Pearl at Home

Art projects designed for suggested ages of 5 and up, designed to be completed at home with easily-accessible art materials.

FINISH THE PORTRAIT

Share your artwork with us on social media! Tag @pearlfinchermfa, and use #pearlathome
FINISH THE PORTRAIT

MATERIALS

• Pencil  
• Media options: crayons, markers, color pencil, paint  
• Paper: regular printer paper, cardstock, or mixed media paper  
• Printer, OR scissors, glue, and magazines/newspaper (if no printer)

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Artists have been making portraits of people for thousands of years. For centuries, one of the ways young artists learned about their craft was to finish parts of their teacher’s artwork. Use the following portraits from famous artists – made to look “unfinished” by hiding most of the portrait – to create your own idea of how they might look. 

DIRECTIONS

1 Choose your favorite unfinished portrait from those provided on the following pages, and print out on paper. 
If you don’t have a printer, find a portrait you like in a magazine or newspaper. Cut out the person’s face, and maybe their arms and hands, and glue onto paper. Heavier papers (cardstock or mixed media) will work best if you plan to use paint.

2 Originally these people were portrayed in their usual clothes, doing normal everyday activities. Now it’s up to you to place these people in a new situation you envision! 
Look at the expressions on their face, and how their arms are placed. What activities could they possibly be doing, and where are they? Use your pencil first, and then any media you would like to finish the portrait.

The artwork title and artist name are listed for each portrait that follows. Once you finish your artwork, look online to see the whole original painting and learn more about the artist!
Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres, *Portrait of Comtesse d'Haussonville*, 1845, oil on canvas
Raffaello Sanzio, *Portrait de L'Artiste Avec un Ami*, 1519, oil on canvas
Amrita Sher-Gil, *Self Portraits (9)*, 1930, oil on canvas
Sergey Mulyutin, *Portrait of D. A. Furmanov*, 1922, oil on canvas
Edward Cucuel, *The Parasol*, 1915, oil on canvas
Courtesy of The Hosek Collection of American Art
Mary Cassatt, *Peasant Woman Eating an Orange*, c.1875, oil on canvas
Julian Alden Weir, *Harmony in Yellow and Pink*, 1898, oil on canvas
Courtesy of The Hosek Collection of American Art
Head of a Capri Girl, John Singer Sargent, 1878, oil on canvas