

History of Photography

Light and Likeness – 19th & 20th Century Portrait Photography

Points for Consideration

- 1) What makes a good photographic portrait? Is that answer different now than it was in 1845?
- 2) What limitations were early portraitists working under?
- 3) How was light used in early photographic portraiture? Was its quality ever a consideration, or just its quantity?
- 4) What were the advantages of the daguerreotype? What were its disadvantages?
- 5) What were the advantages and disadvantages of the calotype or paper negative/paper positive process?
- 6) Why did a French invention (the daguerreotype) become most popular here in the United States?
- 7) What was it about portraiture (or, perhaps about *photography*) made it an instant craze?
- 8) Why didn't the calotype take hold as quickly or completely anywhere except England?

Terms and Names

Daguerre

Daguerreotype (-tipist, -typy)

William Henry Fox-Talbot

Samuel F.B. Morse

Transcendentalists (ism)

Limning— “*depicting by painting or drawing*”

Paul Strand

Joseph Karsh

Richard Avedon

Annie Leibovitz

John Coplans

Albert Sands Southworth

Josiah Hawes

David Octavius Hill

Robert Adamson

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Henry David Thoreau

Imogen Cunningham

Arnold Newman

Irving Penn

Cindy Sherman

Loretta Lux