The Project

Fiat Lux ("let there be light") is not only the motto of the University of California. It is also the name of a vast repository of photographs taken of the entire UC system nearly fifty years ago by Ansel Adams, one of the most famous photographers of the 20th Century.

The Book

Commissioned for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the University of California in 1968, Fiat Lux by Ansel Adams and Nancy Newhall celebrated the event with a perceptive, artistic statement about the University itself, and about its reach into the lives and surroundings of the people it serves.

The Photos

Cameras are so ubiquitous today that it’s hard to imagine the circumstances in which Ansel Adams worked. During most of his lifetime, photography required rafted equipment that few could afford and even fewer knew how to use.

Fiat Lux Remix: Engage with the 2012 theme

Take Five

Collective Discovery Engine

Photo and Video Mash Up

Write the Story

Words Images and Access

Perform the Score

Excavate the Future

Invent the Future

Featured Posts

“TAKE FIVE” / ANSEL ADAMS

In this video [http://youtu.be/bjaCnq51mM], Ansel Adams discusses the culmination of the FIAT LUX photographic book which went into production in January 1967—the very month that California Governor Ronald Reagan presided at the UC Regents meeting at which UC President Clark Kerr was fired. “The reactionary people took over and started cutting the most vital parts out,” said Adams. “It wasn’t that they just would reduce expenditures, but they reduced morale.”

“Take Five” is a series of filmed interviews by Kwame Braun and Catherine Cole with...

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More Features

Berkeley Dance Project 2013: Aperture

November Winners and People’s Choice Award

Events

no events at this time

Our panel of faculty judges has selected two winners for October in our Fiat Lux Redux Contest

How Can We Help You?

Resources

Find resources and links for the Fiat Lux project here.
Link to Resources →

Contest

The Fiat Lux remix contest has come to a close. Read about the winners here

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View the OTSP Twitter Feed Here

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