



An Advanced Oil Painting Class: The Art of the Self-Portrait

The artist in art, as art.

Jack Rosenberg, artist and guest instructor will present a studio painting course in “the Art of the Self Portrait”. Hosted at the Florence Academy of Art, the course will be given for two one-week sessions May 26- 30, and June 2 – 6, 2013. The classical approach in Sight-Size painting will be taught for those who are interested in this method. Artists may enroll in either or both weeks. Complete details and registration are available online at www.jackrosenberg.com/classes.html

Surely one of the most personally challenging of painting genres, where more questions are raised about this “double” painting form than are answered until the painting is nearly complete. An artist painting oneself; interpreting, judging, deciding the setting, pose, mood, “beauty”, style...a myriad number of choices to be made. Are you painting yourself as you see yourself, as you wish to see yourself, as you wish to be portrayed?

It could be as simple as a Van Gogh face, Rembrandt bust, an “Alex Katz” style, or complex as a Velazquez (*Las Meninas*) with multiple complex compositional elements.

It's a great challenge and rewarding and yes, intimidating experience; all wrapped-up in a supportive shared studio setting with fellow (non-critical) painters. Be of good courage, and be an explorer in your art: tackle something new!

It might be wisest to decide on a type of painting that resonates completely with you as the artist...difficulties will occur and be overcome regardless of the style. The object of the challenge is to face yourself as an artist, and to have some fun solving problems.

The composition is decided by each artist in consultation and with the assistance of the instructor. The process can be composed of photographs (self, setting, subject), mirrors, or expositional (no references). For those choosing to use reference materials, digital manipulation, projection, gridding are all excellent methods for initiating the painting. A computer and projector will be available in class.

Classes will be held 5 mornings 9:30 am- 12:30 pm at the Florence Academy of Art studio (via Luna, 8r). As the workshop requires a prompt beginning each day at 9:30, please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior, to set-up, mix paints, and be ready to have the full session for painting and instruction. The second week is either a continuation of your painting, or a new beginning. You will be provided a key to the studio, so you may return in the afternoons, un-instructed, to continue work independently until 5 PM daily.

Each class will include demonstrations and discussions, both group and individual.

First Class:

Because of the nature of the course in Self Portrait, and the unique choices required by each student, the First Class will be an all day session. We will demonstrate and have a brief tutorial/lecture on the subject. We will also discuss compositional choices, design aspects, palette and color choices, and to prepare the transfer of your image to the canvas. (sight-size, grid, digital and projection). This First Class on Monday May 26 will begin at 9:30 am- 12:30 pm. We will then have a lunch-break, and return to the studio for an afternoon painting session from 2:00-5:00 pm.

Reference Imagery:

Please bring with you your selected image, or range of images to choose from. It will be helpful to have either prints (8x10 or life-size), and/or digital images (on iPhone, iPad, or USB thumb-drive).

For those who wish to learn the Sight-Size Method of painting, no other reference materials will be needed. We will provide a second easel with a mirror for your use. You may also wish to combine methodologies; i.e. print/digital reference and mirror.

Materials:

The composition will determine the size and shape of the canvas/support.

Minimum size: For Portrait: at least 16 inches in the smallest direction (16x20, 18x24, 20x30 etc.). For Figure/Narrative/Genre: 24 inches in the smallest dimension. (e.g.: 24x36, 30x30, 30x40, 36x50, 30x60, 40x60 etc. (all measurements in inches).

Kindly inform me at least three-weeks before class begins, what size(s) you require, and we will arrange for your prepared, stretched canvas(s) to be delivered to the studio (materials cost extra). The canvases will be stretched smooth portrait linen, with gesso, ready for you to begin painting.

Depending upon the type of painting to be done, color/palette choices are up to each artist as well. Guidance will be given to assist in making appropriate decisions. A suggested Materials List is attached. You may bring paints and brushes with you, or buy everything needed at Zecchi in Florence (<http://www.zecchi.it/>) [Please note: you will not be allowed to transport solvents (turpentine, odorless spirits) on airplanes!] Zecchi will deliver your canvases and solvents, and any other materials you pre-order, prior to the first class. Please visit their website to see supplies choices.

Terms of Registration

You may register for either or both weeks of class; most students sign-up for both weeks to bring their paintings to a fully realized completion. The course is strictly limited to no more than 12 students. Minimum enrollment requirement for the workshops is 6. Students will be notified if this number is not reached 30 days before the first day of class. At that time, they will have their full payment refunded.

