

PORTRAITS PROJECT

DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO THE PHOTOGRAPHY
& RETOUCHING OF PORTRAITS

PARTS 1 & 2:

DIFFERENT STYLES & APPROACHES TO PORTRAITS

**WHAT MAKES A
GOOD PORTRAIT?**

THOMAS BROENING:

“I think for a portrait to be great it needs to say more about that maker of the image than the subject.

Avedon said that all portraits were accurate and none of them were the truth. They are all in a sense a postulation or an argument. Every-time a photographer points the camera at another person he is making a judgement. The grander the judgement the greater the lie.”

TIMOTHY ARCHIBALD

“Trying to really pinpoint what makes a great portrait is almost like trying to figure out why it feels good when someone smiles at you or why it is disturbing when someone yells at you. There are these rules, this structure, and then there is this human intangible element that is the wild card. Everyone seems to know how to play by the rules and follow the structure, but as far as the intangible goes, this third element, that’s where it all falls apart or comes together, it allows the portrait to sink or swim or really transcend.”

THE STEWART SISTERS, 7TH GRADE

The girls are being photographed, communicating with the viewer, being self aware and being all of these things and more, nothing is very dramatic, nothing heavy handed, but the end result feels utterly profound. The result seems to be a picture of these girls, but then seems to be communicating something universal as well.

- Timothy Archibald



Judith Joy Ross

JOAKIM ESKILDSEN

“A good portrait for me is something that gives an insight into the portrayed inner universe, reflected via the surroundings and the mood of the light and the person's mental state. It must somehow also have a secret that you want to take part in or that makes you wonder. Also, it is great if it puts your own feelings into this universe by looking at it, and reminds you of this feeling.”



JOAKIM ESKILDSEN

This picture is of István in Hungary. The color and the light and the cracked walls, and the mood of István make me interested, and I am able to recall the feeling of the moment by looking at it.

ROB HAGGART

“A great portrait is surprising and insightful for the viewer. The insight comes from learning additional information about the subject beyond what they look like. It can be subtle (expression, body position, bits of context) or it can be dramatic but it should never be obvious.

The surprising part can come from making an unlikely context to subject pairing or creating an unexpected situation for the subject to react to.”

CHRIS BUCK



PORTRAIT STYLE 1

ARNOLD NEWMAN

"I didn't just want to make a photograph with some things in the background. The surroundings had to add to the composition and the understanding of the person. No matter who the subject was, it had to be an interesting photograph. Just to simply do a portrait of a famous person doesn't mean a thing."

