

### Photograph Analysis Sheet

#### Composition

How is the pictorial space arranged (foreground, background, points of focus)?

The man is the point of focus, he is on a focal point. The foreground is in focus but you would not notice it until you look closely as it isn't put on a focal point or line of third. The depth of field behind the man is rather shallow, emphasizing the distance from the other man. There is a lot of light used in the shallow background to draw attention to the buildings. How are the visual elements used? The man and the puddle.

Line is used in the buildings making the buildings appear closed in on the man. The natural light shining in through the buildings appears foggy making the picture appear more closed and urban, the light against the man dressed in black makes him stand out. The light also hits the puddle making it significant. Texture - the detailed concrete ground has a rough/bare texture making the picture look more dirty and urban, the puddle also creates texture and makes the picture look busy.

#### Techniques

Use of Black & White / Toning / Colour / Digital: How does this contribute to the message the work communicates?

The colours are bland, urban colours, the dark toning on the building on the right looks shadowy drawing more 'closeness' into the picture. Communicating an urban message 'trapped in a city' urbanisation.

Juxtaposition of subject matter: How does this contribute to the message the work communicates?

The man crouching juxtaposes against the tall buildings making him appear insignificant to the buildings. The man in the distance also appears small against the tall building. Juxtaposing his size to the city. Contributing a message of 'little people against the big city'.

Production techniques (point of focus, DOF, lighting): How do these contribute to the message the work communicates?

The crouching man being in the point of focus brings out his shape against the tall brick buildings. It has been staged on a foggy day I believe on purpose to make the lighting faint and blurred, adding to the DOF and the urban city theme, makes the buildings appear larger bringing out the 'big city small people' message.

Post-production image manipulation (layering of images, cut and paste): How does this contribute to the message the work communicates?

This image does not appear to be very manipulated. The brightness and contrast may have been edited to make the buildings darker and shadowy communicating the urban message emphasizing the size of the man.

The man being in black against the dark building emphasizes his size and insignificance against the tall building.

#### Photographer details:

Briefly outline what you have found out about their life and career.

David Hilliard is an American photographer born in 1964. "Hilliard's villain embraces the playful aspects of contemporary life as readily as it's pathos" - Los Angeles Times.

David is also a professor of photography at Yale University in America. His work has appeared in publications such as Blind Spot and ART news. He focuses his photography on the personal, the familiar and the simply ordinary. He says his work strikes a balance between autobiography and fiction.

#### Meaning/intention

What kind of reality has been presented? What emotive or intellectual response might the artist be inviting from viewers?

A familiar urban city reality - a man has stopped in the busy apartment alleyway to examine/pick up something. His size stands out against the tall buildings that appear to be leaning inward, makes the picture look compact. Viewers are invited to assume what could be happening and to familiarize with the small man in the big city. Is the artist trying to communicate a particular idea? What could this be?

I think he could be communicating the idea that the man is insignificant to the tall buildings. That they have stopped for a moment in their routine which is out of the ordinary in the 'big city'. Perhaps the idea that the world is too urbanized, there is not much time to stop and wait as the man waiting is in the far away distance. The city is busy.

Artist David Hilliard  
Title



#### Evaluation

What do you think about the work?

I think that this work is simple but very good. It is contemporary and a simple urban background that can be familiarized with. I like the line in the buildings and how it makes the buildings appear closed in on the man. The picture is also very balanced which I like. It is almost as though there is a POF in each of the 3 pictures.

What aspects could you use in your own work? How? Why?

The line of the buildings to fill a picture and make it appear closed in. I think it makes a nice effect and helps to communicate David's ideas/messages and it could also help to communicate mine in my photography. I could take a picture of my subject matter against towering buildings, composing it so that there is a light space against my subject matter.

1

2

# Photograph Analysis Sheet

## Composition

How is the pictorial space arranged (foreground, background, points of focus)?

The crucifix is centred almost perfectly in the middle of the picture. There is no DOF. The whole picture is in focus. It is taken against a white wall and there is no distance in the background bringing out the emotion on the men's faces. Having no distance in the background also gives the picture more closeness. It makes it tense and rather uncomfortable to view. The men are on lines of third and the eye is on a focal point adding further emotion.

