

# The Truth about Being Born with Artistic Talent

*...and the secret of those who 'seem' to have it!*

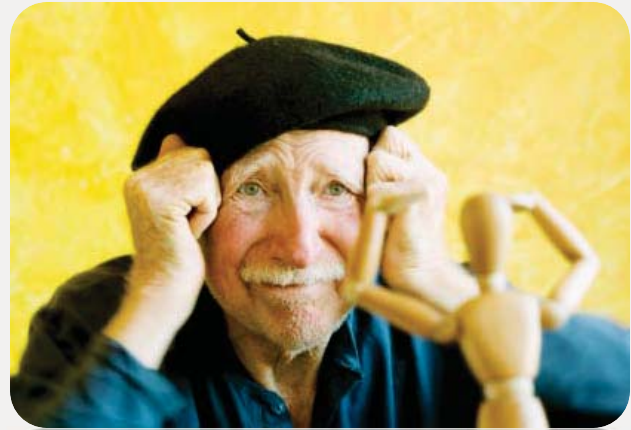
Do you ever feel like your hand just won't seem to do what your brain is telling it to?

It wasn't so long ago that I can remember being frustrated with almost anything that I wanted to draw because of that exact problem – I just couldn't seem to get the pencil to move the way that I wanted it to.

Meanwhile, there were some other kids in my class at school who seemed to be able to draw anything they wanted to – and make it look perfectly easy at the same time! I was pretty envious of the way they could draw whatever they wanted to without even breaking a sweat while everything I tried to draw seemed to come out wrong in one way or another. Whatever I tried, there always seemed to be some issue that left me feeling frustrated.

When it was time to look at the drawings of the class, those other students were always the first ones that the teacher picked because their work was always the best. To be honest, the situation seemed a little hopeless. I thought *“How could I ever hope to be a good artist without being born with the magical gift that those other artists seemed to all have?”*

**Does this sound familiar to you?** Have you ever watched someone in your class or art group draw an amazing picture and wondered, “How could they ever come up with such a perfect drawing?” Or have you ever looked at a drawing on the internet or an artwork in a gallery and thought to yourself, “Wow, that is really an amazing work. They're so lucky to be born with such an amazing talent.”





## The truth about all of this is that....

There is no such thing as being born with some god-given artistic talent, and if you are one of the millions of people who believes in this idea, it **has probably been holding you and back in a big way for years... maybe even for your entire lifetime.** If you feel like you haven't been able to live up to your artist potential I want to let you know:

## It's not your fault...

Everyone has heard of or has known someone who seems to be naturally gifted at something; be it art or sport or math, the list is really endless. When you meet a person like this it seems to reinforce the idea that it is possible to be born with some kind of god given talent.

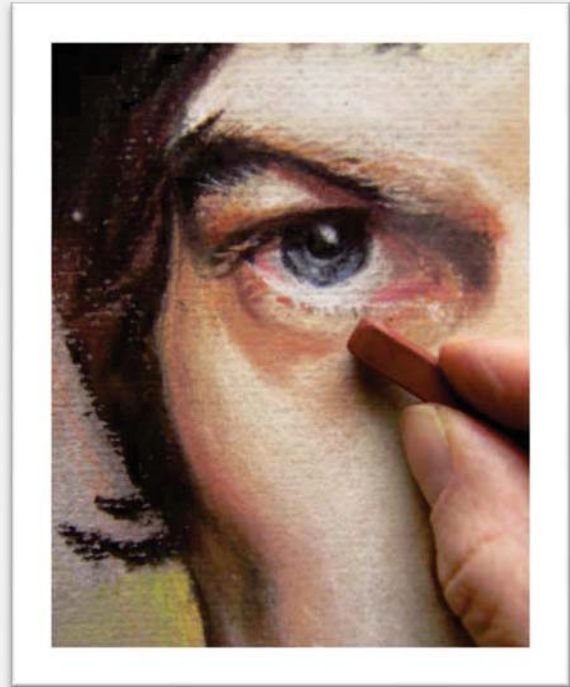
What you might not have realized though is that these people who you admire aren't all that different from anyone else, and yet they seem to have some kind of insider knowledge – so what is their secret? Why does it come so easy to them while you struggle?

**Their secret is that *they don't believe in the myth of 'Being born with artistic ability!'*** Instead of worrying about if they have or don't have some secret ability, they spend their time enjoying drawing.

This is deceptively simple, so it's worth looking at one more time.

