



Identity & Self Portraiture

#PICBOD

In this session we will



- Look at key points that are addressed in self-portraiture
- Look at Key artists who have influenced self-portraiture practices
- Look at the context and appropriateness of self-portraiture
- Look at different methodological approaches to portraiture (if time)
- References & Further reading
- This weeks task

Juno Calyso: *Honeymoon Hotel* (2015)



Self Portraiture to question gender & sexuality

Lucy Swob as *Claude Cahun* (1912-1932)



Catherine Opie: *Self Portraits*



Self Portrait/Cutting 1993



Self Portrait/Pervert 1994



Yasumasa Moriama: *Actors* (1996)



After Monroe (1996)



After Minelli (1996)



Self Portraiture to explore as performance: exploring your own identity

Jo Spence: *Beyond the family album* (1979)

1939 Eight and Half months. High street photographer Woodford.



1979 Five hundred and twenty months later.

Jo Spence: *Remodelling photo history* (1981-82)



Colonization



Industrialization

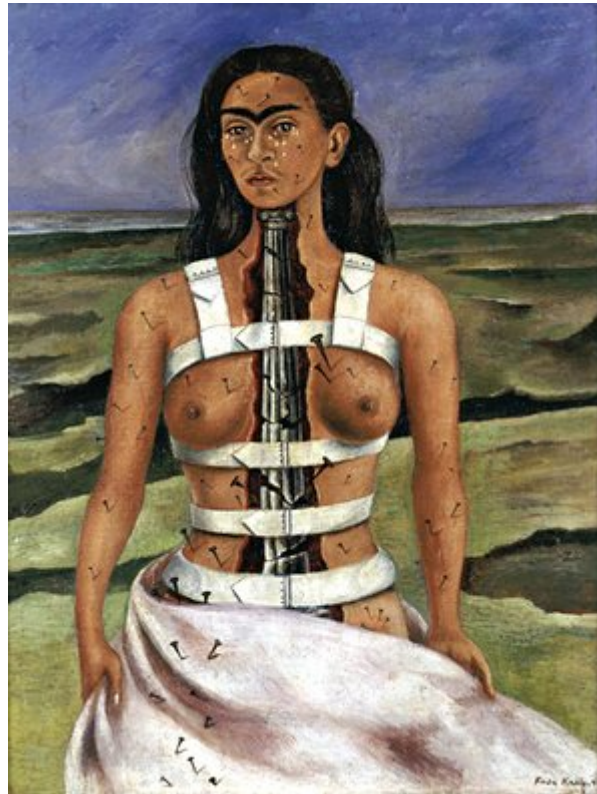


Self Portraiture as (photo)therapy

Jo Spence: *The picture of health* (1982-1986)



Frida Kahlo: *The broken column* (1944)



Sam Taylor-Wood: *Self Portrait in a single breasted suit with Hare* (2001) (now Sam Taylor-Johnson)

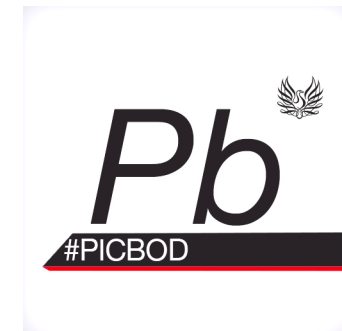


Elina Brotherus: *The Annunciation* 2009-14



Self portraiture as a performance

Cindy Sherman: #Film Stills (1977-80)



Cindy Sherman: *Society Portraits* #Untitled 2008



Gillian Wearing: *Album* 2003



Embodying the family



- Hans Eijkelboom 1970's



- Trish Morrissey 2001-04



Nicki S Lee: Projects (1997-2001)



