful and represent a genuine creative journey.

Extension: the exhibition review is in-depth, personal, genuine and written communication and specialist terminology is confident and assured, expressing ideas and personal opinions fluently.

Grade B: Competent and Consistent

- The explanation shows they are competently inspired by the artist
 - The photographs taken are skillful, consistent, effective, informed and purposeful.
- Extension:** the exhibition review is informed, engaged and consistent use of written communication and specialist terminology.

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Grade C: Emerging Competent

- The explanations shows an emerging ability to be inspired by the artist
- The photographs taken are competent, relevant, show emerging individuality and demonstrate adequate control over the formal elements.

Extension: the exhibition review shows developing and broadening use of written language and analytical skills.

Grade D: Basic

- The explanation shows a basic ability to be inspired by the artist
- The photographs taken are simplistic, straightforward, unrefined and show developing control over the formal elements.

Extension: The exhibition review demonstrates adequate use of written language.

Grade E: Limited

- The explanation shows a limited ability to be inspired by the artist
- The photographs taken are rushed, minimal, disjointed and lack control over the formal elements.

Extension: The exhibition review is minimal and shows limited use of written language.

