♫ **Video**: Francis Bacon's *Lucian Freud triptych*
Freud: *Ib Reading* (1997)
Freud: *Benefits Supervisor* paintings (1995/95)
♫ **Video**: Sue Tilley on modeling for Freud

F. Close Encounters

Chuck Close and some other photo-realists.

Close: *Phil* (1969), with **Richter**: *Betty* (1988)
♫ **Video**: Chuck Close on his *Big Self-Portrait* (1968, Minneapolis)
♫ **Video**: Chuck Close obituary (CBS Sunday Morning, 2021)

G. Photo as Icon

Artists who have based their work on the incorporation and manipulation of actual photographs.

♫ **Video**: *Andy Warhol's Marilyn*
Rauschenberg: *Buffalo II* (1964)
Weingarten: Two portraits
♫ **Sherman**: *Untitled Film Stills* (rb. montage to Patti Smith song)

Francis **Bacon** (1909–92, *British painter*), Chuck **Close** (1940–2021, *American painter*), Charles **Demuth** (1883–1935, *American painter*), Otto **Dix** (1891–1969, *German painter*), Tracey **Emin** (1963– , *British artist*), Lucian **Freud** (1922–2011, *British painter*), Frances **Hodgkins** (1869–1947, *New Zealand painter*), Ferdinand **Hodler** (1843–1918, *Swiss painter*), Oskar **Kokoschka** (1886–1980, *Austrian painter*), Amadeo **Modigliani** (1884–1920, *Italian painter*), Linda **Pastan** (1932–2023, *American poet*), Robert **Rauschenberg** (1925–2008, *American artist*), Gerhard **Richter** (1932– , *German painter*), Jenny **Saville** (1970– , *British painter*), Egon **Schiele** (1890–1918, *Austrian painter*), Cindy **Sherman** (1964– , *American artist),* Andy **Warhol** (1928–87, *American artist*), Robert **Weingarten** (1941– , *American photographer*)

Full bios on the course website: **www.brunyate.com/portraits**
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Portraits: More than Paint
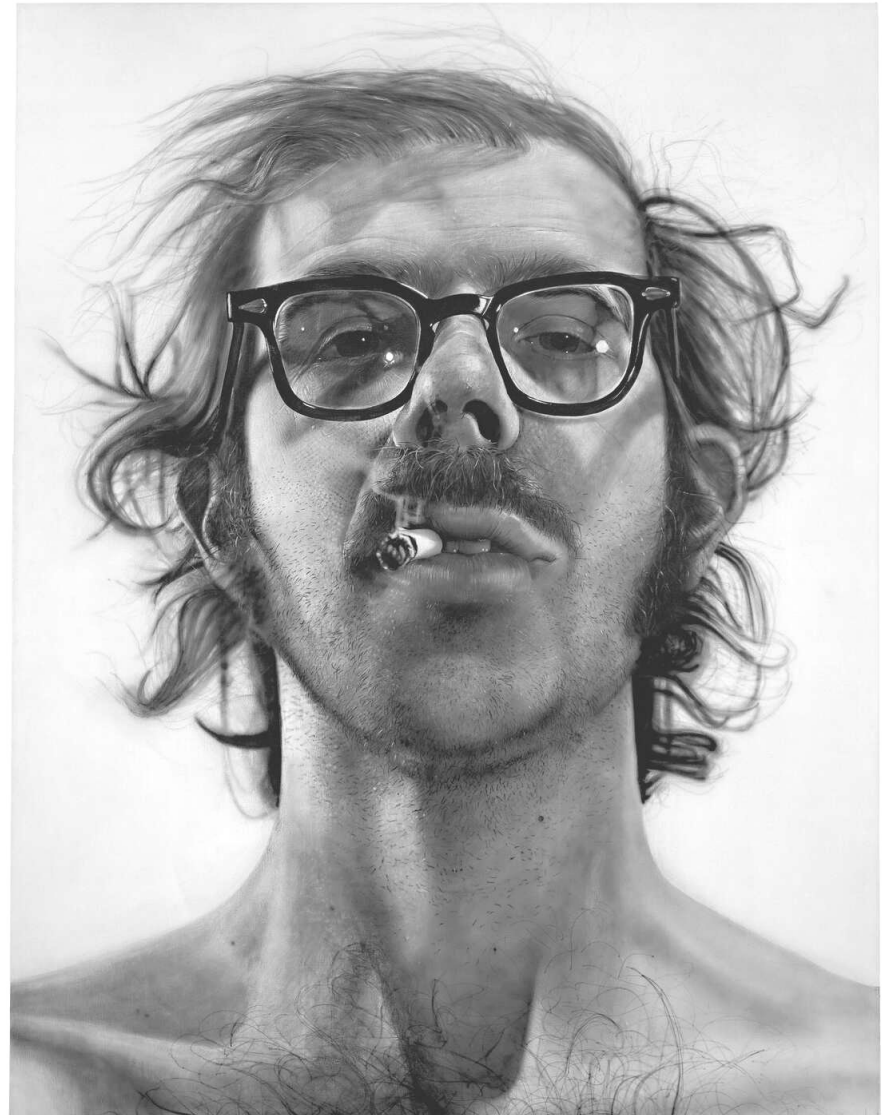
Chuck Close

