

Moment in Time: A Legacy of Photographs | Works from the Bank of America Collection Interactive Tour

Teachers' Notes

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Summary	Explore the medium, materiality and magic of photography in this specially designed tour that brings to life some of the analogue techniques used to create the photographs in the exhibition. Students' learning is enhanced as they get hands-on with photography equipment and materials.					
	Please note that this tour specifically focuses on the equipment and processes of analogue photography. It is very hands-on, and has less of an art-historical focus than a traditional exhibition tour, or Gallery Question tour.					
Duration	 Tour: 60 minutes Total time in Gallery: 100 minutes Please arrive 10 minutes before the start of the tour to allow time to wash hands as the tour involves handling original cameras, photography equipment and photographs We recommend allowing 30 minutes after your tour for self-guided exploration of the exhibition 					
Year groups suitable for	Primary (1st - 6th class) and Post-Primary (1st Year – 6th Year)					
Session itinerary	 Introduction & sensory warm up Investigation: Camera Obscura Students explore a camera obscura critically and tactilely Object handling & discussion: Early photography Students explore examples of early photography: calotypes, carte de visite, tintype & cabinet card Object handling & discussion: analogue cameras Students explore three examples of vintage analogue cameras & film Video: Photo printing process Students watch a short film demonstrating photo development in a darkroom Object handling & investigation: Negatives Students experiment with light to understand how enlarging works Group photo: Instant camera Students have their photo taken with an instant camera and see it develop in front of their eyes Evaluation Optional self-guided exploration of the exhibition 					

Objectives	 To introduce students to the process of analogue photography, from the basic function of a camera to a print To introduce students to the history and development of photography, from the camera obscura to the camera phone To enable students to explore, clarify and express ideas, feelings and experiences To show how art and science connect in relation to photography To enable students to use their senses to explore analogue photography equipment, including cameras and film To be inspired by photography from the Bank of America collection 					
Themes	To have funPhotography: medium, materiality and magic					
Methods	 Discussion Critical thinking Object handling 					
Curriculum links	 Primary Visual Arts – Looking & Responding Science – Energy and Forces – Light Primary Language – Oral Language Post-Primary Junior Cycle 					
	 Visual Art - Visual culture and appreciation; Media Science - Scientific inquiry 					
Learning outcomes	 Camera Obscura Students understand why people might take photographs Students explore a camera obscura critically and tactilely Students learn about light in relation to a camera obscura Students observe images as presented in a camera obscura Students articulate individual observations and opinions about the camera obscura 					
	 Early photography Students learn the origins of photography, and that it required chemicals to be able to 'fix' an image Students use visual literacy/looking and responding skills Students explore different types of early photographs critically and tactilely Students articulate individual observations and opinions about the different types of photography 					
	 Cameras Students explore different types of cameras critically and tactilely Students articulate individual observations and opinions about the different types of cameras 					

- Students learn basic functions of cameras
- Students learn that there are different types of analogue cameras

Film and photograph development

- Students discover how film looks, feels and works
- Students learn that light can damage film
- Students learn basic process of photo development
- Students understand how a photo gets from a camera to a print
- Students explore negatives critically and tactilely
- Students articulate individual observations and opinions about negatives
- Students experiment with light to understand how enlarging works

Before your visit – background information

Over 50 years ago, pioneering collectors Beaumont and Nancy Newhall assembled an impressive selection of works spanning the history of photography. *Moment in Time: A Legacy of Photographs* | *Works from the Bank of America Collection* presents iconic photographs from that collection by Julia Margaret Cameron, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Eugene Smith, Robert Frank, Dorothea Lange, and many more.

Before your visit – suggested activities

This tour provides an introduction to analogue photography, so it isn't necessary to do any preparation work in advance of your visit. You may want to get your students thinking about all the different forms of photography they see everyday, and have a discussion about why we take photographs.

After your visit – suggested activities

The following videos may help students remember some of the equipment and processes:

- How a camera works: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ED-KnFL J7Y
- How to load film in a rollicord: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNt55dbUbdY
- How to load film in a 35mm camera: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiCfcTFP50E
- Darkroom clip: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QegYoyCtTD0

Forthcoming podcast: <u>Medium, Magic and Materiality: David and Edwin Davison in conversation</u>

David Davison and Edwin Davison, of long-standing company Davison & Associates, are specialists in photographic conservation. For this podcast, the father and son will share stories from their fascinating careers, discuss photographic processes, consider photographs as material objects, and talk through the methods by which we may preserve and experience objects from our past and present.

There are lots of activities in our new schools resource, *Medium, Materiality & Magic: Photography at the National Gallery of Ireland.*Available to download from:

https://www.nationalgallery.ie/what-we-do/education-department/schools/resources-schools