

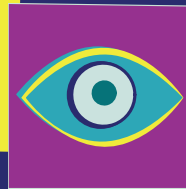
INTRODUCTION

Why do we make images? What do we want to say with them?

How an image is composed is often just as important as what is in the image. The composition of an image changes what we see, how we see it, and even what we don't see. The angles, distance, and cropping of an image all influence the story that the final image tells.



This artwork is made up of **275,000** images! These images are of everyday things, like a pet, a haircut, a shadow, a coffee. Through this work, the artist is trying to show us how easy it is to take photographs in today's world, and how many images we take and see all around us every day.



What is composition?

Composition is how things are placed and framed in an image.

Mémoires

Roberto Pellegrinuzzi (b. 1958)

2015

Digital photographs printed on backlite film and mounted on nylon threads
4.26 x 6.09 x 8.53 m

Courtesy Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain, Montreal

© Photos credit « François Lafrance »

ACTIVITY:



MAKE A PHOTO INSTALLATION!

Inspired by the amazing photo installation in the exhibition, create your own artwork on small squares of paper, using images of things that have special meaning to you and **tell a story** about your life.

Paint, draw or take photos of at least 10 things – it could be some of your favourite books, your pets, your home, your favourite food, etc. Then think about how you want to arrange them all together in one artistic composition. Perhaps you want to hang them all on strings in your room, just like Roberto Pellegrinuzzi did for his cool work!



POWER AND AUTHORITY

Look at the portraits around you. They have all been carefully designed to display power and authority in impressive ways. **How do they make you feel?**



This is a painting, or portrait, of Sultan Selim III. It shows him wearing royal clothes and a turban. He is holding a diamond watch. Below the sultan is a scene with his ships and boats setting sail. This painting was made to share with other kings and queens in Europe. When they saw it, they would understand that Selim was a rich and powerful king who ruled over a large country.



Portrait of Sultan Selim III
Turkey, Istanbul, ca. 1805
Opaque watercolour and gold on paper
54.1 x 40.5 cm
Aga Khan Museum, AKM220
© The Aga Khan Museum

ACTIVITY:



HOW DO YOU SEE POWER?

Look closely at the painting. What do you notice?

What clothing, symbols, or surroundings can you see? What makes Selim look powerful?

What do you think other kings and queens would have thought of the person in this portrait?

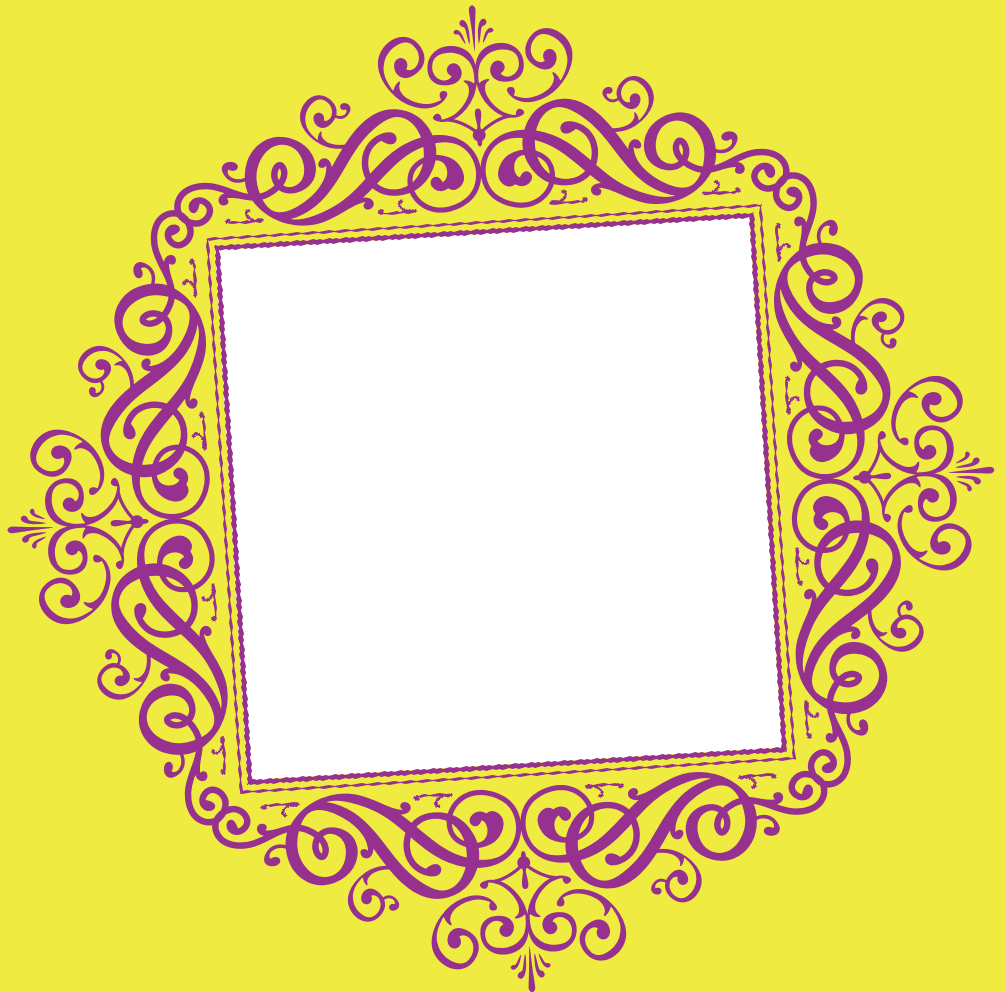
Now, draw a picture to show **YOUR** power.

