



HOW TO CREATE

iWild Portraits!

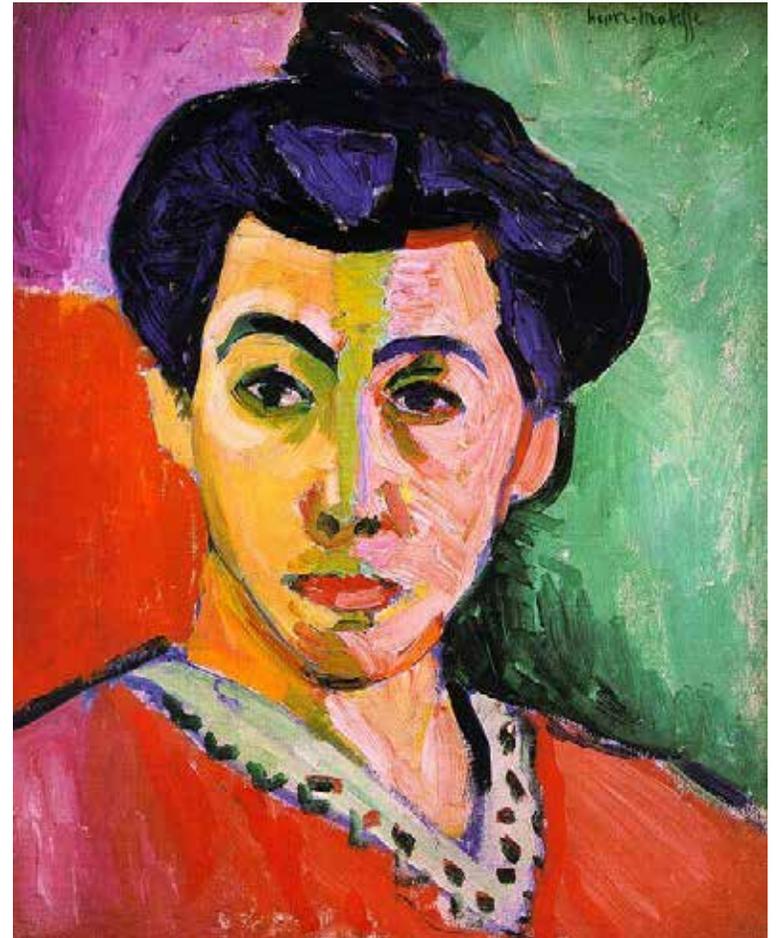
USING MODELING CLAY

INSPIRATION

FAUVISM AND HENRI MATISSE

Back in 1905, Matisse depicted his wife, Amélie, in a very original way. Using **unnatural colors** and a simple structure, his intention was to give to the portrait an emotional meaning.

This style is named Fauvism, which means "wild beasts." The paintings have strong colors and **wild brushstrokes**, instead of being realistic and representational (copying literally from reality).



MAKE YOUR OWN!

My name is Angélica, and in this tutorial I will show you the steps to create your own Wild Portrait based on my own experience.

You will need:

- A picture of someone you love!
- A piece of paperboard of around 9x7" (recycle!)
- 1 modeling clay set
- jar
- brush
- pencil
- white glue



STEP 1: DRAWING

After you have gathered all your materials, you will do a simple drawing on the paperboard based on the picture you chose. It doesn't have to be too accurate, but I do suggest:

- Make a portrait composition, where the face is in the center and uses a big area.
- Leave some negative space around the head to build a background.
- Draw darker and stronger lines to divide different areas of the drawing.



*My husband joined me
and we decided to
portray each other. This
is how it went so far!*

STEP 2: PREPARING MATERIALS

- Set your modeling clay colors in a way you have them handy.
- With a brush, mix a small amount of white glue and water (half and half). About three fingers is ok.
- Be mindful of the amount of each color you have. And then start thinking about which ones will you use for different parts.



STEP 3: COLOR APPLICATION

- With the brush or your fingers, add a little bit of the glue mixture to the paperboard, before you apply the modeling clay.
- Cover different areas with color doing different textures by molding the modeling clay.
- Remember you can be as free and creative as you want with color.
- You can also make new colors by kneading two or more colors together.



Think about: rolling, spreading, covering, making little balls, or "worms."

Modeling clay is very versatile!



These are fourth graders of Sanchez Elementary, San Francisco, working on this same project.



In 2019 alone, Root Division provided discounted studios for 35 artists who in turn contributed 4,600 volunteer hours, bringing free art classes to 1,000 underserved youth in San Francisco! As we look forward to an even greater impact in 2020, we hope you will support Root Division by making a charitable gift : rootdivision.org/giving

STEP 4: DETAILING

You can get into detailed and smaller zones by scratching or "pushing" the clay with a sharp object. In this image I am using the corner of a metal ruler



In my work, I added a yellow line around the head and shoulders to highlight them.

Remember to be expressive and creative. Think about how you want things like contrast, highlights and shadows, saturation, etc. to look. You can make as many details as you want.

STEP 5: BACKGROUND

For the background, let your mind roam free! Be expressive and experimental.

In my case, I used the colors I had left spreading them as much as I could, doing areas with loose margins mixing green and white. Then, I added spots of red and pink so every piece of paperboard was covered.



STEP 6: COATING

Once you finish applying color in every space, including all borders and little areas in between, coat it with a thin layer of the mixture of glue and water.

Cover everywhere. This will fix the surface and at the same time make it more shiny

Then, just wait for it to be dry!



And voilà!!!



If you want to know more about my artwork, ask questions or share your projects with me, you can find me here:

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