



# Portraiture

Why do artists paint portraits?



# Why?

**Historically**, portrait paintings have been primarily for the **rich** and powerful.

**Over time**, however, it became more common for **middle-class** patrons to commission portraits of their families and colleagues.

**Today**, the portrait painting is still commissioned by governments, corporations, groups, clubs, and individuals.





# Why?

A well-executed portrait is expected to show the **inner essence** of the subject (from the artist's point of view) or a flattering representation, not just a literal likeness.





# Why?

**Therefore artists create portraits to express beauty, status, power, wealth or character of their subjects.**

**The background, clothing and pose are all of huge importance.**

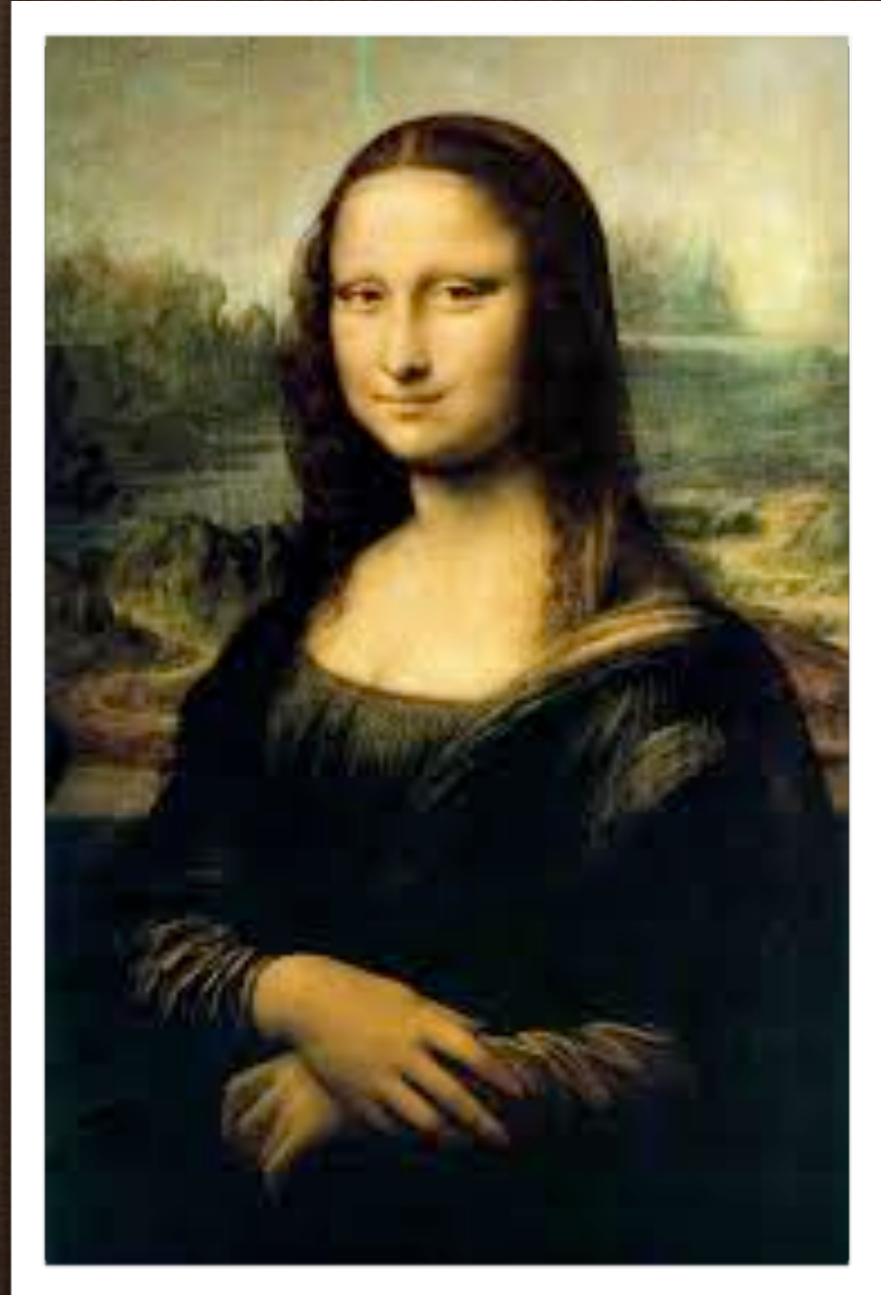




# Why?

Traditionally portraits were painted **before** the invention of the **camera**. Sitters had to sit for hours if not for days or years to have their portraits painted.

