

# Foundations of portrait drawing & painting

## MODULE 1: Shape & Proportion

Herein lay your critical foundation: drawing entails: how wide, how tall, what are the angles.

We begin with proportion. How wide, how tall. Your first exercise is The Square. You can't get any more basic than that. Mind you, don't be put off by this seemingly mindless exercise.

The Square is where you learn to *sight* with the *stick*. Before proceeding into the meat of the course you need to be sure that you understand the mechanics of sighting. That is your first critical skill.

Our focus are the three dynamic rectangles that are pertinent to portrait drawing and painting: the square, the  $\sqrt{\Phi}$ , and the Truncated  $\sqrt{2}$ . The vast majority of human heads subscribe to one of these rectangles. Master these and you are well on your way.

Don't rush through them. Everything, everything depends upon your acquiring this simple, yet critical, striking skill.

### SUPPLY LIST:

Ideally two drawing boards. No smaller than 11 x 14", no larger than 16 x 20"

Ideally two easels, but one will suffice providing that you have access to a wall to tape your reference images on

Paper: white or cream. Inexpensive cartridge or similar paper is fine

At minimum, a 9B soft graphite pencil. Better to have a range of pencils: 2H, HB, B, 2B & 9B. I prefer both the Derwent and Staedtler lumographs. The brand is not a critical factor.

A conte holder, large enough to plug your pencils into, is a useful training device for when you begin to paint

A thin measuring stick such as a knitting needle. This is your measuring stick.

A kneaded eraser.

A plumb line. In a fix you can use dental floss with a small weight (a wad of gum affixed to a paper clip even) attached to it.

A safety razor or X-acto knife and fine-grade sandpaper for sharpening your pencils.

Tracing paper. A4. 8.5 x 11.7". Make sure that it is larger than your printed exercise templates. I suggest at least 50 sheets.

The tracing paper is your master. It determines whether or not you are striking shape accurately. Yes, it can be a cruel master.

## **MODULE 1: SHAPE & PROPORTION**

Module 1 is comprised of twenty chapters. Five hours, twenty six minutes

Each chapter is numbered beginning with 101-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-the-square. This keeps everything in order so that you can readily match up the video lesson with the reference image.

Each lesson proceeds in numerical order. To wit: 101, then 102, then 103, etc.

I highly recommend keeping your downloads in a dedicated folder on your computer. It is also a good idea to back them up.

However, should your computer or tablet be traumatized and your files lost you can write me at ***michael-britton-workshops@artacademy.com*** and a fresh download link will be sent to you.

## THE LESSONS:

101-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-the-square. Running time: 17:51



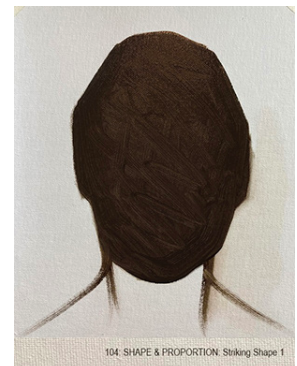
102-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-the-root-phi-rectangle. Running time: 08:23



103-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-the-truncated-root-2-rectangle. Running time: 14:22



104-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-striking-shape-part-1. Running time: 13:00



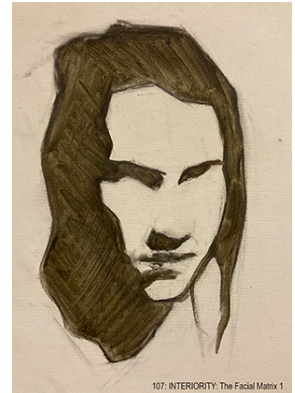
105-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-striking-  
shape-part-2. Running time: 14:46



106-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-striking-  
shape-part-3. Running time: 12:30



107-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-the-facial-  
matrix-part-1. Running time: 27:41

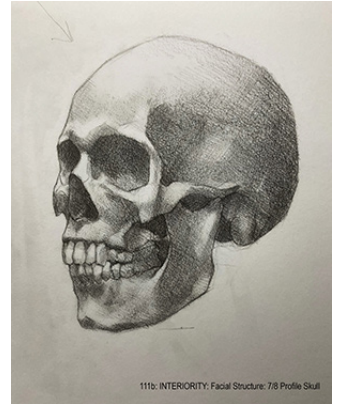
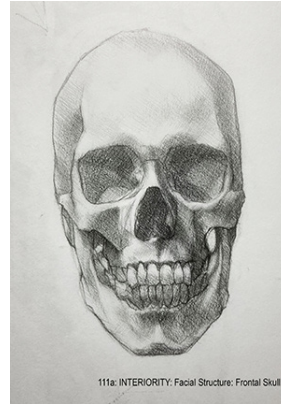


108 & 109-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-the-  
facial-matrix-part-2 & 3. Running time: 13:23 / 13:07



110-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-facial-structure-part-1. Running time: 08:56

111-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-facial-structure-part-2. Running time: 22:40



112 & 113-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-facial-structure-part-3 & 4. Running time: 05:38 / 08:16

114 & 115 & 116-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-morphology-1-part-1, 2 & 3. Running time: 22:01 / 20:45 / 20:45



117 & 118-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-morphology-2-part-1 & 2. Running time: 28:41 / 15:32



119 & 120-MODULE-1-SHAPE-and-PROPORTION-  
morphology-3-part-1 & 2. Running time: 22:20 /  
15:25



## STRIKING SHAPE EXTRA PRACTICE

