

SPENCER SWEENEY

Perfect

SELF-PORTRAITS

"I think there is a power in self-portraiture. Any self-portrait, no matter how successfully or not it's executed, will have a power to it. Sometimes it's powerful because the artist is in control of how they present themselves, but often it can be powerful because the artist is not fully in control of how they present themselves, no matter how hard they are trying. It's almost as if when you sit down to record your own image another force takes over." - Spencer Sweeney



The Swing, 2011



Look at Sweeney's self-portraits and the different ways that he paints himself. Write down a few ideas for your own self-portrait. Will you make it realistic? Abstract? What kind of mood do you want to convey?



Sweeney often includes small motifs within his self-portraits. What objects would you include in your artwork to describe your own life? What story would these objects help convey?

