

Artifacts of Identity: *Tintypes of the Modern Persona*

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GALLERY
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Russel H. Kirkhof Center Wall Gallery
August 13 - October 23, 2020

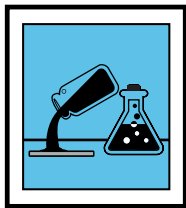
Richard M. DeVos Center Wall Gallery
January 4 - June 18, 2021

KEY THEMES



IDENTITY

The photographic portrait is a powerful tool we use to control how we are perceived by others. Photographer [Bud Kibby](#)'s portrait-making process attempts to cut through his internal biases to embrace an individual's vision of themselves. Start a discussion about internal bias in how we perceive other people through photographs.



CHEMISTRY

The traditional tintype process involves a light-sensitive collodion emulsion containing suspended silver halide crystals coated on a thin sheet of metal and treated with a potassium cyanide fixative. Learn more about this process and how science changed the medium of photography.



HISTORY

Developed in the mid-1800s, the tintype process was one of the first quick and affordable photographic processes and greatly increased accessibility to the medium. See early tintype portraits in this exhibition and discover the ties between photography, a burgeoning middle class, and self-representation.

MORE INFORMATION

You can find additional learning resources related to the history and science of tintypes, self-representation, implicit bias in photography, and more on [gvsu.edu/artgallery](https://www.gvsu.edu/artgallery) along with links to discussion prompts and other activities. The Art Gallery staff welcomes collaboration. Connect with us to develop content for your classroom today.

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(front cover) *Untitled (Portrait of a Young Woman)* (detail), ca. 1894, tintype, Gift of Charles Schoenknecht and Ward Paul, 2020.1160