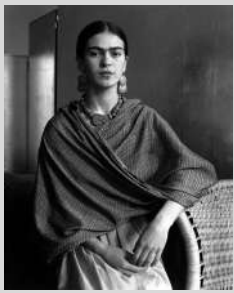


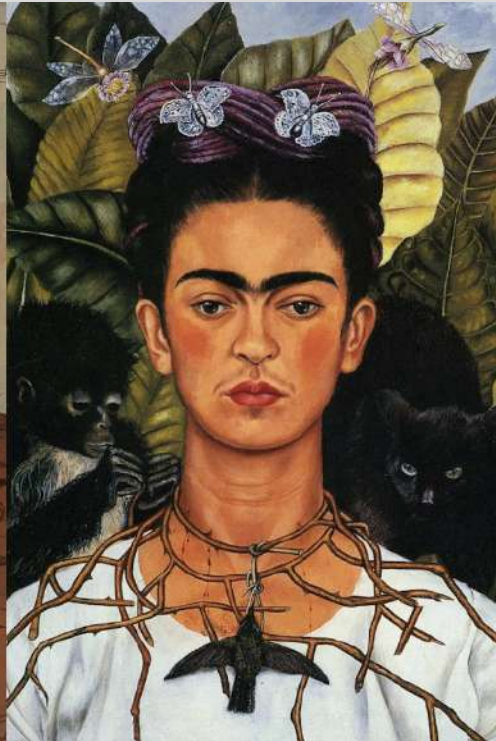
# Who Am I?

An introduction to Self Portraits



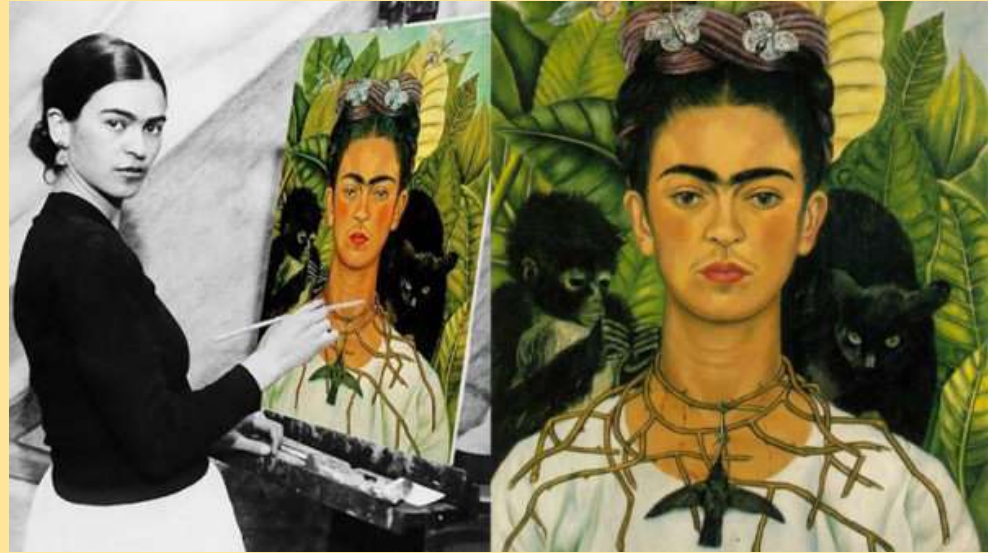


Frida Kahlo 1907-1954 was a Mexican painter who became famous for her symbolic self portraits.



