

FRAME 1

Title Page:

World War II – Picturing Patriotism

Narration:

The following story details the famous photographer Ansel Adams and his patriotic documentation of Japanese internment during the tumultuous time of World War II.

Media:

Patriotic Music of the timer period (1940s) played quietly behind the narration (I'm not quite sure about this idea I may change it when I start constructing the video).

Notes:

All of the information provided in my narration is based off of research that I conducted to write a history paper on historical geography. The title of my paper was *Ansel Adams: American Patriotism and Japanese-American Internment at Manzanar*.

Reference:

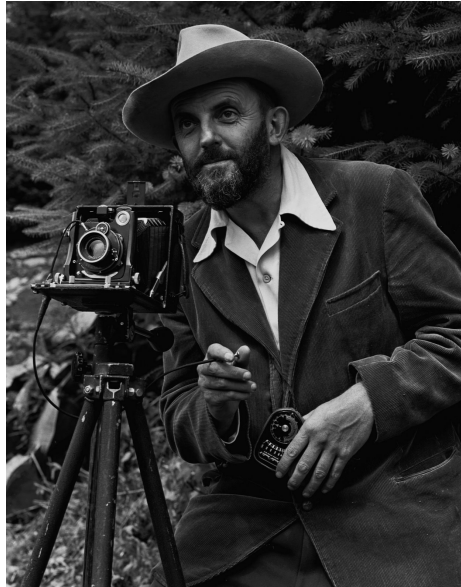
Ellias, A. (2006) *Ansel Adams: American Patriotism and Japanese-American Internment at Manzanar*. Unpublished manuscript, Santa Clara University.

FAME 2

Narration:

Ansel Adams was a dynamic photographer of the 20th century. His most famous work focused on the majestic American landscape in which he hoped to provide American society with a source of solace and escape from the exhausting times of depression and war.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 3

Narration:

However, during WW2, Adams committed himself to the patriotic spirit and war effort. He was commissioned to document the Japanese-American interment at Manzanar. It was here that Adams revealed a coming together of his traditional artistic techniques and personal connection with timely social concerns.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (face & camera)

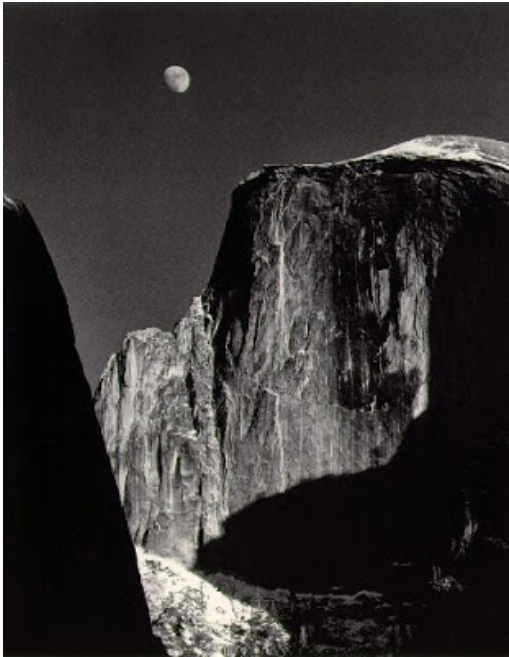


FRAME 3

Narration:

Similar to the romantic ideas portrayed throughout Adams' depiction of the American West, his documentation of the internees at Manzanar exposed his pure projection of optimism and patriotism found in the character, attitude and daily lives of the dishonored Japanese-Americans.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 4

Narration:

In order to understand Adams' war art and perspective, it is important to understand the context of this historical time period.

TRANSITION TO NEXT FRAME

FRAME 5

Narration:

The Great Depression and the concurrent tensions in Europe created much debate in the art community. The modern approach to artistic expression was questioned and often seen as selfish during times of social and political upheaval.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 6

Narration:

During the onset of WW2, many artists shifted their subjects and styles to parallel the social and political happenings of the day.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE

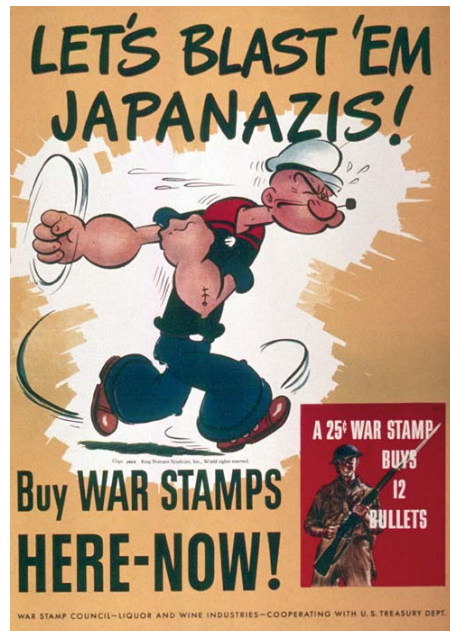


FRAME 7

Narration:

Increased propaganda and the spirit of the wartime effort engulfed the art community. Exhibitions of contemporary and modern art were shown at home and abroad to be used as a type of education, therapy and solace for American troops.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 8

Narration:

With the United States entrance into WW2, Adams turned his artistic focus to more relevant and patriotic subjects.

