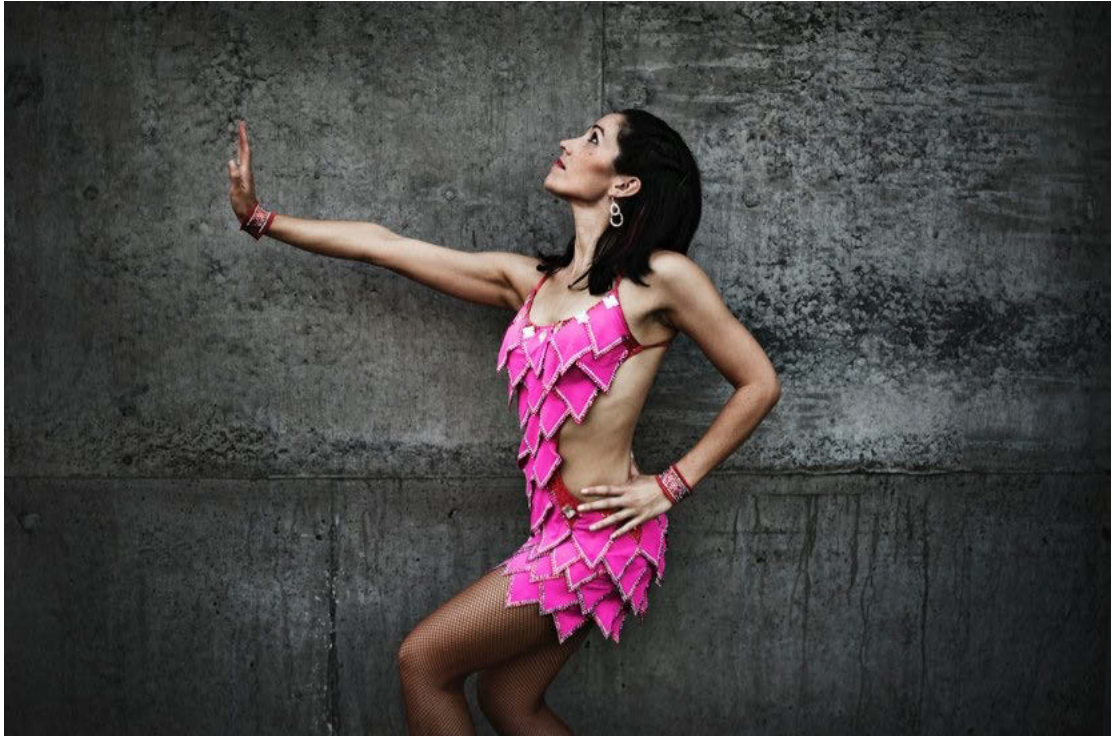


C03012v3 Master of Design (Research)

Research Topic:

*8 Stories*: A New Language in Portrait Photography Using Video and Sound as a Platform/Framework.



James Rolon

Supervisors: Professor Lawrence Wallen and

Associate Professor Vicki Karaminas

Master of Design by Research

University of Technology Sydney

## CERTIFICATE OF ORIGINAL AUTHORSHIP

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

Signature of Student:

Date:

## **Acknowledgements**

Although the vocation of being a photographer is often a singular one which fools us, the person behind a camera, into feeling self-reliant, the truth is that there are a number of people I need to thank because, without their generosity of spirit, I would never have been able to conduct this research. Firstly, I would like to thank Professor Lawrence Wallen, who met me religiously and offered essential constructive guidance throughout my research, and Associate Professor Vicki Karaminas, who took me through the many rewrites of my thesis; both of whom provided me with extreme patience and constant support. I would have never finished this research without them. Also, Ann Hobson, Research Manager at the Faculty of Design, Architecture, and Building, offered me continuous administrative guidance. Anita Marosszky, Professor Wallen's Executive Assistant, could always be trusted for amusing banter. Lee Halper thankfully agreed to copy edit this thesis on short notice.

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## **Abstract**

Still photography has evolved into a new discipline of storytelling. Media platforms have become easily accessible and layered and an editorial photographer's strength must now include structuring a story with skill, and with multiple devices. The aptitude for mastering software has replaced the skill of understanding light, color temperature, and film emulsions. Traditional skills focus on capture rather than retouching and enhancement. Prioritizing capture amplifies the connection to the subject; prioritizing retouching or post-production creates a veneer. If all the tools are new with increasing ease at which we can extend and modify our photographs, how is the process of changing one's self as a photographer to be approached?

*Eight Stories* examines the styles and photographic techniques of six artists. Diane Arbus and her obsession with her subjects; Andy Warhol's view of life as art, Alfred Hitchcock's beliefs in dramatic economy, Jean Cocteau's poetic love of beauty, Chris Marker's exploration of memory and time, and Shirin Neshat's explorations in social justice. Using their work as a platform, *Eight Stories* explores a method of merging media from analogue photography to digital formats as a method of storytelling, illustrating the development of a new digital voice in portraiture.