Think about these questions before developing your portrait.

What makes **YOU** powerful and confident?

Which of your unique powers do you want people to see in your picture?

Which things help you show your power?



FAITH AND SPIRITUALITY

Many of the artworks we see around us in this exhibition show people and faces. In this section, many artworks use words and symbols to make us think about God and sacred ideas.

This beautiful artwork is a 'word portrait' of the Prophet Mohammed. Muslims believe the Prophet Mohammed is God's messenger. The words in the centre describe what he looked like, so that people who read the words can imagine and think about him and all his perfect features and characteristics in their own personal ways.

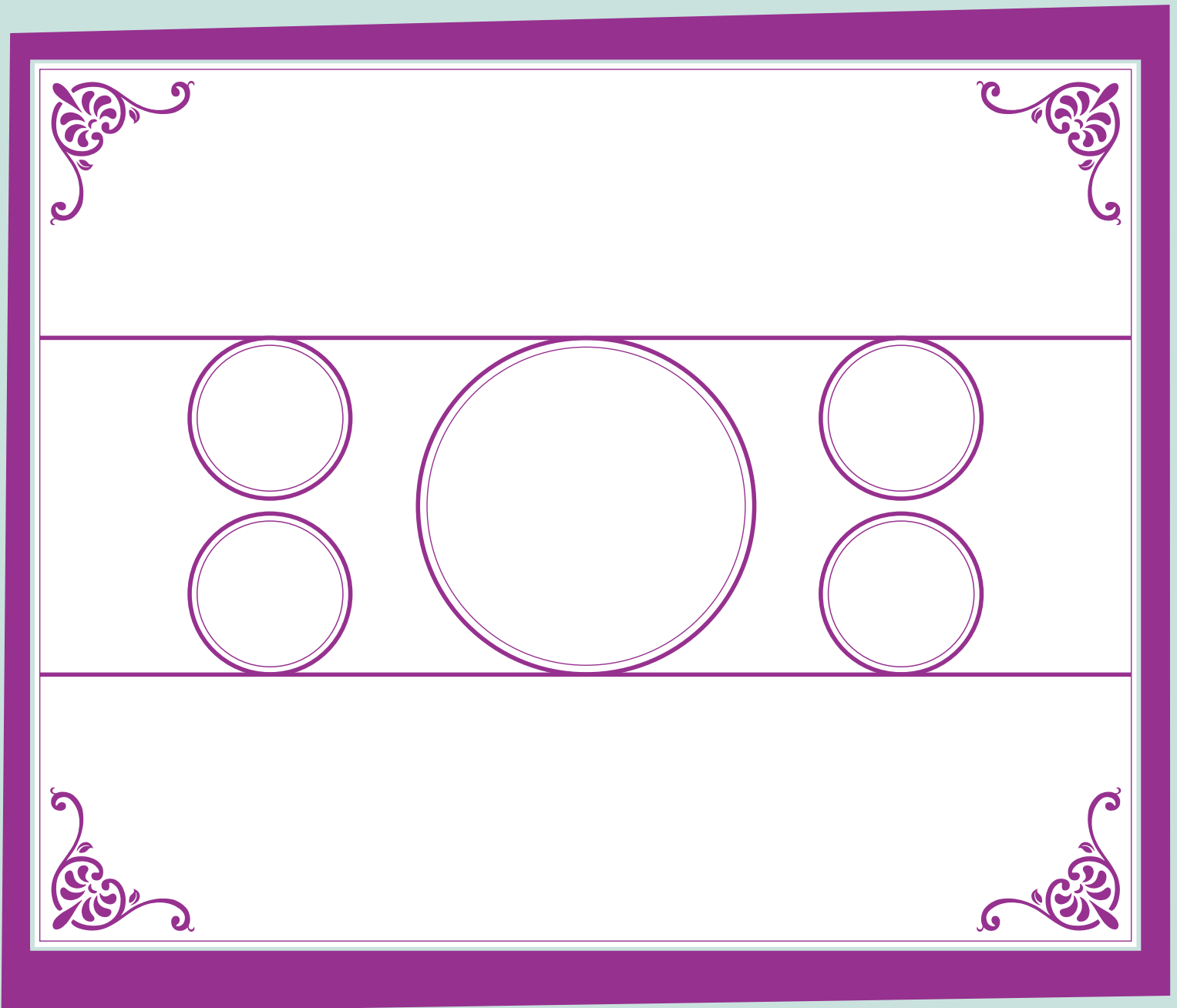


Hilye
Signed by Hafiz Osman Efendi
Turkey, Istanbul, dated 1099 AH/1687-88 CE with later additions
Opaque watercolour and ink on paper mounted on leather
© Image courtesy of University of Michigan Library Isl. Ms. 238

ACTIVITY: WORD PORTRAIT

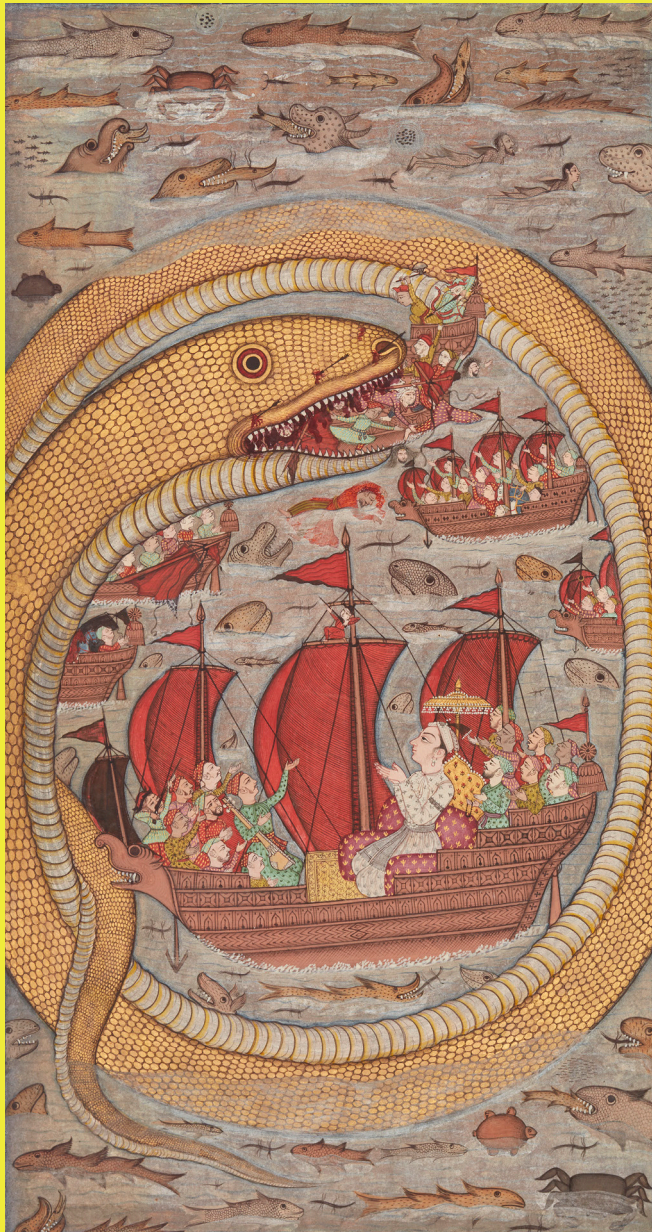
When you think of God or a holy person, how would you describe them in words?

