



Joseph Nicéphore Niépce

Designer's full name: Joseph Nicéphore Niépce

Designer's pseudonym/nickname: None

Gender: Male

Year Born: 1765

Country Born: France

Year Died: 1833

Country Died: France

Religion | Political Alignment: His religion was Roman Catholic. Niépce fought in the French Army under Napoleon Bonapart. He and his family were suspected of having royalist sympathies.

How did any of the above affect either his/her life experience or work because it/they provided a challenge at the time?

At the beginning of Niépce's artistic career, lithography, a method of printing, began to become popular in France. Niépce began experimenting with this method, but was unsuccessful. Along with other challenges not based off the information above, he was not able to easily acquire the lithographic stone that was required because of where he was living at the time. Due to his failure at lithography, however, Niépce went on to attempt and succeed at photography.

Did this designer do notable work in fields other than what would TODAY be considered graphic design?

Before Niépce got started in design, he was an engineer. He and his brother Claude Niépce created an internal combustion engine that ran off of lycopodium powder.

For what is this designer most noted in relation to design? EXPLAIN.

Niépce is most noted for being the first to create a permanent photograph.

Is there anything controversial about this designer? Explain.

There is nothing notably controversial about this designer.

Explain this designer's education/training, including academic, apprenticeships, and /or mentorships.

Niépce attended college during his early life where he learned science and the experimentation process and eventually graduated to become a professor.

Did this designer promote a specific ideology in his/her work? Explain.

As Niépce is more known for his inventions than his actual design, there are no notable ideologies in his work.

Why is this designer viewed as iconic in the history of graphic design?

Niépce is iconic because he created heliography and the first permanent photograph. He was a pioneer of photography.

Is there any other important information to know about this designer?

No

Student: Larkin Gardiner

State and explain the one most important effect that your assigned artist and the quality/importance of his/her work had on the history of graphic design.

Joseph Niépce was multitalented and did groundbreaking work in many different specialties. He took the first still life photo and, with the help of his brother, he created an internal combustion engine. His most influential achievement is taking the first permanent photograph which has had an impact on the graphic design industry and society as we know it today.

Niépce's permanent photography technique was the first step in the long history of photography. Louis Daguerre, who worked with Niépce before he died, took the technique and made it more efficient. Niépce's photograph required around eight hours of exposure time while Daguerre's technique, called Daguerreotype, took close to thirty minutes. Daguerreotype was then modified further to shorten the exposure time to one minute. As time went on, the photography process kept becoming more efficient. Daguerre was also the one who spread the photography technique to the public. After Niépce's death, the daguerreotype technique was announced to the Academy of Sciences which resulted in Daguerre and Niépce's son to be granted annuities for life. Without Joseph Niépce, Louis Daguerre would not have been able to modify and share Daguerreotype with the public because it would not have existed.

Photography was a monumental invention for the graphic design industry and has become a key factor in advertising. Advertisements most commonly use photography to convey a message. They would be much less effective if they only used words because photographs are something that anyone can understand regardless of the language they speak. Photography in advertisements provide the emotion necessary to provoke action with little to no words present. In addition to furthering the graphic design industry, photography can help strengthen graphic designers' design skills and keep these skills honed. Photography requires having knowledge of composition and the impact of light and color.

Outside of the graphic design industry, photography has had an impact on society in general. It allows for an opportunity to see into the lives of other people and cultures. Photos from different cultures can give people an insight into the life that others live. Those who lack the ability to gain personal experiences may never receive insight of lifestyles other than their own with true understanding otherwise. Some photos of this nature could call for change or they could be informative. Photography also allows for a glimpse into the

past. Pictures from a time like the Holocaust or World War I make it easier to understand the truth behind the words written in the textbooks. It is easy to misunderstand the words used to describe events like these but photographs reveal emotion that words cannot. Photography is a window into the lives of others and a window into history.

Joseph Niépce created an impactful piece of technology. He began photography, which has advanced the industry of graphic design and had a huge impact on society as a whole.

Bibliography

"Daguerreotype." Encyclopædia Britannica. Accessed October 25, 2020.

<https://www.britannica.com/technology/photography/Daguerreotype>.

History of Art: History of Photography. Accessed October 25, 2020.

http://www.all-art.org/history658_photography4.html.

"Learning Beyond the Classroom: Photography as a major design element in graphic design layouts and print and web." Accessed November 25, 2020. <https://scholarworks.rit.edu/theses/8689>

Meggs, Phillip B. and Alston W. Purvis. *Meggs' History of Graphic Design, 5th Edition*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2012.

"Nicéphore Niépce." Encyclopædia Britannica. Accessed October 25, 2020.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Nicephore-Niepce>.

"The Daguerreotype Medium: Articles and Essays: Daguerreotypes: Digital Collections: Library of Congress." The Library of Congress. Accessed October 25, 2020.

Put in alphabetical order when done.

