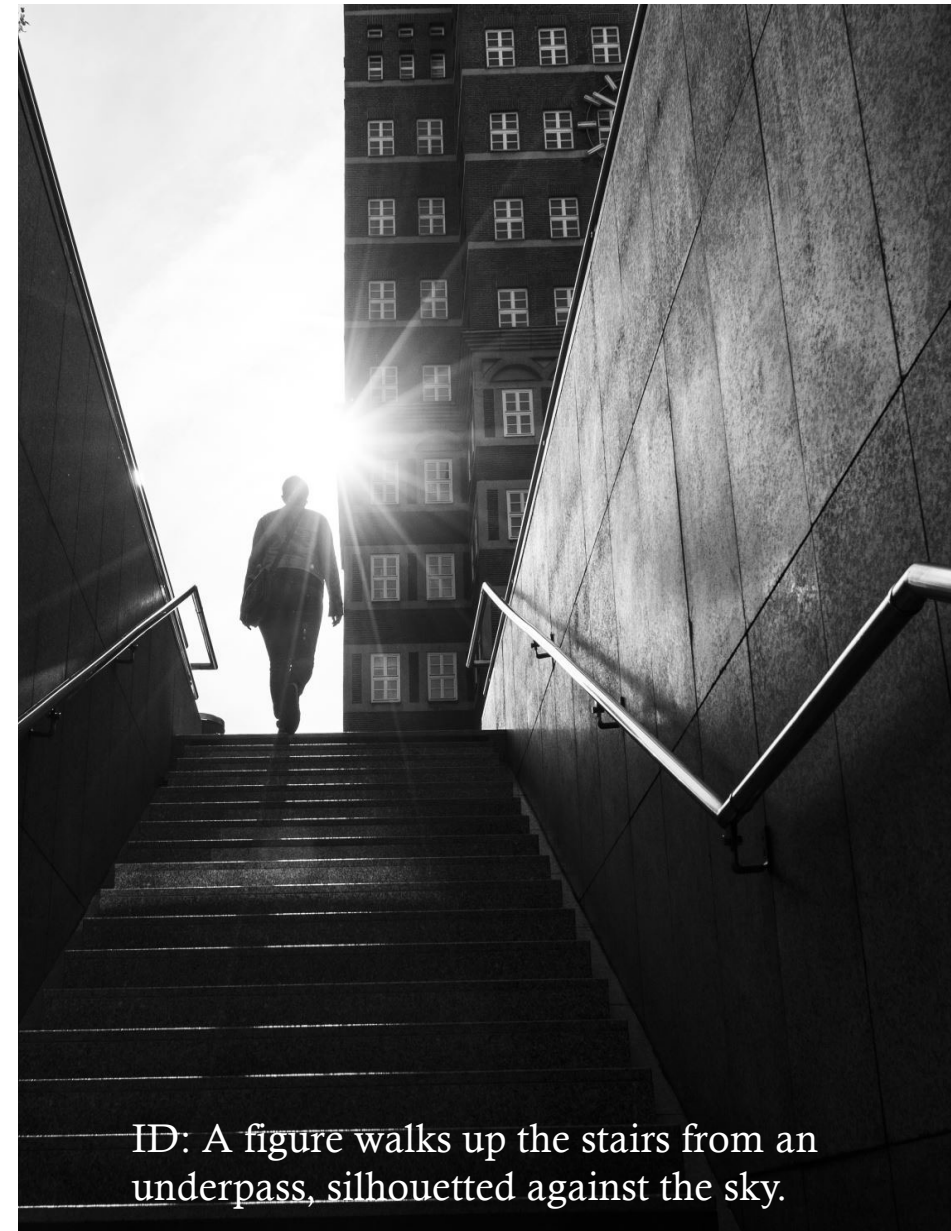
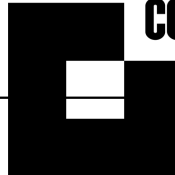

APPROACHES TO PORTRAITS

By Zoë Brigley

Inspired by Artists from Ohio for the Women
of Ohio Project, womenofohio.com




**GREATER
COLUMBUS
ARTS
COUNCIL**



ID: A figure walks up the stairs from an
underpass, silhouetted against the sky.