Students may continue to apply to workshops even after the deadline and through the first day of the course.

In order to reserve your place in a workshop, we will ask you to send **non-refundable** payment (payable by credit card, PayPal) in the amount of the tuition. If you cancel your reservation but we can fill the space with someone on the wait-list, you will receive a 100% refund.

Travel and Accommodations:

Students make their own travel and accommodation arrangements at their own convenience and cost. Several reputable rental agents have worked successfully with the Academy ([see attached list here](#)).

The Florence Academy of Art endeavors to provide an educational environment conducive to encouraging the artistic talents of each student. This requires that all students respect the policies of the Academy, its instructors, and the other students in the program. By enrolling in the Academy, students agree to subscribe to these policies as contained in the Student Handbook.

The Florence Academy of Art is a United States non-profit 501 c (3) educational entity, and admits students of any race, age, color and national or ethnic origin.

Some Self-Portrait Reference examples:

(see also website: <http://www.jackrosenberg.com/WebSelfPort/selfport.html>)

Dürer (1500)

Judith Leyster (1630)

Annibale Caracci (16014)

Rembrandt (1630+)

Titian (1560)

Adelaide Labille-Guiard (1785)

Courbet (1843,55)

Jacque-Louis David (1794)

Edvard Munch (1903,42)

Ernst Kirchner (1915)

Max Beckmann (1917)

Egon Scheile (1914)

Norman Rockwell (1960)

Lucian Freud (1993)

Michaelangelo (1540)

Artemesia Gentileschi (1638)

Caravaggio (1609+)

Anthony Van Dyke (1633)

Velazquez (Las Meninas 1656)

Francisco Goya (1785)

Elizabeth LeBrun (1790)

Chardin (1771)

Van Gogh (1887,89)

Edward Vuillard (1890)

Henri Matisse (1917)

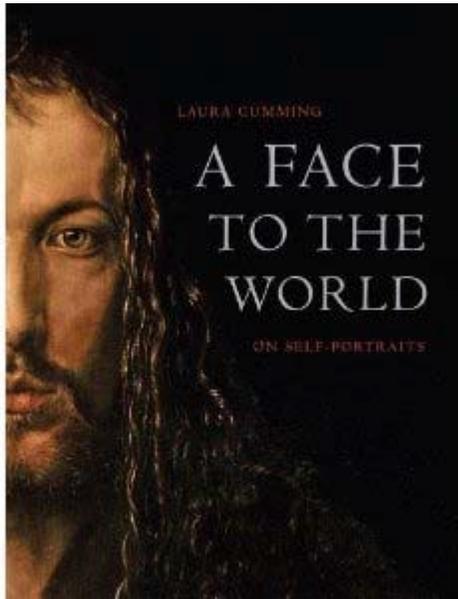
Freida Khalo (1940,46)

Chuck Close (1991)

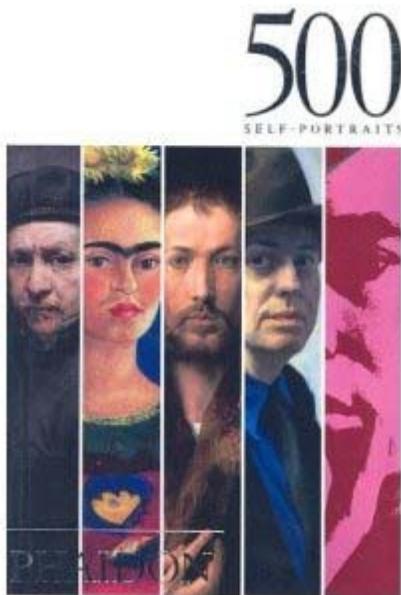
Odd Nerdrum (1998+)

Self Portrait Reference Books

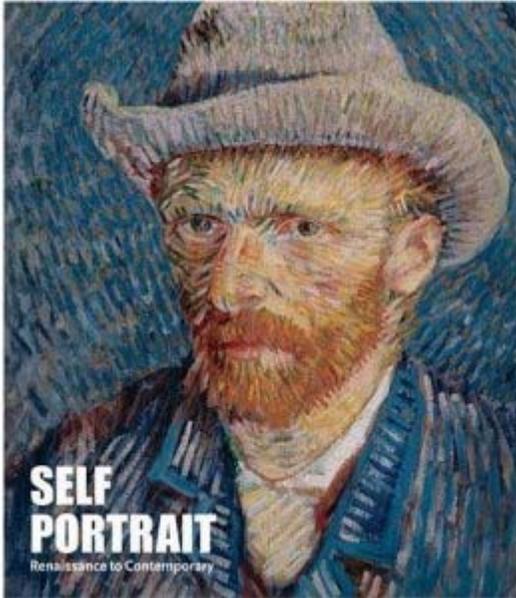
The following books are a short-list of a few references for Self Portraits. The links are all for Amazon, only so you can see summaries, comments and sometimes images from inside the books. For the class, no reference is needed...I am only providing this list for those who might want to further explore the subject.



