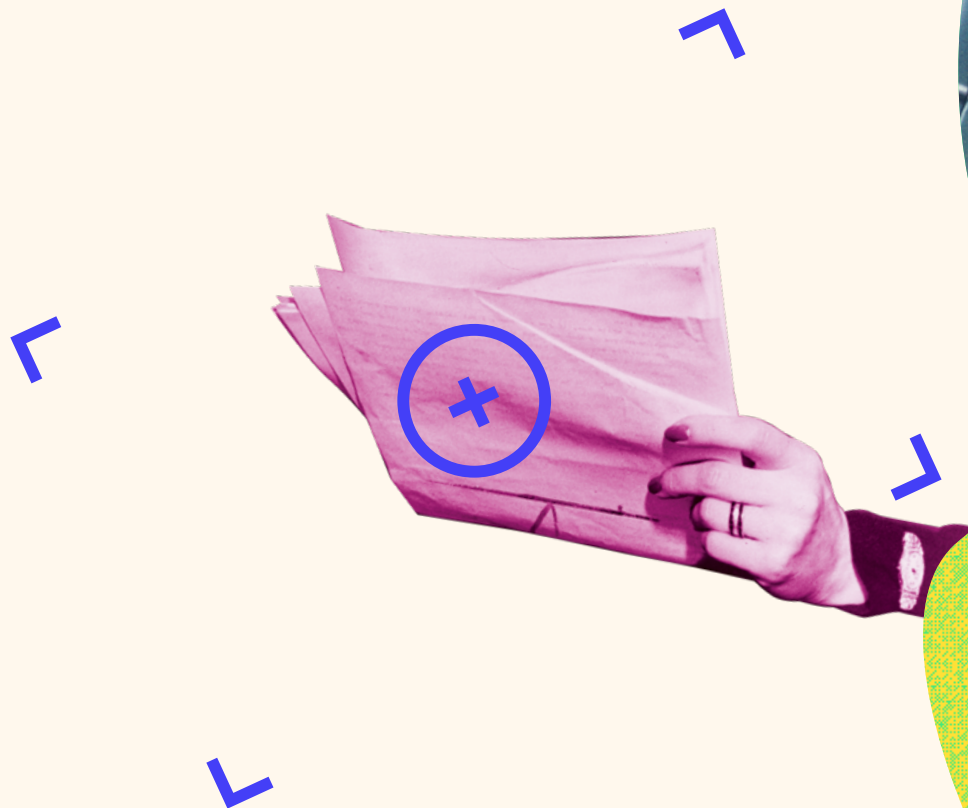


# Modern Look: Photography and the American Magazine

## At-Home Art Projects for Families



Jewish Museum

## MODERN LOOK: AT-HOME ART PROJECTS FOR FAMILIES

# Photo Experiments

This photograph by Lillian Bassman was included in the fashion magazine *Harper's Bazaar* in 1950. Bassman was a photographer and art director who grew up in New York City, and she often captured people in their natural settings. As an editor, she was also known for her innovative use of color and graphic design.

For this activity, use your camera to take a unique portrait of yourself or a family member inspired by Lillian Bassman's picture.

### Materials needed:

- Camera (iPhone, digital camera, or viewfinder)
- Favorite clothes, hats, objects, or props

### Look:

- What is the woman doing in this photograph?  
Try to take her pose.
- What stands out to you about what she is wearing?
- What words would you use to describe this person?
- Where do you notice light and dark areas?

