Thumbnail sketchbook, due Sept 25

Materials: pencil or compressed charcoal, sketchbook (about 9" x 12")

One of an artist’s best habits is to continuously observe and sketch everyday scenes. The goal of this exercise is to record, in quick sketches, the people we observe in the course of the day.

Working in the dining center, cafeteria, library, gym or other convenient space, fill at least 15 pages with quick sketches of the people you see. Each sketch may take anywhere between five and ten minutes, depending on how still your subjects are. Even very rapid sketches (like the Bishop drawing at lower right) should have a sense of the figure’s overall gesture, and the way he or she is rooted to the ground and responds to gravity. Work in details and shading as time allows. At least three of the drawings should be more finished, like the Gris drawing below, with attention to details and shading that fleshes out volumes and spaces. Please number sketches before handing in.

Clockwise from top left:

**Rembrandt**
*Studies of Walking Figures*
ca. 1637-40, 3½" x 4½"

**Jaun Gris**
*Femme Lisant*, 19" x 12¼"

**Isabel Bishop**
*Studies of Women Walking*
10½" x 20"

**Isabel Bishop**
*Reading the News*
1981, 5½" x 5¼

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