*The secret of people who seem to be born with artistic talent is that they don't believe in the idea with being born with a special gift - they simply just enjoy what they are doing.*

So in a nutshell, the real secret is to enjoy what you are doing. Instead of looking at something you have drawn as being good or bad, instead when you look at it, ask yourself "Did I enjoy working on this?" If your answer is yes, then you are WAY ahead of most people when it comes to learning to draw.



If you said no, then you are probably still looking at the drawing in terms of good or bad, and it is so important, especially if you are struggling to give up the attachment to good and bad.

Always remember that **each time you do another drawing you will be learning new things and improving.** So, while the drawing that you just created is most likely one of your best works, the drawings that you do in the future will be even better, and as long as you are enjoying the process of being creative there will be no limit to the results that you can achieve.

The other big secret that people who seem to be naturally gifted is that they take the time to learn new techniques, but instead of doing this by trial and error or spending years and years of practicing - they do it in a much smarter way. And the best part is that this other secret is totally available to you, right now, and it's so simple that it may shock you that you haven't thought of it before.

**So what's the next big insider secret to becoming a better artist?**

It's simply to go and get the help with whatever you want to draw. This could be as simple as taking an art class or workshop, walking down to your local bookstore and picking up a book on the topic or technique that you're interested in learning, going online and searching, or even asking a fellow artist if they can explain to you how to draw whatever it is that day seem to be able to draw very well.



Learning to draw without some kind of plan to follow is a little bit like **trying to drive in a new city without any map**. Sure you can move around and get somewhere, but it's probably not where you're trying to get to, and if you are able to finally locate the place you were trying to get to – you will have wasted a ton of time in the process.

So what's the answer? **BE SMART!** Invest in yourself and your development as an artist and simply get help. Once someone has shown you how to draw something it will start to make a whole lot of sense in your head and it won't be long before people will be asking *you* how you were able to come up with such amazing drawings, not to mention approaching you for your own insider tips and advice.

Who knows, someone may even want to **pay you for your drawings** or **offer you a cool job** somewhere – **the world is full of amazing possibilities, especially for artists**, and you never know what kind of amazing places these skills can take you. But you need to take the first big step and start investing in yourself, and enjoying being a creative person. If you don't do these things, then you will always be one of *those people* who never seem to make much progress with their art, and will eventually give up, telling yourself the big lie that 'You just weren't born with any artistic talent.'

But, I know you're a lot smarter than that, and you're not the type of person who is willing to give up on your dreams without a fight – especially since it's so easy to make a HUGE difference in yourself now that you know the secrets behind those people who '*seem*' to be born with natural ability.

Now, I know what you're probably thinking ... **Where's the MAP!**

Sure, it's easy enough to stop thinking of my drawings in terms of good or bad, but you really need a map or plan so you can start improving quickly instead of wasting time aimlessly trying to discover the insider artist techniques on your own! You are going to be smart and get the help that will let you improve quickly, but where to start, and how do you know what to follow?

Well, before you get too worried about this, I want to show you a simple to follow technique that I personally use and that you can take and apply into any drawing you want to make. The video lessons in Caricature Secrets you will use this technique for drawing faces so learning this now will help you be a little ahead of the curve before you dive into the course.

## The Importance of Understanding Silhouettes

One of the first lessons that any art teacher or art book will teach you about the importance of recognizing shapes by showing you black and white silhouette pictures. If you are unfamiliar with the word silhouette, the dictionary describes it as:

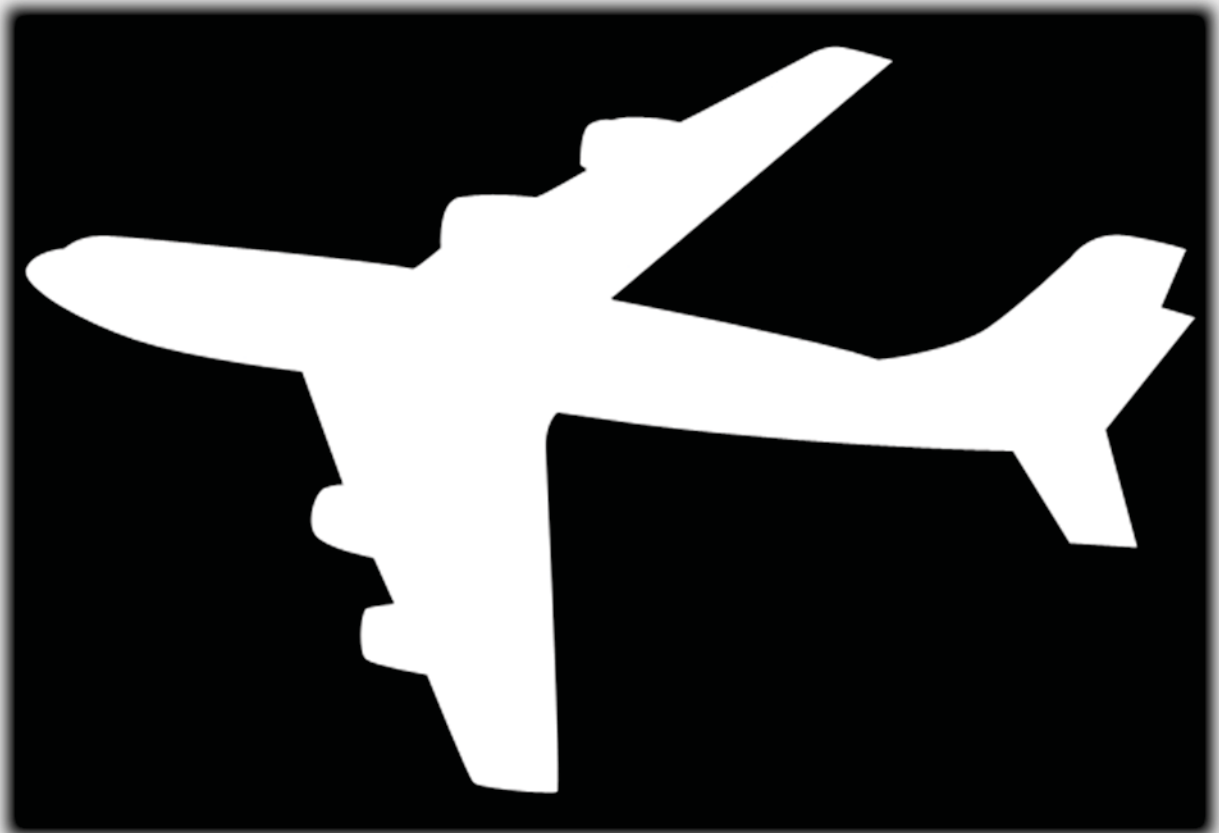
*A two-dimensional representation of the outline of an object, as a cutout or configurational drawing, uniformly filled in with black, esp. a black-paper, miniature cutout of the outlines of a famous person's face.*