ENVIRONMENTAL PORTRAITURE

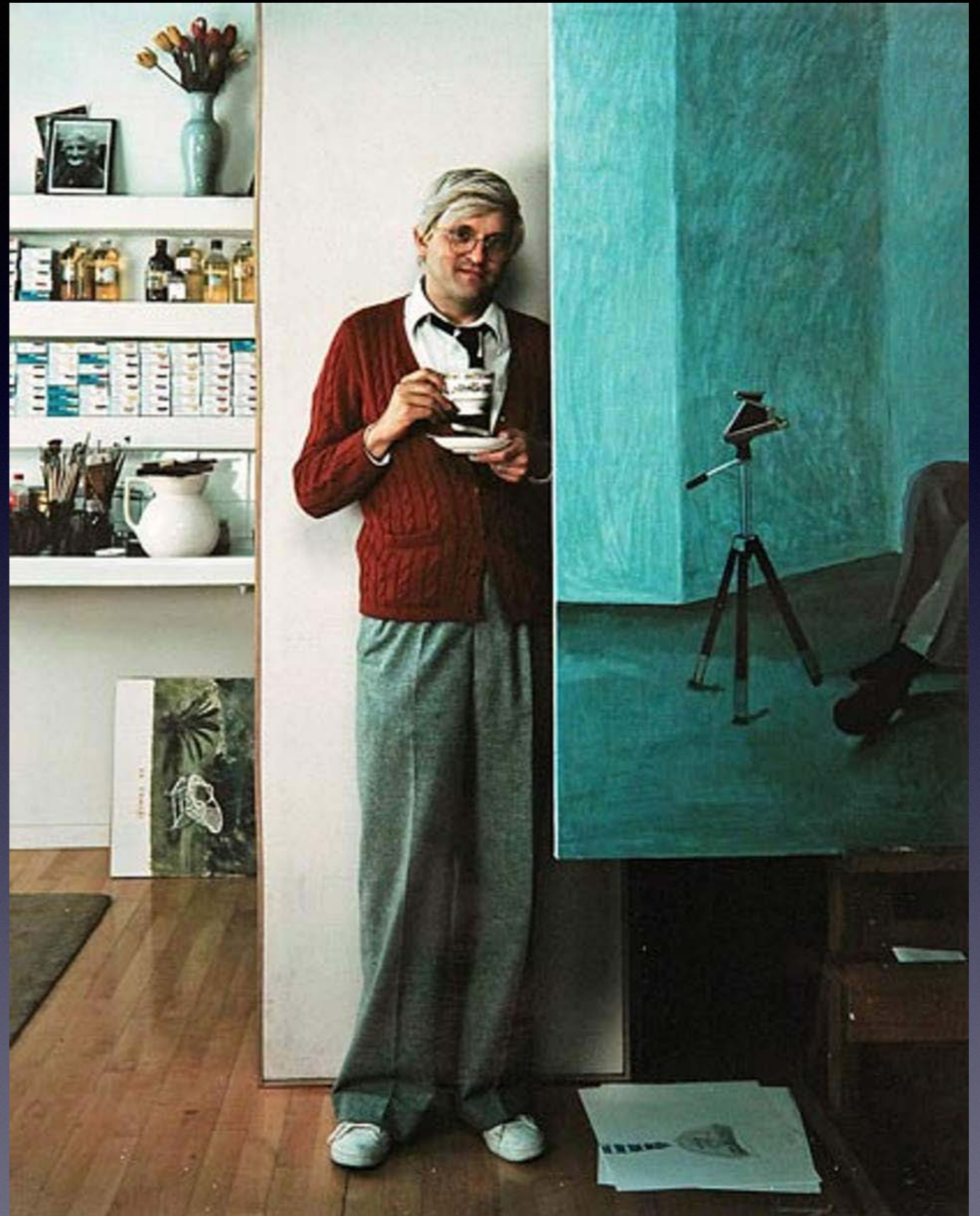
PHILLIP JOHNSON

ARCHITECT



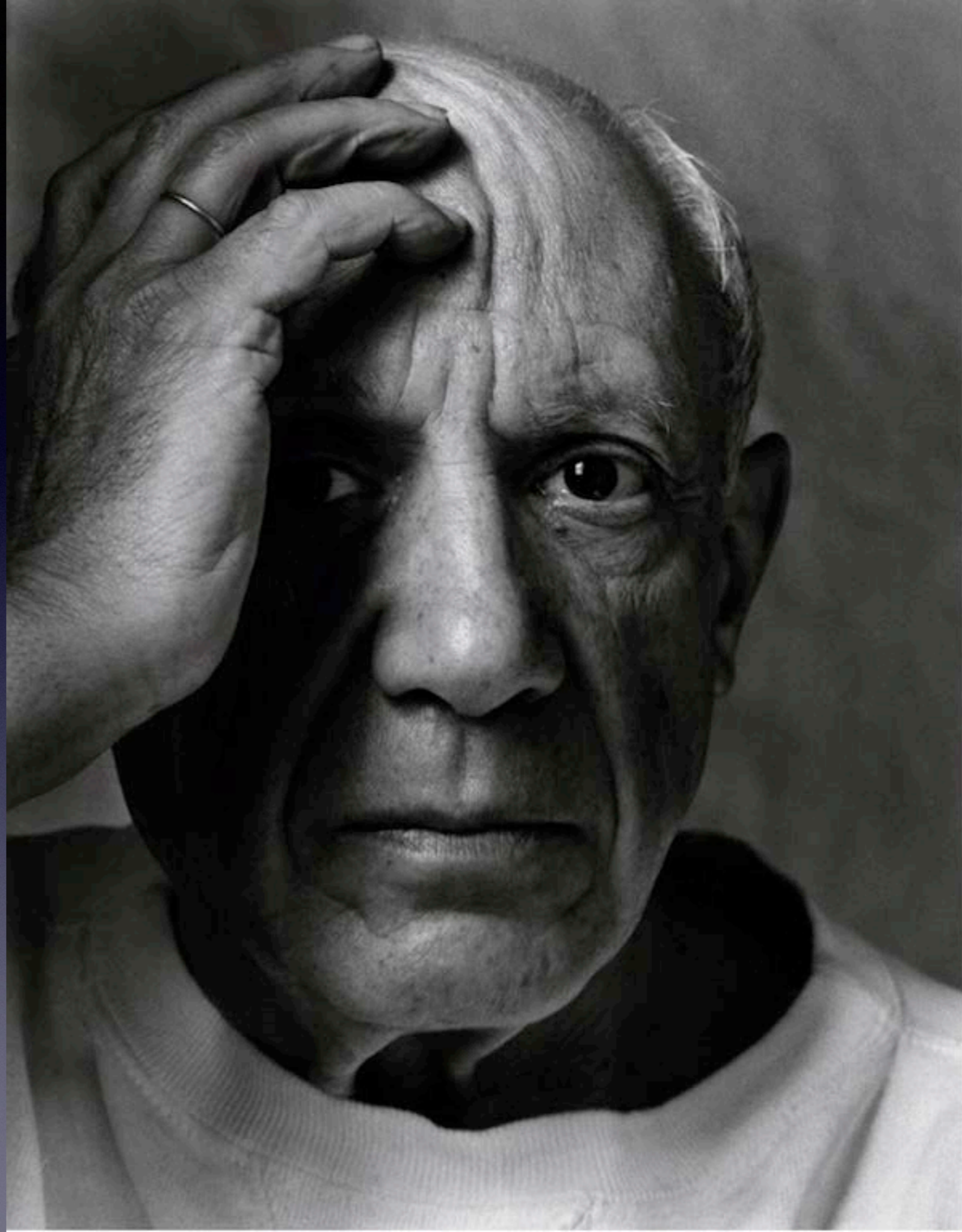
DAVID HOCKNEY

PHOTOGRAPHER



PABLO PICASSO

PAINTER



PABLO PICASSO

PAINTER



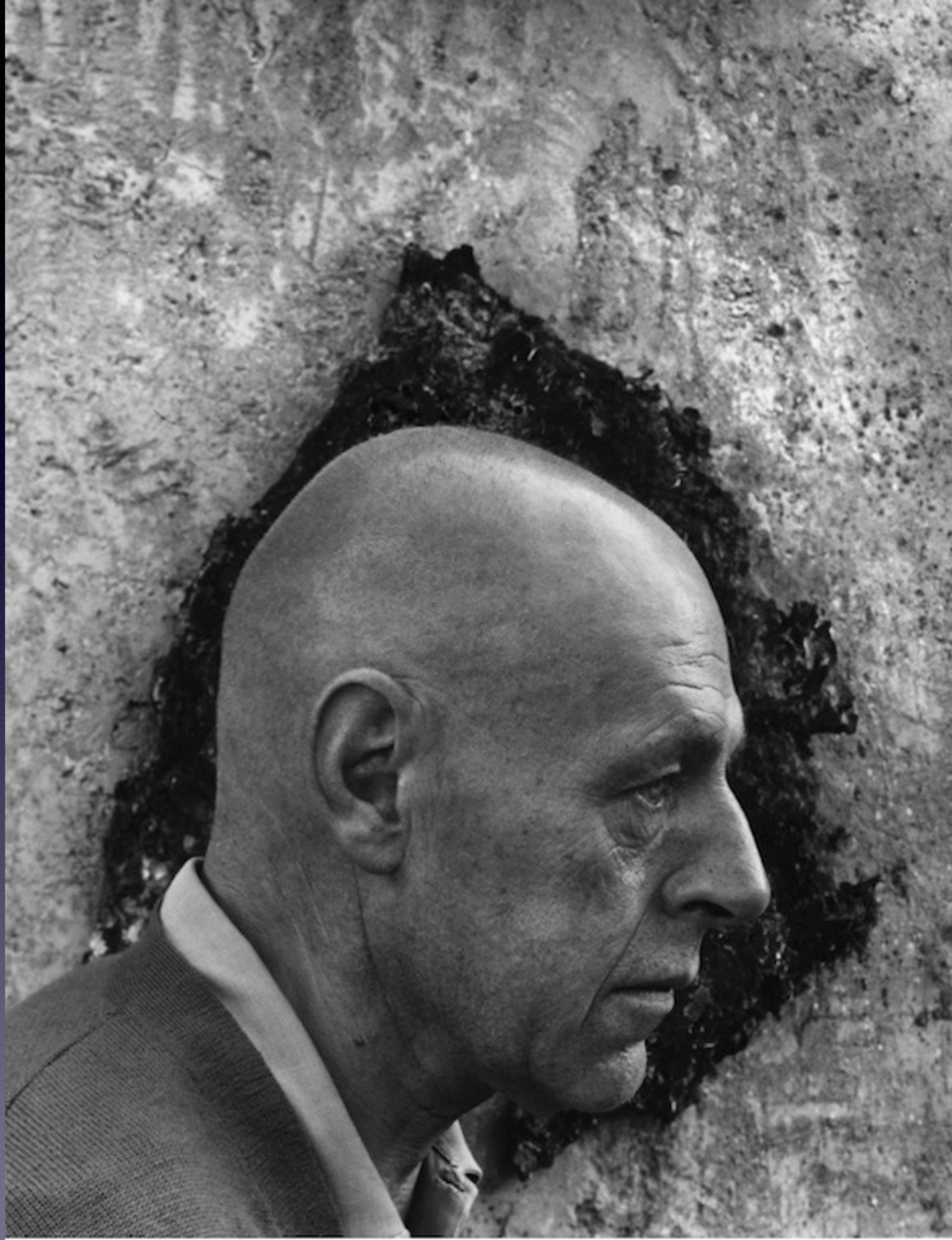
SIR CECIL BEATEN

PHOTOGRAPHER



JOHN DEBUFFET

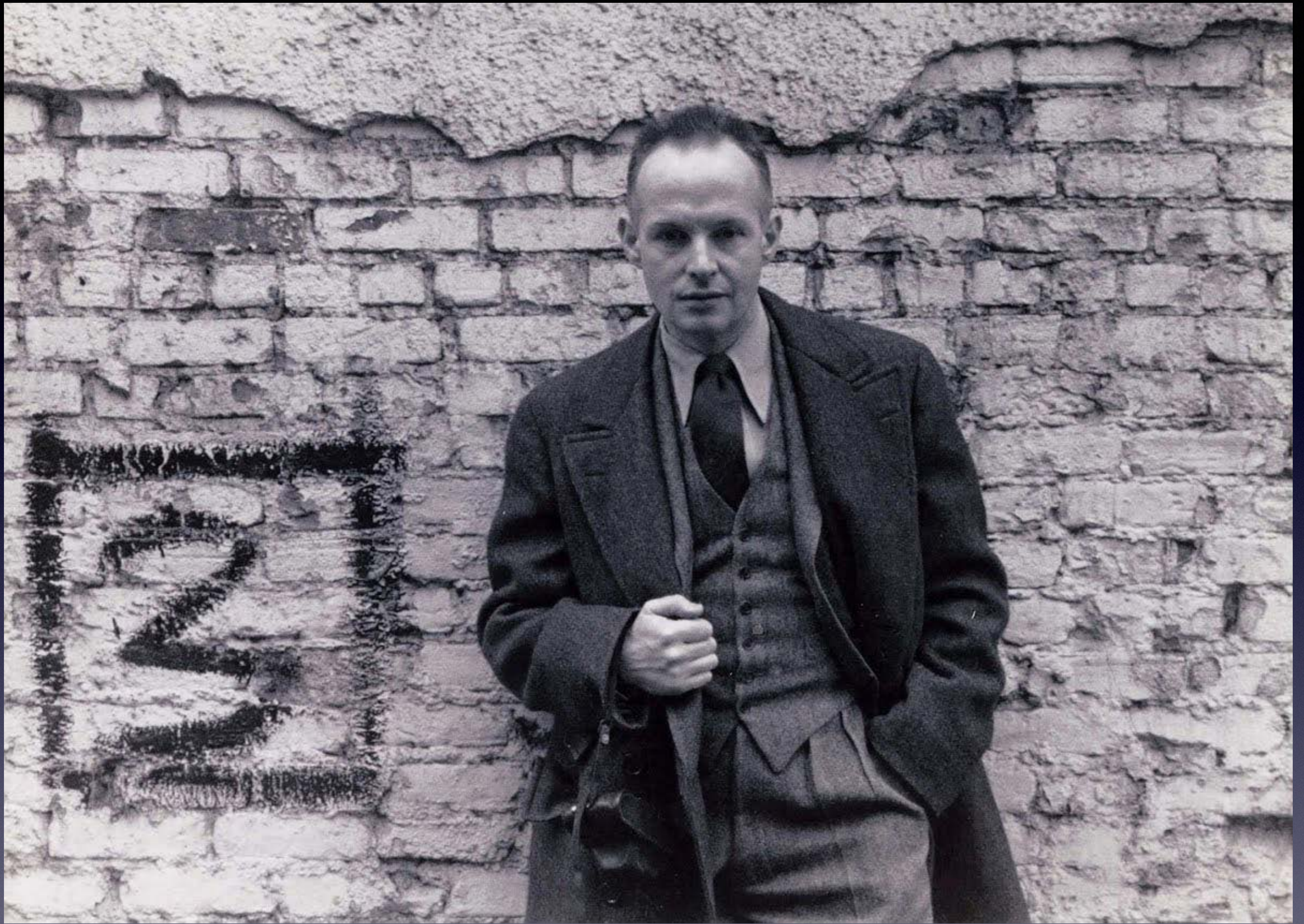
SCULPTOR



GEORGIA O'KEEFFE & ALFRED STIEGLITZ

PAINTER AND
PHOTOGRAPHER





HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON

PHOTOGRAPHER



MARTHA GRAHAM

DANCER / INSTRUCTOR



IGOR STRAVINSKY

COMPOSER

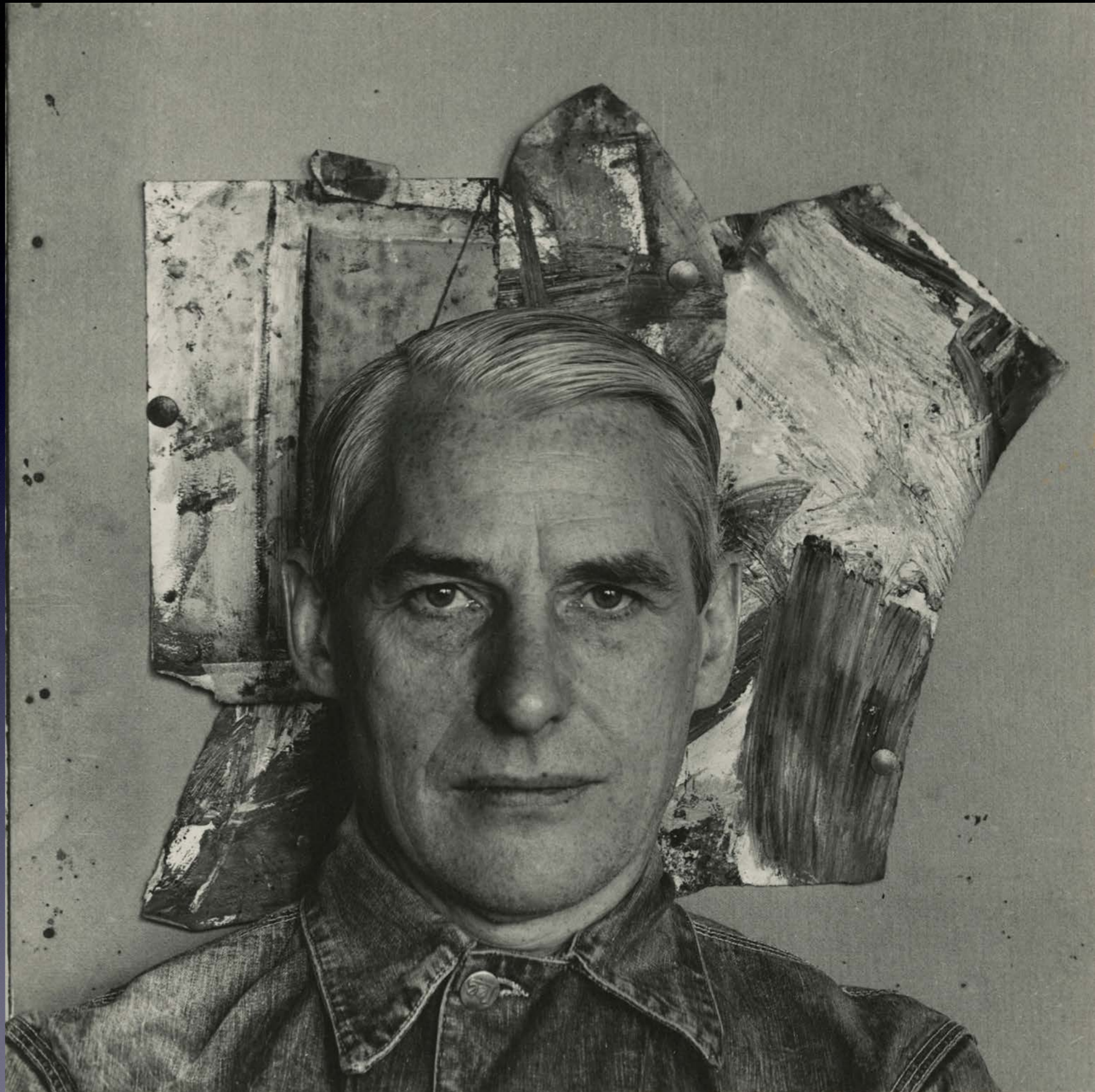
MAN RAY

AMERICAN SURREALIST
PAINTER



WILLEM DE KOONING

PAINTING





WILLEM DE KOONING

PAINTING

