

Character Design

Tony Scarlatos

What makes a good character?

- Credibility
 - The character should have dimensionality, should be complex enough to be interesting
 - If the character is based on a real-life role, such as a doctor, lawyer, athlete, etc., then solid research into those professions needs to be done
 - The character should evolve throughout the narrative
- Appeal
 - The audience should identify with the character, and care about their outcomes

Character's Backstory

- Introduces the character to the audience, and reveals the motivations, skills, and conflicts of the character
- Helps the audience to buy into the narrative and the character's role in it

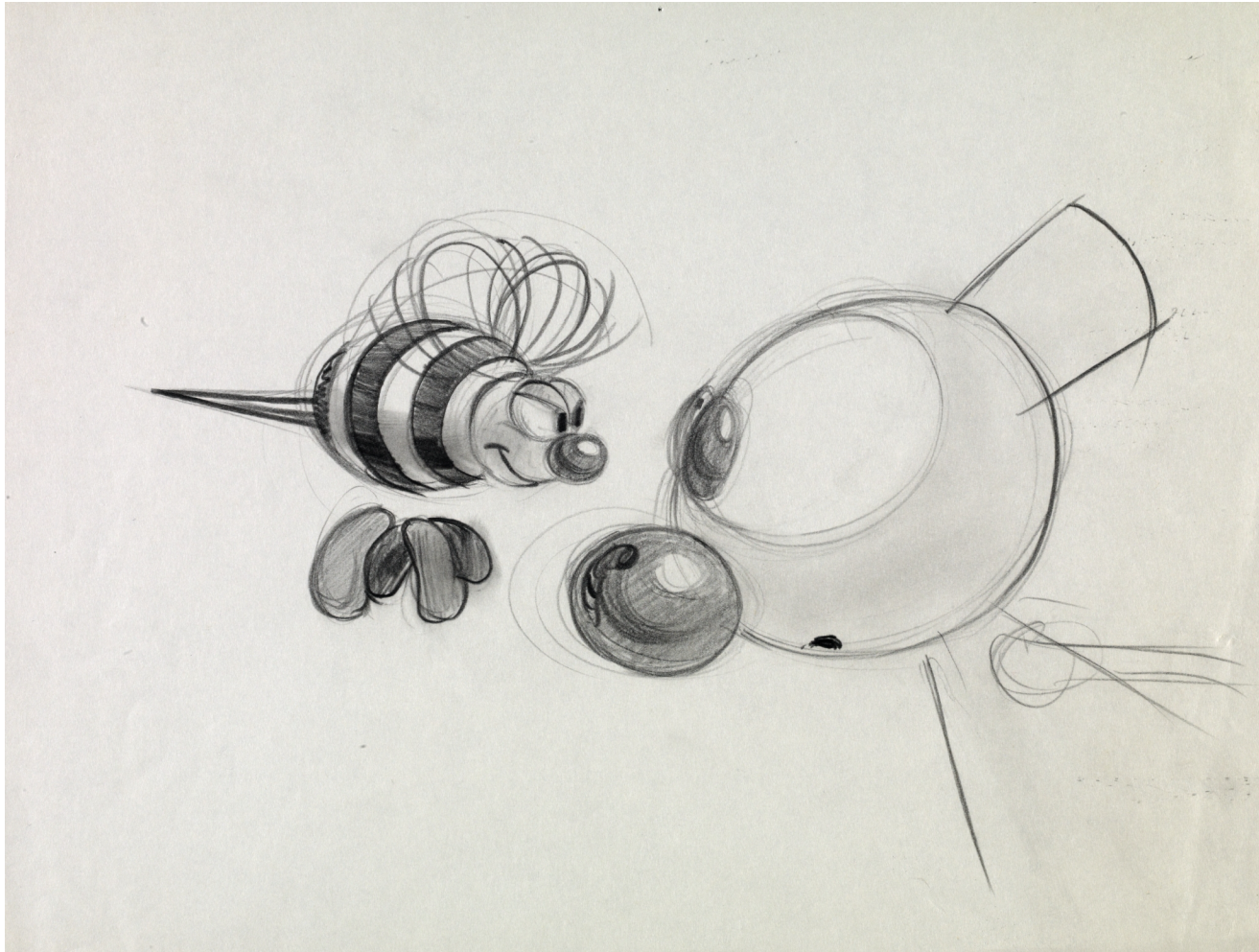
Building a character

- Attributes
 - Functional: how the character behaves
 - Cosmetic: how the character looks
- Good characters have a simplified design
 - Emphasis on big shapes and lines of motion
 - Exaggeration of personality (eyes, mouth)