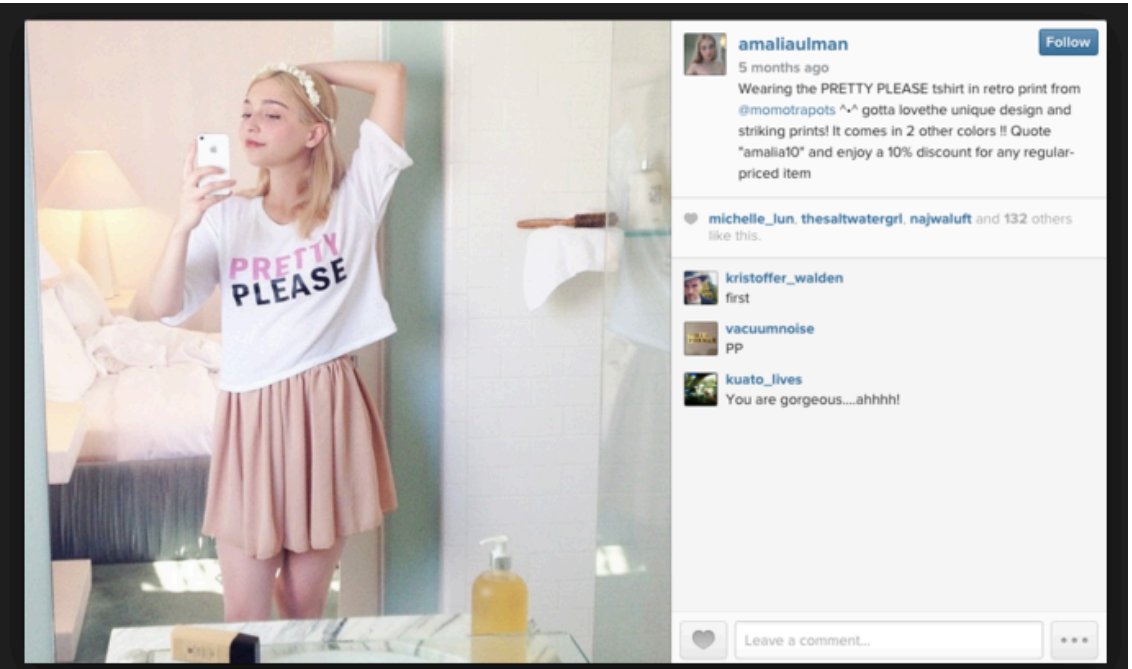
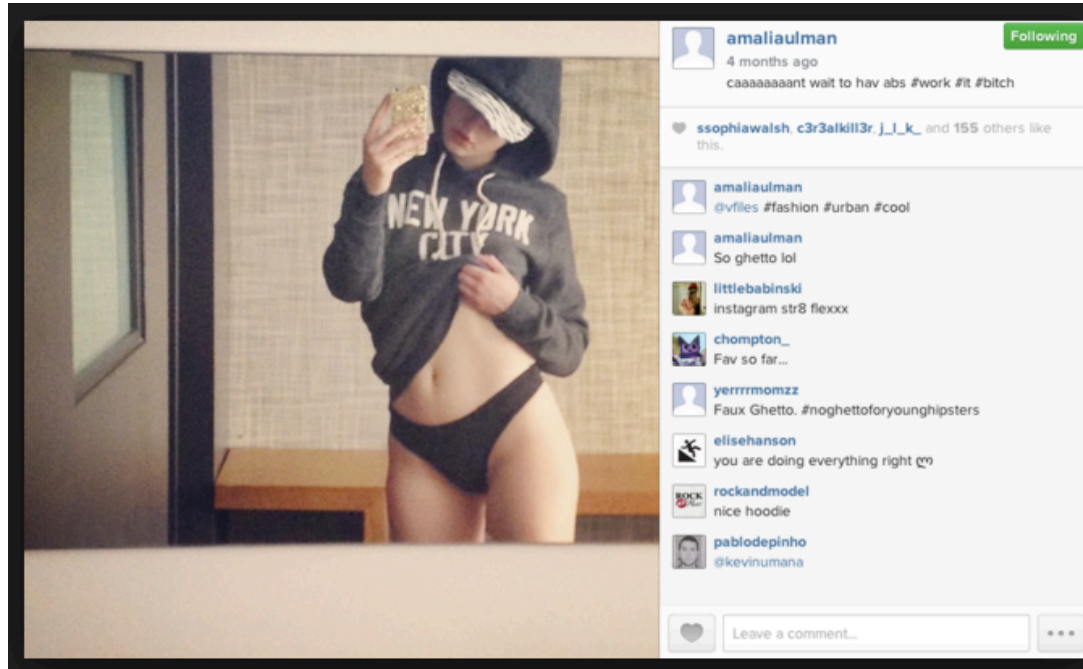
Samuel Fosso: *Self Portraits* 1970's-



