



Portraits with a difference

An Art & Design resource for KS3



Anglo Sikh Heritage Trail
Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future

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What's it all about?

In the modern global world, most people are used to meeting people from different countries and backgrounds. But it's always interesting to see ourselves as others see us.

? Can portraits help us understand how we look at other people who may be very different from us?

? How individual does a portrait have to be? Do we see people in portraits as individuals or as representatives of their social group?

August Sander, *Recipient of Welfare Assistance*, gelatin silver print, 1930, National Gallery of Art
Eileen Perrier, *Wentworth Street Studios*, 2008 (two)
August Sander, *The Painter, Heinrich Hoerle, Cologne*, gelatine silver print, 1928, Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas





The activity

In this resource you'll study some examples of artists who work with ideas of cultural identity and diversity.

Some have travelled the world to see exotic people in different countries. Some have found the exotic right in front of them at home.

Find out more about how they achieve their effects and the impact that their work has on the viewer.

Then you'll have the chance to make your own work, responding in your own way to themes of diversity and cultural identity.

Steve McCurry, *Peshawar, Pakistan, 2002*, photograph

Introducing India

In the 19thc, India was a new concept to British people. Artists and photographers travelled to record it.

These photographs were taken in the 1850s. They were probably shown in London in an international exhibition in 1871, where they were described as 'photographs of native heads'.

? What do you think the artists were most interested in about their sitters?

? What impact do you think photographs like this would have had on viewers in Britain?

W W Hooper and Surgeon G Western, *The Costumes and people of India*, albumen prints, 1855-64, V&A