Simple shapes, action lines, emphasis



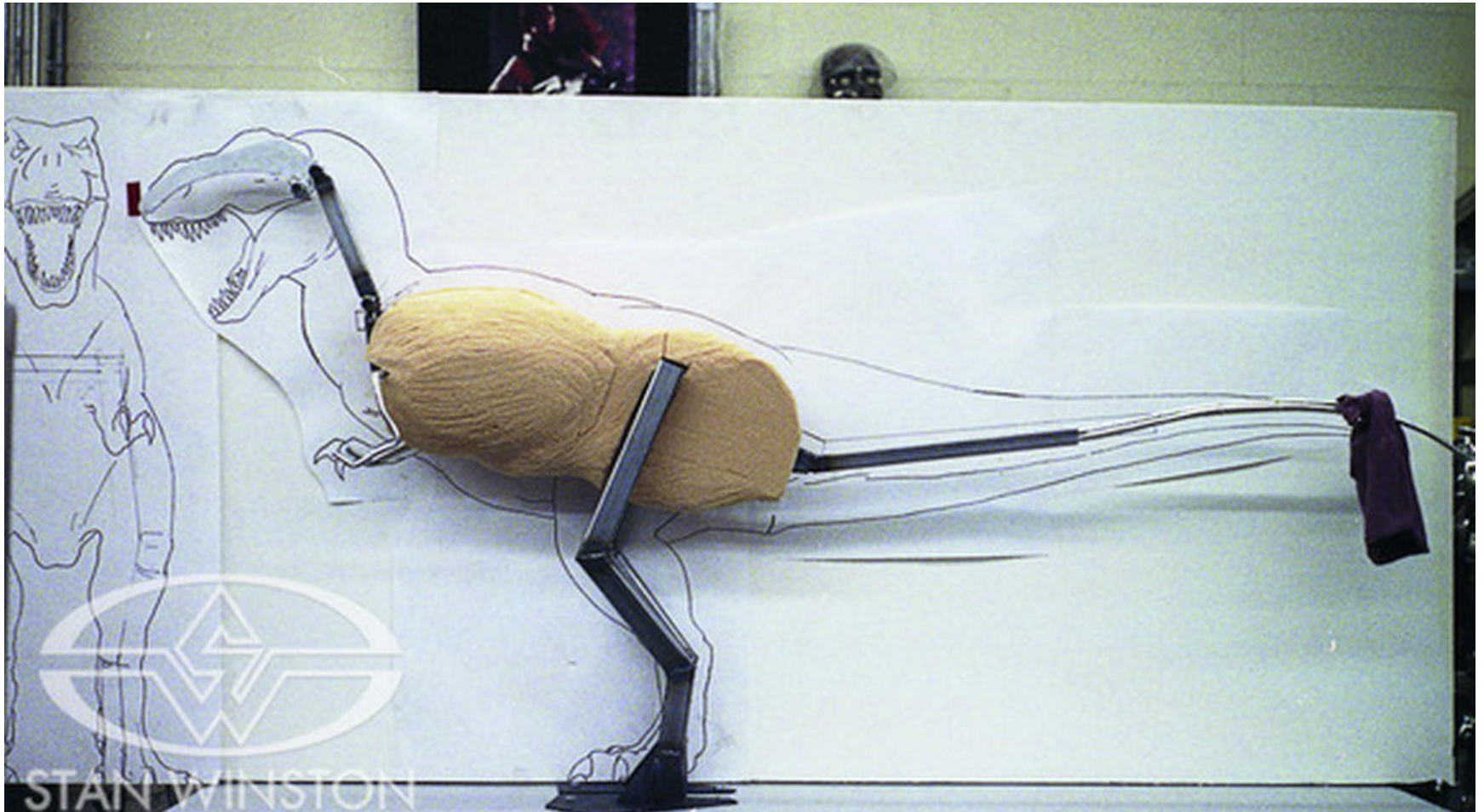
Simple shapes, action lines, emphasis



Simple shapes, action lines, emphasis



Great characters need good research



Great characters need good research