Shadi Ghadirian: Self Portraits (2008-09)



Amalia Ulman: *Excellences & Perfections* (2014)



Tracy Emin: *My Bed* (1998)



Tracy Emin: *My Bed* (1998)



Do you need to be in a self portrait?

End Note: Tim Soter Self-Portrait. Featured in Olin, M.
(2012) *Touching Photographs* ©Tim Soter



When is a “Selfie”
Appropriate?



When is a “Selfie”
Appropriate?



Published in the
Guardian on March 30
2016. 26 year old Ben
Innes, standing next to
his kidnapper Seif Eldin
Mustafa.

Recap

- We have looked at Self-Portraiture as a way of expressing
- Sexuality
- Gender
- Challenging stereotypes
- As a photo-therapy
- Role playing & Constructing identity
- Appropriate use of self-portraiture



Recap



- We have looked at key historical artists who have used self portraiture and how they have influenced contemporary practitioners
- I argue **Claude Cahun, Jo Spence & Cindy Sherman** are absolute essential artists to be familiar with when it come to deconstructing and understanding self-portraiture.
- We are going to look at Grayson Perry as an example of experimental methodological approaches (if time)

Methodologies



Who do we think we are?

Grayson Perry



References & Further reading



- Bright, S. (2010) *Auto Focus*. Thames & Hudson
- Doy, G (2005) *Picturing the self: Changing view of the subject in visual culture*. I. B. Taurus
- Hall, S. (1997) *Representation: cultural representations and signifying practices*. London Thousand Oaks, California: Sage in association with the Open University.
- Miller, D. (2015) *Photography in the Age of Snapchat*. RAI
- Olin, M. (2012) *Touching Photographs*. University of Chicago Press
- Moorhouse, P. (2014) *Cindy Sherman*. Phadion Publishing
- Spence, J. (1986) *Putting myself in the picture: A political personal and photographic autobiography*. Camden Press.
- **Catalogues**
- (2010) *Identity & Identification*. Black Dog Publishing. London
- (2016) *Performing for the camera*. Tate Publishing. London

References & Further reading



- Websites
- <https://www.quora.com/How-and-when-did-the-selfie-trend-start>
- <http://www.itnicethat.com/features/ones-to-watch-2016-juno-calyпсо-photographer>
- <http://www.guggenheim.org/new-york/collections/collection-online/artwork/30354>
- <http://www.tate.org.uk/context-comment/video/tracey-emins-my-bed-tateshots>
- <http://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-modern/exhibition/performing-camera>
- <http://www.mocp.org/detail.php?t=objects&type=browse&f=maker&s=Lee%2C+Nikki+S.&record=1>

Your task

A self Portrait

Building on the class discussions your task is to make your own self portrait.

This brief can be interpreted as broadly as you like. Consider what point you would like to make and how best to perform that role.

Experimentation is encouraged. What medium are you going to use? Colour, Black and White? What format are you going to use? What presentation may support the portrait? Do you need to make more than one image? Whose image is it? How did you negotiate the story with the participant? What are you trying to reveal in the image?