

Self-ish Portrait (Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun)

By Adam Ledger

Seventeen -hundred,
Paris, France. In fifty-five.
A painter, alive.
“Painter,” my child true,
A legacy, imbued.
Art passion, pursued.

Portraitist, pastellist,
Artistic inclinations,
Then Rubens inspiration.
Le Chapeau de Paille,
Recreated in oils new,
Baroque period through.

Straw hat adorned right,
Vigée Le Brun's gaze so bright,
Shielded from the light.
Patronage by Queen,
Marie-Antoinette en gaulle,
Scandal around shawl.

Now in modern day,
Twenty-first century's way,
Brun's life far-away.
Comes to light once more,
Autoportrait au chapeau,
Chapeau de paille, beau.

Paint is now thicker,
Displayed amongst others,
Standing out, hither.
Le Brun shines again,
Aphantasia's influence,
Self-ish portraits, then.

Adam Ledger is a mixed-media artist from Northumberland. He is currently studying BA Fine Art at the University of Lincoln, and achieved Student of the Year 2022/2023 awarded by Lincoln School of Design

in the Arts Foundation year after participating in the “Bamboozled” exhibition. He enjoys creating work surrounding the human condition and how this relates to technology and the artificial.