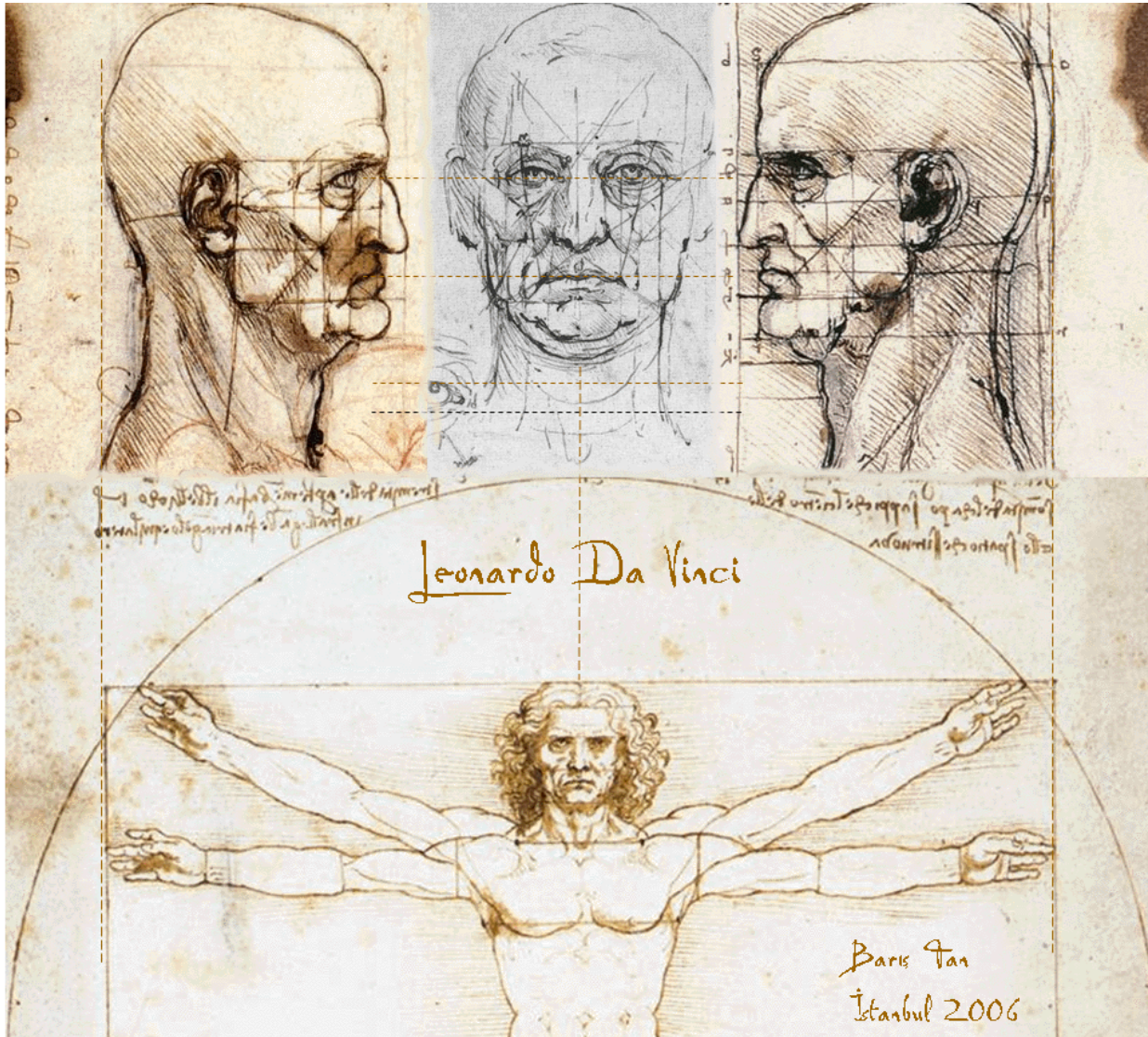
Great characters need good research



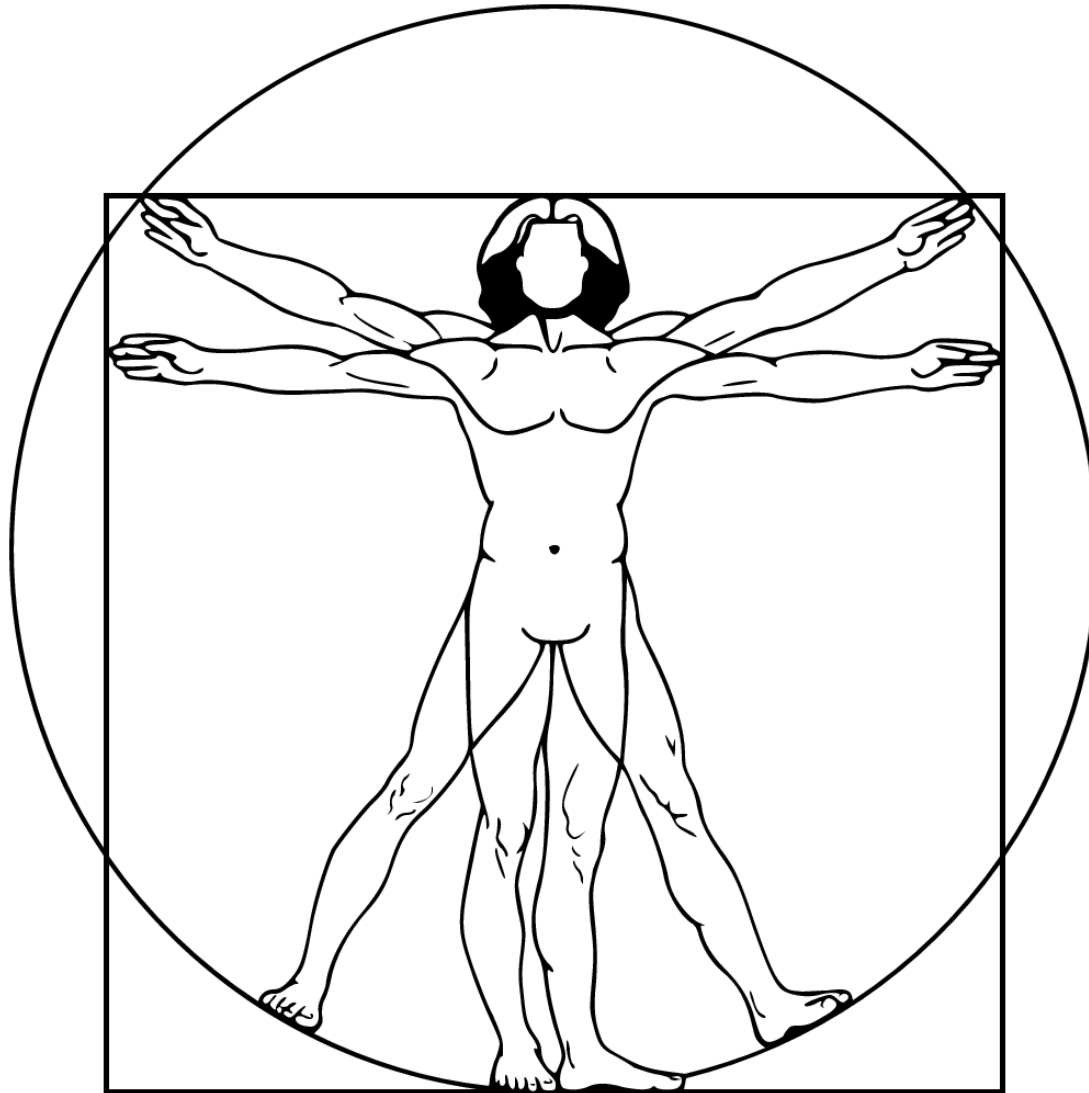
Great characters need good research



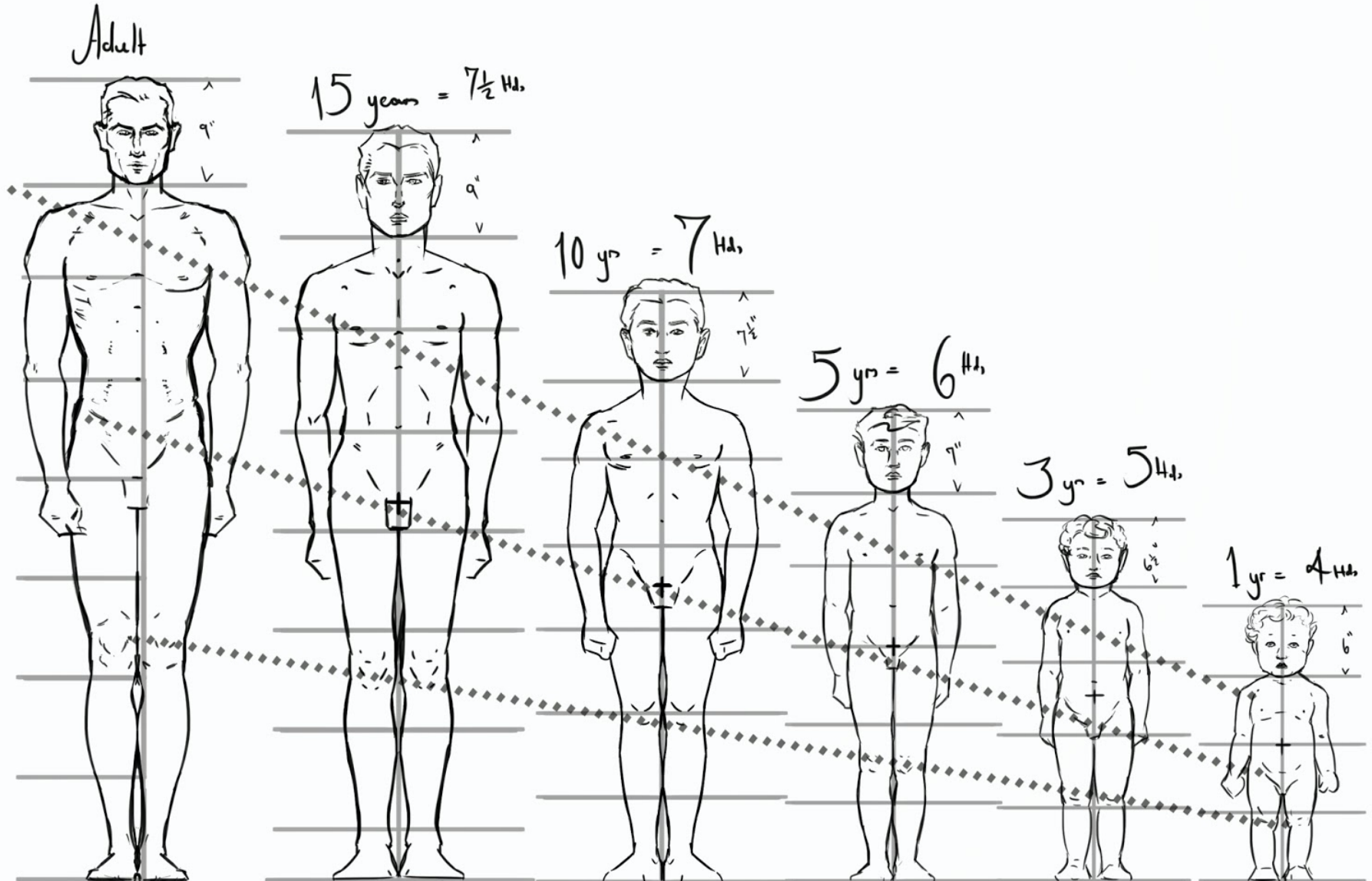
Reference, proportions



