

Bisa Butler Portraits



1. Observe the artworks of Bisa Butler and her colorful quilted portraits in class and individually.
2. Plan and prepare a color scheme in your sketchbooks using values and tones to add depth to the final artwork.
3. Research photographs of someone important to you, choose a photograph with good lighting to show shadows and highlights.
4. Posterize the image, soften the edges, and print an 8x10 photo copy of the printed image.
5. Using tracing paper, trace all of the shapes in the photo. Label each shape on both the tracing paper and the photo.
6. Choose a unique color scheme to represent the person of the portrait, keeping in mind which colors will be for lights, mediums, and dark tones.
7. Utilize the entire composition by filling up the entire space.
8. Glue the background fabrics first.
9. Cut out the shapes on the tracing paper and trace the shapes onto desired fabrics, then cut the fabric shapes out.
10. Glue each shape down on top of the background and build the portrait.
11. Use your color scheme, compositional space, patterns, and neatness to design the finished artwork.