11. Realism, really?

May 7, 2024

11. Realism, really?

Until the mid-nineteenth century, the obvious way to record what people looked like was through portrait painting. But the invention of photography soon cornered that market, leaving painters to find ways to do things that the camera could not. Some looked for ways to paint a recognizable individual within a Modernist aesthetic that, in many cases, had little to do with actual spaces and accoutrements. Some abandoned literal depiction in favor of some other kind of statement about the subject's essence. And others looked for more oblique forms of portraiture that would avoid representation entirely.

Around the mid-twentieth century, however, a Post-Modernist revolution turned all that on its head. Realism returned, in the sense of portraits that were not only recognizable, but free from the idealization of previous generations. Some artists embraced the camera as source material to produce works that were often indistinguishable from photographs made large. And others found ways to incorporate actual camera images into their work, whether for literal reference or to sum up an ethos or era. *rb.*

A. Damn it, Daguerre!

A series of comparisons to investigate how various portrait painters reacted to the invention of photography.

> **Renoir**: *Young Woman Sewing* (1875)
> **Cézanne**: *Mme. Cézanne* (1890, Houston)
> **Kokoschka**: *Lotte Franzos* (1909, Phillips Collection)
> **Modigliani**: *Jeanne Hébuterne* (1919, NY Met)
> **Lucian Freud**: *Girl in Bed* (1953)
> **Jenny Saville**: *Rosetta II* (2006)
> **Degas**: *Place de la Concorde* (c.1875, Hermitage)

B. Framing the Face

The long-running battle between literal representation and stylistic innovation in the portraits of Picasso, and some others who have tackled similar challenges in different ways.

> ♫ **NPG video**: *Picasso Portraits, an introduction* (2016)
> **Picasso**: *Girl with a Mandolin / Fanny Tellier* (1910, MoMA)
> **Picasso**: *Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler* (1910, Chicago)
> **Klimt**: portraits of *Hermine Gallia* (1904) and *Fritza Riedler* (1906)
> **Klimt**: *Adele Bloch-Bauer* (1907, Neue Galerie, NY)

C. Totentanz

Portrait artists in Austria and Germany immediately before and after the First World War.

> **Schiele**: portraits of *Arthur Rössler* and *Max Oppenheimer* (1910)
> **Schiele**: Portrait of *Wally Neuzil (1912, Leopold Museum)*
> **Hodler**: *Valentine Godé-Darel on her Deathbed* (1914 & 1915)
> **Dix**: *Max Jacob* (1920) and *Dr. Mayer-Hermann* (1926, MoMA)

D. Portraits-by-Context

Artists and poets who have attempted portraits or self-portraits without recourse to literal representation..

> **Frances Hodgkins**: *Self Portrait Still Life* (1941)
> ♫ **Demuth**: *I Saw the Figure 5 in Gold* (poem by WC Williams)
> **Linda Pastan**: *Self Portrait, after Adam Zagajewski*
> **Emin**: *Everyone I Have Ever Slept With*, 1965–95 (1995)
> ♫ **Tate Gallery video**: Tracey Emin on *My Bed* (created 1998)

E. Reality Returns

The friendship of Francis Bacon and Lucian Freud, and the contrast between their respective expressionist and realist styles of painting.

> **Freud**: *Francis Bacon* (1952)
> **Bacon**: *Study after Velazquez* ("Screaming Pope," 1953)