# THE ART OF GROUP PHOTOS

INSPIRED BY ANNIE LEIBOVITZ

## BIOGRAPHY

Annie Leibovitz was born on October 2, 1949, in Waterbury, Connecticut. While studying painting at the San Francisco Art Institute, she took night classes in photography, Photographers such as **Robert Frank** and **Henri Cartier-Bresson** influenced her during her time at the San Francisco Art Institute.

In 1970, she began doing work for Rolling Stone magazine. She became Rolling Stone's chief photographer in 1973. Leibovitz worked for the magazine until 1983, and her intimate photographs of celebrities helped define the Rolling Stone look. Richard Avedon's portraits were an important and powerful example in her life. She learned that she could work for magazines and still create personal work, which for her was the most important. She sought intimate moments with her subjects, who "open their hearts and souls and lives to you."

## BIOGRAPHY

Among other honors, Leibovitz has been made a Commandeur des Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government and has been designated a living legend by the Library of Congress. Her first museum show, Photographs: Annie Leibovitz 1970-1990, took place in 1991 at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. and toured internationally for six years. At the time she was only the second living portraitist – and the only woman – to be featured in an exhibition by the institution.

Leibovitz is known a very private person. She had a longtime romantic relationship with noted writer, Susan Sontag, who died in 2004. She is the mother of three children. At the age of 51, she had her daughter, Sarah. In 2005, her twin daughters, Susan and Samuelle, were born with the help of a surrogate mother.























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MEN AT WORK Messrs. Laperield et Slimane show Ben how the pos strike a pose, orroutt iwa: Chanel Haute Conture sik-tulle welding dress covered with pyrographed leaves, worn with patent-leather overall; sheer and opaque black organiza dress worn with organiza cape and black satin pants; black silk-lace dress with matching pants; black organiza tunic and matching pants entirely hand embroidered with black and whee lequins, Details, see In This Issue.

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## **EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY**

- Annie Leibovitz has mastered the art of group photos. Be inspired by her work for Vanity Fair and others over the years and take a photo of a group of 5 people or more.
- Explore different posing options, view Leibovitz's work for inspiration.
  - Do NOT have everyone face the camera, or hunch together towards the center of the frame.
  - Pose people standing in different directions but looking at the camera, and also try some people seated (or on the floor) and others standing.
- Try to show personality and confidence in each person. Use a neutral, nondistracting background and consider the best lighting. No on-camera flash.