WILLEM DE Kooning

PAINTING





W. EUGENE SMITH

PHOTOGRAPHER

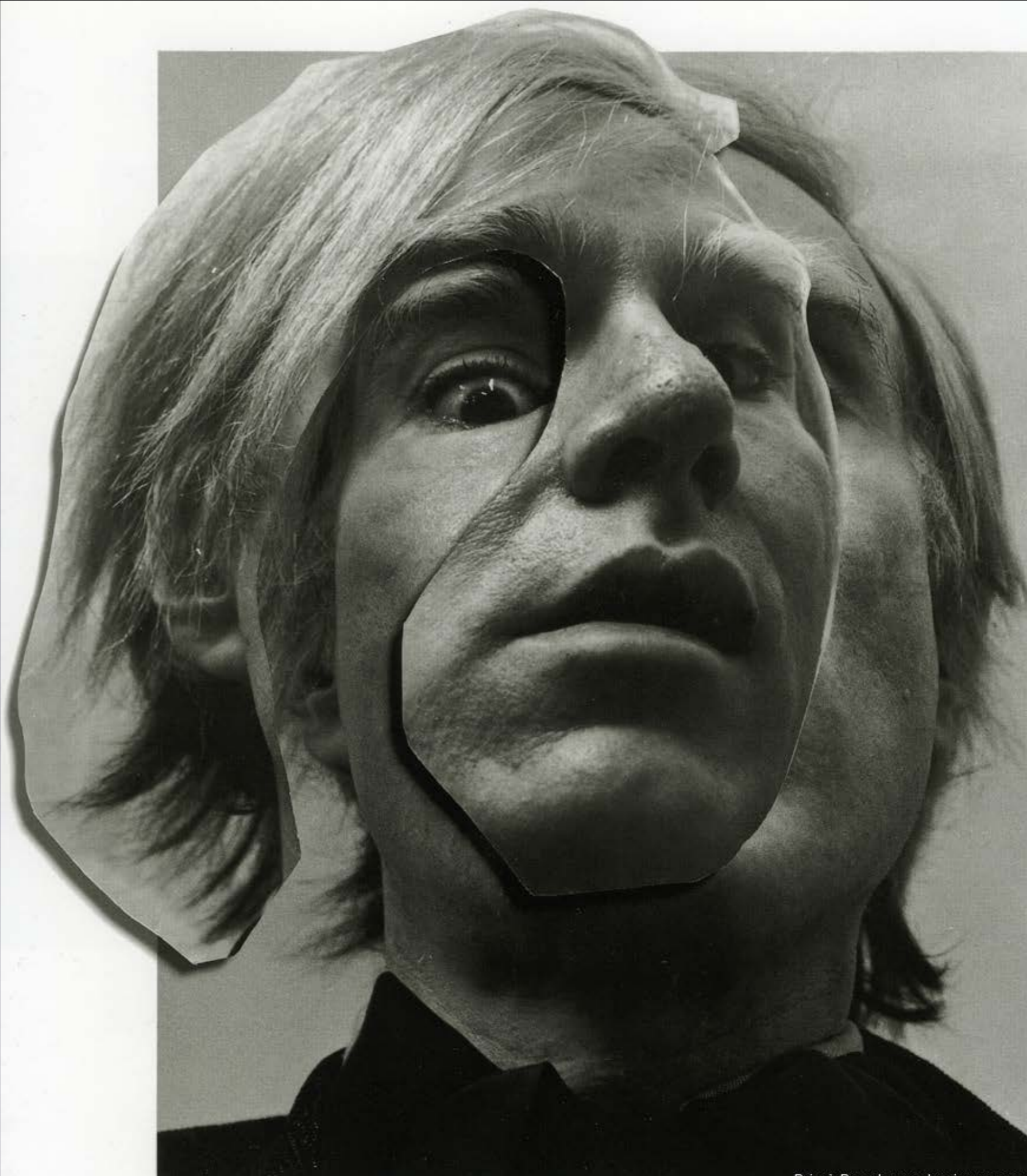


TRUMAN CAPOTE

WRITER

ANDY WARHOL

ARTIST



ANSEL ADAMS

PHOTOGRAPHER



ARTHUR MILLER

PLAYWRIGHT



ROBERT OPPENHEIMER

AMERICAN THEORETICAL
PHYSICIST



MAX ERNST

GERMAN PAINTER & SCULPTOR



SALVADOR DALI

SPANISH SURREALIST PAINTER



ROY LICHTENSTEIN

AMERICAN POP ARTIST



GEORGIA O'KEEFFE

AMERICAN PAINTER



PORTRAIT STYLE 2

RICHARD AVEDON

“A portrait is not a likeness. The moment an emotion or fact is transformed into a photograph it is no longer a fact but an opinion. There is no such thing as inaccuracy in a photograph. All photographs are accurate. None of them is the truth.”

