

BLANDFORD ART SOCIETY

February 2021 challenge by Jill Marsden



January was named after Janus who, according to the Romans, looked both ways: back to look over the previous year; and forward, to move positively to the new one. February is traditionally the month of new beginnings. Our new beginnings? Our new growth? Well, let's look optimistically towards that – this year is certainly going to be different.

Our art theme for this month is portraits, self, real or imaginary people, but looking at stylised or figurative interpretations.

Research: Examples of artists you may like to have a look at before starting:

1. Joan Eardley and her studies of Glasgow children: Samson children; and Blue socks



2. Philip Sutton woodcut



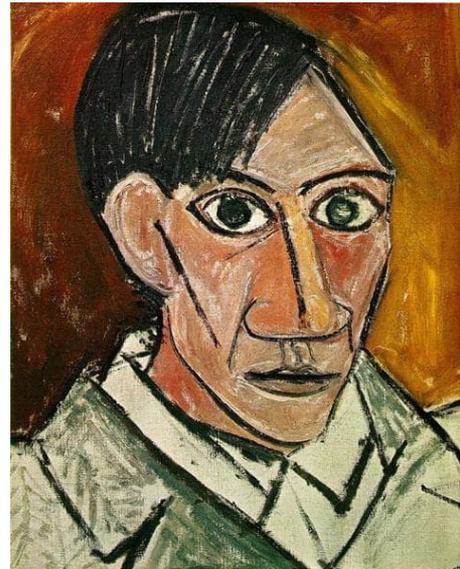
3. Modigliani's stylised faces.



4. Dada de l'enfant terrible



5. Picasso

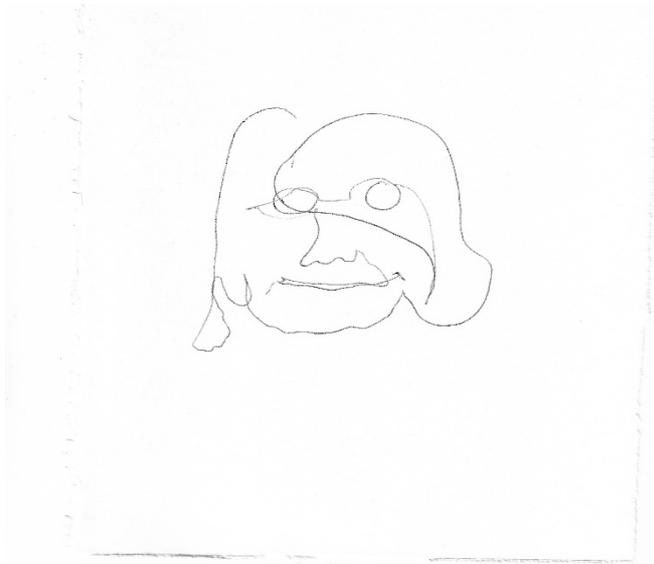


6. Curtis Holder: winner Sky Arts portrait of the year



Warm up exercises: choose at least 3 exercises & spend 30 minutes 'loosening up'

- Sketch a face or head using 9 lines.
- Draw your face in a continuous line sketch in 5 minutes. This means drawing without taking your pencil or pen off the paper.
- Draw a quick sketch of yourself (or another head if you have one in the house!) with your non-dominant hand.
- Look in the mirror and quickly draw your face without looking at the paper.
- Draw your own face looking in the mirror in just 5 minutes. This is my attempt!



- Find a photo of yourself or a family member and enlarge it if you can on a printer. Now, tear it up and randomly rearrange the features to present a new Picasso like version.
- Some of you may have seen the Sky Arts portrait of the year. This year's winner, Curtis Holder, used a scribble technique to express mood and movement of an eminent Cuban ballet dancer, only taking his pencil from the paper very occasionally. Follow Curtis's technique.

Next stage: Review and Develop

Look through your exercise drawings and choose 2 pieces you like. It's good if you pick pieces unlike your usual style.

Try working on the pieces in different media – paint, pastel, crayon, print

It's good to have 2 designs as you can alternate and allow work to dry.

Final stage

Lay all the work from the previous stage out on a board, table or the floor.

Sit with a cup of tea and coffee just looking at the work. Don't rush this stage.

Think about what you like, but also which pieces gave you the most fun.

Select the piece to help you create the final artwork.

Have fun and, most importantly, don't forget to let Tricia Armitage have a copy of what you produce for the Society website and Facebook page!