

Zurich Portrait Prize


Digital workshop: Look Forward, Look Closer

Teachers' Notes

<p>Summary</p>	<p>With the wearing of face coverings now a part of everyday life, much of our expression relies on our eyes. This is how we make a connection, express ourselves and communicate.</p> <p>In portraiture, the eyes have always been a crucial part of successfully capturing a person, their character and feelings in a moment. The 'gaze', perhaps relevant now more than ever, is the element of portraiture this workshop aims to explore.</p> <p>Students will investigate how the gaze features in some of the work of this year's Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize artists.</p> <p>Following this exploration they will then begin to create their own self-portrait with the focus on their eyes.</p>
<p>How the digital workshop will work</p>	<p>This workshop will be broadcast directly into the classroom via Zoom from the artist's studio. We will send out a Zoom link ahead of the workshop.</p> <p>The workshop has been designed to use simple materials that should already be in the classroom. We ask that the teacher ensures that all materials are prepped and set up ahead of the workshop.</p> <p>Students are asked to take a self-portrait photo (head and shoulders) in advance of this workshop. This is to be printed in A4 in black & white ahead of the workshop (ideally by the teacher in school).</p> <p>As the artist will not be there in person it is vital to the workshop's success that the teacher co-facilitates. They will be the eyes and ears on the ground. This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeating questions or comments shared by the students to the Artist. Particularly if the microphone doesn't pick up everyone's voice. This will be important at the beginning and end of the session. • Helping the artist with students' names and selecting students to speak so everyone has a turn throughout the workshop. • Provide feedback and encouragement to the students on the work they make • Managing the noise and concentration level.
<p>Materials/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good internet connection

<p>equipment required</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projector/interactive whiteboard/screen or similar to display Zoom session in classroom • Speakers/microphone so class can communicate with artist • Camera (so artist can see class & their work) <p>NB – a laptop could be used for the speakers, microphone & camera</p> <p>Please check all equipment is working ahead of the workshop</p> <p><u>Per Student</u></p> <p>Students are asked to take a self-portrait photo (head and shoulders) in advance of this workshop. This is to be printed in A4 in black & white ahead of the workshop (ideally by the teacher in school).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4 Print out of their self-portrait (B&W) • 2 x A4 White Page • Scissors (or tear) • Glue (or tape) • Pencil (2B/4B) • Biro or drawing pen.
<p>Covid-19 Considerations</p>	<p>This workshop has been designed so that students can engage individually, not sharing resources and from their desk.</p> <p>In the event of school closure the workshop is transferable to an individual home setting with flexibility in materials to what is available at home.</p> <p>In this case, we would require the teacher to set up and host the Zoom Meeting, sending the link to students and the artist. This would ensure data protection and child protection guidelines are met.</p>
<p>Year groups suitable for</p>	<p>1st Year – 6th Year</p>
<p>Session itinerary</p>	<p>Introduction & Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss with students the plan for the session, including the learning intentions. • Group discussion about 'What is a portrait?' 'What is the 'gaze?'' while looking works from the Zurich Portrait Prize & Zurich Young Portrait Prize. <p>Create & make</p> <p>Students are asked to take a self-portrait photo (head and shoulders) in advance of this workshop.</p>

	<p>This will be printed in A4 in black & white ahead of the workshop (ideally by the teacher). With the teacher's assistance this will be distributed during the workshop.</p> <p>Stage one: Students will take a second photo of their own eyes on their device during the workshop – they will use this photo as a reference for drawing. This photo will be influenced by what we have discussed about the 'gaze' & expression.</p> <p>Stage two: With guidance where necessary, students will create a line drawing of their own eyes.</p> <p>Stage three: Students will then create a collage using the photo and their drawing.</p> <p>This line drawing/photo collage will form their finished study/self-portrait. This will reference the collage aesthetic of David Booth's work in particular.</p> <p>Respond & reflect Students will photograph and share their work on a padlet wall. We'll hold a group discussion about their work and reflect on learning outcomes.</p>
Objectives	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop knowledge about portraiture • Learn about composition, collage and drawing. • Learn how to experiment and make adaptations to their artworks. • Learn how to identify and think about contemporary portraiture • Gain well-being and enjoyment from experimenting and focusing self-expression
Themes explored	Portraiture, 'the gaze', identity, expression, photography, collage, drawing
Methods	We will use discussion, powerpoint presentation, zoom demonstration, photography, collage, observation, and drawing.
Curriculum links	<p>This workshop links to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art History curriculum/Visual Studies Specification – the analytical techniques & critical language developed in this session can be applied when exploring other portraits & works on the curriculum. • The structure of this workshop aims to promote the <i>research, create & respond</i> process encouraged by the new Senior Cycle Specification, and also used in the Junior Cycle Visual Art classroom. <p>Cross curricular links to: Wellbeing – Reflecting on identity & focusing self-expression.</p>

