

Infanint James

Professor Lange

Gordon Parks

Upon the task of researching photographer Gordon parks, I've found a different tone of photography for myself. In his works, Ive decide to recreate some of his iconic photos of Muhammad Ali, simply because I had no idea, he has taken those photos. I've chosen the recreate the photo of when he took that photo of Ali with tape on his mouth and lock. Obviously, that represented the media trying to hush Muhammed Ali, seeing that he was a power civil rights activist. He was super strong against black Americans going to war for a white man. I re-took this photo, with my subject wearing a shirt and no lock. To symbolize we no longer have to suppress our thoughts and feelings. It's simply our choice and when to simply remove the tape. I also gave the subject a shirt to represent his a "man."

These photos simply matter today, because they represent a moment in time. Two African American men, bypassed all the issues within the world's society of racist and classism, only to become some of the greatest to ever do it. This is very imperative to the black community, and lets us know "you can do it too-despite what's in your face." I think the masses who aren't into his work, would probably overlook his message in works. It's thinks it's simply of mattering if you care or not.

I believe those who follow art/photography/history would see the power behind his images. I tried to preserve this, in the shot with the tape and still keeping the message alive-which is still alive today. I believe the aperture with the photo with him standing what appears to be a sink with his hands out, was shot with a low ISO with the light mainly sourcing from the bathroom mirrors. I tried to replicate those same settings to get the same lighting. This creates a dark, under tone with surrounding shadows (because of placing the subject inside a bathroom photographing for a view out the outside.) Gives it a cave in effect, or a nice vignette. The composition is very interesting and is used in many movies as a sign of reflection or a deep point in a character's life. I've seen it used in the latest animation Invincible too. Very well.