

CHUCK CLOSE

Chuck Close was born in 1940. He is considered one of America's top contemporary artists, well-known for his photorealistic, large-scale portraits. By the 1970s his artwork was shown in galleries all over the world.

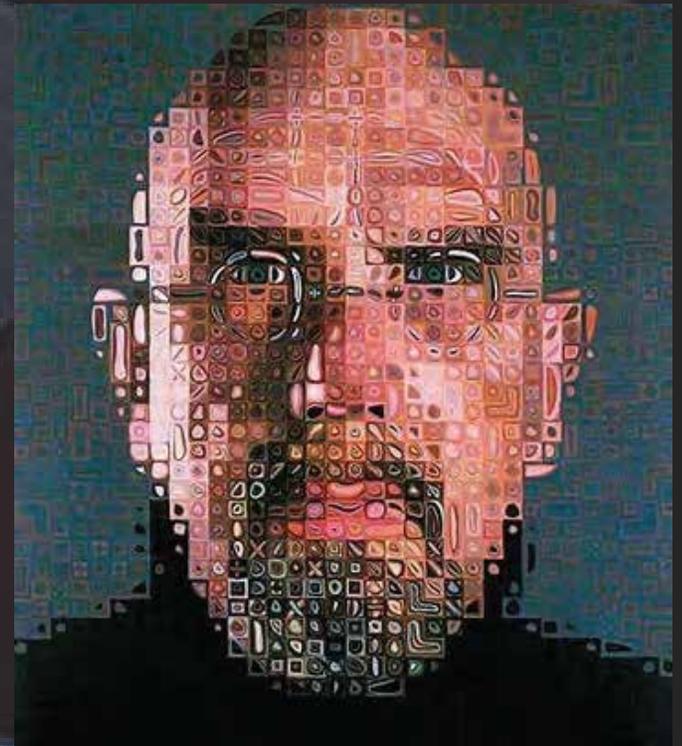
In 1988 a sudden medical condition left him almost entirely paralyzed, leaving him reliant on a wheelchair and unable to paint as he had before.

He taught himself how to paint with a brush taped to his wrist and how to maneuver his body so he could continue to create the large paintings he was known for.

In 2000 he was awarded the National Medal of Arts.

Close's large portraits are painted square by square using a grid technique.

The grid has become a major visual element of his work with each square of his portraits including colors, shapes, and lines. The shapes in each square, triangles, circles, and other curvelinar forms, come together to form the portrait.



Self-portrait 2005

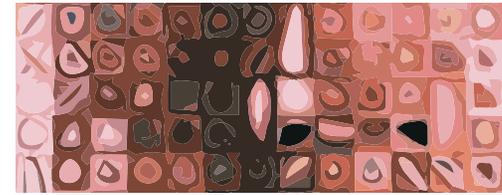


Find these squares in the painting above.

