

3

PORTRAITURE

AIM

To draw a human face with a maximum resemblance.

INTRODUCTION

Portraiture is a very important and interesting branch of fine art. Portraiture painting is drawing and painting the resemblance of a person exactly. It can be done with the help of line colour texture and shading. The main feature of portraiture is the shape of the face. It could be round, oval, square, or rectangular. A human face has mainly two eyes, two eyebrows, a nose, two ears and a mouth. The face can be divided into three portions forehead, middle (cheeks portion) and end (lips, jaw and chin). Every human face is different from each others; this is due to the placement and shape of various features. A face when viewed from portraiture. Different angles will be depicted according to what the artist can view from that portraitures angle.

Similarly, when viewed differently, a person will be depicted at different eye levels, i.e. from the top, a face will be more covered with a head portion, and from below, a face can be seen from chin to forehead; the head proportion will not be visible. Portraits can either be made directly or from some photo of the person.



OBJECTIVES

On completion of this practical lesson, you will be able to:

- learn to draw the shape of the face;
- learn the ratio and proportion between the features of a human face;
- differentiate between two faces according to their features, shape and structure;

Portraiture

- to capture the baselines which separate their looks;
- portray the human face in the different medium like pencil, pastel colourwater colour, oil colour etc.;
- draw how to depict expressions;
- learn the importance of eye level in framing the basic structure of the face;
- learn about unique attributes of a human face.

1. MAKING PORTRAIT OF RABINDRANATH TAGORE (MALE PORTRAITURE)

Material Required: 2B, 4B, 6B pencil. (You can use charcoal pencils), paper, eraser etc.

Step 1

See the photograph or take a picture of Rabindranath Tagore very carefully. Take a 2B pencil or any soft pencil and draw the outline of the face. You will have to observe the positive and negative space of the picture. A positive portion is the portion occupied by the face, negative space is the remaining blank space apart from the portion occupied by the face. Draw the lines taking care of the correct angles.

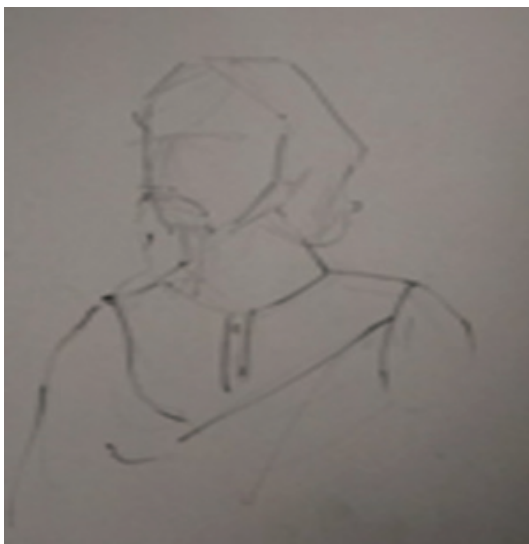


Fig. 3.1

Step 2

Go for the next step, make and develop the features, first observe every line and put the successive line at the correct distance from the previous lines; for this, you may divide the space with vertical and horizontal lines put carefully.



Notes



Notes

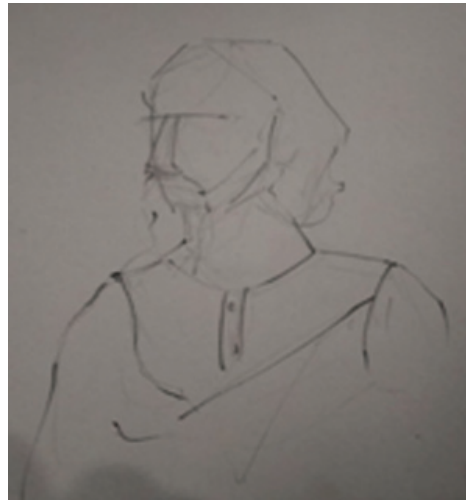


Fig. 3.2

Step 3

Observe the source of light and shade the picture with the extreme bright portions. The left-out blank portion where the light falls directly is called highlights shade with 2B pencils in light shade with uniform strokes. Shades facial features like the eye portion, the sides of the nose, and below the nose appear darker than the lifted portions like the forehead, eye, nose, cheeks.



Fig. 3.3

Step 4

Now complete the portrait of Rabindranath Tagore.

