

PHOTOGRAPHY AS ART

BY: KAYDEE WOLTER

SPONSORED BY: JOHANNA WARWICK

ANYONE CAN TAKE A PHOTOGRAPH, BUT A REAL ARTIST/ PHOTOGRAPHER FINDS WAYS TO MAKE PHOTOGRAPHY MORE INTO A “FINE ART”.

The theory used to guide my research is to demonstrate to others how to analyze a photograph in a more progressive way so they can utilize this knowledge when viewing other photographs. A photograph isn't just about pressing a button on the camera. Photographers plan out their ideas to convey a specific message to the viewer through composition, lighting, positioning of figures/objects, and presentation.



PHOTOGRAPHERS I RESEARCHED

- ❖ **Sally Mann** creates a sense of peculiarity in her photographs through the body language and positioning of her models and the odd settings they are placed in.
- ❖ **Gregory Crewdson** is another prime example of a photographer that places a great deal of emphasis on the planning of his pictures. Crewdson constructs his pictures as if they were a movie set. He oversees every detail, every object, setting, and model in his pictures. It can take him several months to a year just to plan one photograph.
- ❖ **Andreas Gursky** is a photographer who is very well known for repetition and patterns in his pictures. In a documentary I recently viewed on this photographer, I saw the process he goes through when he takes his pictures. Most of the time he will set up the scene and look for ways to show repetition or symmetry.

These photographers make conscious decisions about the composition of their photographs so they aren't just any old picture. They exhibit elements of art, such as line, color, space, form, value, and texture, as well as principles of art, like balance, emphasis, pattern, rhythm, unity, movement, and contrast. A combination of these elements and principles in addition to the photographer's own creativity is what makes photography an art.