# What makes you unique?

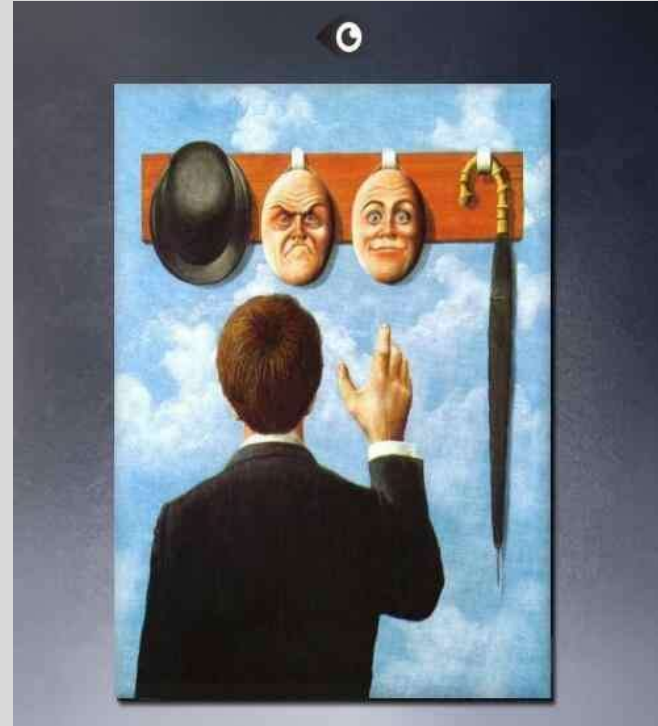
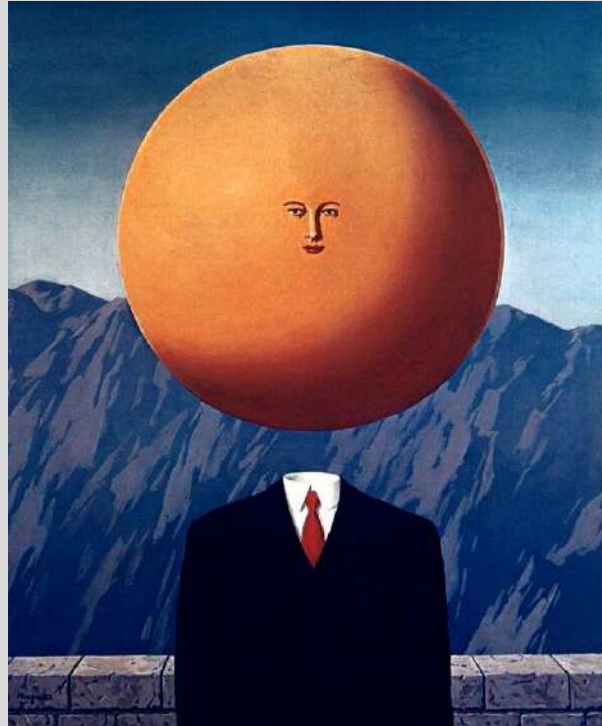
Frida Kahlo included many symbols in her paintings. These symbols tell about her unique life and her personality. There are many conflicting emotions in this self portrait. The thorns around her neck symbolize the long lasting pain she felt from a near-fatal bus accident in 1925. The monkey, cat, and plants that often brought her joy that she experienced when painting in her garden, surrounded by her animals are dark and foreboding, as is the hummingbird on her chest, which would normally represent freedom and life. Her expression is calm and weary as she patiently endures her pain. Instead of telling people about her pain, she kept a positive attitude and expressed what she felt in her paintings.



**Think about what makes you unique.** What is your personality like? What is your favorite color? Favorite food? Favorite animal? Favorite thing to do? What experiences in life (good or bad) have you had that have shaped the person that you are today?



Rene Magritte 1898-1967 was a Belgian Surrealist painter who used his unusual images to alter our perception of reality.





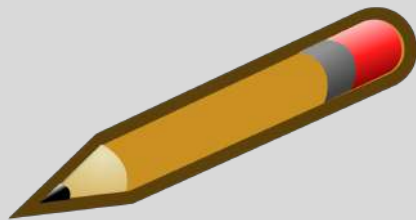
# What is a Portrait?

Magritte often omitted faces from his portraits. Portraits don't always have to have faces. Even self portraits can lack the physical features of the person and still be a self portrait. Look at Magritte's painting *Le Therapuede* (*The Therapist*) 1937. Think about the title of this painting and how it might relate to the image. What do you think Magritte is trying to tell us about the man in the painting?



# Assignments:

(Choose One)



## Option #1: Create Your Own Self Portrait

1. Use any media of you choice (drawing, painting, photography, collage,etc.) to create a self portrait that reflects who you are as a unique person.
2. Share your artwork through Google Docs, Google Slides, or Email: [lisa.cherivtch@seaford.k12.de.us](mailto:lisa.cherivtch@seaford.k12.de.us)  
**Title your document with your name and grade level.**

## Option #2: Who Are You?

1. Answer the question about Magritte's painting Le Therapute: What do you think Magritte is trying to tell us about the man in the painting?
2. Write a paragraph describing who you are as a unique person. Your paragraph should have at least 5 sentences.
3. Submit all written answers through Schoology.

# Resources:

<https://www.thevintagenews.com/2019/05/01/three-faced-painter/>

<https://www.moma.org/artists/3692>

<https://www.moma.org/artists/2963>

<https://www.fridakahlo.org/self-portrait-with-thorn-necklace-and-hummingbird.jsp>

<https://www.freeart.com/gallery/m/magritte/magritte20.html>