



Artist/Theme Inspired

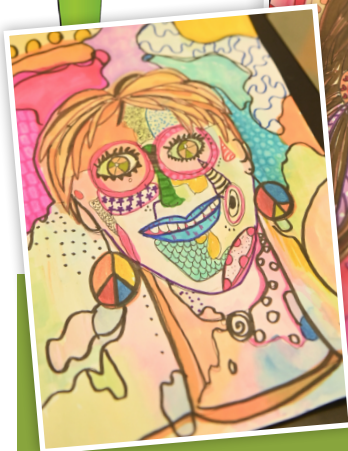
CRAZY PORTRAITS



Create a crazy portrait based on someone you know, or select a visual or performing artist, author, poet, lyricist—really, it can be anyone! Once you've selected your subject, do a little research, learn more about them, and then start creating a portrait with embellishments that hint to an overall theme.



This lesson was inspired by the abstract portraits of Canadian contemporary artist, Deb Weiers. Learn more about Weiers on Instagram at @debweiersart.



GUIDANCE:

Keep in mind, these portraits aren't meant to be realistic, in fact, the more creative you get, the better your portrait will be. Work to exaggerate features and don't worry about perfection! Focus on the overall meaning you want your portrait to convey. Start with a pencil—when outlining with a pencil you can always add more details to your work. Then plan your colors and think ahead about textures, words, and symbols you might want to include.

Optional Supplies

- Royal & Langnickel Sketching Pencils
- Royal & Langnickel Azure™ Professional Artist Markers
- Royal & Langnickel Graphic Illustration Markers
- Royal & Langnickel Graphic Microbrush Artist Markers
- Royal & Langnickel Gouache Artist Colors



Start creating!

1. **Sketch First** – Start with multimedia paper and a sketch of the face. Do not worry about the details. Get the outline of face, eyes, nose, mouth, hair, neck, and shoulders.
2. **Paint** – Paint a background over the portrait. Gouache paint is an excellent medium to use. You can create a palette of colors you want to use. Let it dry. Your palette will be ready to use anytime with water and a brush. If you use gouache out of the tube, it will be thicker and opaque, dip your brush in water to help create a more watercolor consistency. Create a base of color for your background.
3. **Design/Embellish** – The next step is outlining your face using a fine point graphic marker. Use alcohol markers and more gouache to add the embellishments to make the portrait crazy and interesting. You can erase any leftover pencil markings. Utilize the natural lines from the gouache to make marks, texture, add words and create personality to the portrait.
4. **Artist Statement** – Once you're happy with your portrait, write a statement about the piece and the meaning behind your design.
5. **Try More!** Each portrait will be unique and the style will change with each piece to match the content.



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