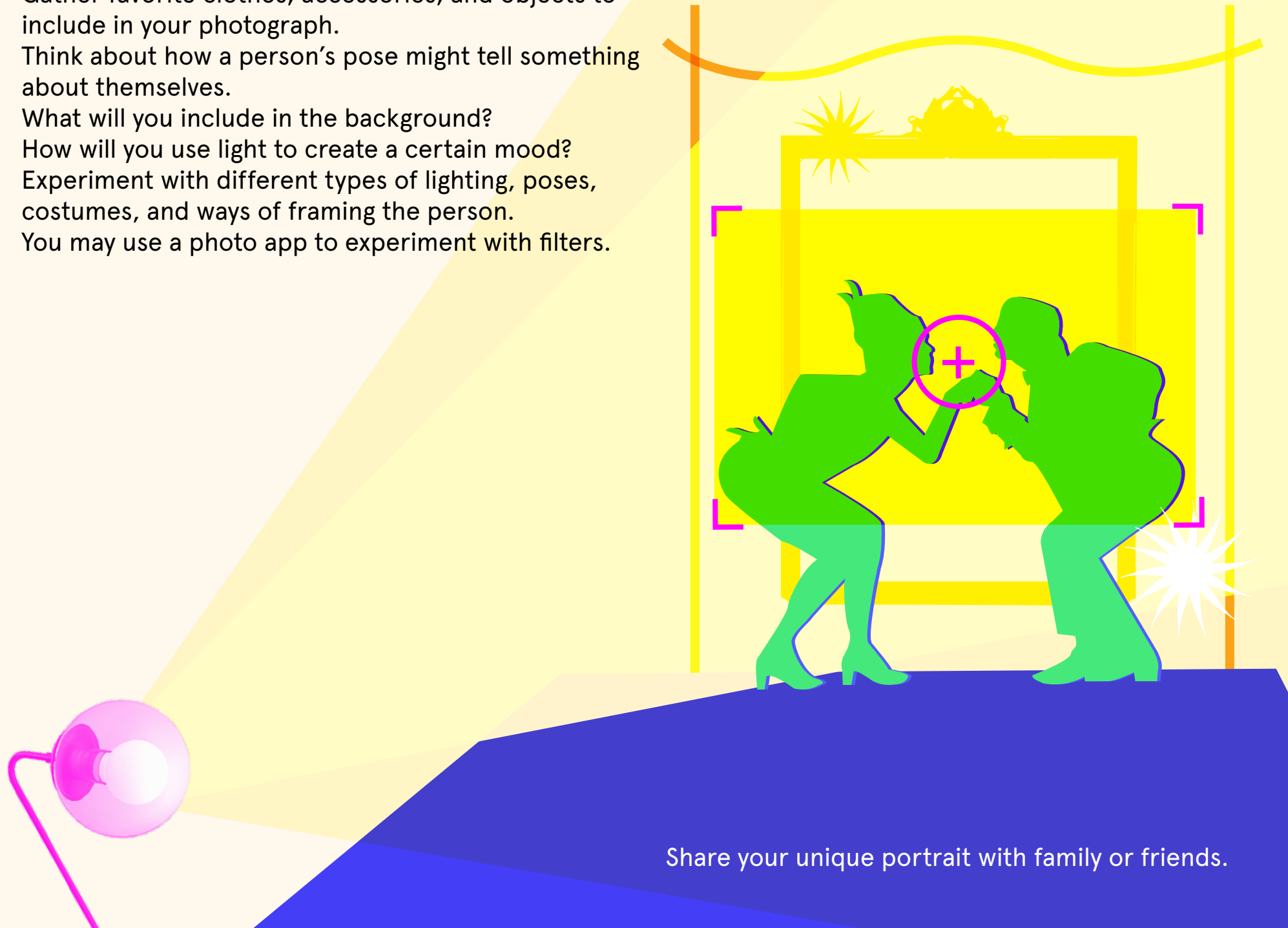
Cover: Saul Leiter, *Harper's Bazaar*, 1959, printed 2007, published in *Harper's Bazaar*, February 1959. Chromogenic print. Saul Leiter Foundation, New York © Saul Leiter Foundation, courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery

Above: Lillian Bassman, *Barbara Mullen Blowing Kiss*, 1950. Gelatin silver print, Collection of Lizzie and Eric Himmel. New York © Estate of Lillian Bassman



## Process:

- Gather favorite clothes, accessories, and objects to include in your photograph.
- Think about how a person's pose might tell something about themselves.
- What will you include in the background?
- How will you use light to create a certain mood?
- Experiment with different types of lighting, poses, costumes, and ways of framing the person.
- You may use a photo app to experiment with filters.



Share your unique portrait with family or friends.



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# Found Object Portrait

The artist team Grete Stern and Ellen Auerbach created this image as an advertisement for hair coloring products. Born in Germany, the two friends started a photography and design studio together in Berlin called Ringl + Pit, which were also their childhood nicknames.

For this activity, create a portrait using found objects and collage paper inspired by this photograph by Ringl + Pit.

### Materials needed:

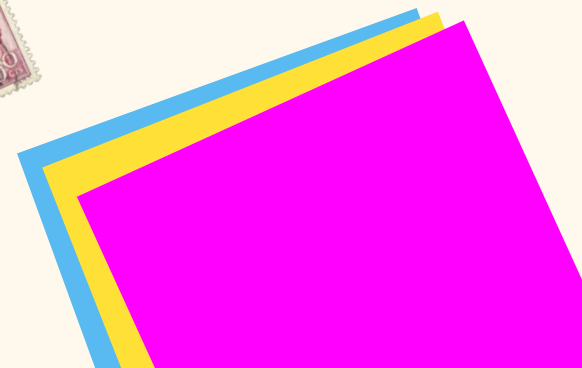
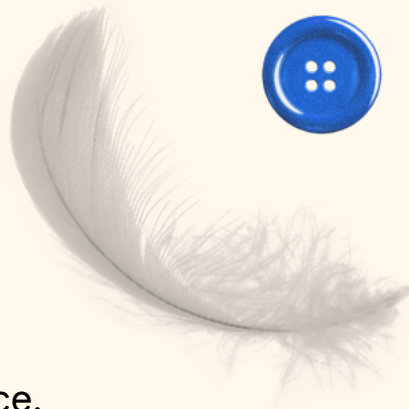
- Variety of small found objects
- Colorful paper
- Base paper or cardboard
- Scissors
- Glue

### Look:

- What do you see in this image?
- List three different materials you notice.
- Where do you see materials layered on top of each other?

Image: ringl + pit, *Komol Haircoloring*, 1932, printed 1985. Gelatin silver print. Artwork © ringl+pit, courtesy Robert Mann Gallery, New York. Purchase: Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation Fund

The images in this activity guide are featured in the exhibition *Modern Look: Photography and the American Magazine* on view at the Jewish Museum from April 3 through July 11, 2021.



## Process:

- Glue cut pieces of paper and found objects to the base to create a portrait of someone you know or a character from your imagination.
- Think about using a variety of materials and get creative with the objects you might use to represent the features of this person.
- Experiment with layering materials in playful ways.
- Fill the background and think about what will surround your person or character.

