Discovery Trail

Anton Bruehl

In the Spotlight

Photographs 1920s–1950s
This publication is based on the exhibition
In the spotlight: Anton Bruehl photographs
1920s–1950s

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Find twelve photographs by Anton Bruehl.
Counting is a very useful tool.
Read the rhymes out loud if you can.
Before you know it you’ll be back where you began.
One tree that doesn’t tickle

Bruehl snapped this plant in Mexico
where people wear the sombrero

Do you know what this plant is called?

On the road to Toluca 1932 (detail)
gelatin silver photograph
Two pairs of antlers caught in the spotlight

Cameras and lights were important tools
Used in the studio of Anton Bruehl

This may have been a photo for a Christmas card. Make a card for someone you love.

*Miniature reindeers and spotlight c 1945 (detail)*
gelatin silver photograph
Three card characters falling from the deck

This ballet is inspired by a game of poker
The man in red tights is called the joker

Design your own joker for a pack of playing cards.

*Dancers from Igor Stravinsky’s symphony Card game (Jeu de cartes), New York 1937 (detail)*
*Vogue, 1 May 1937*
Four pears, fresh and sweet

A bright light makes these pears glow
Can you find a nice big shadow?

How do you poach a pear?
This dessert is made to share.

*Pears* 1926
gelatin silver photograph printed later
Five flowers doing ballet

This ad is for broccoli, healthy and green
Find a shoot that’s not tender and lean

How do you blanch a broccoli branch?

Talk a walk, stalk, you’re too tough for Birds Eye 1960 (detail)
Birds Eye Foods advertisement
Six legs diving deep

Could these paper dolls get any thinner?
Maybe they’ll catch a fish for their dinner

Make your own dolls using paper and scissors.

The Fabric Group
gelatin silver photograph
for Weber and Heilbronner advertisement, 1928 (detail)
Seven lively dancers

A tap dance troupe led by Bojangles
They are all posed at interesting angles

Tap your feet. Imagine you are a famous dancer moving to a tap dance beat.

Billy ‘Bojangles’ Robinson and ensemble dancers,
Whitey’s Lindy Hoppers, from Michael Todd’s Hot Mikado,
World’s Fair, New York 1939
Eight wheels not in turn

Machine parts hover in space like a satellite

Bruehl captured them all in a bright spotlight

What could these parts belong to?

Gear parts c. 1935 (detail)
dye-transfer colour photograph
Nine ladies on a roll

This skating group was led by Gloria Nord
She has certainly put her best foot forward

Draw and decorate your own roller skate.

*Gloria Nord in Skating vanities 1944 (detail)*
from *Esquire* October 1944
Ten fingers that hold up the earth

A photo for the magazine Pictorial Review

What season was this cover made? (the flowers are a clue)

What do hyacinth plants grow from?

Hyacinths girl 1937
cover of Pictorial Review, April 1937 (detail)
Eleven golden and rosy reds, and some green ones too

These tasty looking apples are not real, you know
They were made especially in the studio

What is the name for a group of trees that produce fruit?
Twelve (or thereabouts) scented blooms for someone special

See Anton Bruehl’s expert use of bright colour

Are these flowers for the boy’s mother?

Close your eyes and imagine the sweet perfume.

Boy offering bunch of red roses c1937 (detail)
tri-colour carbro photograph