TRANSITION TO NEXT FRAME

FRAME 9

Narration:

Adams was inspired to use nature as a symbol of the strength and will of America. His approach was very different, and almost contradictory, to most wartime propaganda that promoted industry, American troops, and wartime machines.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (soldier)



FRAME 10

Narration:

Adams' chance came when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt passed Executive Order 9066 that called for the internment of Japanese-Americans on the West Coast. Coincidentally, Adams' friend, Ralph Merritt, from the Sierra Club, had been appointed as the director of Manzanar, an internment camp in California.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE

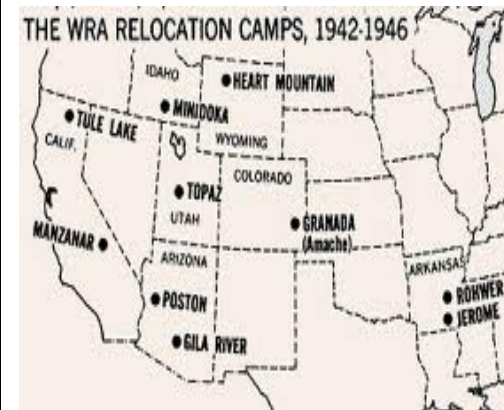


FRAME 11

Narration:

Merritt personally asked Adams to document daily life at Manzanar, which he graciously accepted.

ZOOM IN ON MAP (Manzanar)



FRAME 12

Narration:

Stemming from his own artistic background, Adams found the war propaganda that was penetrating American society empty, and becoming especially trite and missing the point all together. He felt as though a true artist could offer more of an American patriotic spirit to encourage the American people and progress the war effort.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 13

Narration:

It was at Manzanar that Adams was able to fulfill this ideal. He hoped this project would allow Americans to realize the social contradictions embedded in American society and in the freedom that Americans were fighting for abroad.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (flag)



FRAME 14

Narration:

Adams' portrayal of the internees was detailed in a positive light, which was often offensive to some of the other artists. However, he believed that the internees were loyal Americans.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 15

Narration:

Adams proposed to show the patriotism of the inhabitants of the camp and the positive attitude they exhibited to get through each day and eventually back to normal life.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (people)



FRAME 16

Narration:

In one photograph, *Farm Workers* with Mount Williamson background, Adams revealed the true transformation of character and landscape.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 17

Narration:

The photograph presents a number of laborers working in one of the many fields at Manzanar, set against the high summits of the Sierra Nevada. The internees were able to transform the desert lands to produce food in order to sustain the 10,000 internees living at the camp.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (people)



FRAME 18

Narration:

The internees tried to make life at the camp simulate real life and society. The people of Manzanar established a communal life that allowed for work, service, sport or other activity. Adams illustrates their communal activities by photographing different crafts, work and sporting activities that they especially enjoyed.

**WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE &
TRANSITION TO NEXT FRAME**



FRAME 19

Narration:

One photograph particularly symbolizes communal life, *All Like Baseball*.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 20

Narration:

Baseball signifies America's pastime. The game of baseball is seen as a patriotic act, especially during World War II as FDR called for major league baseball's continuation as the war raged on.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (home plate)



FRAME 21

Narration:

Adams uses his photography as a creative outlet to document the hypocrisy in Japanese-American internment.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (flag)

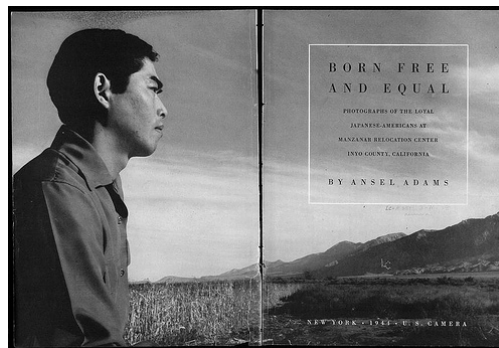


FRAME 22

Narration:

He originally did not intend to take a strong political stance on the internment of Japanese-Americans, but rather create his own unique personal expression. To do this he compiled his photographs and narratives into a book called *Born Free and Equal*.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 23

Narration:

This work was a unique contribution to the American war effort because it went against the mainstream feelings about the attack on Pearl Harbor and the potential for another attack on American soil. Because of these feelings, Adams' work was perceived as unpatriotic by some but praised by others.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (sign)

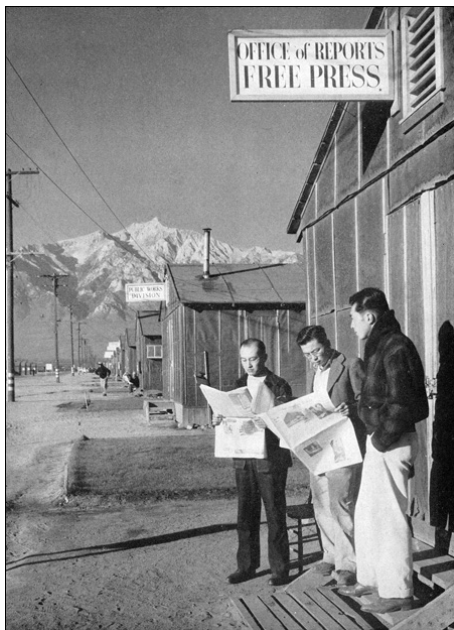


FRAME 24

Narration:

Adams' personal transformation at Manzanar allowed him to integrate his romantic and modern artistic perspectives to inspire his photographs and personal narrative found in *Born Free and Equal*.

WIDE SHOT OF IMAGE



FRAME 25

Narration:

He was able to successfully project the pure optimism and patriotism embedded in all facets of American society during WW2, including Manzanar.

ZOOM IN ON PICTURE (one girl)



FRAME 26

Narration:

THE END

PAN IMAGE FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

