

Many of you seem to have difficulties with the theme 'self portrait' so I would like to give you some insight as to what I mean. First, let's call it 'Who Are You', to quote Roger Daltrey and The Who.

Who are you? I encourage you to think about YOU since we usually think about others. Express yourself to us, be bold and creative. Yes, you can look in a mirror and draw what you see but I challenge you to look at your spirit and show us who you are!

Perhaps you love the beach. You might depict yourself on the beach, or just the beach, the water, the sand or even a shell! Are you a gardener? Show us your garden, a flower, a bouquet or an abstract piece with the colors of your garden. Can you depict the scent of gardenias? That makes drawing your face seem easy! Love fishing? paint your gear, a boat, the fish or you casting on the shore. Volunteer at a soup kitchen? Pots and pans, an nebulous line of people waiting, stoves, aprons and large spoons. Love to travel? How easy! Planes, tickets, Eiffel tower, suitcases.

Linda showed you many ways to include an image of yourself or an image of a woman (or man) and all of those are acceptable including a photo transfer but I was thinking that your interests and emotions are where it's at. How do you feel at this moment? A red abstract piece because you are so angry about this theme or a pink celebration for your new granddaughter?

Don't rush to your canvas, open your mind first to who you are. Make a list of the things you love to do. Think out of the box. Give yourself permission. No size restrictions at this time but all must be framed to our show standards.

Below is a piece I did of my sister and I before it was framed. She is reading and I am knitting. I hope this helps!

Susan Smith



