

PHOTO ANALYSIS

Name _____

An old adage says that a picture is worth a thousand words. Choose a photo of a National Heritage Fellow to see what clues to their artistry you can discover. Sit quietly and closely examine the photo for one minute. Then use the list below to help you “read” this photo.

Later, read the artist bio and explore the audio profile and video segments. Return to your original photo analysis to compare your observations to what you now know about the artist.

Artist

Hometown and State

Group or individual photo

Female or male

Posed or informal photo

Black-and-white or color

Full portrait or partial portrait

Composition (how people and objects are arranged)

 Clothing style

 Hairstyle

 Objects

 Gestures

 Facial expressions

 Background

 Light and shadow

 Relationships between people

 Placement of objects (musical instruments, crafts, tools, etc.)

Think Tank

What choices do you think the photographer made when making the photograph?

What is the focus of the photograph?

What do you think happened just before the photo was taken? Just after?

What clues to the artist’s life and art form do you see?

What surprised you after you learned more about the artist?