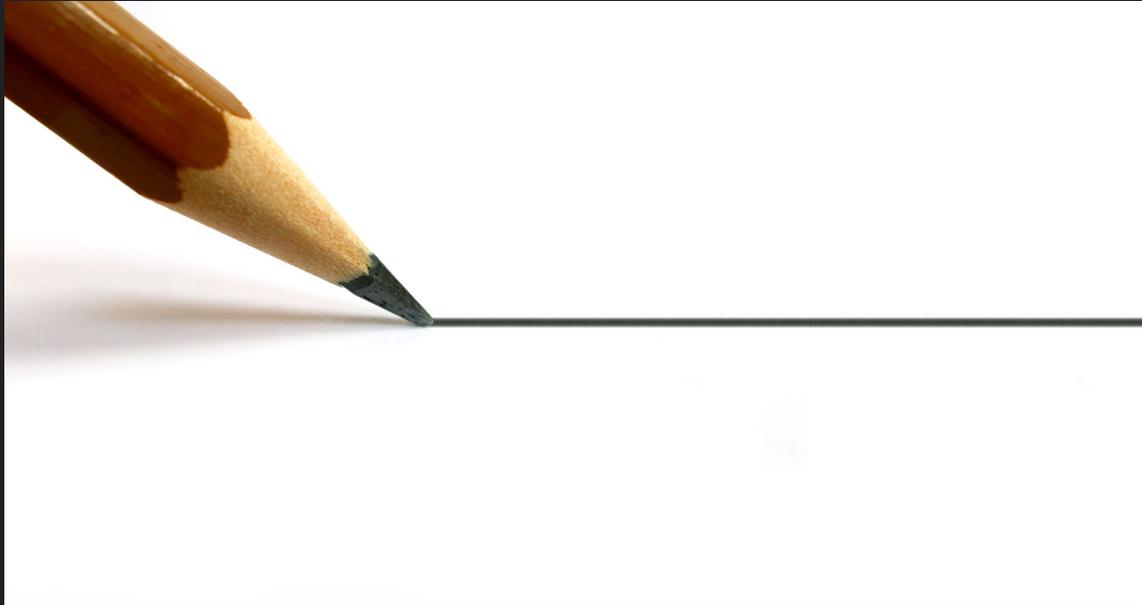


Drawing the Line

Using BLIND CONTOUR to create an image



What is Contour Line Drawing?

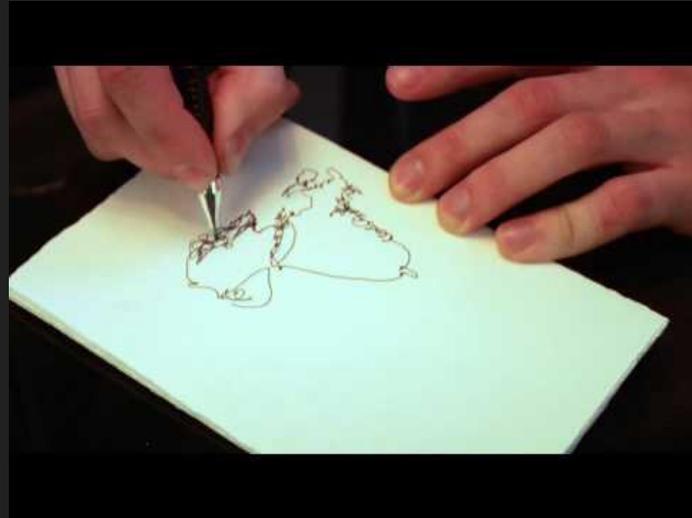
- A drawing that is essentially an outline
- Used to represent mass and volume of object
- Foundation of drawing and painting
- Capture life, action, or expression of an object





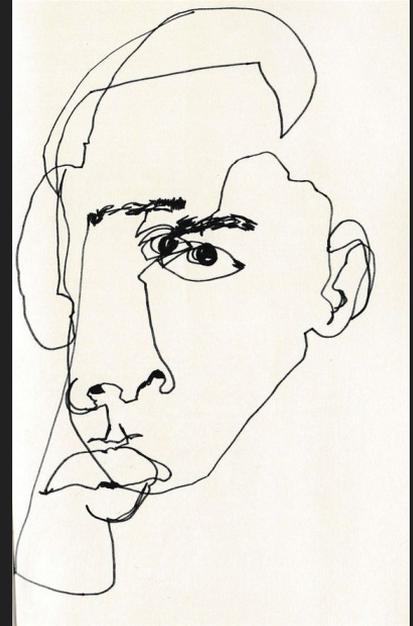
Blind contour defined...

The artist fixes their eyes on the outline of the model or object, then tracks the edge of the object with his or her eyes, while simultaneously drawing the contour very slowly, in a steady, continuous line without lifting the pencil or looking at the paper



Creating an effective blind contour...

