

Portrait Photography

Mrs. Vercruyssen

Most Difficult

- Capturing people creatively is difficult
- Freezing a moment in time takes a lot of work

For The Rich

- Prior to 1840
there were no
portraits of poor
people
- It was something
only the rich
could enjoy

Old Portraits

- Lacked imagination
- Very “Posed”
- Very formal
- A person’s character did not shine through

Popular

- Now everyone wants one
- A range from Sears portrait to eccentric and unique

Anyone Can Take a Snap Shot

- The way you perceive people
- How you see a situation

- Your creative ability and the ability to make your camera see what your mind creates
- Are the things that will set you apart from other photographers

Different Things

- A portrait means different things to different people
- They want their portrait to be unique and reflect their character/spirit

Capturing Character

- In order to capture the character or spirit of your “element” you need to...
 - Meet your subject
 - Discuss everything about them
 - Take notes
 - Study them

Their Picture

- What is important to them needs to be in the photo
- Many want their pets
- When there are family shots, take individual shots as well

- Make everyone look good!
- Capture emotions in the photos when possible

Make People Look Good

Self Portraits

- Historically portraits were meant to capture someone for eternity – this has changed as we have already discussed
- Self portraits however have always been meant to represent an artist creatively
 - There is a journey involved
 - How do they want to be represented
 - How can they demonstrate it with their art form?

Cindy Sherman

- Conceptual portraits
- American Photographer
- “Entwining self-portraiture, disguise, caricature, fantasy and social observation, Sherman has made staged photographs for decades that may command more admiration than affinity but gradually infiltrate one's vision of people beyond the frame.”

Andy Warhol

- Pop Art
- Film Maker
- Commercial Artist - Painting
- Did famous portraits in vivid outrageous colours

Jeff Harris

[http://www.canphoto.net/canadian-
photographer-jeff-harris-2/](http://www.canphoto.net/canadian-photographer-jeff-harris-2/)