Create your own beautiful design and add your words as you think about this question and talk about it with your grown-up.



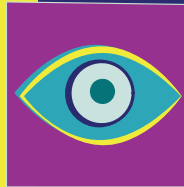
A template for a word portrait activity. It features a large rectangular area with a white background, framed by a thick purple border. The top and bottom corners of the white area are decorated with purple floral scrollwork. The central area is divided into three horizontal sections by two horizontal purple lines. The middle section contains five circles: a large circle in the center and four smaller circles (two on the left and two on the right) arranged around it. The top and bottom sections are empty, providing space for a design or additional text.

IDEALS AND VALUES



Across time and space, images and paintings have been used to **tell popular stories** about bravery, loyalty, and love.

This painting is part of a manuscript, or book, called *The Rose Garden of Love*. It shows Prince Manohar on a journey to find Princess Madhumalati. On this journey, the prince is attacked by a snake-like creature. But he survives the attack and finds Madhumalati. We know that Prince Manohar is the brave hero of this painting because he is shown as the largest person in the scene, wearing white.



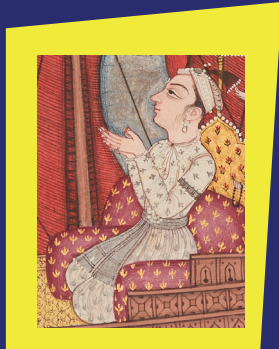
A Sea Serpent Swallows the Royal Fleet
Folio from a manuscript of *Gulshan-i 'Ishq (The Rose Garden of Love)*
India, probably Hyderabad, ca. 1710
Opaque watercolour and gold on paper
39.3 x 23.5 cm
Aga Khan Museum, AKM167
© The Aga Khan Museum

ACTIVITY: SEEK AND FIND!

This 350-year-old painting tells an exciting story about a **giant** sea snake attacking the ships of a prince.

When you look closely, you can see that there is a lot going on at the same time! What do you see in the middle of the scene? What do you see at the top and bottom? Search the painting and see if you can find some of these interesting figures and creatures:

Prince Manohar
the hero



Mermaid
creature



Crab
(can you find 2?)



Turtle
(can you find 2?)



Make up your own story of the hero Prince Manohar and his bravery! Or why not tell a story inspired by what you see? When have you been brave like Prince Manohar?

IDENTITY AND SELF



Today, we can capture an image of ourselves in an instant, and share it with family and friends at the touch of a button!

The images we take and share tell a story of who we are, what we value, how we see ourselves in the world, and how we want others to see us.

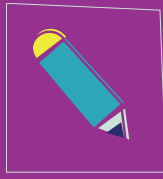
This photograph was taken in Egypt in the 1870s, not long after photography was invented. It was designed as a visiting card that you could give to friends when you visited their home. People would collect these cards to create a gallery of their friends! The clothes, jewellery, hairstyles, and props used in these portraits would tell the viewer a lot about the identity and importance of the person in the picture.



Portrait of a Woman
Schier & Schoefft
Egypt, Alexandria, 1870s
Carte-de-visite

© Image courtesy of Getty Research Institute, Ken and Jenny Jacobson
Orientalist Photography Collection, 2008.R.3, No.2639

ACTIVITY: WHAT MAKES YOU... YOU!?



