Fine Art Photography
What is Fine Art Photography?

• The dictionary defines fine art as “creative art, especially visual art, whose products are to be appreciated primarily or solely for their imaginative, aesthetic, or intellectual content”.

• While there is no universally agreed upon definition of Fine Art Photography, it is distinguished by the intent of the artist or concept behind the image.

• Often, when on exhibit in a gallery or a museum, fine art photography is displayed in a series and is accompanied by an artist statement.

• Questions to ask yourself when trying to determine whether a photograph is Fine Art:
  • Is it merely a pretty picture or is the image more evocative or atmospheric?
  • Is the artist trying to say something?
  • Is the image engaging or thought provoking?
  • Does the image make you feel something?
  • Does it make you look differently at something you may have seen a hundred times before?
Is it Fine Art?

Photograph by playfielder
Is it Fine Art?

Photograph by Camille Seaman
Is it Fine Art?

Photograph by Stephen Tabone
Is it Fine Art?

Photograph by Graciela Iturbide
Is it Fine Art?

Photograph by Sally Mann
Is it Fine Art?

Photograph by Amanda Schilling
Is it Fine Art?

Photograph by Cindy Sherman
Henri Cartier-Bresson is widely recognized as one of the major artists of the 20th century. He helped to establish photojournalism as an art form.

Cartier-Bresson described his approach to photography by saying, "For me the camera is a sketch book, an instrument of intuition and spontaneity, the master of the instant which, in visual terms, questions and decides simultaneously." In 1952, he published his first book, The Decisive Moment.

Cartier-Bresson won an extraordinary number of international awards, prizes, and honorary doctorates. His work is featured in collections all over the world including:

- Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris, France
- Victoria and Albert Museum in London, UK
- Museum of Modern Art in New York, USA
- Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA
Henri Cartier-Bresson
Henri Cartier-Bresson
Henri Cartier-Bresson
Cindy Sherman

Contemporary Master of Socially Critical Photography
Cindy Sherman is lauded as one of the most talented and influential artists of our time.

She is known for using makeup and disguises to transform herself into stereotypical feminine roles. Her photographs are often called witty, provocative, and searching.

In 1995, the Museum of Modern Art acquired all 69 photograph’s of Cindy Sherman’s *Untitled Film Stills* series for a reported $1 million, a very large sum at the time. In 2011 Christie’s sold a single Sherman photograph for $3.8 million.
Cindy Sherman
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Cindy Sherman
Amanda Schilling
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Continuing Education in Photography

Local Resources
• Houston Center for Photography - https://www.hcponline.org/
• Glassell Studio School at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston - http://www.mfah.org/visit/glassell-studio-school/
• University of Houston – www.uh.edu

National Resources
• Santa Fe Workshops - www.santafeworkshops.com
• Maine Media Workshops - www.mainemedia.edu/

Online Resources
• Creative Live - https://www.creativelive.com/
Getting Your Work out There

• Join Organizations that offer critiques, competitions, and exhibitions
  • [texasphoto.org](http://texasphoto.org)

• Enter Gallery Contests
  • [http://lenscratch.com/resources/callsforentry/](http://lenscratch.com/resources/callsforentry/)
  • [https://www.lensculture.com/competitions](https://www.lensculture.com/competitions)

• Participate in Portfolio Reviews
  • [www.fotofest.org/](http://www.fotofest.org/)
  • [https://photonola.org/](https://photonola.org/)
  • [https://www.photolucida.org/](https://www.photolucida.org/)