**Famous Artist-Inspired Self-Portrait**

1. After you have familiarized yourself with the list of FAMOUS ARTISTS on the assignment link below, choose an artist whose PAINTING STYLE or SUBJECT MATTER best suits your artistic abilities. You are not restricted to the list below – if you have another famous artist in mind, please seek teach approval.

2. You are going to paint a SELF-PORTRAIT that captures not just the ESSENCE of you, but your chosen artist. Your artist-inspired self-portrait will be done in acrylic paint on an 18” x 24” canvas.

3. You must incorporate TWO of the following elements into your self-portrait:

* **The STYLE OF YOUR ARTIST – e.g. brushstroke, colour scheme, painting style (abstract, realistic, impressionistic, pop art etc.)**
* **BACKGROUND from one of the artist’s FAMOUS PAINTINGS - e.g. Van Gogh’s *Starry Night*, Gustav Klimt’s *The Kiss*, Picasso’s *The Old Guitarist***
* **A FAMOUS “POSE” that the artist uses in one of his/her paintings (you would insert yourself into that “pose”)**

4. You may also ADD or ALTER any other elements in your self-portrait that help communicate who you are, what is meaningful to you or your personality.

5. In the lab, fill out the WORKSHEET on your chosen artist using the links below and print out the painting(s) that you are basing your self-portrait on. Hand in worksheet and painting print outs at the end of the period.

**Preliminary Steps:**

6. In your sketchbook, draw a border around your page and draw out the ROUGH COPY of your self-portrait in PENCIL, FULLY SHADED. Use a REFERENCE PHOTO and glue in on the adjacent sketchbook page.

7. On another sketchbook page, trace a CONTOUR DRAWING of your face from your rough copy and EXPERIMENT with mixing your FLESH TONE. Whatever your skin tone may be, you should be able to match it using a combo of **white, burnt umber, burnt sienna, yellow ochre, black,** and **blue.**

* Start with an UNDERPAINTING in GREY TONES to block out where the shadows, midtones, and highlights are. You should isolate **5 different values** in your face.
* Then outline the face and features in **burnt umber** and apply a light, all over thin wash in burnt umber.
* Begin to **block in the 5 different tones** using your 5 starting colours.
* **Blend** in these opaque areas by applying **thin layers** of colour

8. On another sketchbook page, EXPERIMENT with the STYLE or BACKGROUND ELEMENTS from your famous artist/famous artist’s painting that you will be using in your self-portrait. Draw **4 thumbnail sketches** (3” x 3” squares) and practice painting **4 different elements you will be including in your painting using the style/technique of your famous artist**. Examples of what you might experiment with are as follows:

* Sky
* Grass/trees
* Water
* Specific objects that may appear in your painting
* Drapery
* Patterns/textures in found in clothing, hair or other objects

9. After your canvas has been PRIMED, transfer your rough copy onto it and begin your UNDERPAINTING in tones of grey. This allows you to isolate the shadows, mid tones and highlights that will add depth to your self-portrait. **Work from the background to the foreground** so that it doesn’t look like you “painted around” your image.

10. If you want improve elements in your self-portrait, use your reference photo, rough copy sketch, and famous artist’s reference painting to help you mimic colour, value, shape and style.

**FAMOUS ARTIST LIST:**

[**Vincent Van Gogh**](http://www.vangoghgallery.com/)[**Pablo Picasso**](http://www.picasso.com/)

[**Gustav Klimt**](http://www.gustav-klimt.com/gustav-klimt-paintings.jsp)[**Frida Kahlo**](http://www.fridakahlo.org/index.jsp)

[**Edvard Munch**](http://www.edvardmunch.org/index.jsp)[**Salvador Dali**](http://www.edali.org/index.jsp)

[**Andy Warhol**](http://www.artchive.com/artchive/W/warhol.html) [Rembrandt](http://www.erembrandt.org)

[**Jan Vermeer**](http://www.janvermeer.org)[**Henri Rousseau**](http://www.henrirousseau.net)

[**Claude Monet**](http://www.claudemonetgallery.org)[**Edouard Manet**](http://www.manetedouard.org)

[**Auguste Renoir**](http://www.pierre-auguste-renoir.org)

**EVALUATION: 100 marks - see rubric**