Reference, proportions



Reference, proportions

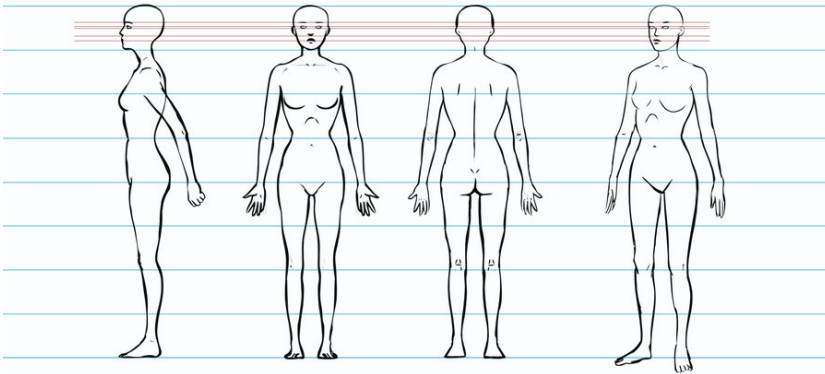


Reference, proportions

created by chakhabit

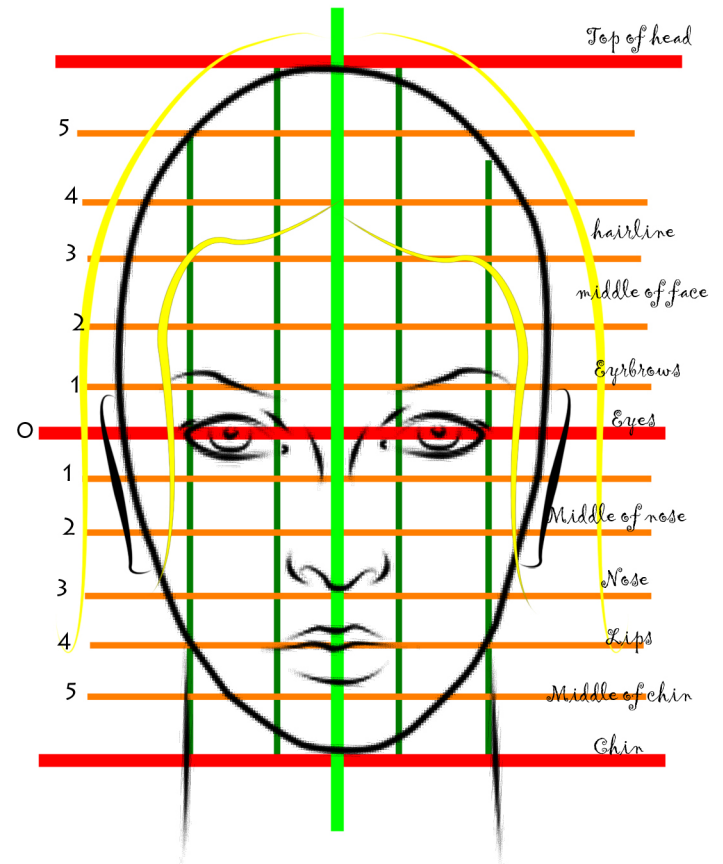
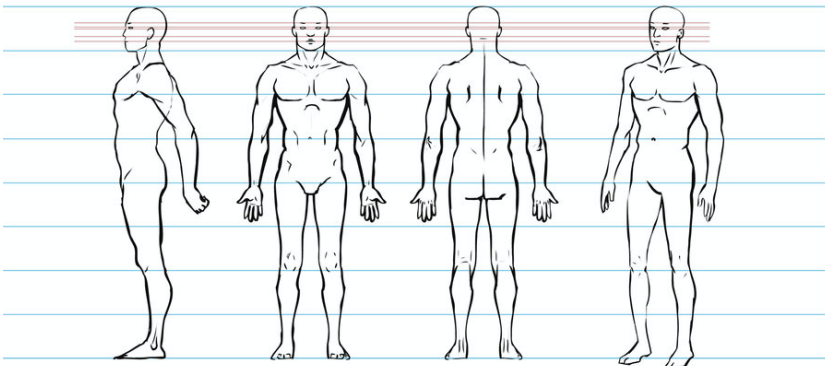
Reference sheet template