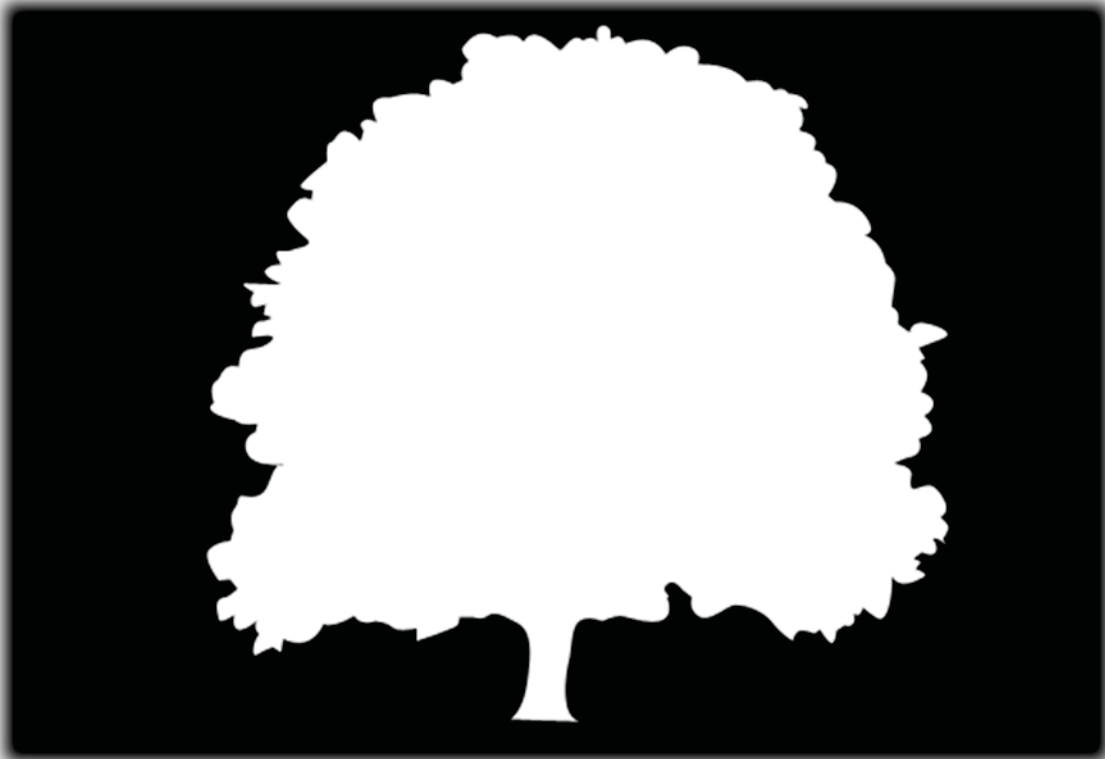
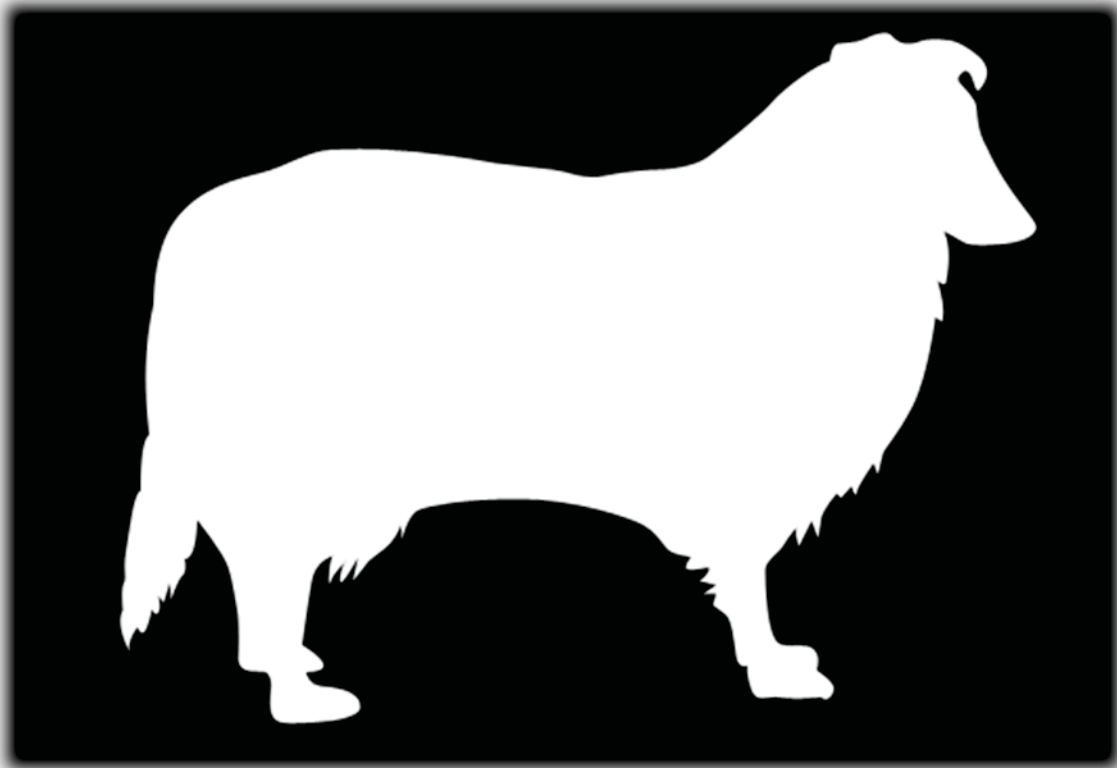
Now, if you have studied art before you have likely seen lessons similar to what I'm about to show you, however you may not have realized the importance of this concept because it is *usually so poorly explained and boring, that it's easy to put your mind on autopilot and miss the importance!*

*Again, I want to say that it's not YOUR fault if you didn't grasp this earlier - most of the other the teaching materials out there are so dry and boring that you can't blame yourself at all.*

Remember - learning to draw is about having an easy to follow guide that will show you the basics of what you need to learn, because you have all the talent hiding inside of you - you just need a little help to unlock your inner artist.

Here we have the basic silhouette, which can be explained as the outline of any shape. It's all about shape recognition and the good news is that your brain already knows how to do this kind of stuff automatically. Can you tell what each of the following shapes represents?





Alright - I hope the example silhouettes above weren't too hard to make out. In case you were stuck, they were an airplane, a dog, and a tree. Simple enough right?

But here's the thing that you may have missed in the past, and that is often so poorly explained - being able to see the outlines of objects is the first step in drawing human faces and caricatures. Let's look at another example of how this directly applies to drawing faces.