“A photographic portrait is a picture of someone who knows he's being photographed, and what he does with this knowledge is as much a part of the photograph as what he's wearing or how he looks. He's implicated in what's happening, and he has a certain real power over the result.”

CANDID, EMOTIVE PORTRAITURE

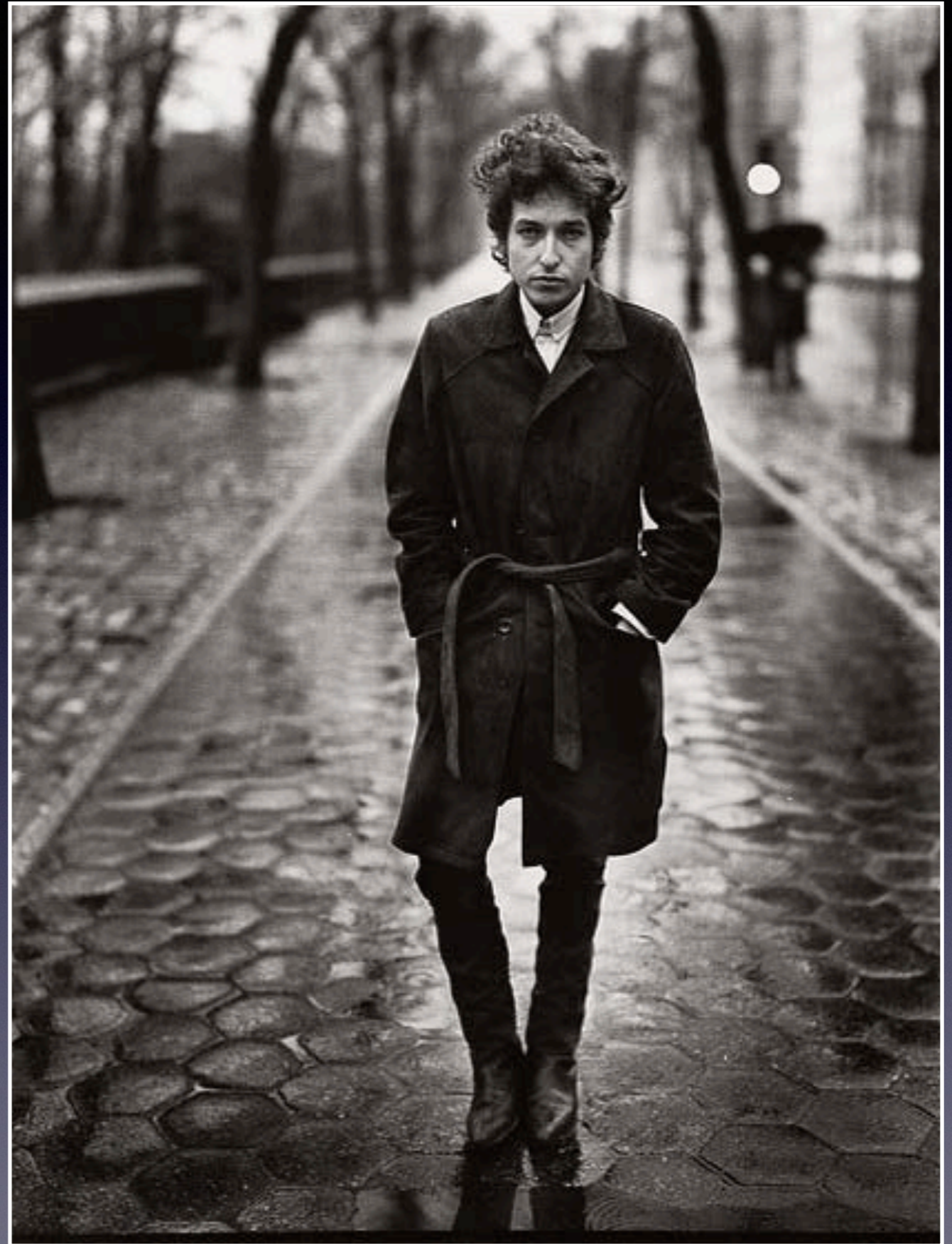
BOB DYLAN

MUSICIAN



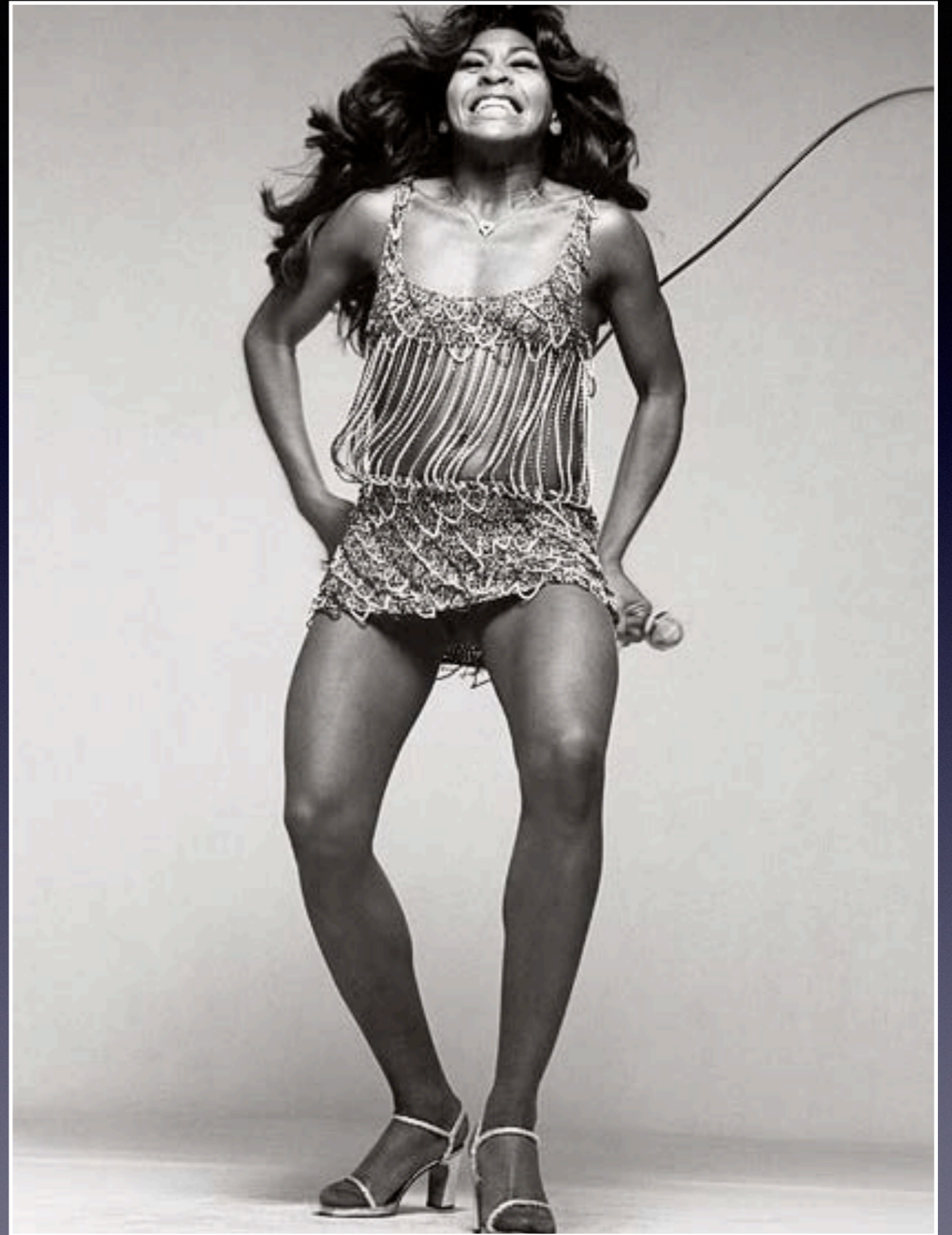
BOB DYLAN

MUSICIAN



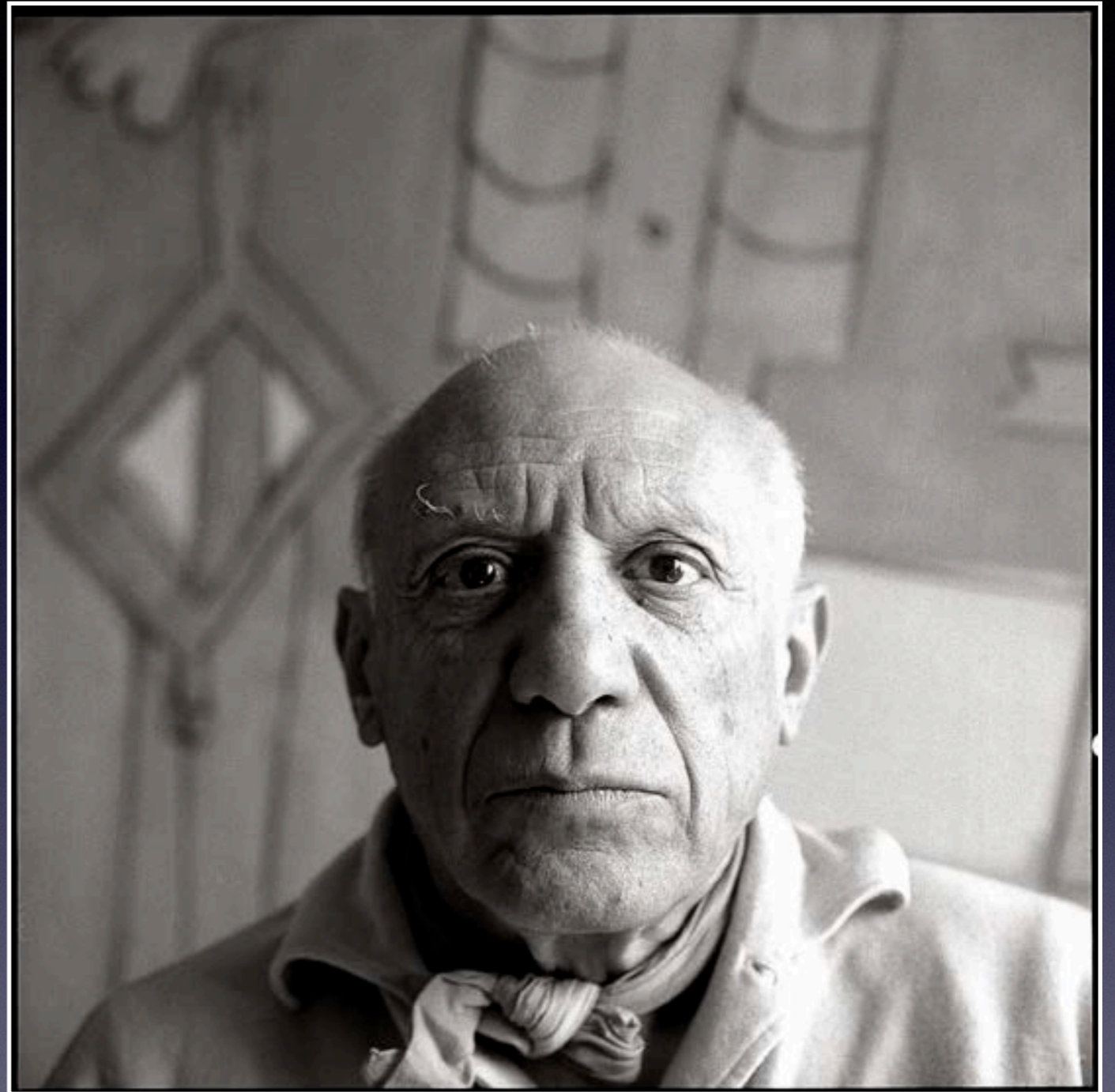