Leonardo Da Vinci painted Mona Lisa's smile over 10 years. There are many secrets and theories behind this painting, making it one of the most famous portraits in the world.



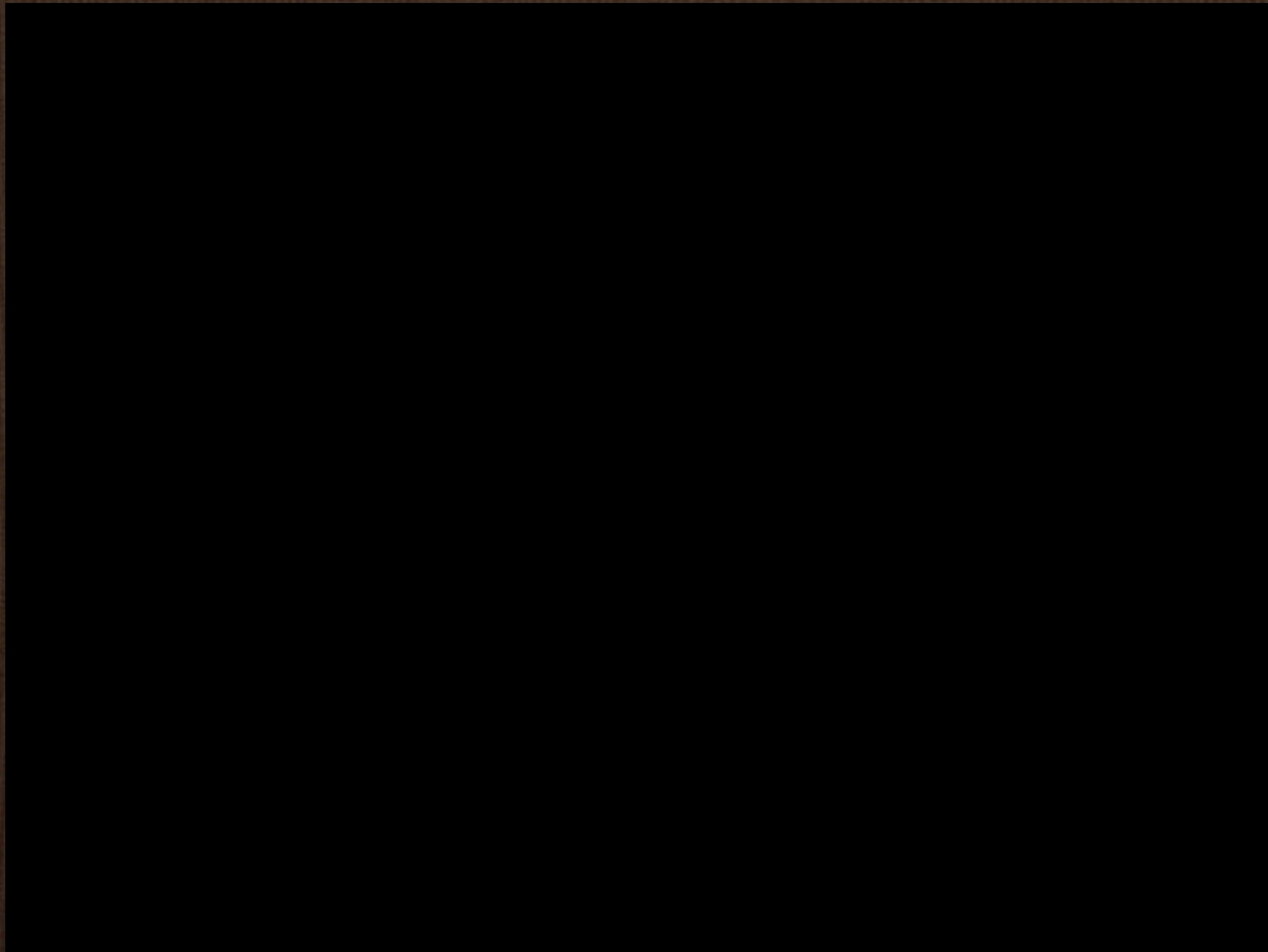




Artists use a wide range of **media** for portraiture, including drawing, printing, painting, sculpture, photography and multimedia.

Today it is still a very popular art form. Artists often use portraiture to show off their **skills** or to communicate an **emotion**.





This speed painting has been created using Oil paints. The technique used is called “dry brushing”. Minimal colours have been used.

It is amazing seeing each step from beginning to end. Enjoy!



# Rembrandt

Over the years  
Rembrandt produced  
more than **70 self-  
portraits**, making his face  
one of the most famous in  
art.