There are many different things that make us each who we are! What are the most important pieces of your identity that make you... you!?

Think about some of the sentences below and fill them in:

I am....

I love.....

My favourite
activity is...

The most important
people in my life are...

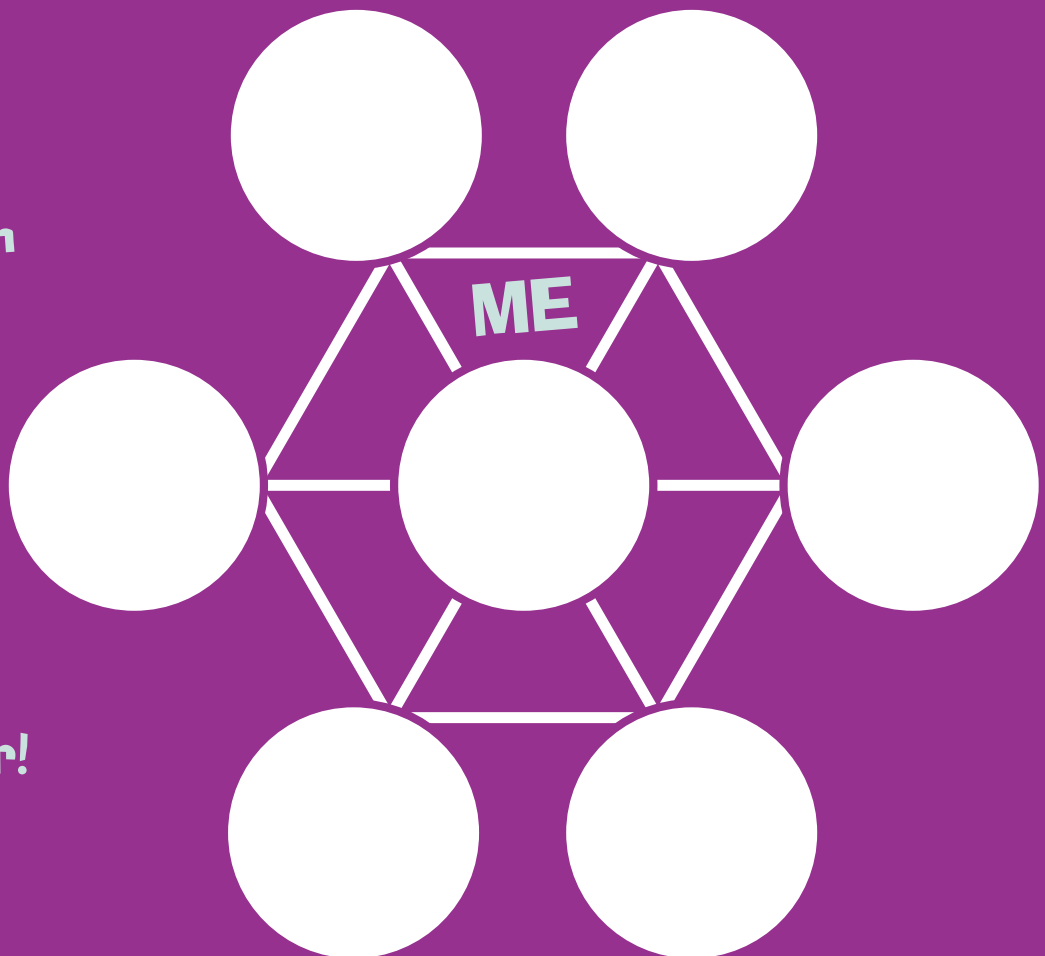
I am proud
to be...

I believe in....

