

Mary Jane Parker 12/09/2020 ↻

Black and White Etching

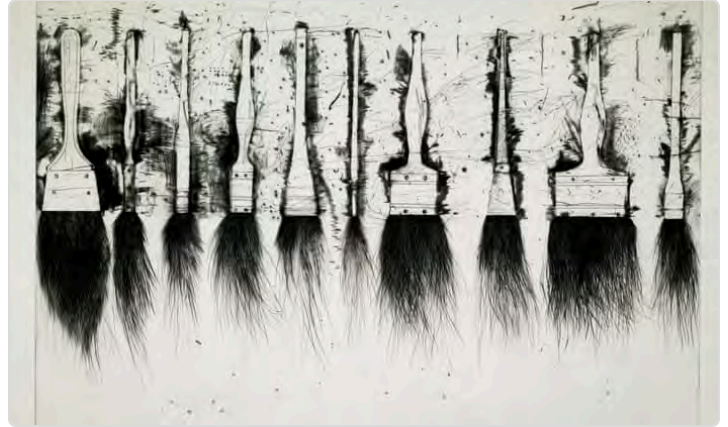
Self Portrait Project

Intaglio Prints Intro

- ↻ "Intaglio" is an Italian word meaning to "cut in." These days, they are often referred to as etchings. They are made using a copper plate and a stylus called an etching needle. Here are some examples of etchings by a few well known artists.

Jim Dine

- ↻ Over the course of his lengthy artistic career, Jim Dine has made paintings and prints that follow certain themes. In this first print, he has drawn several different size brushes. Notice how he lines the brushes up along the top of the bristles, splitting the picture plane in half.



- ↻ In this image of bolt cutters, the corners are used to draw our attention around the page. In Jim Dine's etchings, he makes use of "foul biting" or places where the acid accidentally (or in this case, encouraged) breaks through the ground on the plate. These areas can be best seen in the bottom left corner and the smudges along the top edge.



Other themes of Dine's

- ↩ This image of a shoe is activated by the energetic lines in the floor and the dark shadows around the shoe.



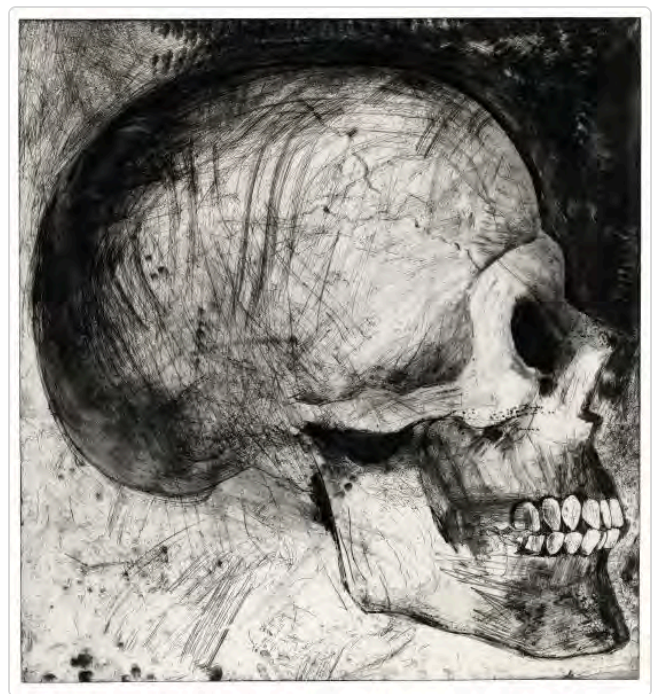
- ↩ Jim Dine was often included in the art movement called Pop. During this phase of art, simple text and everyday objects were often used as a subject. The luscious print of a braid fits into this category.



↪ Some more of Dine's prints, Flowers and a Skull.



