# DISTORTED SELF-PORTRAITS

LSRCSS · Drawing 20S

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Pablo Picasso



**David Hockney** 



Henrietta Harris



Adam Lupton

Portraits and self-portraits have been a common subject throughout the history of art. Although traditionally portraits were about capturing the 'likeness' or appearance of the subject, it has become very common for artists to use portraits and self-portraits as an opportunity for creative expression. The first self-portrait you drew in the course was an accurate photo based drawing, but the final self-portrait is an opportunity to do something more creative and/or expressive.

#### YOUR ASSIGNMENT

Create a distorted or grotesque self-portrait in a drawing medium of your choice. Your drawing should be at least 16"x20" in size if possible. The piece may be done in colour or black and white, and should feature a full range of lights and darks. The drawing should go to the edges of the page and feature an interesting composition. If you don't have large pieces of paper at home, you could work on any surface you do have available - you could work on several pieces of printer paper put together, on a piece of cardboard, on pages from a newspaper, on a scrap piece of plywood, etc. The surface you work on could add an interesting dimension to your piece.

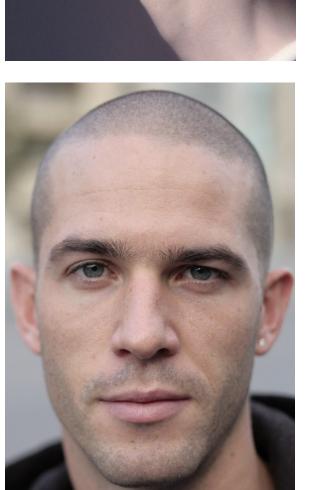
#### **PROCESS**

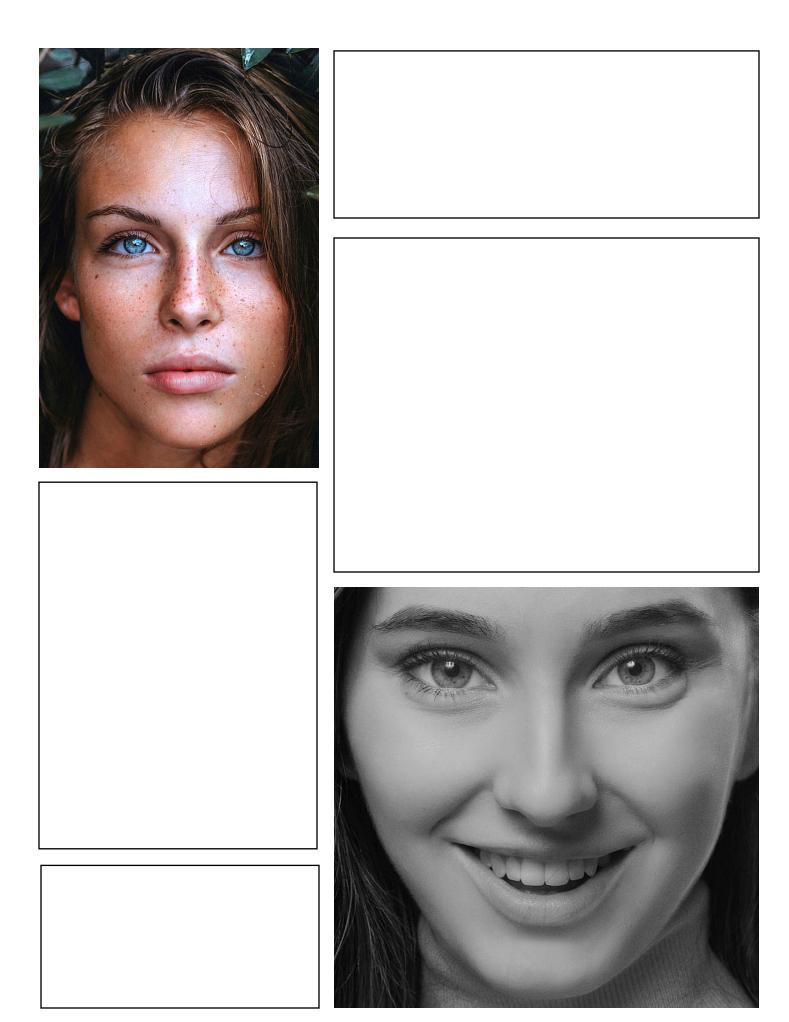
Complete the series of small assignments outlined in this package. The assignments are designed to help you explore possibilities related to your own self-portrait and to develop your drawing skills.