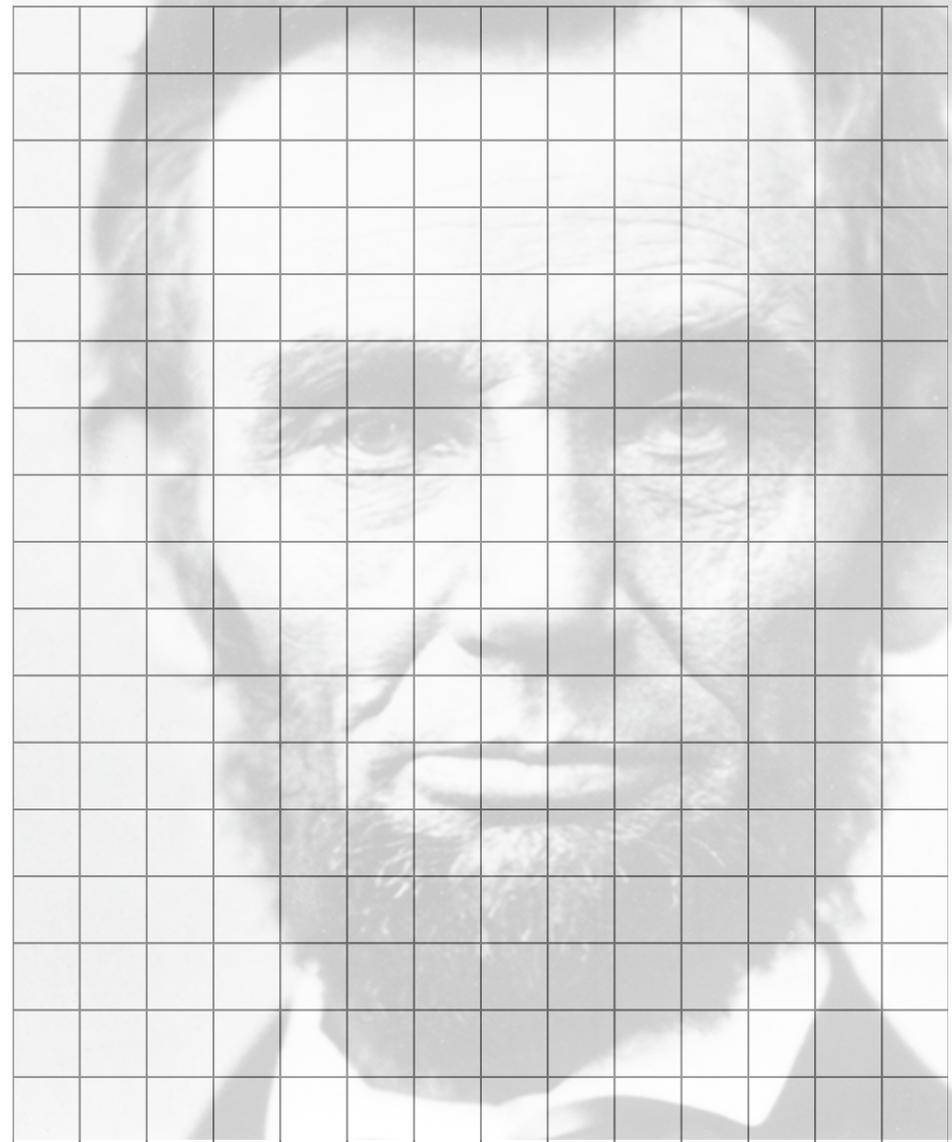
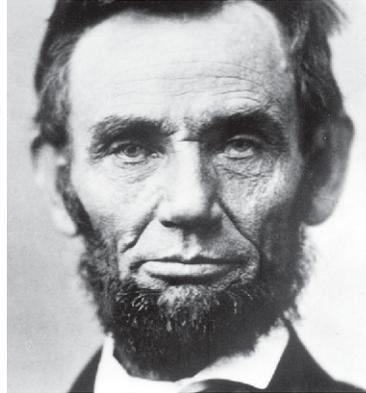


"All the best ideas come out of the process; they come out of the work itself."
- Chuck Close

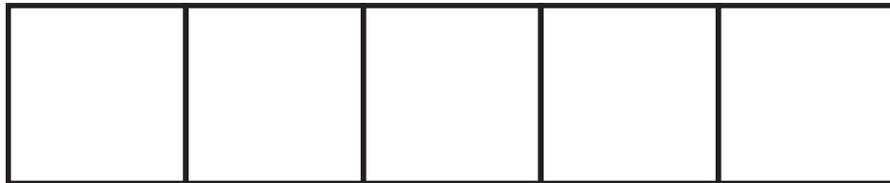
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- Create a portrait of President Abraham Lincoln by creating shapes, lines and adding color in each square of the grid.
- Recreate the value of of the portrait in each square.
- Fill each square.



Value is an element of art that refers to the visible lightness or darkness of a color.



Value practice squares

