

COMPLEMENTARY SPLIT-FACE SELF PORTRAIT

INTRODUCTION

In this project, we will create a self portrait as a cyborg, in contrasting complementary colors.



Portrait by Pacita del Balso

MATERIALS

- Watercolor or thick paper
- Pencil
- Sharpie
- Watercolors or any type of paint
- Brush
- Paint cup

VOCABULARY

Complimentary colors - colors that are across rom each other on the color wheel. Examples are redgreen, yellow-purple, and blue-orange

Monochromatic painting - a painting that uses a single color, using different saturations of that color

Saturation - the intensity of a color

Cyborg - a being that has a combination of mechanical (robot) and biological (human) parts

STEPS

1

Fold your paper in half hamburger-style, and use the line as the center of your "split face." Using a pencil, draw an outline of your human self portrait, only on the left side of the paper. You can look in a mirror to capture the features of your face.

2

On the right side, draw an outline of yourself as a robot. The outline of the two sides of your face should connect at the top of your head. Think about what you want to include in the robot half - your robot might be able to do things your human side can't do.



Outline your pencil marks in sharpie or another oil based pen. Erase your pencil marks.



Select complimentary colors for your painting. These are colors that are across from each other on the color wheel - for example, blue and orange. Pick one color for the left side of your face and another color for the right side.



5 Using your watercolors, paint in each side of your cyborg using a monochromatic palette. Use just one color for each side of your painting. You can use different saturations of the same color to add in details. Use more water to create a lighter version of your color, and less water to make a darker version.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What was it like to use a limited palette (less colors)?

Which parts of yourself did you express in the human side of your portrait? Which parts did you express in your robot side?

What can you cyborg do that you can't do?

Send a photo of your finished portrait to oxyarts@oxy.edu or tag us @oxyarts