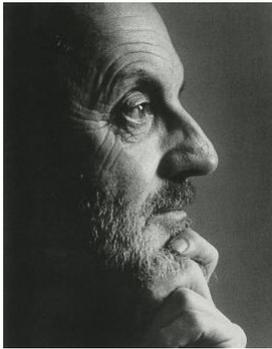


JOHN MARIANA
PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTIST
ANSEL ADAMS
Expressions in Black and White

Part 1 - The Man, The Negative, The Print

The Man



The summary of his life from early childhood living in San Francisco and never attending a formal education school. His first visit to Yosemite National Park at age 14 and using a box camera. How Yosemite became a major part of his physical, mental and emotional life. His musical talents and how he at first decided to be a concert pianist.

His decision to devote his life to photography and how he developed his unique style of dramatic photography. His first meeting with Alfred Stieglitz and then Georgia O'Keefe - Stieglitz became the conduit for his success. His work in conservation, the Sierra Club and the years involved in convincing the government to form the Sequoia National Park and preserve the giant redwoods. His last days and the memorial mountain range in Yosemite Park that is named in his honor.

All of this accompanied by photographs of Ansel as a boy, a young man, in the field and as an old man.

The Negative

Ansel invented the "Zone System" – explanation of in simple terms and why he did this. How this has influenced film manufacturers and serious photographers ever since. The importance of the negative to the creative process, shadow detail and highlight texture. These are hall marks of Ansel's prints.

"The negative is the score and the print is the performance" – Ansel.

Previsualization and how he used filters to achieve his final vision of a print. His darkroom work. Capturing a scene with an 8x10 camera. The work required to process the negative and the work required to make a print.

The Print

The methods and tools to produce a high quality fine art print (papers, chemicals, tools), the advances in modern papers compared to those Ansel used. Explain the major advancements in digital photography and how Ansel would have embraced them. Present his first major breakthrough print of Half Dome and the use of the red filter to blacken the sky. Showing the before and after print.

Present the well-known story of Moonrise over Hernandez. Present the various ways he changed this print over the years until mid-1960s.

Part 2 – Fine Art Photography, Creation from Reality



***An image is not just a place, it is an experience.
Fine Art Photographs are created from reality,
fulfilling the creative vision of the photographer.***

Ansel Adams

Presentation of Ansel's creativity In-the-field and in the darkroom. Explain Artistic Visualization and his three dimensions techniques using his photographs. The f64 Group and how it influenced photography.

Presentation of Ansel's definition of Fine Art Photography with examples of his prints.

- Good shadow detail in areas where the viewer would expect to see detail.
- Meaningful highlight areas have detail and texture, not paper white without detail.
- No large areas of pure black unless used in a creative way to enhance the meaning of the image.
- The creative use of leading lines and containment lines.
- A balance of tones that provide emotional content.

Ansel's darkroom techniques and his technique for Three Dimensional Techniques for landscapes.