#### PRACTICE DISTORTING FACES



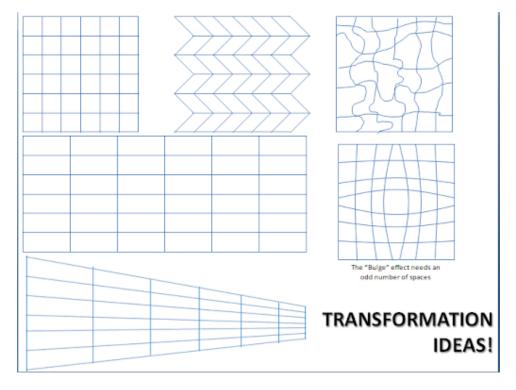
Many artists, especially those that do caricatures take the forms of facial features and exaggerate them to create funny and expressive takes on their subjects. Using the faces provided, practice drawing distorted and exaggerated faces in the boxes below. You may draw whole faces or focus in on particular features. Try adding shading to your drawings

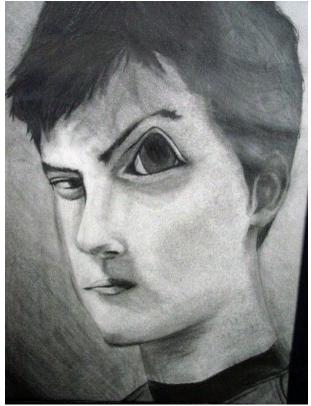




#### DISTORTED GRID

You already did a grid drawing based on a photograph, but you can also use a version of the same technique to distort an image. A standard square grid is still drawn over the original image, but a distorted grid with the same number of segments is applied to the drawing surface. When the image is drawn out section by section it becomes distorted because of the layout of the grid on the drawing surface. Some possible distorted grid shapes are illustrated below.







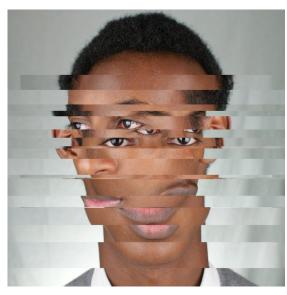
Drawings done from photographs using a distorted grid.

#### DISTORTION THROUGH COLLAGE

Collage is a fast and easy way to re-imagine a photograph.



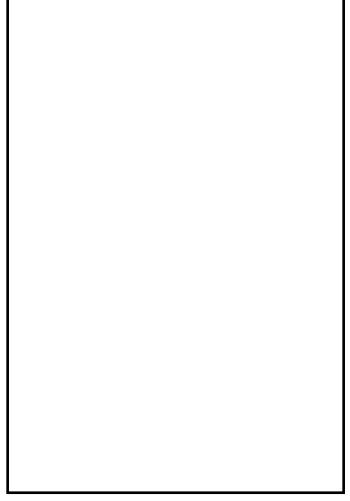
Collage by Pablo Theracourt



Collage by Kerry Nourrice



Collage by Kensuke Koike



Cut up and creatively re-assemble one of your smaller photos in this square. If you wish to use a printed photo of your own, that's fine too.

Do a drawing of your collage here.

## DISTORTION THROUGH COLLAGE - CONTINUED

Cut up and creatively re-assemble one of your smaller photos in this square. If you wish to use a printed photo of your own that's fine too. Do a drawing of your collage here.

### DISTORTED SELF-PORTRAITS INSPIRATION

For some inspiration, check out the work of the artists below. Remember, be inspired by their ideas or their approach, but don't copy it.



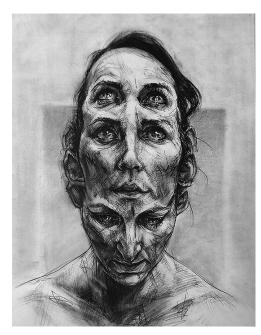
Alex Pardee



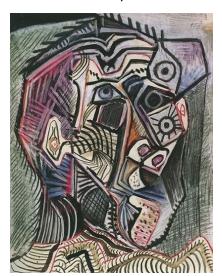
Nikos Gyftakis



Henrietta Harris



**David Theron** 



Pablo Picasso



Ralph Steadman

### DISTORTED SELF-PORTRAIT SKETCHES

Using the boxes below, do at least eight sketches to plan out possible ideas
for your distorted self-portrait. Play around with different styles, compositions
and background possibilities. Consider trying some of the techniques and ap-
proaches from this package as well as techniques explored in class: you could
exaggerate, repeat, overlap, break apart your face, cover your face in patterns
and textures, combine multiple images of yourself, draw blindly, or with contin-
uous lines.
uous iiries.
Take your best idea and develop it as a finished drawing at least 16x20
inches in size, if at all possible. If you don't have large pieces of paper at
home, you could work on any surface you do have available - you could

work on several pieces of printer paper put together, on a piece of cardboard, on pages from a newspaper, on a scrap piece of plywood, etc. The surface you work on could add an interesting dimension to your piece.