Female

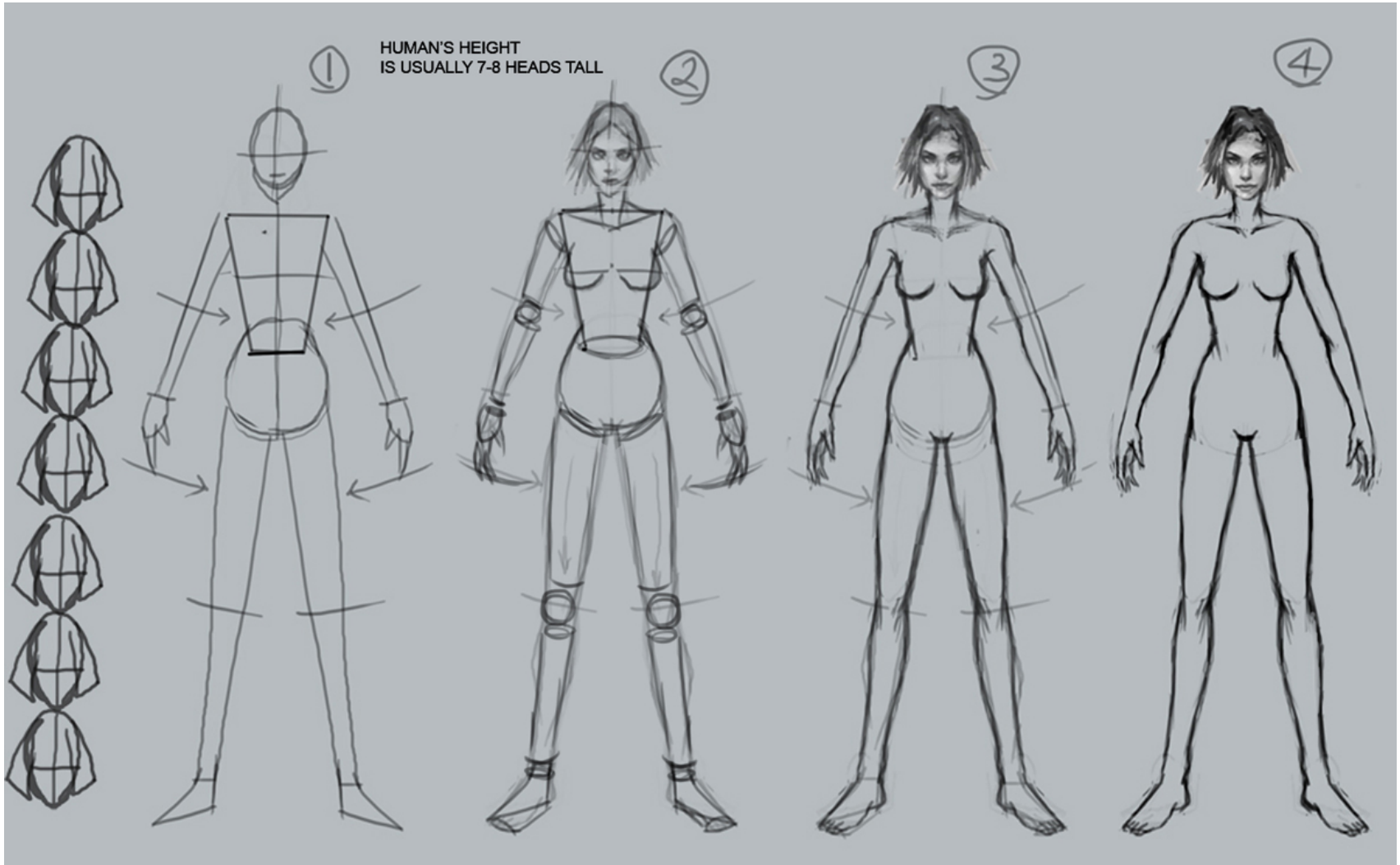


Reference sheet template

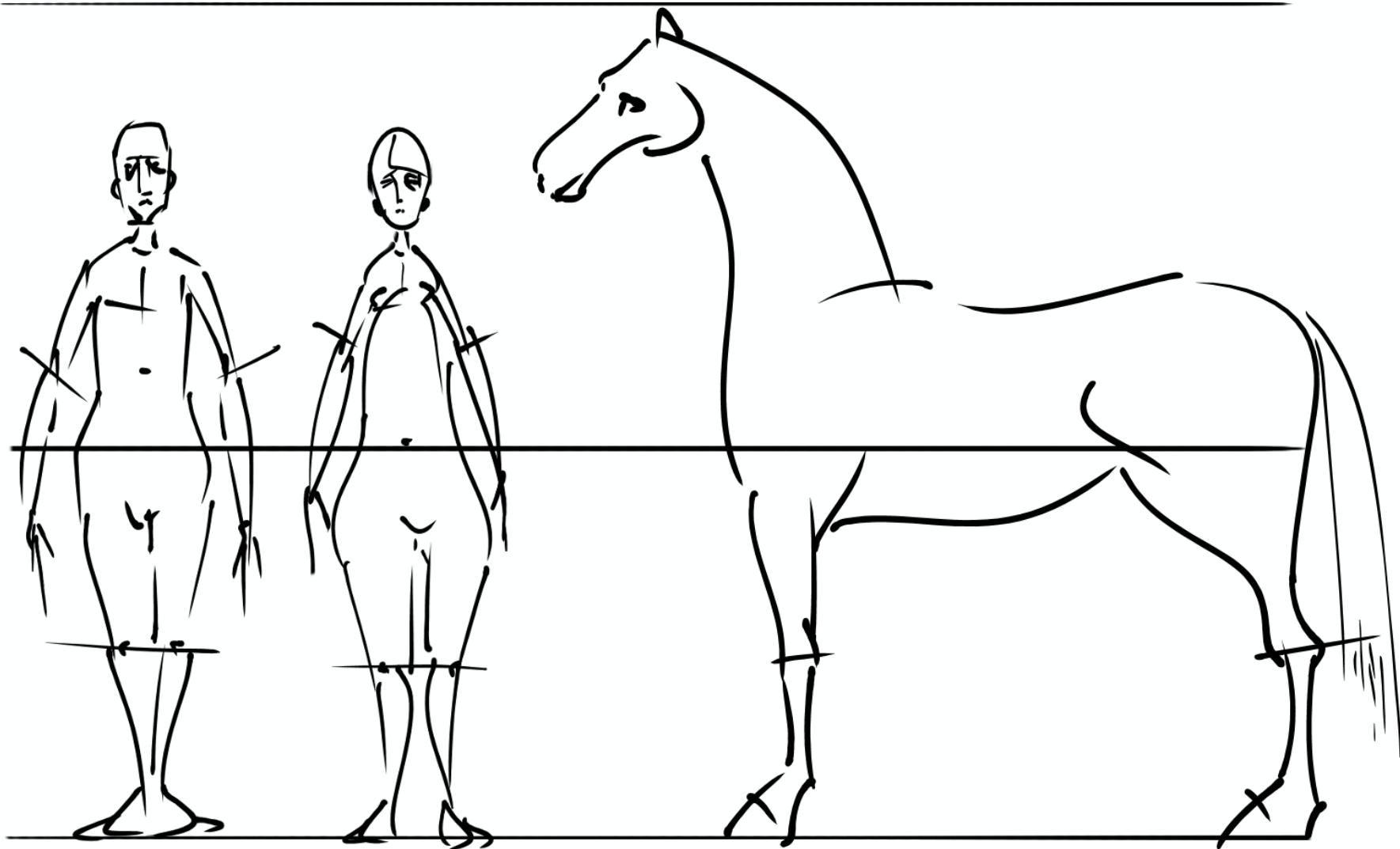
Male



Reference, proportions



Reference, proportions



Obtain reference




Create a Character Sheet



Research Backstory

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Armor for a Member of the Barberini Family

Date: ca. 1623–30

Geography: Milan

Culture: Italian, Milan

Medium: Steel, engraved, gilt, and encrusted with silver

Dimensions: Wt., 34 lb. 8 oz. (15.65 kg)

