Chuck Close Self Portrait

Charles Thomas "Chuck" Close (born July 5, 1940,] is an American painter and photographer who achieved fame as a photorealist, through his massive-scale portraits. Though a catastrophic spinal artery collapse in 1988 left him severely paralyzed, he has continued to paint and produce work that remains sought after by museums and collectors.

You will create a self portrait in a similar style to Chuck Close. After his accident, Close came up with a new idea to help him adapt his painting technique. By taping a paint brush to an arm splint, Close used a coordinate system to create his portraits as well. You will create a coordinate system as well to enlarge your photo we took in class.

Steps to create your painting:

1. Grid the inked portion of your photograph only. The Grid should be 1 ½ by 1 ½ inches from right to left. You must draw straight lines.
2. Grid your large paper 3” by 3 “
3. Draw your portrait one square at a time. Concentrate on drawing the outside, contour lines to start then draw all the lines isolating your shadows in your picture.
4. Erase all of the grid lines. Leave the areas that do not have any drawing.
5. In an egg carton, mix 3 tints, one pure hue, and one shade. Paint your drawing following the same tints and shades in your photograph. Where you have a dark grey, use a shade, wherever a light gray use a tint. Fill in your background with a gradient from dark to light around the edges.