In this side view of a woman's face, can you make out the outline of her face against the background? Really look closely at it and pay attention to the little details. While you are looking at the silhouette of a face you can ask yourself questions like these:

- What is the shape of the nose? Does it turn up? How pointy or round is the end?
- Is the upper lip larger than the lower lip? Does one lip stick out more than the other?
- How does the roundness of the chin compare to that of the lips or nose?



Now look at the black and white version of the photograph. It's a lot easier to see the details of the outline of the face in a drawing like this because you aren't distracted by and of the other details of the face. You just concentrate on the silhouette.

It doesn't matter if you want to draw a realistic face or a caricature - you are going to need to be able to look closely at the details of the face. Learn to take your time and look at each part of the face on its own and what kind of simple shape you can see from it. Look at the nose, the upper and lower lips, the chin, the neck and brow line where the nose connects to the head near the eyes, the forehead, the hair - everything.

While you are examining the curves and lines of these shapes, it's also important to notice the size of these shapes and how they relate to each other. For example, how does the height of the nose compare to the height of the chin?

Once you start to understand how these shapes relate to each other then you can start to use different ways to measure the details of the face as they appear in relation to each other. For example, in the silhouette of the woman's head above, if you look at the height of the chin, you can see that the nose is approximately the same height as two chins stacked on top of each other.

Noticing these types of details is one of the ultimate secrets to drawing, because you will be able to look at your work and see where you may need to adjust it. If the nose seems a bit out of place, then just compare it to the chin, or if the forehead seems too short, then look at how many noses tall the forehead should be. Everything relates to everything else in the drawing, but now that you have started to look more closely at the details you can quickly spot where things look out of place and make the right choices about what needs to be fixed and know exactly how to adjust it.

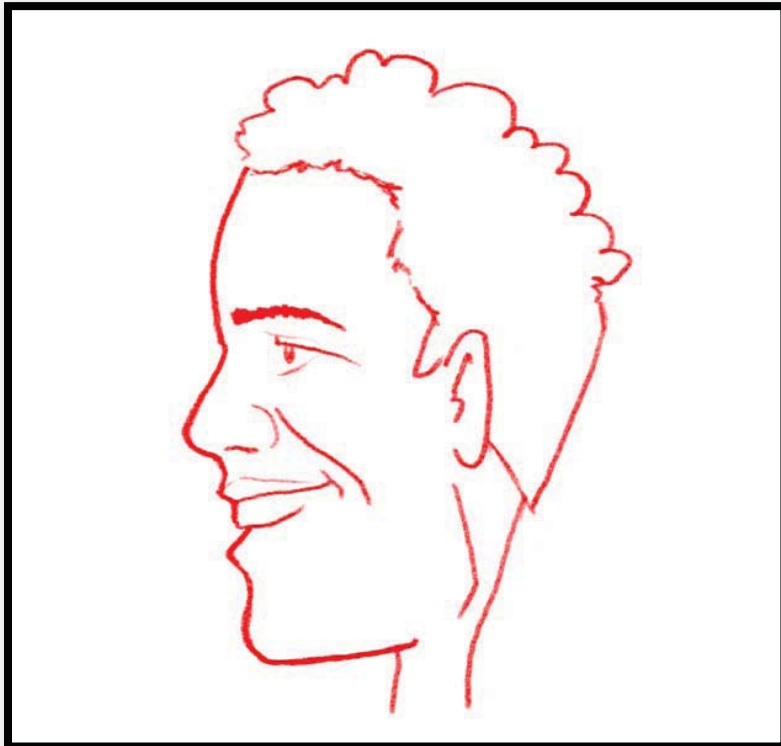
When you are trying to draw the human head, no matter what the style may be – realistic or cartoon, the silhouette is the best place to start before you get into trying to work out any of the details. Let's look at one more example from the Caricature Secrets course.



Here we have another side view photograph along with a silhouette. Notice the all the little details in this face – the shape of the hair, the angle at the back of the head, the shape of the lower lip and everything else that you can see.



So, if you can start to really make sense out of the details along the silhouette of the front of the face, then you are well on your way to creating a full caricature. In this picture the red lines are drawn right over top of the face, with the exception of the ear which has been squished to keep with the proportions of a caricature.



With more lines added and the back of the head finished off you can see how effective being able to work with the silhouette of the image can be. Noticing those little details is one of the secrets that you will learn about in the full version of the course.



That's it for this special report about the Truth of Being born with Artistic Talent. *Remember to always enjoy the creative process, and stay tuned for more information about drawing Caricatures.* I hope you enjoyed it!

Sincerely,

Mitch Bender

If you enjoyed this and would like other insider artist information, tips and techniques make sure that you are signed up for the First in Line list at the [Caricature Secrets Blog](#).