- Use a continuous line - **do not take your pencil off the paper.**
- Proceed carefully. Concentrate, focus, and draw the object as if you are tracing or feeling your way around the contours of the form.
- Keep the line "fluid" **but do not scribble.** Move your pencil in a slow and steady pace much like tracing.
- Follow both outside and inside contours. Inside contours are called "**cross contours**". They follow the form much like a string would do if it were wrapped around the object you are drawing. This is not an outline drawing; an outline drawing defines only two dimensions: length and width. The blind contour drawing you are creating defines three dimensions: length, width and depth. Cross contour line is what defines the third dimension (depth).
- Fill the page. Draw large don't be afraid if your drawing runs off the paper in any or all directions.
- Do not be concerned about how your drawing will "look." This is an important exercise in "seeing". You will be drawing the object(s) as you see them, not as you think you know them!





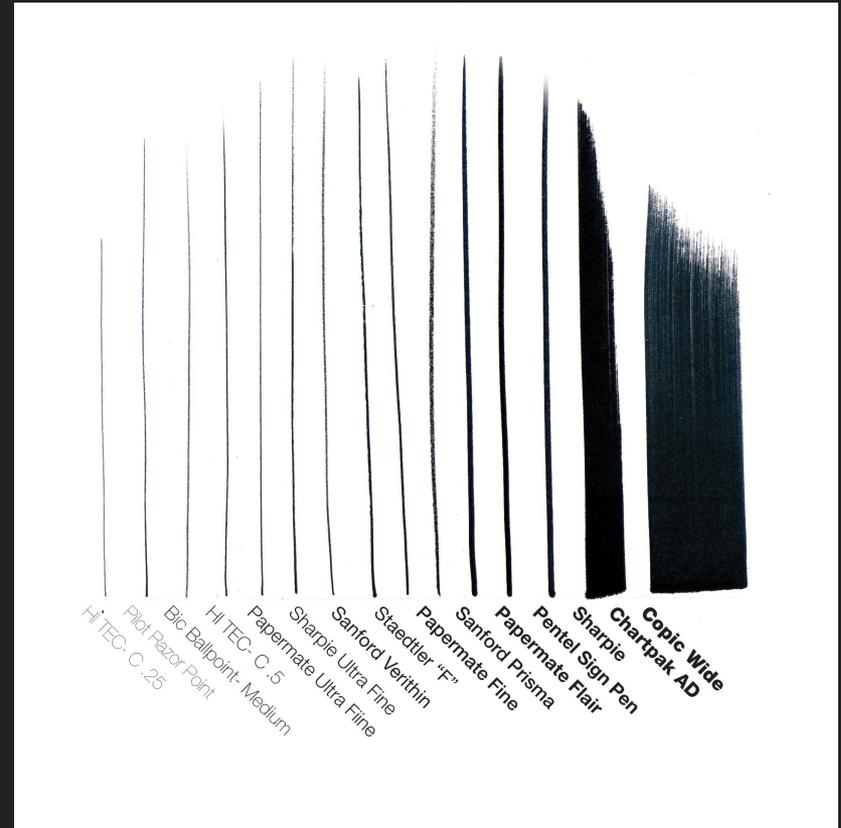
self portrait
BC



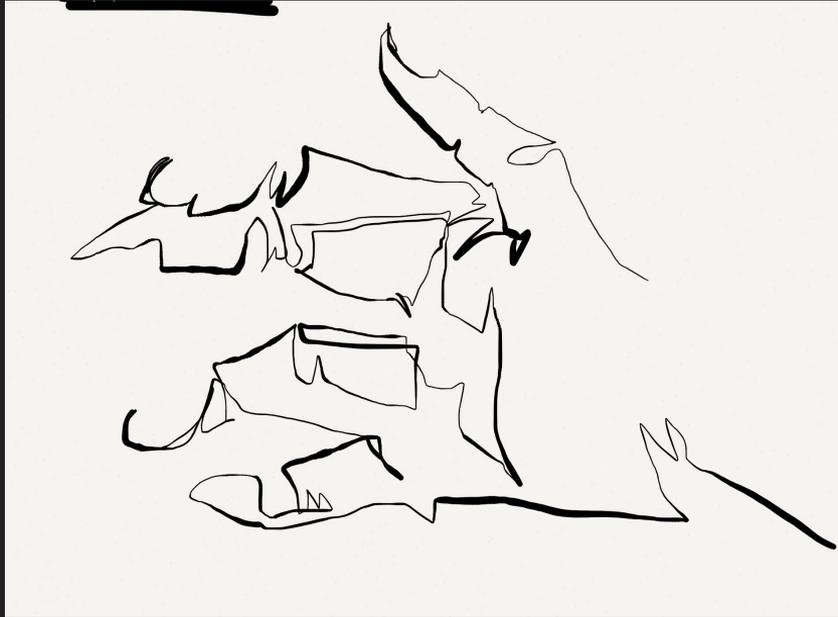
BC
self portrait

Things you could do to
add interest to your
blind contours...