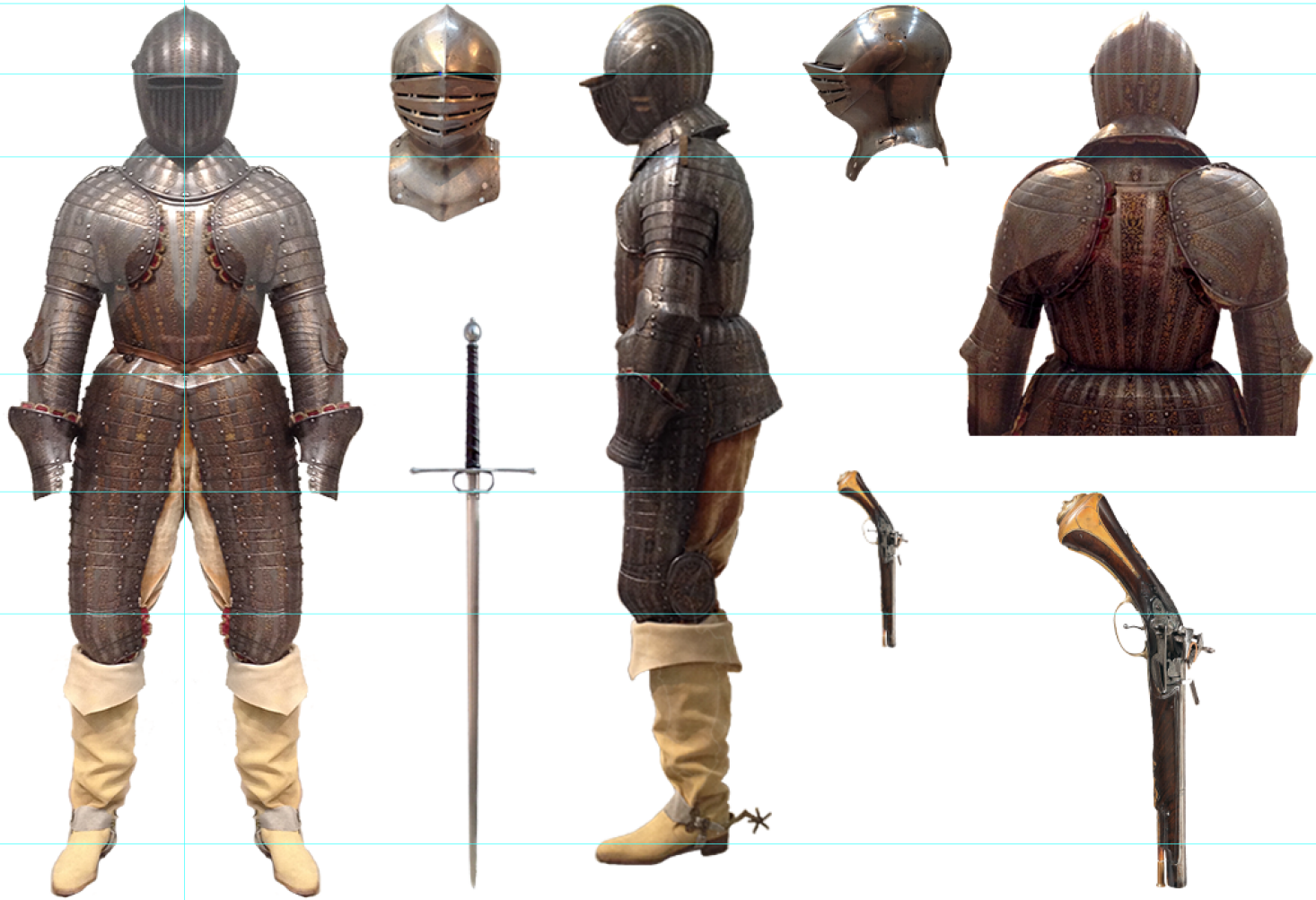
Classification: Armor for Man-3/4 Armor

Credit Line: George F. Baker Fund, 1926

Accession Number: 26.210

On view in Gallery 371

Create a Character Sheet



Create a Character Sheet



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This armor is a deluxe version of a typical cuirassier's armor, worn by heavy cavalry armed with sword and pistols. Its rich ornament and light weight, however, indicate that it was designed primarily for ceremonial wear and as a symbol of martial status.

The punched and chiseled decoration is characteristic of elaborate Milanese armor of the early seventeenth