

**Space** There is a shallow sense of depth and very little perspective since the portrait is straight on and tightly cropped.

**Line** is not widely used given the collage technique. The edges of the cut paper do create some harsh lines. The lines of the features and edges of the face fade out and lines are not readily visible but blurred.

**Value** There is high contrast between the skin tone and the shadows created by the facial features and the background/hair.

**Color** There is an illusion of local color by the use of soft skin tones but that is contrasted by bright blues, greens and the occasional tints of purple.



**Texture** the magazine cutting give an actual texture to the collage and the images of faces on the magazines give an implied texture.

**Shape** the repetitive nature of the cut magazine paper in squares and rectangles make up the defining shapes of the portrait. The shapes of the features are not fully defined.

**Pattern** At first glance there is an illusion of pattern with the cut magazines but then upon closer look they are random. However the bright colored papers form an erratic pattern that moves the eye around the composition.

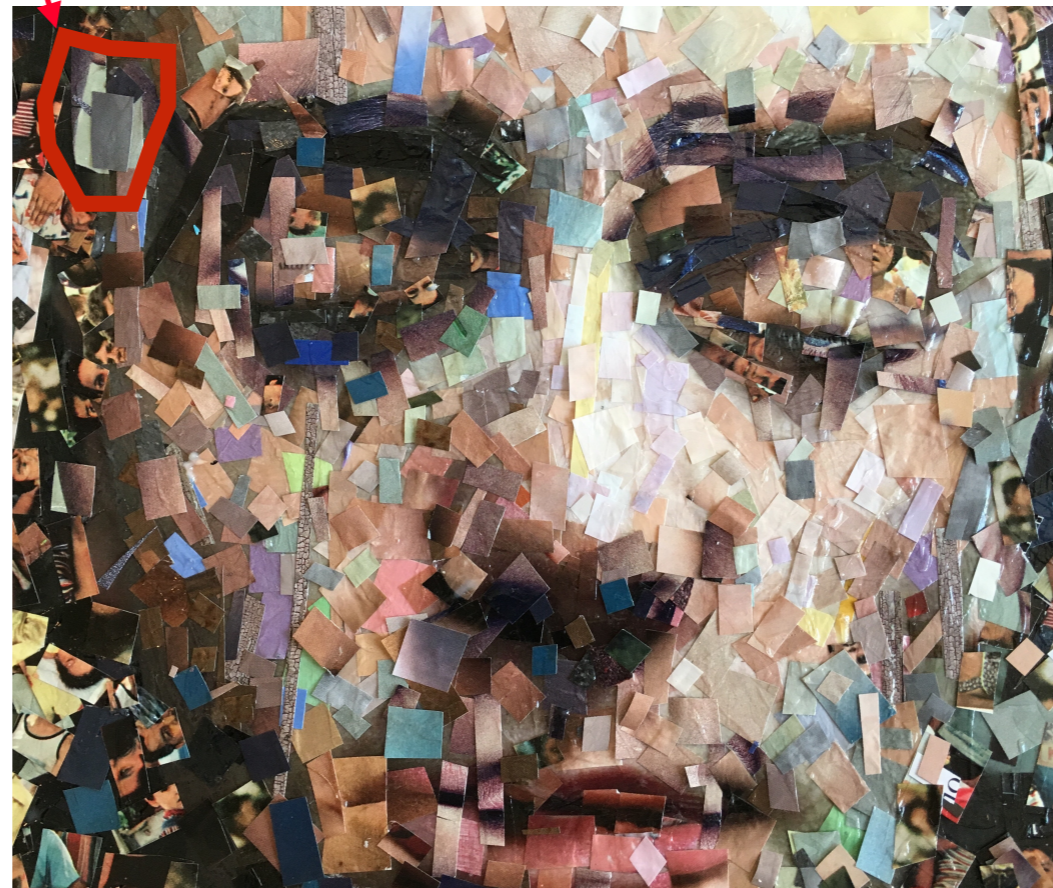
**Emphasis** There isn't a direct point of emphasis however the closed eyes are the focal points of the work.

**Movement** The cut shapes form a sense of movement throughout the composition but the imagery itself implies stillness.

**Scale** Approximately life size and the cropped composition emphasizes the scale and focus on the face.

**Balance** It is mostly symmetrical with some more on the left side.

**Unity** The repetition of cut shapes unifies the composition. Also the elimination of small details helps the simplicity of the facial composition come through and create a unified composition.



**"Closed Eyes Caleb" Collage A4 2016  
Jessica Russo Scherr**



## Mood/ Symbolism/ Interpretation/

Images of people flank the portrait and make up the facial features. Contrasting the closed eyes, these portraits are smaller and cropped heavily adding to a curiosity about who the people are in the artwork. Eyes are the windows to our souls but when they are closed what happens. Closed eyes are a metaphor that can have a lot of meanings and this open ended interpretation is important for this work and others with similar subject matter in this series. We close our eyes for rest and peace but in doing so we are not seeing what is around us. We lose connections to our family, community and sight of what is really going on in our world. However, you cannot survive with your eyes wide open all the time.

## Art history links

Chuck Close creates portraits from shapes that fuse together to make up the facial features. Jenny Saville: Her emotionally packed portraits and figurative works have been a constant inspiration in my work. The parted lips are similar to the parted lips in her large scale self portraits.