

INTRO TO DIGITAL MEDIA

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Unit Learning Targets: *Create a unique self portrait that emulates a historical artist's style and uses photography as the starting point. Develop digital image further through painting/drawing techniques. Connect & Respond to Art Historical movements and styles through research. Present a final digital image through the written and oral critique process.*

Assignment Specifics: Research and Planning

- Research an artist you would like to emulate for this project. You Will be using their art style as inspiration. Use the list of linked websites as a starting point for your research. See iPad book for details.
- Use the Chrome App to post your research on the Google Drive Folder for your class. See the [Weebly Website](#) for your folder link.
- Name your document as follows: *your name-self port research*. Make sure it is in the correct folder for your class. (You may use your laptop for this part of you prefer).
- In your Google Doc cite your sources by including hyperlinks that are linked to the resources you used for research.
- In Google Doc: Embed 2 images of the artist's work that illustrate the style
- In the Google Doc write an explanation of your research explaining the following:
 - who the artist is,
 - what style they are known for (impressionism, expressionism, minimalism, realism, cubism etc.)
 - why you want to work in that artist's style.
 - how the artist creates portraits or if they don't explain this too.
 - what aspects of the artist you will try to imitate.

Assignment Specifics: Creating the Portrait

- Photograph yourself using the compositional techniques and other tips you've learned for making a quality photograph. Use the iPad Camera App for this or your cell phone. Make sure you FOCUS! Take several different shots from different compositional points of view. Think of these as your thumbnails.
- Name your photo(s) and put into your Album as directed on pg 2 of the iBook. You can have more than one and decide later which one will be your final.
- Use **Photogene App** to edit the image you want for the final. After edits Save the image to your album. See class demo for details.
- Import your edited image into **Sketchbook Pro App** as a layer. Create another layer for your drawing. Make sure the Drawing layer is on top of the photo layer. Click on the

drawing layer and draw and paint using the stylus tool to create your work of art. Adjust the brushes, colors and paint flow as demonstrated.

- **REMEMBER:** The photo is just a starting point for this digital image. You can make the layers see-through to view the photo beneath. Your final should no longer be a recognizable photograph, but rather a digital image that combines photo and paint techniques.
- Make sure you name this final work Your Name-Self Portrait Final and save to your album on the iPad. You will also upload this final image to the Google Drive Folder for your class.

Composition and Lighting Techniques

Creating a great photograph that becomes a work of art and not just a selfie or snapshot depends upon a couple of important choices you make as the artist. These really boil down to two things: Composition and Lighting

Composition: There are six compositional techniques you can try that will greatly improve your shot if you conscientiously choose to consider them and give them a try.

1. **Leading Lines**-lines from something lead your eye into the space, could be railroad tracks, a fence, a row of houses, buttons on a shirt etc.
2. **Rule of Thirds**- divide the space vertically and horizontally into thirds. At each intersection of the third this is a point of interest and placing the subject there makes for a better photo.
3. **Level Horizon**- hold the camera level especially for horizontal compositions.
4. **Framing**- find an element to frame your subject, tree branches, curtains, a window frame, a doorway etc.
5. **Fill The Frame**- zoom in so close that your subject takes up the whole frame, touching all sides of the compositional space
6. **Point of View**-change the way we look at the object, get up on a ladder or lay down on the floor etc.

Lighting: Light has different colors that are not visible to the naked eye, but will show up in your photos. Knowing what to look for and how to use the light that you see will make your photos better.

There are two types of lighting:

natural (the sun, moon, candles, cloudy days) **available light**- light that is coming in from a window can create beautiful results, natural light is usually white or bluish tinged. Morning light is more cool and evening light more warm.

artificial (camera flash, studio lights other man-made light sources). Depending on the source this light can be greenish or yellow toned. Some artificial light sources are white and mimic daylight. The light bulbs in our studio lights are this type.