THESE SLIDES MAY NOT
BE NECESSARY FOR
SOME ARTISTS
ENTERING OUR
COMPETITION, BUT THEY
ARE DESIGNED TO BE A
WAY TO GENERATE
IDEAS AND START
DISCUSSION.





THERE ARE MANY METHODS
FOR CAPTURING A PERSON
IN ART. PORTRAITS CAN BE
TRADITIONAL,
EXPERIMENTAL, PARTIAL OR
ABSTRACT, AND WE
EXPLORE THAT IN THESE
EXAMPLES FROM OHIO
ARTISTS.

ID: A black figure is shot from behind with the
wind blowing their hair.



TAKE A MOMENT TO CONSIDER THIS PAINTING BY GEORGE BELLOW

George Bellows (American, 1882-1925)

Emma in the Purple Dress

1919

Oil on panel

128.27 x 107.95 x 8.89cm (50 1/2 x 42 1/2
x 3 1/2 in.)

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Gift
of Raymond J. and Margaret Horowitz

© Digital Image (C) 2009 Museum

Associates / LACMA / Art Resource, NY

HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT FACTS TO KNOW ON GEORGE BELLWS FROM THE MET MUSEUM WEBSITE

- George Bellows (1882–1925) was regarded as one of America's greatest artists when he died, at the age of forty-two, from a ruptured appendix.
- Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Bellows attended Ohio State University, where his athletic talents presaged a future in professional sports and his illustrations for the student yearbook heralded a career as an artist.
- Bellows never traveled abroad but learned from the European masters by seeking out their works in museums, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where he was a regular visitor.

Read more about George at: <https://tinyurl.com/womenofohiobellows>

THE IDEA OF PORTRAIT PAINTING WAS TO CAPTURE A POWERFUL SENSE OF A PERSON IN ART.

Notice how Emma in Bellow's painting looks less than comfortable. Her eyes are not looking at the viewer, but gaze dreamily away, as if wishing she was something else. She is dressed sumptuously, but her posture is stiff. Her loose hands in her lap look as if she is wishing to grasp something.

LET'S LOOK AT ANOTHER PORTRAIT
– A MORE MODERN ONE USING
PHOTOGRAPHY FROM ANN
HAMILTON

ONE EVERYONE □

Clarence,

ONE EVERYONE □

St. Louis

[George Warren Brown](#)

[School of Social](#)

[Work Washington](#)

[University](#) • St. Louis,

Missouri 2014-2015



HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT FACTS TO KNOW ON OHIO ARTIST ANN HAMILTON

Ann Hamilton is a visual artist internationally recognized for her large-scale multimedia installations, public projects, and performance collaborations.

Born in Lima, Ohio, in 1956, Ann has served on the faculty of The Ohio State University since 2001, where she is a Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Art.

ANN HAMILTON'S PORTRAIT OF CLARENCE – NOTES PARAPHRASED FROM THE ARTIST'S WEBSITE

For the project *One Everyone*, random volunteers were photographed through a semi-transparent membrane that registers in focus only what immediately touches its surface, while the rest of the body is more softly outlined. The subject cannot see the camera, and so the resulting portraits share an ethereal quality. The picture of Clarence in his cosy hat and winter coat nevertheless captures an expression of intense inward focus as the subject—unable to see behind the membrane—seems to shed recognition of the camera and concentrates on the artist's verbal prompts.

“Faces are elusive, obscured by the material that only renders sharply the contact of touch. By trading literal appearance for a less tangible resemblance, a different kind of portrait emerges—one that is at once intimate and ineffable.”

Read more at: annhamiltonstudio.com

NOW LET'S CONSIDER A DIFFERENT
KIND OF PORTRAIT WITH MORE
DETAILS OF A PERSON'S LIFE. THIS
ONE IS BY THE COLUMBUS ARTIST
AMINAH ROBINSON AND IT IS
DEDICATED TO DR. SELMA H.
BURKE, A SCULPTOR.