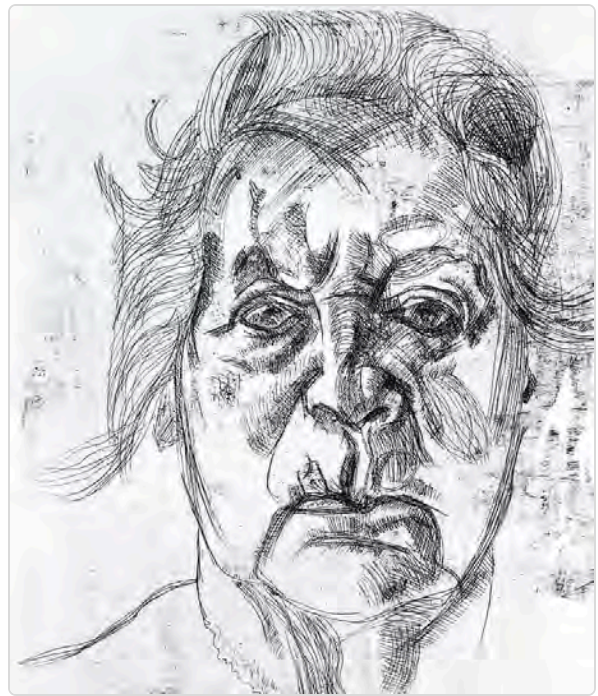
↪ Skull



Lucien Freud



Lucine Freud is another artist who creates prints alongside his painting practice. Many of these prints are portraits since that is the subject of his body of work. This portrait almost feels like a study, with exploratory detail in the face but other areas around the neck and hair feel unfinished. Again, notice some foul biting in the background.



Portrait of a Girl.

Freud uses extensive cross hatching in the background to push the face of the girl to the foreground.





Freud's Dog and other prints

Pluto



Introduction to Intaglio Printing, also known as "etching."

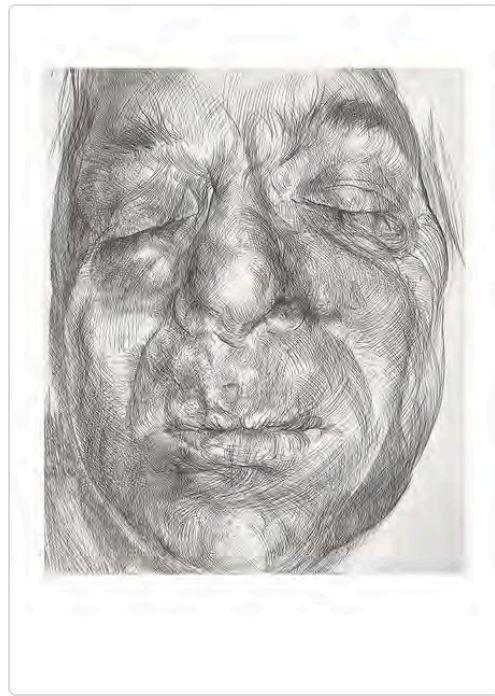
In this quarter, you will be creating two black and white intaglio prints. Intaglio prints are often referred to as "etchings." This padlet will introduce you to a few artist who make prints as part of their studio practice.



Thistle



Other etchings by anonymous artists



Getting started on your self-portrait print



Ideas for a self portrait

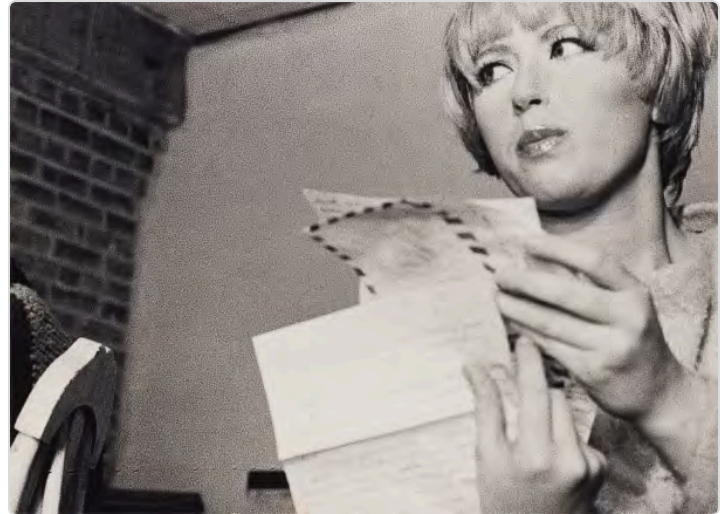
- It can be frontal image looking at the viewer or from a different point of view like bird's eye or worm's eye.
- Remember rule of thirds when planning a composition so that the important elements are not always in the middle of the page.
- Consider including an object or pattern (as seen of the shirt in this print above)



Cindy Sherman's Film Stills make good use of the Rule of Thirds



In both of these images, the figure is off to the side in the composition. In the first piece, she activates the empty area to the left by glancing in that direction. As viewers, we are encouraged to imagine what she might be seeing.



