**Upside down drawing**

**Intro**

Believe you can't draw? Try this and I'm confident you will see it's mostly in the mind.

**Page 1:**

**Misconceptions**

Let’s get something straight: drawing is not about representing but about seeing (mostly). This exercise is about changing perception and to see things in new ways. If you think about it, all the information is there in front of us.

**Page 2:**

**Hung up on old stories**

The biggest problem for beginner artists when drawing is that we have ingrained symbols of what we think things look like. For example, if we are asked to draw a nose we are likely to fall into an old habit and draw a caricature of what we think a nose should look like, instead of actually looking at what the object in front of us is really like.

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**The Trick**

The trick is to stop seeing these symbols. See the line as just a line – don’t think nose! Just copy what is in front of you. The exercise stops being “draw a nose” and simply become copy that line. How hard can that be?

**Page 4:**

**Try it out**

Take 20mins to copy the upside down image above. Again, don’t think chair or person or sleeves. Just look at the proportions. Take it line by line. Think of it as a puzzle. And do not under any circumstances turn it right side up.

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**Not bad huh?**

I’m confident you are impressed with the end result. Were some parts easier than others? Most people find the face and hands tricky, largely because we have stronger symbolic associations with those elements. They are harder to abstract away while we are drawing. In any case, now you see that drawing is no more difficult than copying what is right there in front of you.