How are the visual elements used?

**Colour** The use of black and white in this picture adds mood and brings out the expression on the men's faces. It also creates a sense of space on the flat white surface of the background. I think the black & white was used for that purpose.  
**Light** The lighting in this picture creates shadow on the men's faces showing their negativity and highlighting the emotion in their faces.  
**Texture** There is a soft texture in this picture. The lighting on the men's faces makes their skin appear soft adding to the mood & emotion, bringing out the texture on the crucifix.

## Techniques

Use of Black & White / Toning / Colour / Digital: How does this contribute to the message the work communicates?

The black and white tones add mood and reflect the emotion on the faces, also making their wrinkles look deeper communicating their age. It communicates the negativity in the emotion, making the photo serious and tense, emotive.

Juxtaposition of subject matter: How does this contribute to the message the work communicates?

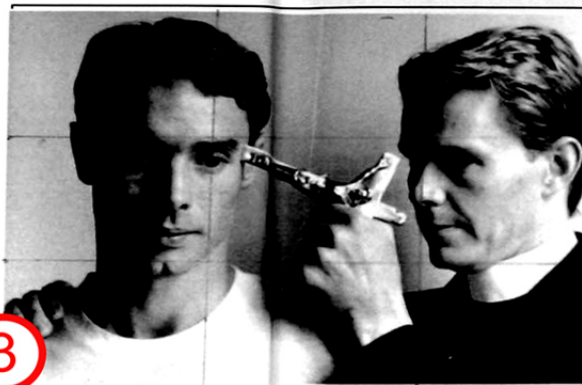
There is a juxtaposition between the priest holding the crucifix and the regular pain man in white. It communicates the persecution regular people face from religion and religious people. There is also a juxtaposition between innocence and guilt/good & bad crossing the roads together.

Production techniques (point of focus, DOF, lighting): How do these contribute to the message the work communicates?

The staged lighting on the man brings out their expressions and adds age to their faces, communicating innocence and guilt. The man on the left's eye is the point of focus and instantly communicates the emotive message of guilt or sin. There is no DOF I think it is effective without it.

Post-production image manipulation (layering of images, cut and paste): How does this contribute to the message the work communicates?

I think the only manipulation in this photo would be adjusted light/saturation and the black and white. The manipulated levels of light would add to the shadow and expression on the faces communicating the emotive messages, religious philosophy.



Artist Duane Michaels Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_

## Evaluation

What do you think about the work?

I think it is strong and effective. I really like that religion is included as it is something all of society understands. I think the message/idea Duane Michaels is sending may be a bit on too straight forward and more mystery would be good but overall I really like this picture and Duane Michaels work.

What aspects could you use in your own work? How? Why?

The religious idea, I could incorporate crucifixes into my work & other religious symbols. Lighting on faces to capture emotion and innocence or guilt. The subtle shadowing on faces to bring out evil and negativity, that there are dark people. The close background being black and white to create a spacious feeling and to bring out mood and distance between emotion. Juxtapose good to evil.

## Photographer details:

Briefly outline what you have found out about their life and career.

Duane Michaels born February 18th 1932 is an American photographer. He taught himself photography. His work uses photo sequences, often incorporating text to examine emotion and philosophy. In 1968 he successfully photographed the Olympics. He studied at the University of Denver in America.

## Meaning/intention

What kind of reality has been presented? What emotive or intellectual response might the artist be inviting from viewers?

A philosophical religious message showing the persecution religion pressures upon people for sins and what they believe 'God' says is wrong. He presents this message through emotion on the faces, innocence and guilt triggering a familiar emotive response from viewers dependent on their religious stance. Is the artist trying to communicate a particular idea? What could this be? That religion persecutes and attempts to punish 'sinners'. That it is wrong but often occurs in society. Also that members of religion eg. priests are arrogant and believe that they are right to exploit people to make them feel guilty. The crucifix to the head may mean that religion is killing the man.