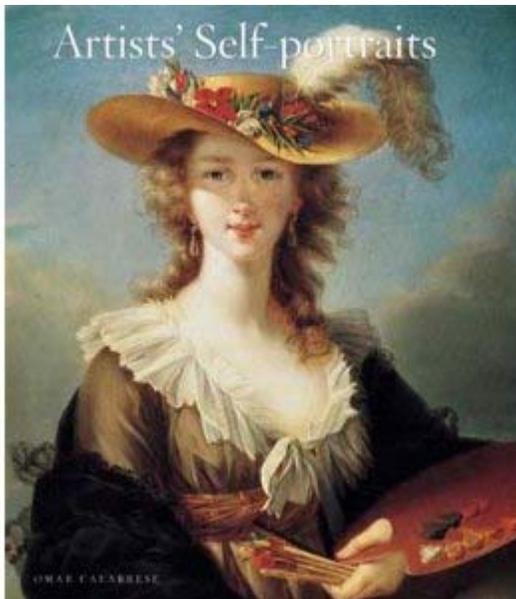
<http://www.amazon.com/Face-World-Self-Portraits-Laura-Cumming/dp/0007118430>



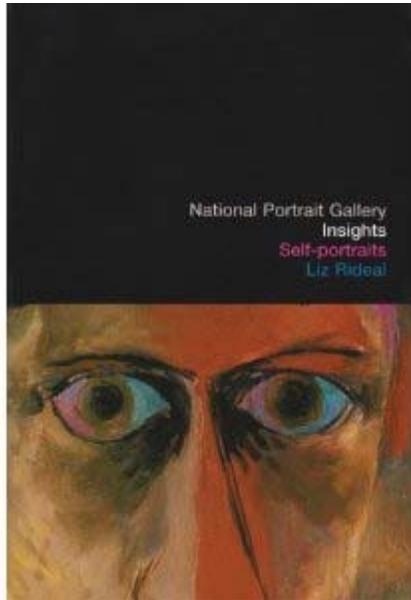
http://www.amazon.com/500-Self-Portraits-Julian-Bell/dp/0714843849/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1384260850&sr=8-1&keywords=500+self+portraits



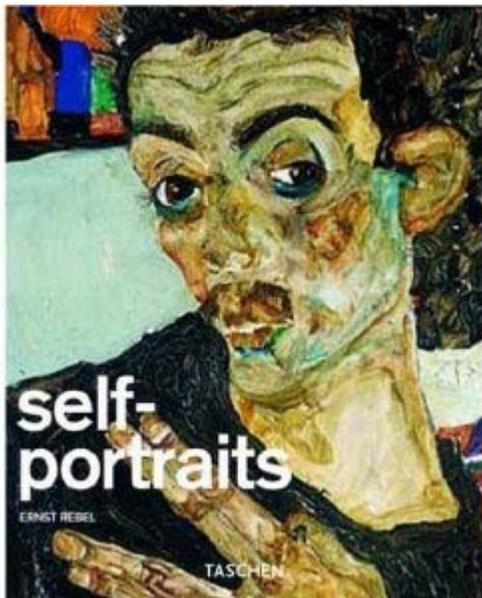
<http://www.amazon.com/Self-Portraits-From-Renaissance-Contemporary/dp/1855143577>



http://www.amazon.com/Artists-Self-Portraits-Omar-Calabrese/dp/0789208946/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1384261129&sr=&keywords=omar+calabre



http://www.amazon.com/Self-portraits-National-Portrait-Gallery-Insights/dp/1855143631/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1384261403&sr=8-1&keywords=national+portrait+gallery+insights



http://www.amazon.com/Self-Portraits-Taschen-Basic-Genre-Series/dp/382285462X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1384261466&sr=8-1&keywords=self+portrait+taschen