



Traditional Portrait

A high profile client has hired YOU to draw their portrait. This is your time to shine and do the best portrait you have ever done!

Due: by the end of the course.

Here are your instructions:

- A. From the list below choose the kind of portrait you want to do from 5 different options.
- B. Find a model and choose the pose, lighting, and clothing. You are free to take a photo of the model or work from life.
- C. If you can't find a model you can find a reference photo online that inspires you and work from that.

- D. To be done on 18" x 24" white or toned charcoal paper using charcoal or pencil. **Half body from the waist up and close ups are permitted. No full body compositions.**

Portrait Styles to choose from

1. TRADITIONAL PORTRAIT

Traditional or Classical portraiture would refer to an image where face is the predominant element like this portrait I drew of my friend's daughter. As the art director I set up the pose and controlled the lighting to get the look I wanted. The purpose of the photograph is to depict visual representation of that person. Subject can be looking directly at the camera or have a 3/4 view. With what is described as a head-shot, two thirds framing can be used.



2. ENVIRONMENTAL PORTRAIT

The term Environmental Portrait refers to an image where the subject is photographed in person's natural environment like this farmer by photographer Jonathan Bielaski. Additional examples could be: a worker photographed at the construction zone, teacher in the classroom, sculptor in a sculpture studio and so on. Surroundings are used to compliment the subject and to emphasize his character.



3. CANDID PORTRAIT

A candid portrait is taken without a subject expecting or acknowledging the photographer like this waitress in a coffee shop. This style used in photo journalism, travel photography, street photography and event photography. As opposed to an environmental portrait this image is captured at the moment rather than set up.



4. GLAMOR PORTRAIT

The term Glamor Portrait refers to portraits where emphasis is given to highlight the sexy romantic appeal of the subject. The lighting is usually soft shadows, with even, bright lighting. Think Hollywood movies and fashion magazines..



5. LIFESTYLE PORTRAIT

The term Lifestyle Portrait refers to portraits where emphasis is given to suggest the “style of living” of the individuals depicted like this shot from Kristina Davini (seen below). Technically it is a combination of environmental portrait and candid portrait. More weight is given to communicate the feeling of life experience of the subject. Usually

found in commercial and fine art photography. The editorial, fashion, pharmaceutical, and food industries often use lifestyle images to evoke emotions in viewers by depiction of desired life styles. It is common to see this style used in wedding and family portrait photography as well



Schedule: (steps to be done as you move through the course)

1. Look at the material and think about which kind of portrait you want to make (1-3 days)
2. Then decide on which portrait style you want to do **and commit to it.**
3. Start doing research and get your creative juices flowing.
(2-3 days)
4. Gather reference, make notes, and think about a lighting strategy to best show your portrait. Find the .psd file called “Creative portrait lighting for artists” to help you show your model in the best way along with lighting strategies and their specific applications for the kind of feeling you want to put across and helps describe who the person is.
(3-4 days)

5. Do 3-5 thumbnail drawings at the beginning stage to explore how you want to compose and light the model. Thumbnails are very small drawings that show the most essential information about the character. You can use line or tone for this. Keep it very simple focusing on proportion and light and dark areas. Don't use too much detail.

(2 days)



Go here for some helpful hints on the thumbnail process:

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/564638872011970206/>

6. Start your final drawing. Begin with a solid block-in. Be careful to draw lightly and check your proportions carefully. Make sure your construction is valid. Refer back to my charcoal demonstrations and watch how I did the block-in.

(1-2 days)

7. Continue working on your portrait. Put in the values to build the tonal structure. Make sure your connections and construction are valid.

(5-7 days)

8. Put in the details and textures and bring it to a conclusion. (1-2 days)

9. Congratulations! You now have a Master portrait for your portfolio! Post it to the Facebook group to share it with the community!