TINA TURNER

SINGER



PABLO PICASSO

PAINTER



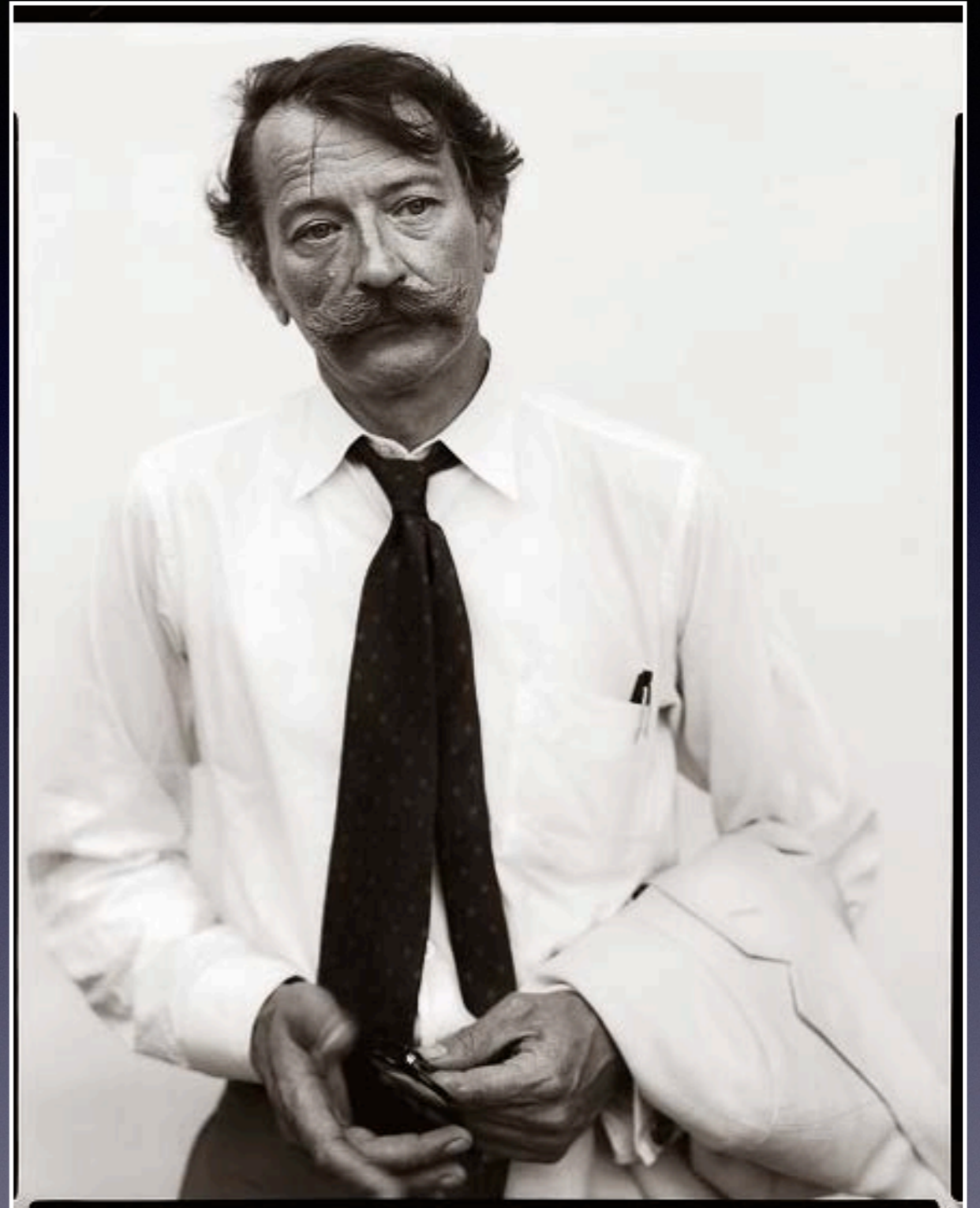
MARC CHAGALL

PAINTER



JOHN SZARKOWSKI

PHOTOGRAPHER



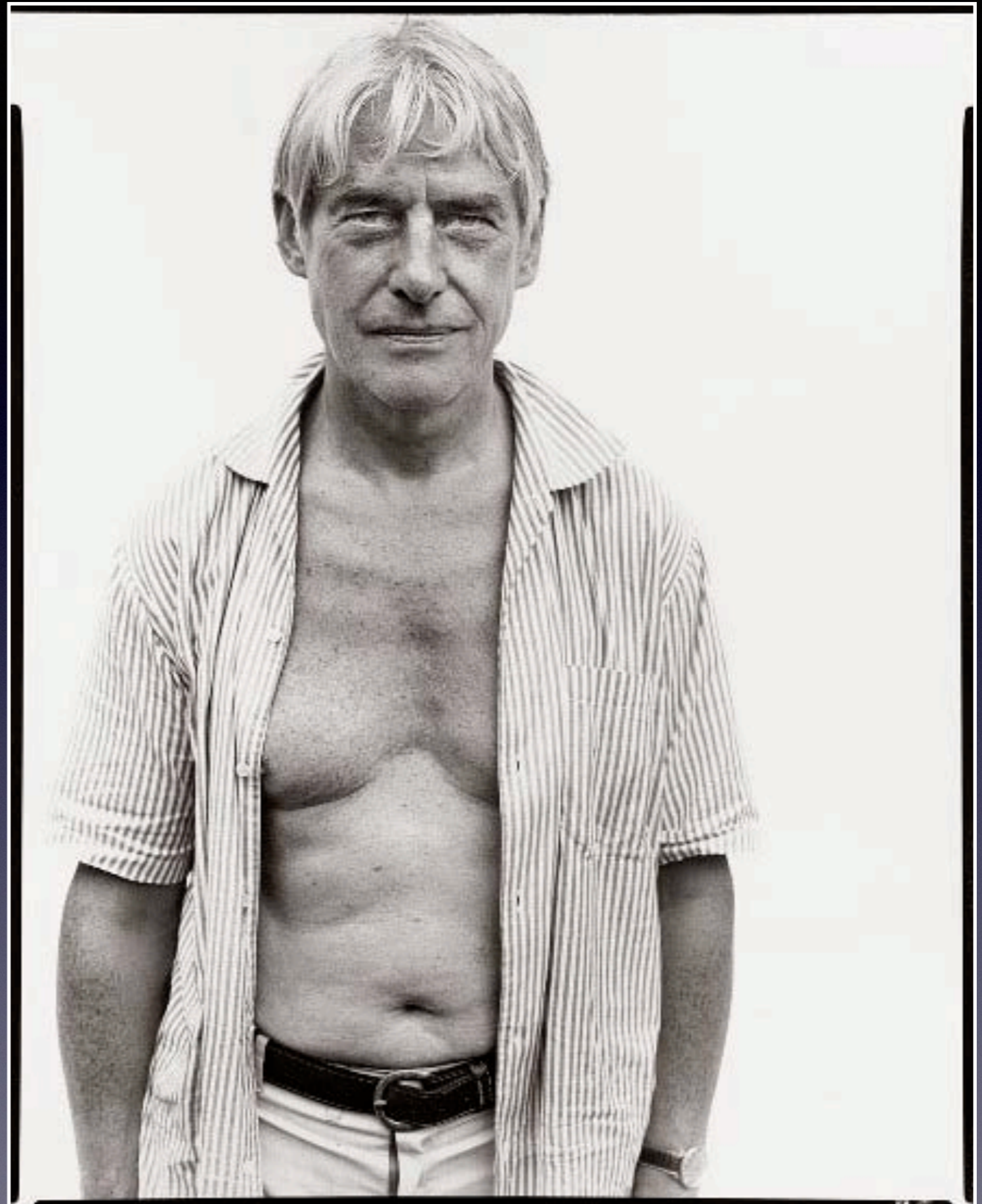
BERNHARD & ANNABEL

PAINTER & WRITER



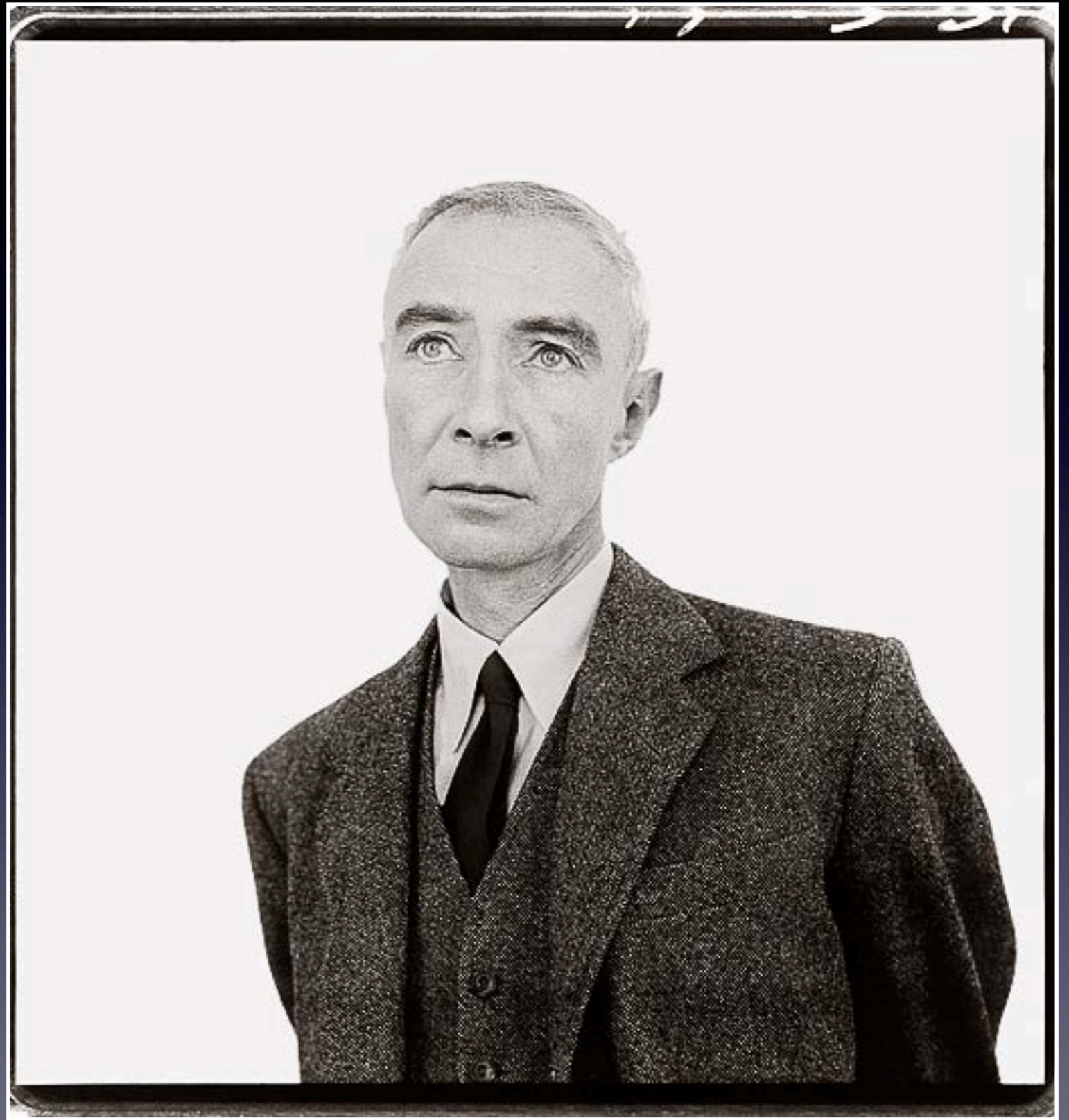
WILLEM DE KOONING

PAINTER



ROBERT OPPENHEIMER

PHYSICIST



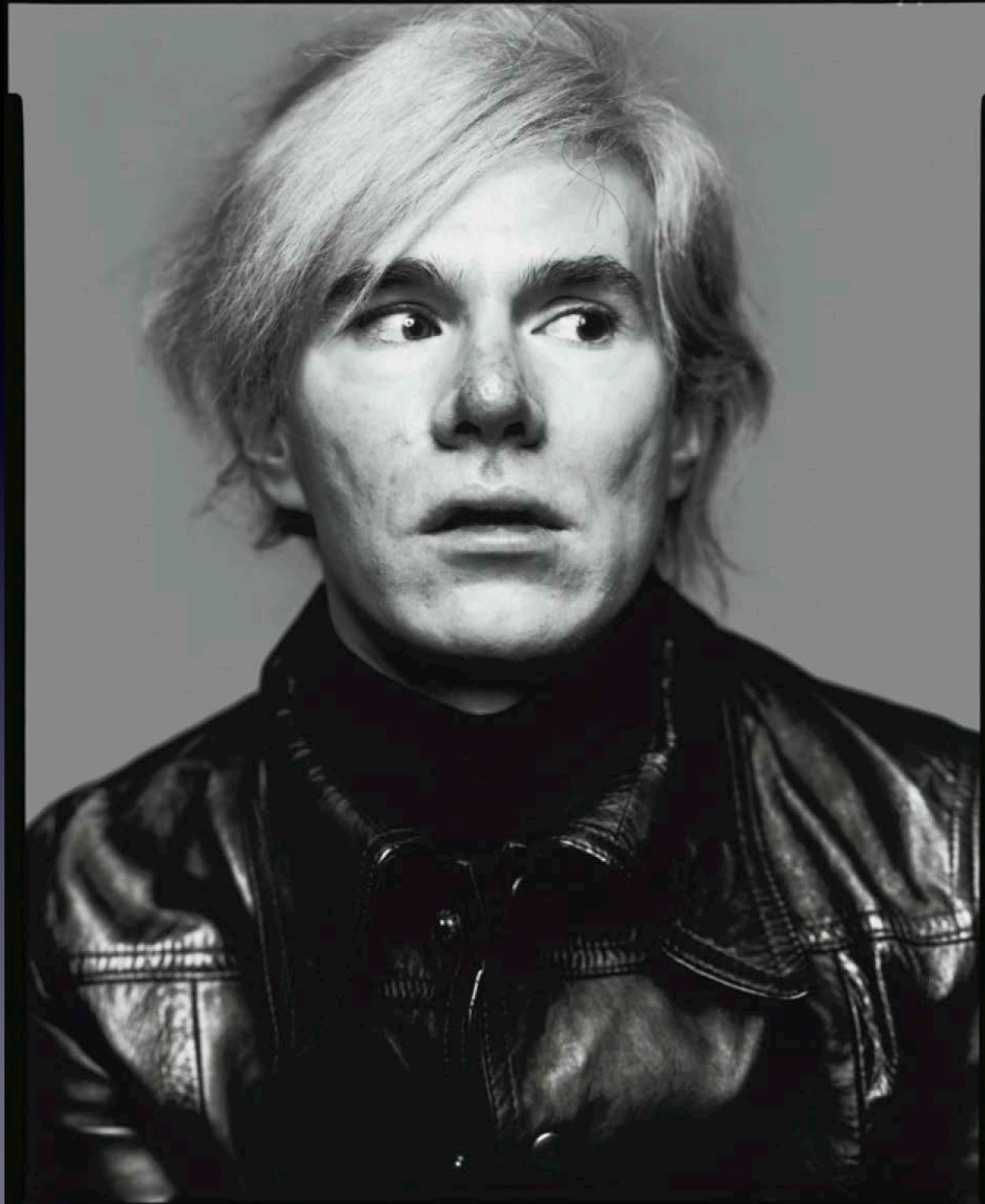
MARILYN MONROE

ACTRESS



ANDY WARHOL

ARTIST





MARTIN LUTHER KING WITH HIS FATHER & SON