He constantly searched  
his face for **expression**  
and **meaning**.

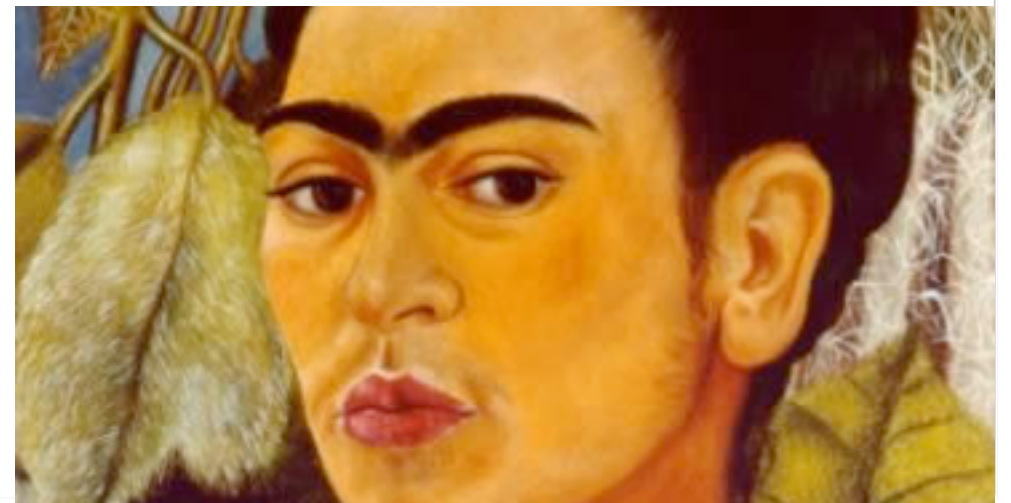




# 500 Women Portraits







# Frida Kahlo

Another modern artist who painted more than 70 self portraits was Frida Kahlo. Most of her paintings related to her **physical** and **psychological** pain from the many horrific operations in the course of her life (30).

***"My painting carries with it the message of pain ... Painting completed my life."***





# Andy Warhol

**Andy Warhol**, was an American painter, printmaker, and filmmaker who was a leading figure in the visual art movement known as **Pop art**. The highest price ever paid for a Warhol painting is \$100 million for a 1963 canvas titled *Eight Elvisses*. His friends suggested he should paint the things he loved the most, he loved celebrities and Campbell's soup so he painted them!





# Andy Warhol

It was during the 1960s that Warhol began to make paintings of iconic American products such as Campbell's Soup Cans and Coca-Cola bottles, as well as paintings of celebrities such as Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley, Troy Donahue, Muhammad Ali and Elizabeth Taylor.

He founded "The Factory," his studio during these years, and gathered around himself a wide range of artists, writers, musicians, and underground celebrities. He began producing prints using the **silkscreen method**.





# Pablo Picasso

Was influenced by **African masks**. This led to the creation of **CUBISM**. The subject matter was drawn from many angles. He took apart objects and analyzed their shapes. He was the first artist to create and use collage (**Synthetic Cubism**).



# Picasso







# It is now your turn.

You need to choose **ONE** artist from the list on the next page and research their art, techniques, influences and methods.

Put the information together in an interesting way using tools such as Prezzi, Moviemaker, Key Note, or VoiceThread. You have **2 weeks** until you will present it to the class.



# Choose ONE artist

Freda Kahlo



Andy Warhol

Picasso



Brett Whitely



Francis Bacon



Leonardo Da Vinci





# Create a grid for your research.

## Use these prompts to create suitable questions.

<b>Artist introduction</b> Who Where What How Why Response to their work	<b>Examples of work</b> Titles and dates Personal opinions of the work	<b>Techniques</b> How What Did they start anything new? Where can you see these techniques?
<b>Inspirations</b> Who Why Where How	<b>Subject matter</b> What did he/she normally paint Why	<b>Influences</b> Who did they inspire Why Can you show examples?
<b>Interesting facts</b> Can you find any interesting facts that others in the class won't know?	<b>Optional extension</b> Time Line Historical information About their country Other information to put your artist in context	<b>Good Research sites</b> <a href="http://www.artyfactory.com">www.artyfactory.com</a> <a href="http://www.artcyclopedia.com/">www.artcyclopedia.com/</a> <a href="http://www.getty.edu/art/gettyguide/">www.getty.edu/art/gettyguide/</a> <a href="http://makingartfun.com/">http://makingartfun.com/</a> <a href="http://artsmarts4kids.blogspot.com">http://artsmarts4kids.blogspot.com</a>