

PLANAR PORTRAIT

Plane is a flat or level surface; it is a three-dimensional form that has length and width but minimal thickness.

Assignment:

You are to design and construct a self-portrait made entirely of planes. Your form should be dynamic, and engaging, not static and unimaginative. We should be able to recognize you in this form-your characteristics, features, and personality. Your project should be structurally sound and stand on its own and **must stand without wobbling**.

Review Chapter 9: Principles of 3-Dimensional Design

Review Chapter 10: Elements of 3-Dimensional Design

Read Chapter 11: Materials and Methods

Learning outcomes:

- Develop an understanding of planar spatial relationships
- Apply compositional knowledge with visual balance and dynamics
- Develop teamwork skills
- Heighten craftsmanship skills

Process:

Construct out of the simple materials of paper and tape, a simplified form that generally illustrates your self-portrait. Follow the sketches and photos of yourself to help achieve the appropriate form. Then attach the paperboard materials, (the non-colored side) to indicate the faceted landmarks and features of your face, etc. Brainstorm with your teammates, ask for suggestions and offer alternatives. You may need the hands of classmates to help hold each others forms as you construct your piece.

Medium:

Newspaper, tape, the inside of paper board products, hot glue, and glue sticks. If you have any questions please talk possibilities over with your classmates before you see me. Teamwork...

Size:

The scale of your piece will be very important depending on how you intend your viewer to respond to your interpretation. It should not be smaller than 15"

Be objective:

We want to be able to visually move around, above, below and through your work. Be conscious of the negative spaces and how they interact with one another and the whole form. Create 3-Dimensional harmony (Unity) with an awareness of repetition and rhythm of line (edges), value (light and shadow), direction and shape. Review the principles of 3-D Design-Ch.10. Craftsmanship is very important. Keep your self-portrait clean and neat, we do not want any unnecessary distractions from the glue, or roughly cut edges.

Your work will be made entirely of planes. Include a variety of sizes and shapes so you develop an understanding of the range of planar opportunities in both making and observing objects that exist in space. Planes of the face are concave, convex, and geometric. They penetrate, protrude, are simple and complex, large and small, can be folded or bent.

Things to Consider:

A powerful tool for the development of ideas and probably the least used—is the sketch. Through sketching and modeling you can develop multiple variations on an idea with a minimum of effort. You can sketch in minutes what would take hours to build. Through your sketches, you may discover new relationships in an object that can be incorporated into your design. You may also have photos taken of your upper torso and head, from 5 different views –top, right side, left side, front, and the back.

Artist Research: Each student will research an artist and give a power point presentation to the class about this artist. Things to include in your research are: 20 images of their work, their education / schooling, the galleries that represent/sell their work, cost of their sculptures, the breakdown of moneys to the gallery, foundry, assistants, and finally to the artist.

This will take place during our next project.

I will assign the sculptor you will research, and show you how to put together a power-point.

No artist research is necessary for this project.

Vocabulary:

Plane- (planer) the surface area of a defined shape, a stretched line

Abstract- a distortion, a simplification of a natural object

Static- an object that appears stationary

Dynamic- energetic, vigorous, forceful, creating or suggesting change or motion

Height- distance from top to bottom

Width- distance from side to side

Depth- distance from front to back

Scale- size of an object in relationship to other objects and to its surroundings

Proportion- comparative relationship between parts of a whole or units to size

Tectonic- closed, massive and simple

Atectonic- open, to a large degree