Aminah Robinson | DR. SELMA BURKE | Mixed media on
paper | 13 x 20 1/4" | 1988

DR. SELMA H. BURKE

THE SCULPTOR WHO CREATED THE IMAGE OF FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT ON THE DIME



©1958 Animal Graphics/Robertson #8 Series Love Letter Series
Burke grew up on the farm in North Carolina where
she first found clay. She has been a sculptor since her
childhood home in Winston-Salem, NC. She has been
a sculptor of the white clay with the place of the
Rural W. Club tower in Columbus, Ohio.
CENTER
The Martin Luther King Jr.
Center for Performing & Cultural
847 Mt. Vernon Avenue
P.O. Box 8581
Columbus, Ohio 43266

DR. SELMA H. BURKE
BORN 1900 Mooresville, N.C.
SCULPTOR, Nurse,
Educator and the Artist
who put Roosevelt on the
Dime.

UNWRITTEN

LETTER
©1958 Animal Graphics/Robertson #8 Series Love Letter Series

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT OHIO ARTIST AMINAH ROBINSON FROM THE WEBSITE *AMINAH'S WORLD*



Ohio, artist Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson (1940-2015) created magical two- and three-dimensional works of art.



Aminah Robinson's work is a highlight of the collections of the Columbus Museum of Art



For almost seven decades, she created art that she described as “filling in the blank pages of American history.” She did this by depicting the lives and events of both ordinary and extraordinary African Americans.



Read more at: <https://www.aminahsworld.org>

WHO WAS SELMA BURKE (1900-1995)? FACTS FROM THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

- Selma Burke discovered her love for sculpture as a young child and followed her passion to Harlem Renaissance New York, Parisian art studios, and even the White House.
- "One day, I was mixing the clay and I saw the imprint of my hands," she told the *New York Post* in 1945. "I found that I could make something... something that I alone had created."
- Aminah's tribute to Selma Burke is unique and full of important information. It reminds us of the influence of "her mother who taught her needle and button work while her father taught her to draw, make books from homemade paper, and sculpt using a homemade material they called "hogmawg," a collection of mud, clay, twigs, leaves, lime, animal grease, and glue" (Columbus Museum of Art).
- Note how Aminah places around her subject pieces of information and images that were important to her life.

Read more about Selma Burke at <https://tinyurl.com/ohiowomenlink2>

OTHER IDEAS...



CREATE AN ABSTRACT
PORTRAIT LIKE CLEVELAND
ARTIST MARISA DE MARIA
– SEE THIS PHOTOGRAPH
OF THE ARTIST AND A
PAINTING OF ADULT AND
CHILD

SEE
[HTTPS://WWW.MARISADE
MARIA.COM](https://www.marisade-maria.com)





CAPTURE PEOPLE WHEN
THEY ARE ABSORBED IN
SOMETHING ELSE LIKE
OHIO ARTIST CARL
SAMPSON'S *SUNDAY
RESPITE*, 26" X 22", OIL ON
LINEN CANVAS

CREATE A SKETCH LIKE THIS VIVID, COMEDIC PORTRAIT FROM NORA DANIEL



MASKS TO REPRESENT PEOPLE – SEE OUR WORKSHOP ON MASK MAKING BASED ON THE WORK OF KIMMY CANTRELL

[https://womenofohio.com/lesson-
plan-for-art-teachers/](https://womenofohio.com/lesson-plan-for-art-teachers/)





THERE IS ALSO AN EXERCISE LOOKING AT FRIDA KAHLO'S PAINTING STYLE WHICH INCLUDES SYMBOLS AROUND THE SUBJECT TO REPRESENT THEIR EMOTIONAL STATE

- Frida Kahlo (Mexican, 1907–1954), Untitled [Self-portrait with thorn necklace and hummingbird], 1940. Oil on canvas mounted to board. Nickolas Muray Collection of Mexican Art, 66.6 © 2020 Banco de México Diego Rivera Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F. / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York
-

GOOD LUCK!

Contact: womenofohio@gmail.com

