

Art Y11 to Y12

In The autumn term of y12 you will start your artwork by producing work around the title SELF. We will introduce you to new and old materials all with the specific focus of accuracy and building up your tradition skill set. You will go on to look at new artists and produce a series of self-portraits in a wide variety of sizes and formats using an extensive range of materials and techniques.

To support his work over the summer you could have a go at the following tasks.

Task 1.

Research Portraits and find a variety of different styles you like and dislike – Pinterest is a really good tool for inspiration or maybe take a Gallery tour online?

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/virtual-tours>

<https://www.npg.org.uk/whatson/exhibitions/2001/mirror-mirror-self-portraits-by-women-artists/virtual-tour.php>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjgAd6Z-dd0>

Print the images you find and make notes on your thoughts and feelings towards these pieces;

- Do you like/dislike the work? Why?
- What materials have been used?
- How has the artist used Visual Language? (what is the artist trying to communicate through the artwork – what is the work about?)

It is really important that you are able to analyse artwork and show how you may be able to use your findings to build your own ideas and concepts.

Task 2.

Take some of your own portrait photographs, look at the work of Irving Penn and Annie Leibovitz as inspiration. Photograph yourself and other people? Again, think about visual language, what are you trying to convey in the photograph? Use your phone or a camera if you have one. There are some tips below.

<https://photographypro.com/portrait-photography/>

Irving Penn

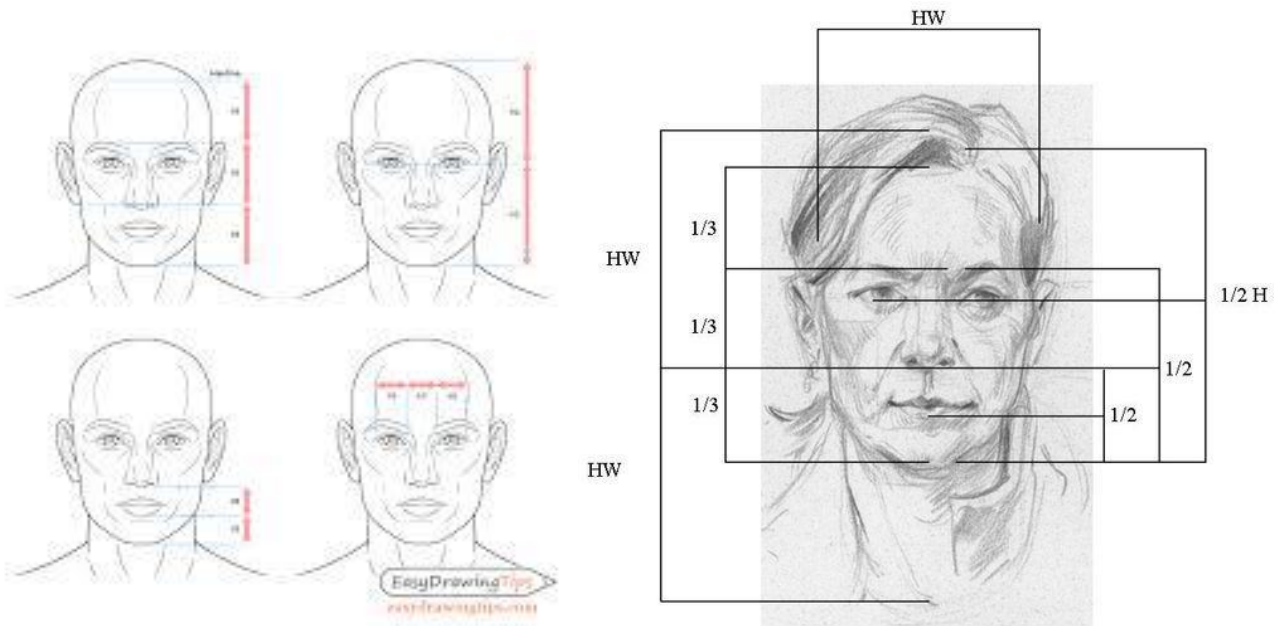


Annie Leibovitz



Task 3

Have a go at some portraits yourself. Look at the Rules of facial proportion and practise. Practise really does make perfect – we will be pushing you for accuracy when we start in September so practising now will really help.



Really study your face, draw what you see – not what you want to see – don't stylise and over exaggerate. Draw the wrinkles and lines, draw the slightly wonky nose, the freckles, draw our beautiful imperfections.

It may help to start off by drawing just the facial features separately slowly building towards drawing a whole face. Start off with outlines and proportions, build up to tone (concentrating on range of tone, contrast and directional shading) then experiment with other materials you have at home. If you are struggling for materials, you could make your own pigments by drawing with coffee, beetroot water or use your pencil sharpening's to make black ink by adding a little water.

Look at the work of Jenny Saville, she doesn't hide her subjects' imperfections.



Our biggest piece of advice is, get stuck in, don't be afraid, explore and have fun seeing where it can go. We look forward to seeing you in September. The Art Dept.