century. The designs include numerous crowned ovals enclosing bees, the badge of the Barberini, one of Rome's most powerful families. The Barberini rose to prominence, wealth, and power with the election of Maffeo Barberini as Pope Urban VIII in 1623. Presumably, this armor was made for the ranking secular member of the family, either Carlo (1562–1630) or his son Tadeo (1603–1647). The pope's brother, Carlo, was general of the papal armies and duke of Monterotondo from 1623 and prince of Palestrina from 1629. Tadeo succeeded to his father's titles and offices in 1630.

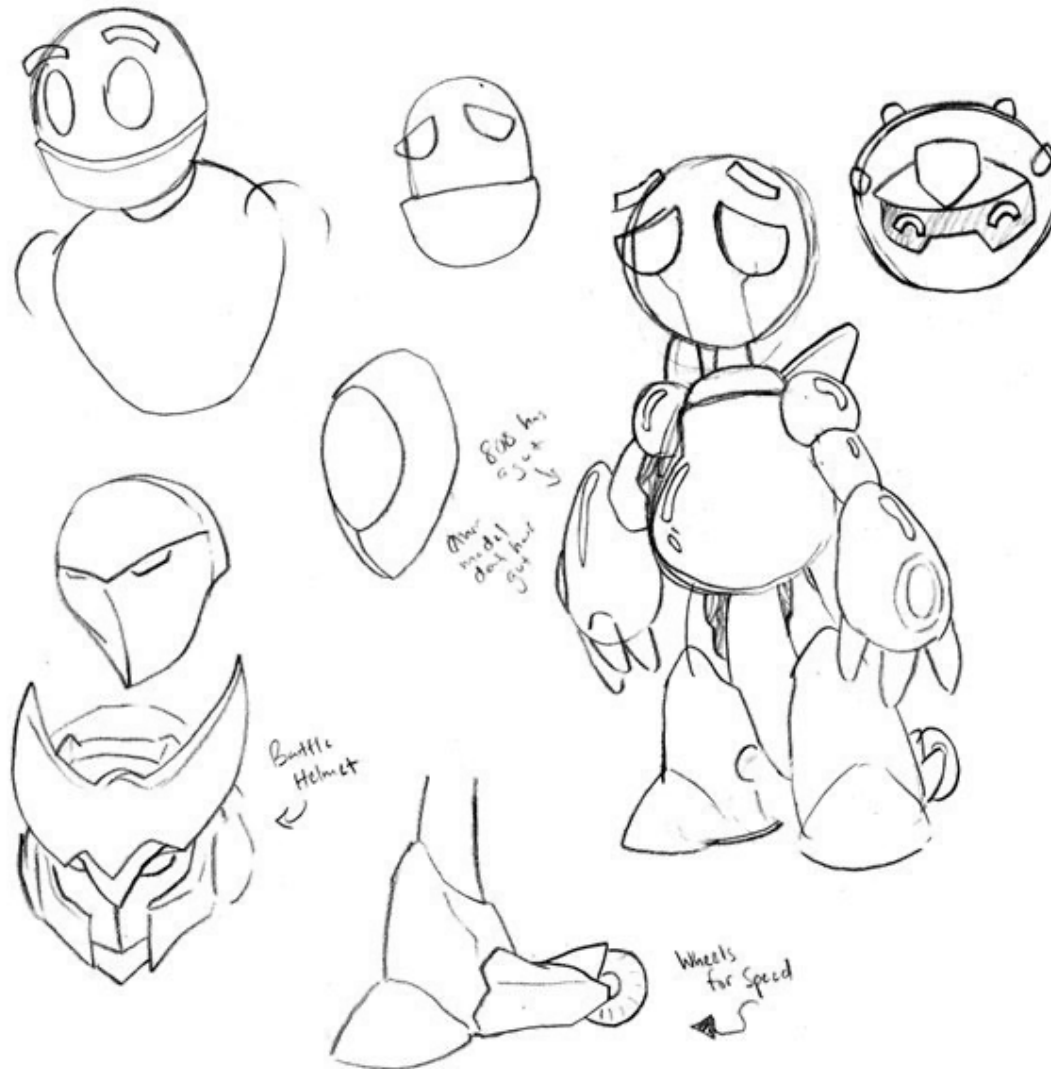
Create from scratch...