Again, the face is in the right panel of the composition and the eyes are looking outside of the picture plane. The artist holds us on the page by including the detail of a lamp and bricks.



Other compositional strategies

- ⇒ The compositional strategy below is called "Frame within a Frame." Her face is a small part of the composition reflected in an object the artist is holding. We are drawn to the face because it is isolated against the rest of the city scene.

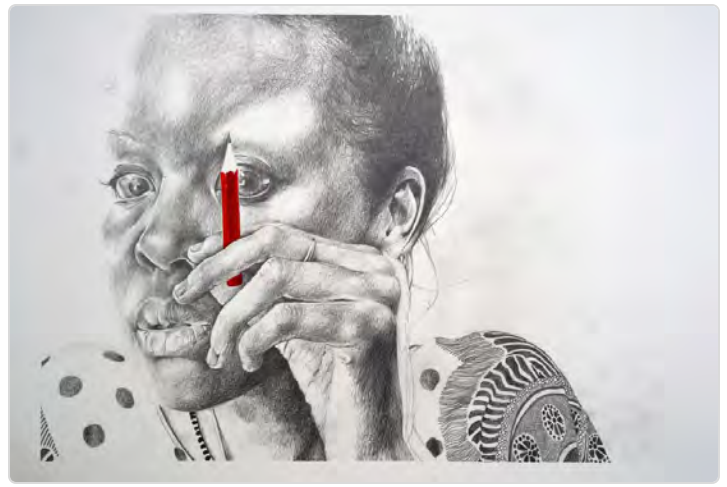


- ⇒ This frame within a frame piece is created using a glass of water. The glass distorts the face, drawing the viewer's attention to the strange eyes.



A single object can become the focal point in the composition

- ⇒ In this piece, the pencil, red and different from everything else in the composition, is placed in front of the subject's eye. While our attention first goes to that object, the viewer brings us around the composition with pattern in the clothing, and detail in the hand, face and hair.



Step One

⇒ **Think about a plan**

How do you want to represent yourself:

- Think about the mood (playful, serious, sad, silly etc)
- Do you want wear a costume or a hat?
- Are you going to include an object
- Do you want to crop your face in some way (zooming in to the picture plane, having your face reflected in a smaller mirror etc)
- Consider point of view--you can draw yourself from a worm's eye or a bird's eye perspective

Make THUMBNAILS!!!

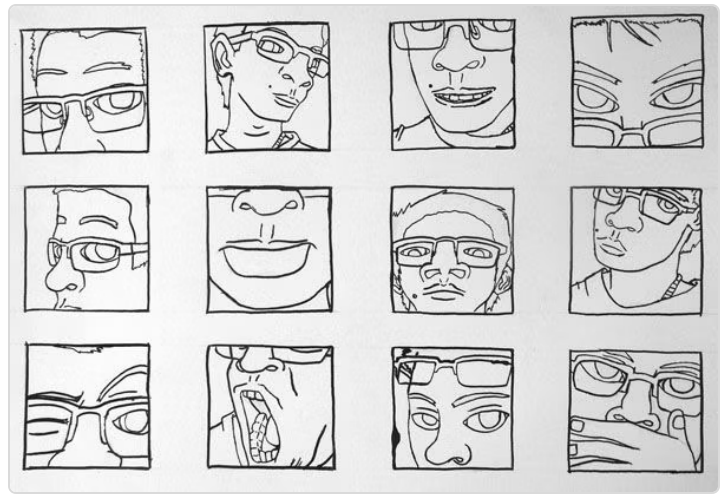
⇒ **Be sure to start with a small rectangle**

Your thumbnails don't have to be detailed but should show how you want to compose your image on the picture plane.

Do **at least three thumbnails** but the more the better!!!

- zoom in and zoom out
- add an object to create a different focal point
- use unusual lighting to create dramatic effects (light yourself from below or from the side)





Post your thumbnails to the padlet

- On Thursday we will take a look at your thumbnails as a class and then you will begin your finished drawing.
DON'T START YOUR DRAWING YET!! Just do thumbnails!!

