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## Photography and Surrealism

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To begin my creative process for the surrealist photography project, I created a Pinterest board. I was first inspired by the work of Jeff Wall, Francesca Woodman and Gregory Crewdson due to their ability to create a story within their photos. Therefore, I followed their large-scale staging techniques in my final work. However, my first idea consisted of a picture within a picture with the use of a polaroid. Nonetheless, the pictures didn't turn out the way I'd like them to therefore, I changed my idea. I was intrigued by Crewdson's photos of a staged community from the past. This led to another idea of portraying the day of a smoker through these several staged scenes. Although my photos were well composed, they weren't surreal enough. Thus, leading to my final idea of illustrating five influential qualities that a woman portrays. This series is called *Ses Trésors Lumineuses* which exhibits seduction, fear, strength, beauty and curiosity. These five photos may not be the most surreal but I've worked extremely hard to reach these final results and I'm satisfied with them.

I was familiarized with most of the mediums that needed to be used in this project. The charcoal drawing was an easy task aside from creating grey areas to develop a more three-dimensional piece. Furthermore, presenting the project on the portfolio platform on the LaSalle College website was something I was not familiar with at all. Nonetheless, I believe I was capable in creating an aesthetic platform with my own knowledge. A new software that had to be used for this project was Bridge. I've never used this software before and I had a bit of difficulty figuring out the system and tools that were within Bridge. I believe I was able to complete this project with the best of my abilities. I enjoyed incorporating different mediums to create one big piece.

## Jeff Wall

The artist I received inspiration from is Jeff Wall due to his extraordinary manner of staging in his photography. He's a Canadian artist born and continues to live in Vancouver. He was born in 1946 making him 71 years old. Wall's been involved in Vancouver's art scene in the 70s. He studied at the University of British Columbia. Then he worked at the Courtauld Institute where he studied works of Manet. He was also a professor for many years. Wall is most known for his back-lit cibachrome photographs and he's capable of creating large staged photographs of everyday society. However, he has expertise in experimental documentaries, small-scale photography and writing. His work has been exhibited all over the world in major art galleries such as the MoMA in New York, The Whitechapel Gallery in London and evidently, the Vancouver Art Gallery. Wall describes his work as something beyond general photography: "I saw something else in photography, something to do with scale, with color and with construction (...)."

WALL, Jeff. *The Smoker*. 1986. Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, Germany. Web. 6 November 2013 (<http://www.photography-now.com/exhibition/94199>)



WALL, Jeff. *Summer Afternoons*. 2013. Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands. Web. 18 April 2014 (<http://fxreflects.blogspot.ca/2014/04/jeff-wall-tableaux-pictures-photographs.html>)



WALL, Jeff. *Picture for Women*. 1979. Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France. Web. 25 June 2017 ([https://www.centrepompidou.fr/cpv/ressource.action?param.id=FR\\_R-19bb7f27757237e9ab86fc0d05d916&param.idSource=FR\\_O-59d2b681d5e19688af8669929387f3a](https://www.centrepompidou.fr/cpv/ressource.action?param.id=FR_R-19bb7f27757237e9ab86fc0d05d916&param.idSource=FR_O-59d2b681d5e19688af8669929387f3a))



WALL, Jeff. *Milk*. 1984. The Museum of Modern Art, New York City, New York. Web. 2007 (<https://www.moma.org/collection/works/93456>)



WALL, Jeff. *Volunteer*. 1996. Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark.  
Web. 2015 (<https://www.artsy.net/artwork/jeff-wall-volunteer>)



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