	<p>English – New vocabulary to interpret, describe and discuss their art works and the work of others</p>
<p>Learning outcomes</p>	<p>Students will develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their knowledge and understanding of contemporary portraiture • An awareness and understanding of the Zurich Portrait Prize and the Zurich Young Portrait prize. • Skills to analyse and think critically about portraits in the collection. • Practical skills in the areas of drawing & collage. Using scale and composition to express personality, character and emotion. • Experimental attitude and an openness to process focused learning rather than outcome
<p>Before your workshop – background information</p>	<p>Students are asked to take a self-portrait photo (head and shoulders) in advance of this workshop. This is to be printed in A4 in black & white ahead of the workshop (ideally by the teacher in school).</p> <p>Information about the Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize: Visit the Gallery's website to view the works in the Zurich Portrait Prize and the Zurich Young Portrait Prize.</p> <p>There are many exciting artists included in this year's Zurich Portrait Prize. However, this workshop focuses on the work of artist David Booth.</p> <p>Born in 1986 in Dublin, David Booth received his BFA in 2009 from the Institute of Technology Carlow. He has exhibited his work nationally and internationally and has work in both private and public collections. Booth's primary focus is on painting and drawing.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>David Booth <i>Maho</i>, 2020 Oil on board, 80 x 60 cm Zurich Portrait Prize submission 2020</p> </div>

	<p>Key terms:</p> <p>Portrait: A portrait is a representation of a particular person. A self-portrait is a portrait of the artist by the artist</p> <p>Sitter: A sitter is a person who sits, especially for a portrait.</p> <p>Gaze: Gaze describes where a person is looking, what they are looking at and how they are looking.</p> <p>Contemporary art: The term contemporary art is loosely used to refer to art of the present day and of the relatively recent past.</p> <p>Collage: Collage describes both the technique and the resulting work of art in which pieces of paper, photographs, fabric and other ephemera are arranged and stuck down onto a supporting surface</p> <p>Composition: Composition is the placement of different visual elements in the portrait and how they relate to each other.</p>
<p>Before your workshop – suggested activities</p>	<p>Use the National Gallery of Ireland’s ‘What is a Portrait?’ resource with your class. This resource will introduce your class to the concept of portraiture and develop their understanding and language on the topic. The work ‘Gesture 2’ by Saoirse Wall, included in this resource, is an interesting work to discuss with your group to introduce the topic of ‘the gaze’.</p> <p>Students can use the Instagram filter ‘<i>Peekaboo Portraits</i>’ by milanoartguide to experiment and play by adding their eyes into historical works of art. What expressions can they make with their eyes? Can they change the feeling of the art? This can also be an experiment with the scale of facial features.</p> <div data-bbox="842 1496 1114 1865" data-label="Image"> </div>

	<p>Ahead of the workshop students could keep an 'emotion' journal, as an exercise to reflect on themselves and their emotions before making their self-expressive portrait. This journal could be visual or written.</p>
<p>After your workshop – suggested activities</p>	<p>The portraits created in this workshop will be mainly monochrome – focusing on composition, scale and drawing. Following the workshop have a discussion with your students about colour in portraiture with reference with to the work of David Booth and the other artists in the Zurich Portrait Prize. Try this process again with colour, even paint?</p> <p>Download the app 'Brushes Redux' – ask students to collage and layer their self-portrait photographs digitally to explore composition and scale. Can they capture the 'gaze', character or expression better by hand or digitally – what do they feel is more effective and why?</p> <p>Revisit the terms and keywords used in the workshop and look at other portraits in international collections too. Such as the Tate: https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/p/portrait</p>