

## Lesson 9: Self-Portraits –

### Drawing in The Grid



During the Renaissance artists developed a 'grid system' for making their work more accurate and better proportioned. Initially this system used a grid device, a little like a picture frame divided into sections with overlapping wires, which artists would set up in front of their scene to guide them in where to place objects on their paper.

With the advent of photography, especially digital photography, this method has been replaced by a simpler method of dividing up photographs into smaller squares and triangles that can be replicated on a piece of paper or canvas of the same proportions. This provides a base from which artists can add their own style to a correctly formatted image.

This week at Young Masters we will be using the photographic grid system to draw self-portraits on canvas. We will be looking at ideas of proportion and scale, and how to translate a photographic image into pencil drawing. This will be the base of a two week focused project, as next week we pick up paint brushes to bring colour and life into our self-portraits.

Materials:

- 30x40cm Primed Artists Canvas
- Pencils / Rubbers / Sharpeners
- Meter Ruler
- Sketch Books