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Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



>Art and Sciences

>Portraits for Deeper Emphaty

To paint another human being has always been one of the main compositions of artistic projection. Not because the human face bears the most diverse expressions of feelings and senses, also because it gives our character and identity. Portrait painting, among other forms of art like sculpture or photograph, has always been a significant genre.

But only in the 15th century artist began to paint themselves more frequently with the help of mirrors becoming cheaper and better. Self-portraits begin to emerge as main subject of the painting or as notable characters in the compositions. These portraits are true reflections of the painters' identities through their profession and craft.



Jan Van Eyck

Portrait of a Man

1433

-no visible emotions

-looking directly to the viewer

-representation of wealth and social status through clothes and fabric

-also a manifestation of artistic competence and abilities



Artemisia Gentileschi

Self-Portrait as a Lute Player

1615

- woman painter among men
- always uses herself as figure for mythologic narratives
- lute as manifestation of talent and elegance
- confident and daring
- high contrast between bright face and dark background



Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Autoportrait

1875

- presentation of a young and graceful man
- energetic composition through the brush strokes, raised eyebrows and the sensation of movement
- thoughtful and pensive look
- bright colors on the face for contrast
- impressionism



Vincent van Gogh

Self-Portrait

1889

- piercing vibrant glance
- sad and unrest, also confident and potent
- abstract background reflecting inner disturbance or dynamism
- low contrast between background and clothes, to reveal red beard
- impressionism



Frida Kahlo

Self-Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird

1940

- pensive glance and deep emotions
- use of animals and objects for symbolic meanings
- scars for depicting personal misfortune
- use of natural elements as background
- surrealism