Line Weight: Helps create variety within your drawing. The thickness or thinness of a line. This can create variety, emphasis and visual interest within your drawing.

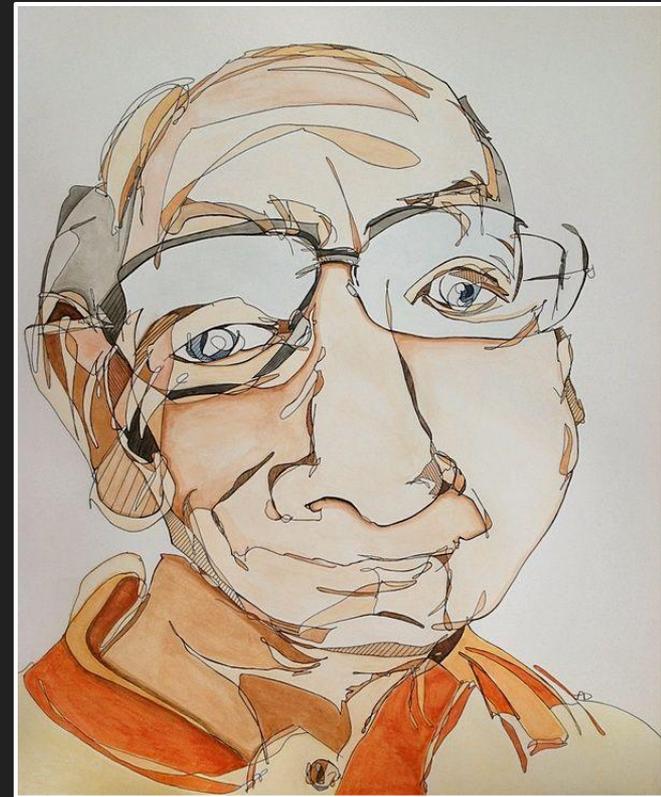


- Use line weight to create areas of **emphasis**, making parts of the drawing stand out in order to draw the viewer's eye there first. Darkest line weights come to the front, while lighter, finer lines fall into the background.



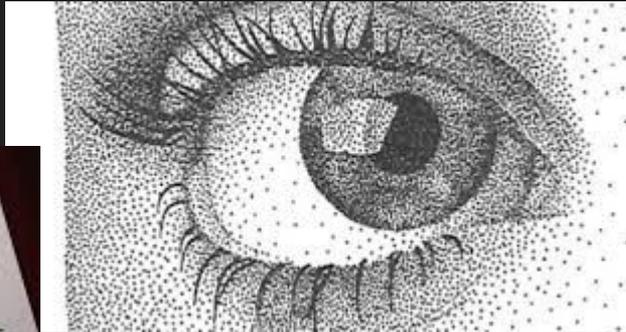
Adding Other Embellishments

Emphasis: is defined as an area or object within the artwork that draws attention and becomes a focal point.



- **Use pen and ink to add value**

- Stippling, Hatching, Cross-hatching, or Pattern/Textures



Add color with marker, colored pencil, watercolor...

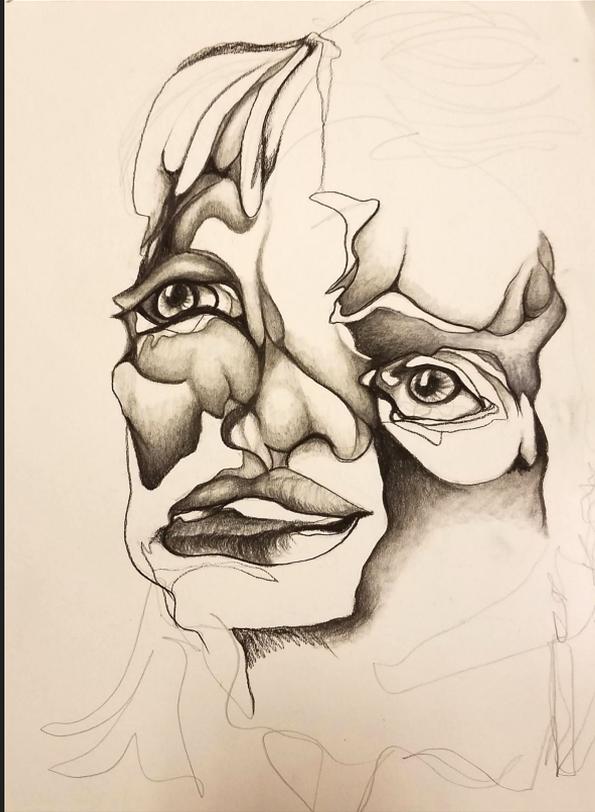


Create layering with
paper...

Use to create
interest in your
composition



- Add shading with pencils



- **Overlap multiple drawings**

*Could use different colors or utensils.



- **Do a double drawing**
 - Use two different kinds of drawing utensils, 2 different colors (pens or pencils), Or 2 different thicknesses or pens to draw at the same time.

