Art 208 Advanced Photography Project: Pictorial or Purist

Goals of Project:

Study two art photography movements
Write a project proposal
Extend camera controls
Extend darkroom skills

Pictorialism: A school of photography dominated by the assertion that photography was high art equal to, but different from painting of the period. Subject matter was the same as painting of the day - usually Romantic - such as portraits, landscapes, and allegory. Photographic techniques were used to achieve soft focus and moody lighting that characterized popular painting.

Alfred Steiglitz
Edward Steichen
Clarence White
Gertrude Kasebier
Alvin Langdon Coburn
Julia Margaret Cameron

Purism / Group F- 64: Purism- the notion that photography should be used in a way that allowed the assertion of photography’s unique properties. Emphasized fidelity to the subject as seen by the photographer with a sharp lens and accurate process control. The photo is made without manipulation (dodging and burning is okay).

Group f/64 published the following manifesto:
The name of this Group is derived from a diaphragm number of the photographic lens. It signifies to a large extent the qualities of clearness and definition of the photographic image which is an important element in the work of members of this Group.

Ansel Adams
Imogen Cunningham - worked in both styles
Willard Van Dyke
Edward Weston
Sonya Noskowiak
Alma Lavenson - worked in both styles

Procedure:

After studying the two different approaches to making photographs, select the one you would like to explore.
Produce a small group of 3 or more photographs, print, and finish appropriately.
Turn in with negatives, proof sheets and evidence of research.