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

MARTHA GRAHAM

DANCER



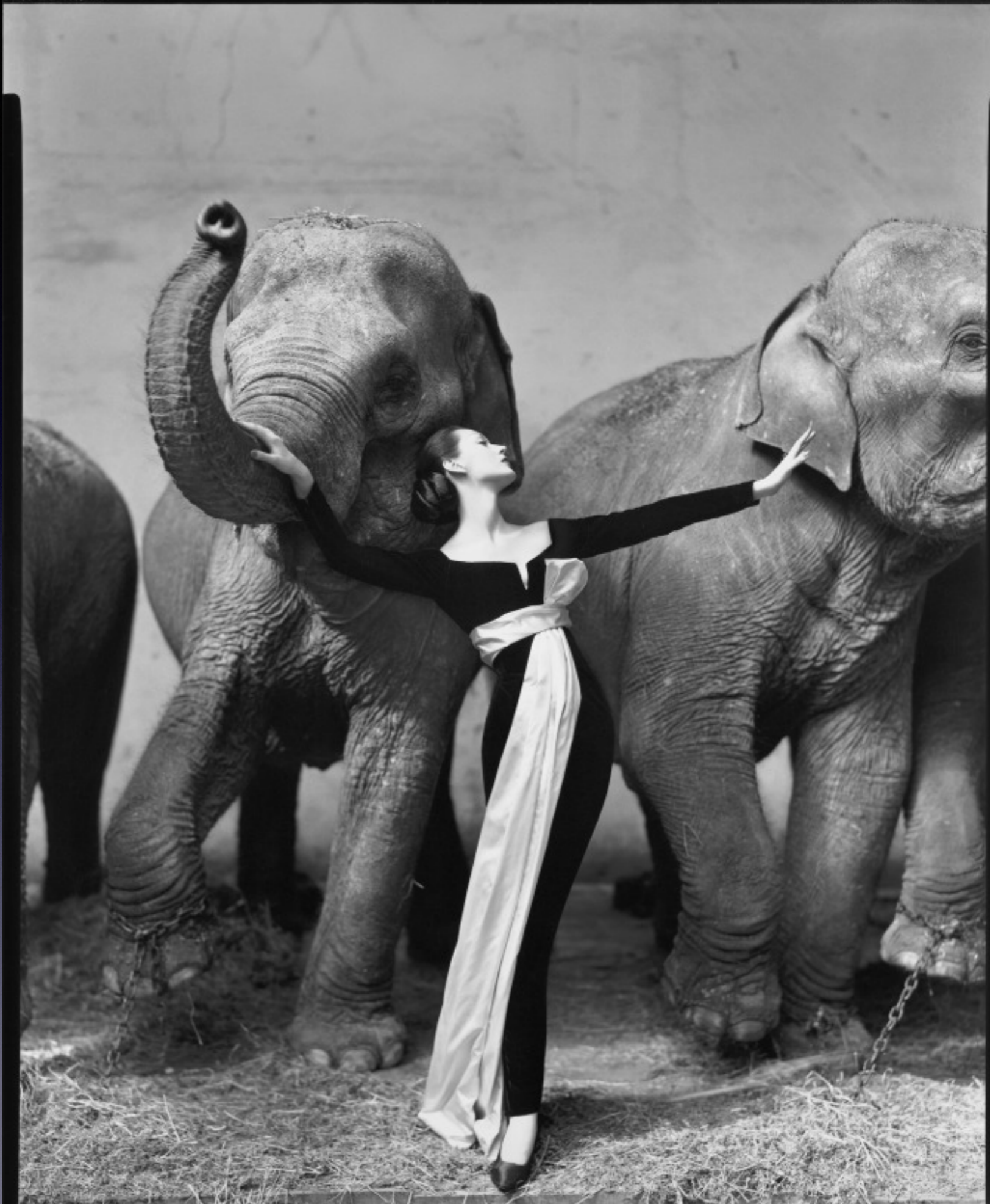
FLORENCE HENRY

LAWYER



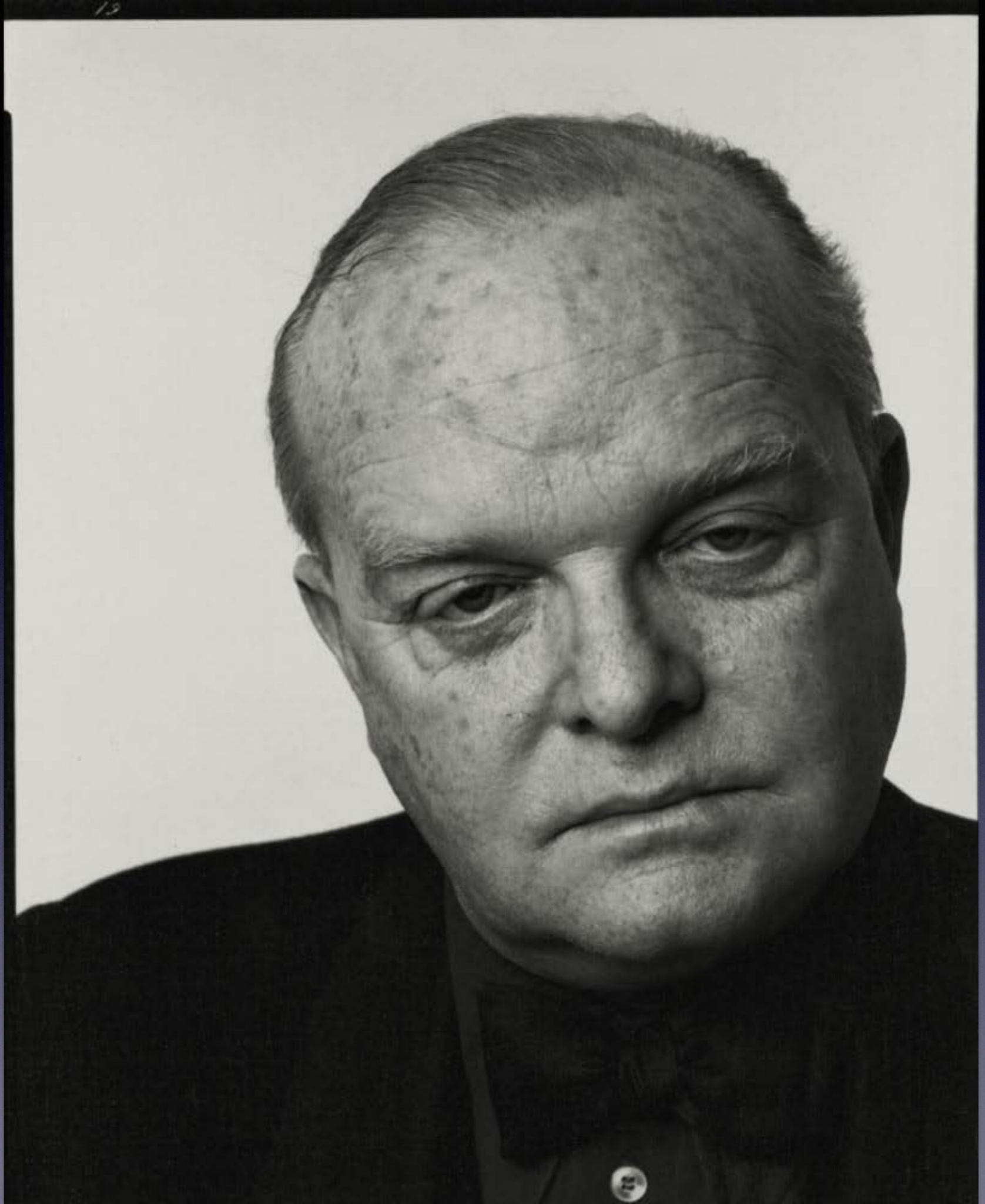
DOVIMA WITH ELEPHANTS

MODEL



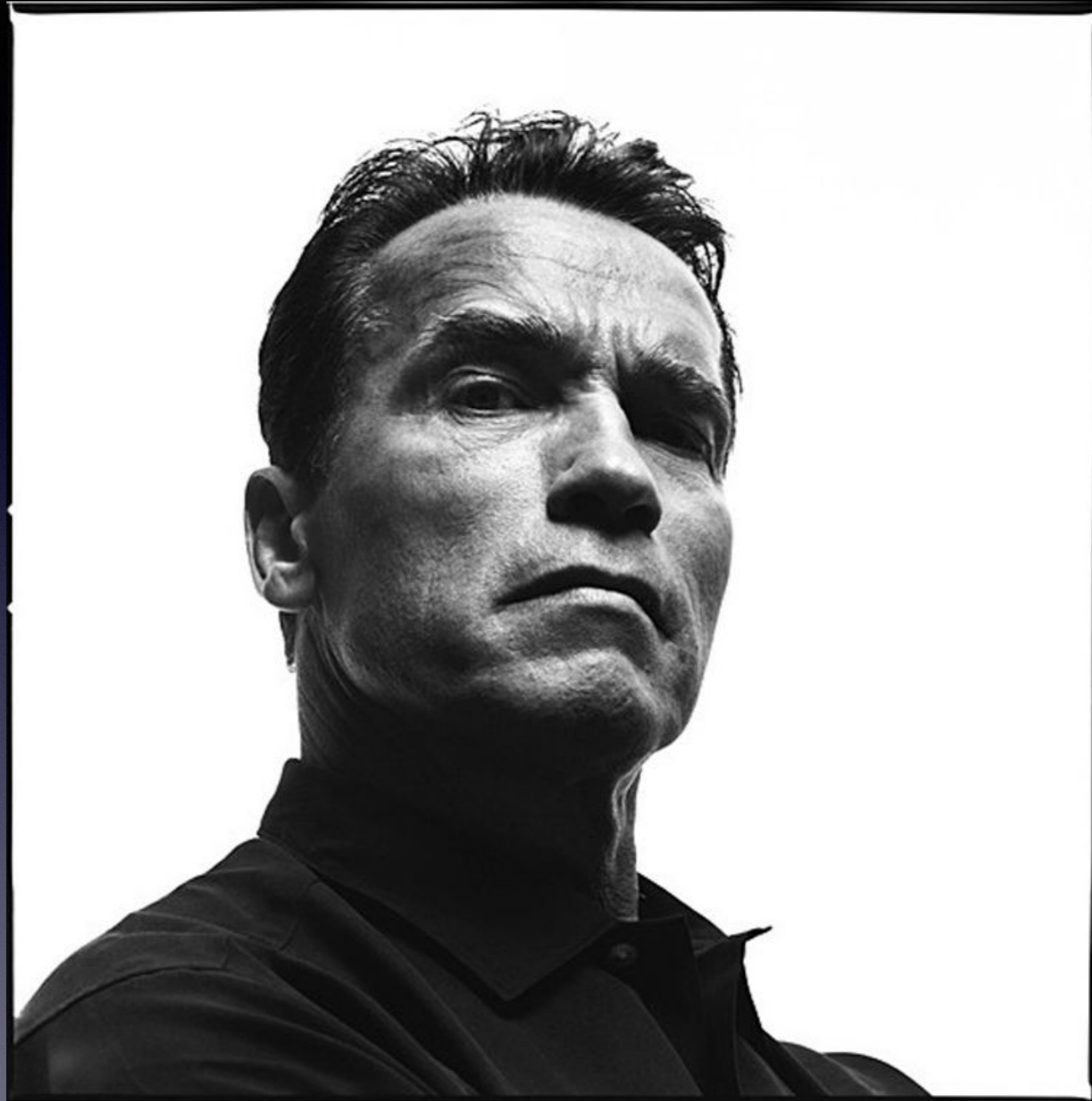
TRUMAN CAPOTE

WRITER



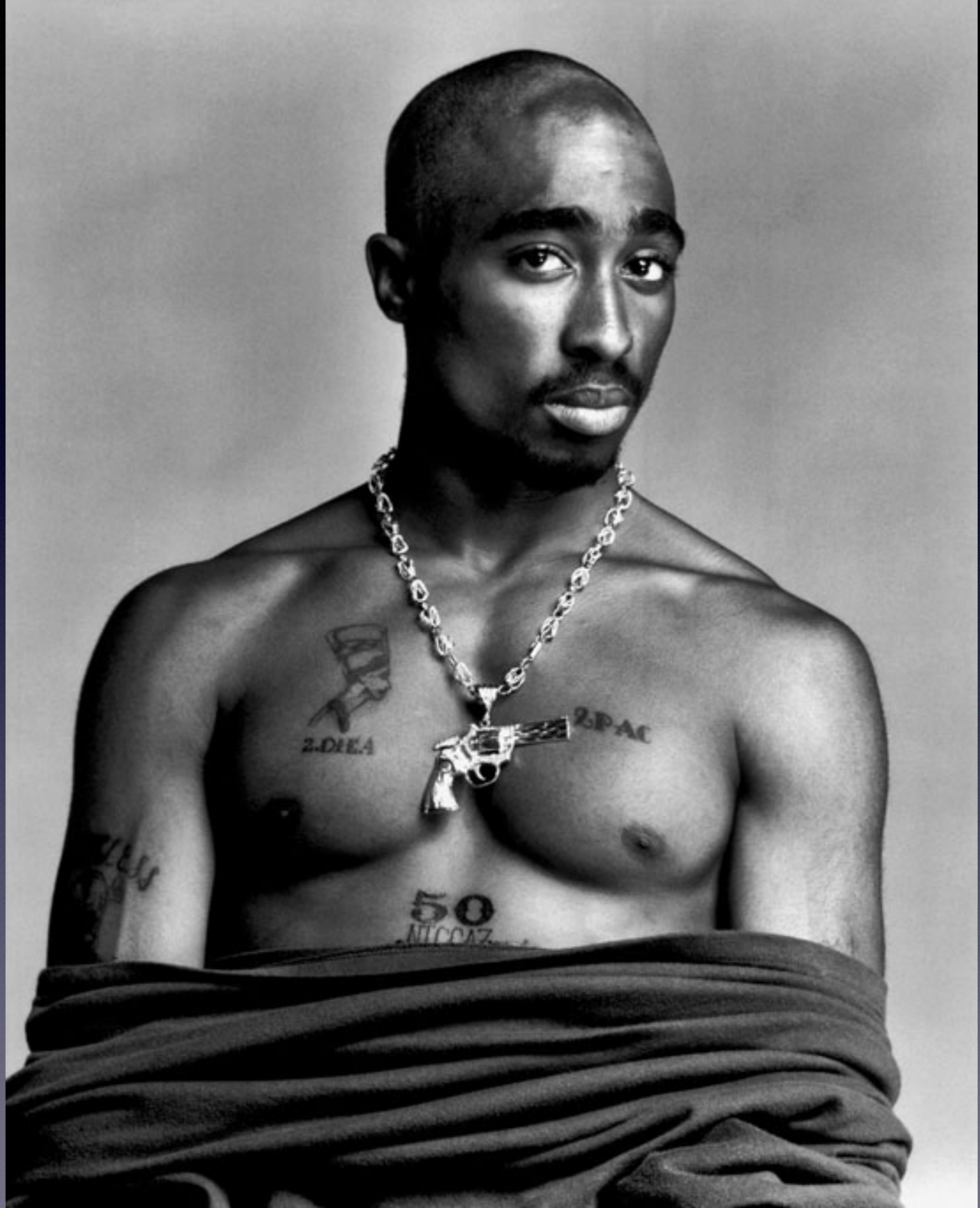
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

ACTOR



TUPAC SHAKUR

MUSICIAN



DUKE & DUCHESS OF WINDSOR

FORMER KING OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM AND
FORMER AMERICAN
SOCIALITE



**ELIZABETH
TAYLOR**

ACTRESS



JOHN GLENN

ASTRONAUT



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PART 3:

PORTRAIT RETOUCHING

PORTRAIT RETOUCHING

RETOUCHING FOR REALITY

- Subtle enhancement
- Cleaning up blemishes, minimizing redness or stray hairs

RETOUCHING FOR FANTASY

- Extreme enhancement
- Everything is perfect: skin is smooth, unblemished; hair, facial features, and body parts are enhanced, nothing is out of place

BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER





BEFORE



AFTER

BEFORE



AFTER



PHOTOGRAPHER: NINA MASIC
RETOUCH: IRENE VELWEISS

BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



PHOTOGRAPHER: SLAVA SAMOILENKO
RETOUCHER: VICTORIA CHALENKO

PORTRAITS PROJECT

- One Environmental Portrait in the style of Arnold Newman
- One Candid, Emotive Portrait in the style of Richard Avedon
- One headshot retouched for Reality & Fantasy
 - (2 versions of the same photo)