You've got a million bad drawings in you; you better get started.

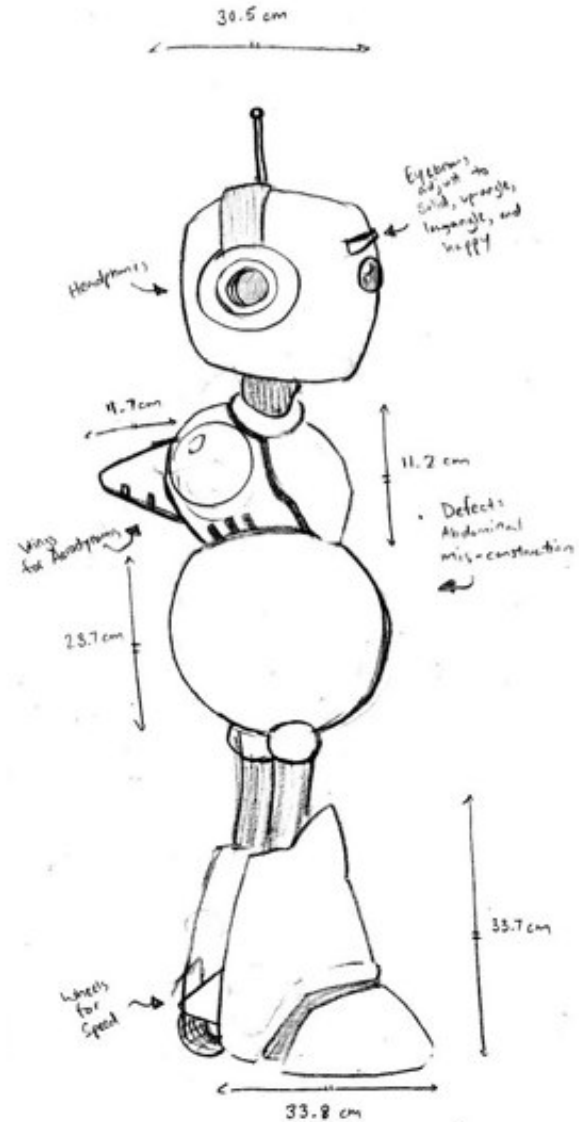
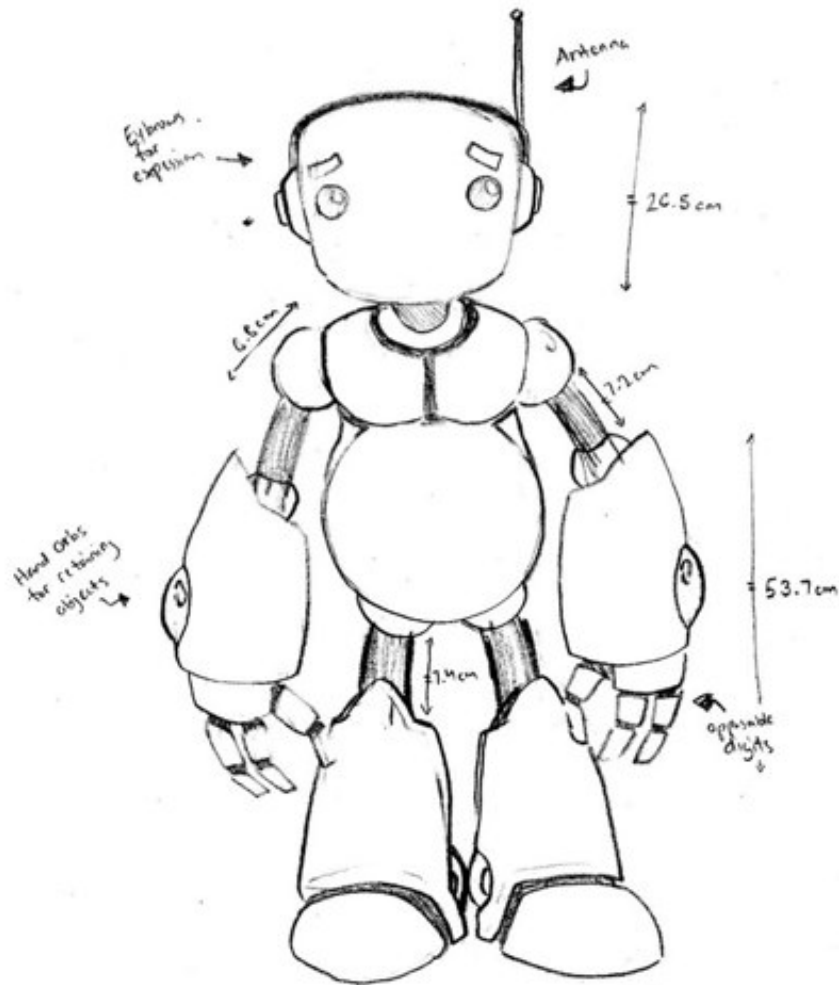
- Chuck Jones



Student Character Sketch



Student Character Sketch



Pixar Character Sketch



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Disney Character Sketch



Marvel Superhero Model Sheet

