

# All the Lonely People: Edward Hopper's Imagery of Isolation and the Impact of his Work

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## Literature and Focus

The point of this project was to find the common themes in Hopper's work, then connect them to the works that they inspired such as other works of art or films and television shows.

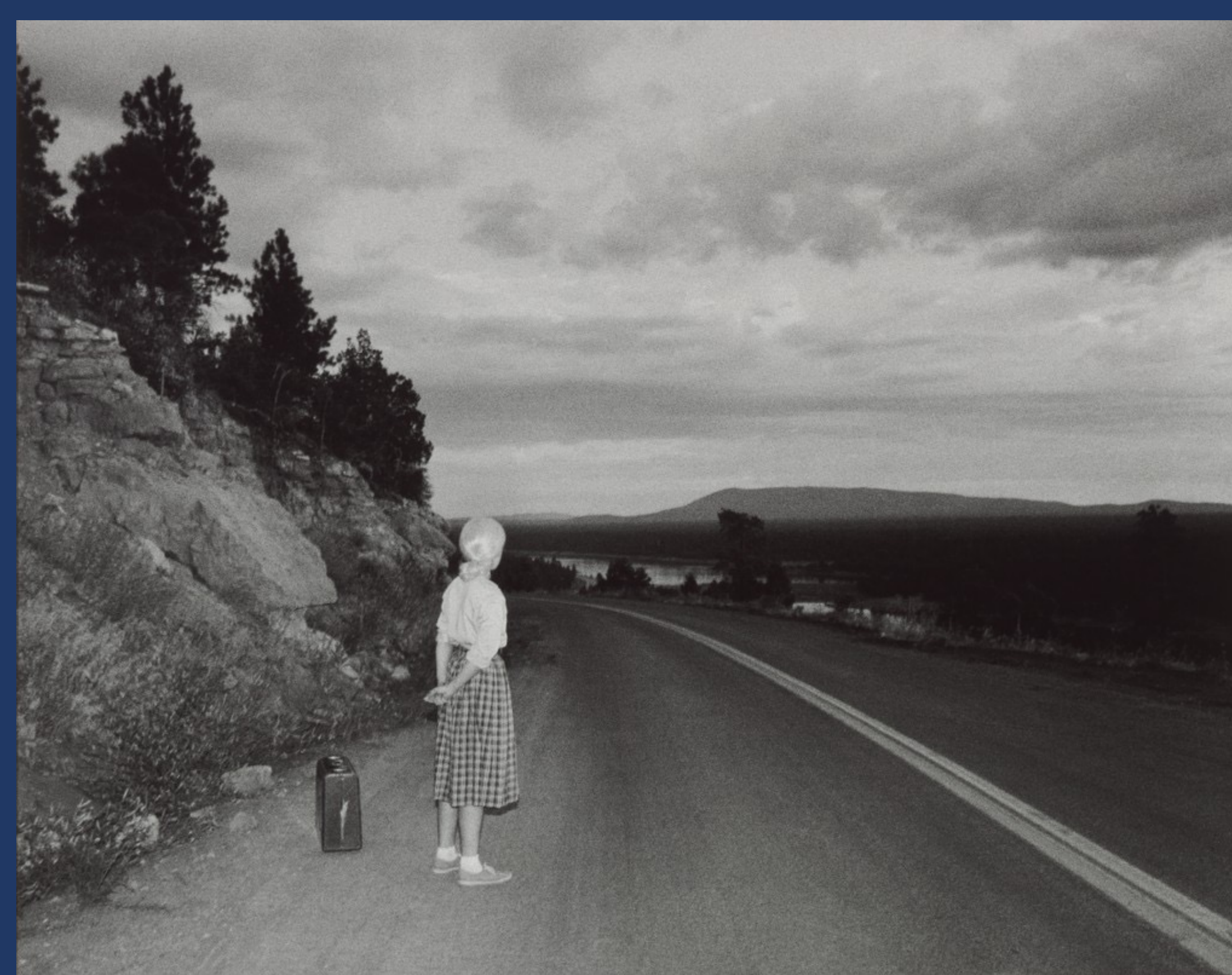
There is extensive literature written on Hopper as an artist alone, as well as his connection to other artists and film directors. I mainly looked at writing from Gail Levin, the premier historian on Hopper, for general information and biographical texts. I also focused heavily on the writing of other artists who were inspired by Hopper, such as photographer Gregory Crewsdon.



## Hopper's Themes

Edward Hopper famously uses many themes and motifs across all of his work. Some stand out examples are those of isolation, views through windows, theaters or movie houses, and voyeurism.

Hopper's work also generally has strong suggestions of a narrative, giving the viewer a feeling that they are looking at the apex of a moment. Either something has just happened or is about to happen, and we are left to create this narrative in our own imaginations.



## Impact

Hopper's art and distinct style is cited as an inspiration not only for many other traditional artists, but filmmakers as well. This project focused on a few main examples such as photographer Cindy Sherman and directors David Lynch and Alfred Hitchcock.



## Art

Hopper's influence can be found in the lonely art of other American artists, such as Cindy Sherman. In the bottom center image, you can see an example of her work. The lone female figure is a common element of the two artists, as well as the empty, distinctly American scene that this woman exists within.

## Film

Director David Lynch has been very outspoken about the inspiration that he finds in Hopper's work. In the middle center image, you can see a shot from his film *Blue Velvet*, which not only takes visual inspiration from Hopper, but uses similar themes as well, such as isolation and voyeurism.

Alfred Hitchcock has also famously taken inspiration from Hopper. This project specifically cites his film *Rear Window* in which direct inspiration can be seen in scenes shot through windows from the perspective of an outside viewer. Many of these scenes could have taken inspiration from Hopper's painting *Night Windows*, which can be seen in the top center image.