

Impressionist to Modernist



1 - Struss, Karl

Flatiron Building, Twilight, ca. 1915

Gelatin silver print

4 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches

Impressionist to Modernist: Milestones in Early Photography

Through a selection of more than seventy rare, vintage prints, this exhibition captures a pivotal period in the development of photography. Spanning a period from the 1880s to the 1930s, *Impressionist to Modernist* follows the progression of photography from the painterly, impressionistic work of Pictorialism through “straight” photography, a Modernist approach of directly representing the world free of any artificial manipulation of the image. The exhibition is organized around the electric personality of Alfred Stieglitz, photographer, champion of modern art, and famously the husband of Georgia O’Keeffe. Photographers represented include Americans Gertrude Käsebier, Alfred Stieglitz, and Paul Strand; Englishmen Peter Henry Emerson and Frederick H. Evans; and the Austrian Heinrich Kühn.

January 16, 2018 to April 07, 2018 at the OSU Museum of Art, Stillwater, OK, USA.

Exhibition Photos¹ | OSU Museum of Art ²

This exhibition is organized by art2art Circulating Exhibitions, LLC. Local funding has been provided by: the OSU Museum of Art Advocates, Malinda and Dick Fischer, Jim Vallion, the OSU Museum of Art Founding Patrons and Charter Members, and the OSU/A&M Board of Regents.

RELATED PROGRAMMING

- **Visiting Artist Talk featuring Rebecca Drolen** - February 15, 2018. 5:30 - 7 PM
 - Rebecca Drolen's photographic work explores portraiture and constructed narratives, using the element of truth that a photograph carries in order to validate scenes. A discussion of how individuals assemble their identity is paramount to her work. She has a particular fascination with hair.
 - Rebecca's talk coincides with the opening of *Factory*, an exhibition which explores a fictional setting where hair and other features are added to the body as a means of protection, defense, or disguise. On view in the artLAB Feb. 15 - April 17
 - Drolen is working with photography students in the OSU Department of Art, Art History and Graphic Design to inspire a body of work that will be shown in the artLAB at the OSU Museum of Art.
- **Lunch + Learn - Arthur P. Bedou: Pictorialism and Creole New Orleans' presented by Mora Beauchamp-Byrd** - March 15, 12 - 1 PM.
 - New Orleans-born photographer **Arthur P. Bedou** (1882-1966) is best known for a series of evocative, widely-reproduced portraits of renowned African American educator and activist Booker T. Washington that date from approximately 1908-1915, and for images of primarily Catholic, Creole of color communities in early to mid-20th-century New Orleans. This lecture will examine a largely under-explored area of scholarship: Bedou's engagement with Pictorialist aesthetics in both portraiture and landscape photography
 - Lunch + Learn is a lunchtime series of informal presentations, lectures, and conversations presented by guest artists, curators, scholars, students, and researchers. Participants are welcome to bring a lunch and enjoy. Please note that lunch is not provided.

¹<https://www.flickr.com/photos/osumuseumofart/sets/72157668131624989/>

²<https://museum.okstate.edu/impressionist-modernist>

FACTORY

Rebecca Drolen

Feb 15 - April 7



Factory explores a fictional setting where hair and other features are added to the body as a means of protection, defense, or disguise.

Drolen's photographic work explores portraiture and constructed narratives, using the element of truth that a photograph carries to validate scenes. An exploration of how individuals assemble their identity is paramount to her work.

Artist Talk
Feb. 15 at 5:30 pm
OSU Museum of Art

Free to the public
Tues - Sat: 11 to 4
open until 7 on Thurs

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
MUSEUM of ART

Additional Resources

Links and Videos



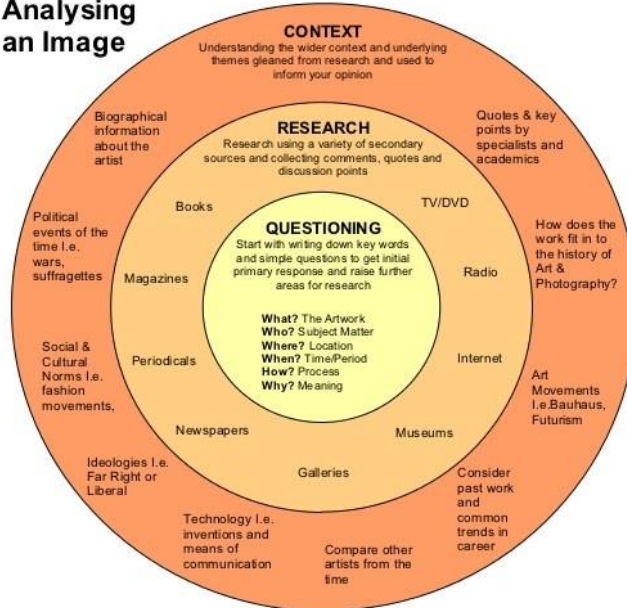
<https://youtu.be/VqWyJstBSoo>

2 - *The Gelatin Silver Process* - *Photographic Processes Series*



3 - Learn more about Alfred Stieglitz thoughts when taking the famous photography, *Steerage*. ³

Analysing an Image



Structure your response using the following three headings:

FORM

This is the 'Mise en Scene' (Setting in Scene) - what is going on in the art work/photograph? Explain objectively and honestly. Imagine you are trying to explain the art work to someone over the telephone and transcribe that message.

PROCESS

What has the artist used to make the art work? Consider the materials and media. If a photograph, what are the lighting considerations? Has it been presented in a special way i.e. as an installation?

CONTENT

Having researched further and understood the wider context, discuss the ideas behind the art work and the intentions of the photographer to your best ability. Consider the mood of the work and how this has been achieved?

³<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/late-europe-and-americas/modernity-ap/a/stieglitz-the-steerage>

4 - Strengthen your Visual Literacy skills and deepen your understanding with this handy worksheet for Analyzing Photography.

4



5 - Writing about photography? Here are some tips from Duke University. ⁵

Books

You can find all of these books and more at the museum!

- Periodical/Camera Work
- Creative Composites: Modernism, Race, and the Stieglitz Circle
- Truth Beauty: Pictorialism and the Photograph as Art, 1845-1945
- Reflections in Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present
- Camera Work: A Pictorial Guide by Alfred Stieglitz
- Go Photo! (great for kids!)
- Seeing Things: A Kid's Guide to Looking at Photographs (great for kids!)
- Photo How-To

Music

Try exploring the exhibition while enjoying a playlist of modernist music from the early 20th century, Impressionism with Ravel and Debussy, Expressionism with Schoenberg and Webern, and Neoclassical with Starvinsky and Bartok.

⁴<https://www.slideshare.net/zhoeben/photography-analysis-support-sheet-presentation>

⁵<https://twp.duke.edu/sites/twp.duke.edu/files/file-attachments/photography.original.pdf>

Modernism 50: Spotify Picks⁶

spotify:user:spotify:playlist:37i9dQZF1DX8ONeLSlu0Ai

The OSU Museum of Art

Visit the museum Tuesday - Saturdays, 11 am - 4 pm. Free admission.

Is there something you'd like to see at the museum? We would love to hear from you.

Oklahoma State University Museum of Art

720 South Husband Street, Stillwater, OK 74074

405.744.2780 | museum@okstate.edu⁷ | museum.okstate.edu⁸



⁶<https://open.spotify.com/user/spotify/playlist/37i9dQZF1DX8ONeLSlu0Ai?si=we7JHAdCQM68SThW5LvLoQ>

⁷<https://museum@okstate.edu>

⁸<https://museum.okstate.edu>