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William Eggleston

When it comes to beauty in simplicity and everyday things, William Eggleston is the professional photographer that should come to mind. Eggleston is increasingly getting credit for the way he uses color photography as a fine art form (William Eggleston). His works really show the mystery and brightness in everyday occurrences. He makes me want to focus on the simpler things in life and not just in photography. The way Eggleston photographs makes me realize you do not need an insane setting in order to get a good shot.

William Eggleston was born on July 27, 1939 and is still alive today; he is seventy-seven. His childhood was spent in Sumner, Mississippi and now he lives in Memphis, Tennessee. Eggleston was influenced by a friend to pick up photography and he instantly stuck with it. Though he was influenced by his friend, he was the one to get into photography after the first time he bought a camera. People throughout the world have been influenced by his early works and the new things he is working on now. Eggleston owns classic, regular cameras but, also, he owns rare sustos painted Leicas. He is known for his simple style. He mostly uses people as subjects but also has some abstract works (William Eggleston- Biography). .



Eggleston, William. *Memphis*. c. 1974. Museum of Mod. Art. Academy of Art University Collection, LUNA. Academy of Art University. Web. 27 Apr. 2011.

This first picture is called "Memphis". The print date of this photo is 1974 and the medium was Dye Imbibition print (William Eggleston- Memphis). . To me, this image is supposed to portray childhood. This photo was socially imaged because he wanted us to understand the beauty in something we often see. Eggleston's message is the exactly what the picture portrays. This is perfectly understood because he uses toys to get the point through which is straightforward. I also notice he uses negative space in this image. Like all of his images, he

influence me to try and catch the beauty in everyday things.



Eggleston, William. *Girl and Boy Holding Azaleas*. c. 1978. Eggleston Artistic Trust. The J. Paul Getty Museum. May 10, 2017.

This next picture is titled “Girl and Boy Holding Azaleas”. This image was printed in 1978 and the medium is chromogenic print (william-eggleston). This image can relate to the first one because it had to do with children and innocence. The shot was influenced by the fact of how kids can be mesmerized with such a natural thing. The message that is most likely intended here is that people need to focus on natural things because they are amazing. In this image Eggleston uses some negative space and rule of thirds. The photographer did a great job portraying this because of the way they are looking at the flower. This image makes me want to focus more on the outdoors in my work.



Eggleston, William. c. 1970. Rosegallery. *Artnet.com*. Artnet Worldwide Corporation. May 10, 2017.

This picture is untitled. It was printed in 1970 and the medium is Archival Pigment print (william-eggleston). This image does not relate to the first two because it doesn't portray childhood. This work was technologically influence to show that even a rusty car can make a great picture. The style is contemporary so the message would live in the moment. Negative space and rule of odds is used in this. He did this well because a car is something we see and use

everyday. Pictures like these influence me to live life day by day and try to shoot these moments.



Eggleston, William. *Debbie's Hand*. c. 1996. David Lusk Gallery. *Artnet.com*. Artnet Worldwide Corporation. Mat 10, 2017.

The last picture is called "Debbie's Hand". It was printed in 1996 and had Dye transfer print as a medium (william-eggleston). This image doesn't relate to any of the others besides the fact that it has a simple style. This was socially influence because it was in the late 90's and it is

trying to portray how elegant women are. The intended message was probably to show the importance of women. This is done very effectively because we can tell how elegant this woman is just by her hand and clothing. This image makes me want to take subjects that may not be considered beautiful and show that they are.

Beauty isn't just portrayed through obviously beautiful things. Our friends can easily influence everything, such as Eggleston's friend influenced his life. The message for mostly every one of these images shows beauty within simplicity. I now realize that I do not need to go to extreme lengths to get a really nice shot. People should never think that being simple is anything less than great.

Works Cited

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