

A2 PHOTOGRAPHY EXAM 2011 QUEST. 3

Light and Shadow

A number of photographers, such as **Imogen Cunningham**, **Jan Groover** and **Bill Brandt**, have created successful images using only available light. Their work often reveals shadows that add an added element to the picture. Investigate appropriate examples and make your own response to this theme.

Many photographers such as **Bruce Cratsley**, **Henri Cartier-Bresson** and **Ansel Adams** have created **dramatic images using available light only**.

Find a range of examples and investigate their techniques and subject matter. Aspects of dramatic natural/available light should be explored ~ daylight, reflected light, strong sunshine, nightlights, shadows etc. In depth analyse of photographers, visual subject matter and texts. High quality presentation of your work.

ANSEL ADAMS ~ a master of the big picture, amazing views of nature and landscapes. Skilled use of available light, as he seems to capture the perfect moment lending drama and detail to his photographs.

BRUCE CRATSLEY ~ he seems to take the quite ordinary and by the use of dramatic available light create a sense of drama.. Some of his images are almost abstract using only light and dark.

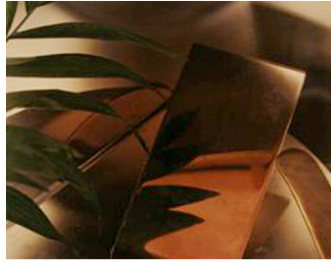
HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON ~ Another master of photography who uses whatever light is available and always manages to create a masterpiece. Rainy days, street lighting the weather is never his opponent but his ally.

BILL BRANDT ~ photojournalist, landscapist, portraitist. International photographer who was famous for his 50's nudes. The examples show viewpoints and sections of the human form. Contrasting lighting, composition and viewpoints add to the drama of his work.

JAN GROOVER Groover uses the reflection off the metals of her cutlery and steel bowls to give off painterly effects of light and dark, and shadow. The photos are cropped close-ups of a mix of utensils and produce, often larger than life.

IMOGEN CUNNINGHAM Starting in the 1920s, she began making sharply focused, close up studies of plant life and unconventional views of industrial structures and modern architecture. Concerned with light, form, and abstract pattern, these photographs established her as one of the pioneers of modernist photography





Bill Brandt, *Nude, London*, 1952, gelatin silver print. © Bill Brandt Archive LTD