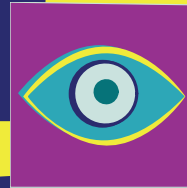
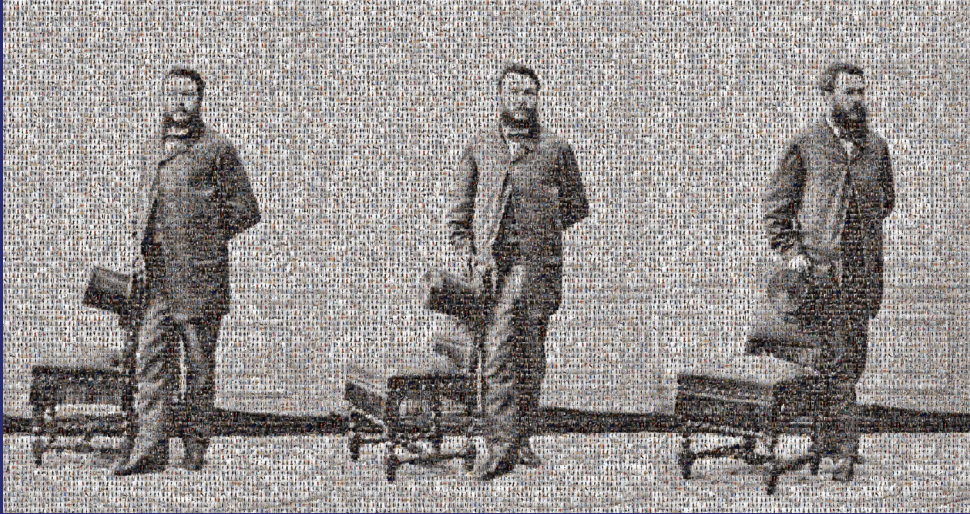
Use your answers to
create your **very own**
identity diagram.
Feel free to add
more identity
bubbles too!

Why not ask your
family to create
their own identity
bubbles and

share together!



NEXT,



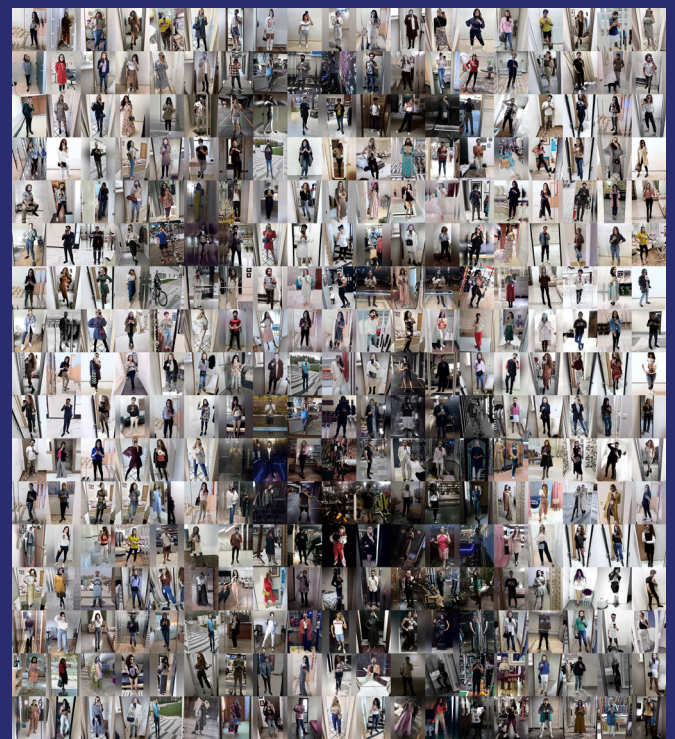
Look at this entire artwork.

What do you see?

Now look at the detail of the work.

What do you see now?

Look from far away and you see three images of a French photographer called Adrien Tournachon. He took these photos of himself in the year 1858. Look closer and you see that this work is made up of thousands of selfies. These are photos that people took of themselves in 2020 and 2021. Through this work, the artist shows us that selfies have always been important to photography.



Together, Alone
Rashid Rana (b. 1968)
2022
© Image courtesy of Artist

ACTIVITY: SELFIE REFLECTION

Do you like to take selfies? **Why?**

Taking a selfie makes me feel

What do you want to **express** with them?

I want my selfies to show

Who do you **share** your selfies with?

I like to share my selfies with