To complete your portrait use middle tones for the semi-dark portions. Dark tone (used 6B pencil) in the extremely dark portion. In the given picture, the hairs, and the portion under the face, the eye socket are extremely dark portions.



Now complete the Portrait of Rabindranath Tagore (See Fig. 3.4).



Fig. 3.4

2. MAKING PORTRAIT OF AMRITA SHERGILL (FEMALE PORTRAITURE)

Medium used: Pencil colour

Material Required: Pencil colours, pencil, paper etc.

Step 1

Take a soft pencil or a natural colour and make the outline of the portrait. Observe the positive and negative space as mentioned in the first portrait.

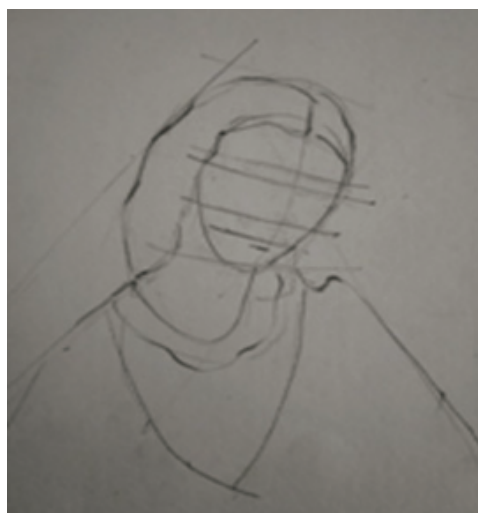


Fig. 3.5



Step 2

Now prominent the outline with litter darker pencil.

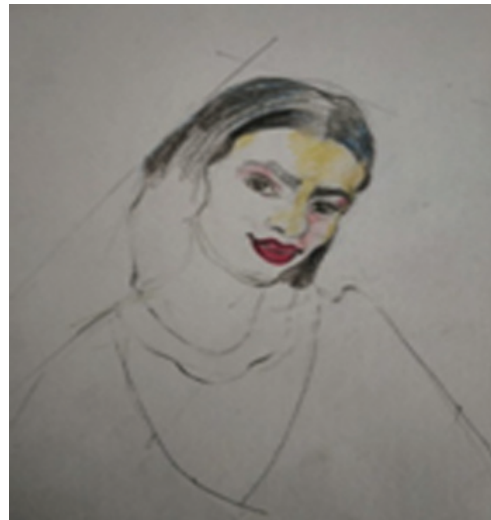


Fig. 3.6

Step 3

Start shading with the lightest tone of skin colour or the lighter shades of colours to be used. This will be possible if you observe the portrait carefully.

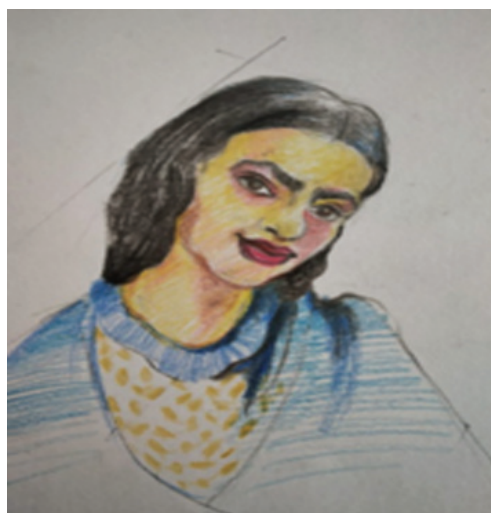


Fig. 3.7

Step 4

After you put the light strokes, leaving the source of light, you start using darker colours; in this case, it is dark yellow or shades of orange or skin colour.



Notes



Fig. 3.8



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- Portrait-making can be a mindful act but is extremely rewarding.
- Lines and their placement to draw the features is very important.
- There should be distinct differences in shades to get maximum effect.
- Stroke should be in one direction
- The first coat should be applied carefully and softly, leaving the lighter areas.
- Merge the light medium and dark tones, so that they don't disappear fully, i.e. they should be clearly visible in the final picture.



TERMINAL QUESTIONS

1. Draw a portrait of a child with pencil colours.
2. Draw a picture of any famous personality and use watercolour.
3. Draw a female portrait in profile.
4. Draw a portrait in a frontal position.