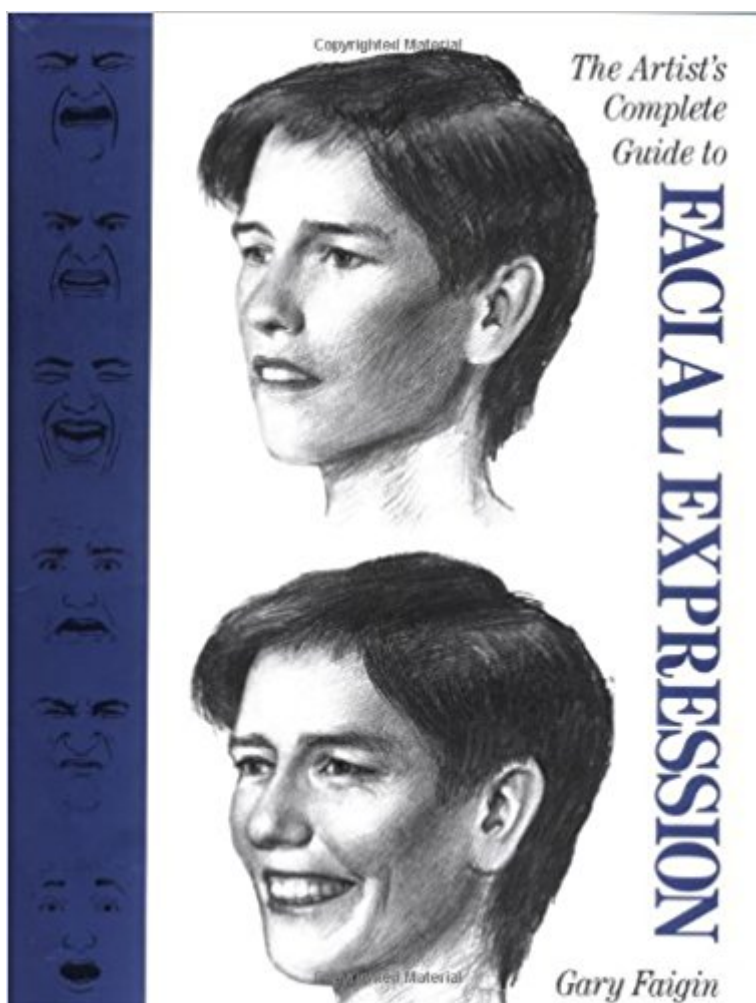


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# The Artist's Complete Guide To Facial Expression



## Synopsis

Artists love this book, the definitive guide to capturing facial expressions. In a carefully organized, easy-to-use format, author Gary Faigin shows readers the expressions created by individual facial muscles, then draws them together in a section devoted to the six basic human emotions: sadness, anger, joy, fear, disgust, and surprise. Each emotion is shown in steadily increasing intensity, and Faigin's detailed renderings are supplemented by clear explanatory text, additional sketches, and finished work. An appendix includes yawning, wincing, and other physical reactions. Want to create portraits that capture the real person? Want to draw convincing illustrations? Want to show the range of human emotion in your artwork? Get *The Artist's Complete Guide to Facial Expression!* From the Trade Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gary Faigin trained at the Art Students League and the Ecole des Beaux Arts de Paris. He has taught at the National Academy School of Design and at Parsons School of Design; currently, he is the artistic director of the Gage Academy of Art in Seattle, where he lives. From the Trade Paperback edition.

As a trained illustrator I found this book incredibly helpful. It exceeded my expectations as a learning tool. This book takes an advanced look at the anatomy of the skull and face and ties it directly to its use in creating expression. This book upped my game by providing detailed knowledge on exactly how expression is formed and why, allowing me to use these tools to create more subtle and

nuanced visual notes. This book focuses more on an anatomical look rather than resorting to a step by step "how-to" and is geared toward those who already have an understanding of the fundamentals of drawing in general, however the knowledge contained within would be useful to any level of skill or practice. I highly recommend this and it should be a staple on any artist's shelf.

Great instruction, poor reproduction of the artwork. Previous reviewers mentioned this issue, but when I checked the previews, this appeared to be an issue only with the soft cover. For those relying on those previews, the hardcover has the same overdrawn look as the softcover preview. Makes me wonder if these were switched, and the softcover actually provides a better reproduction of the artwork.

I'm a sculptor, very interested in capturing expression, and have been looking for a good book of facial expressions for some time. I saw the title, ordered the book and was extremely disappointed when it arrived; the last thing I wanted was someone else's interpretations of facial muscles. I needed photographs of the real thing, so I set the book aside, intending to send it back. Then I took a class with a very well-known portrait sculptor, and was surprised to hear him recommend this same book. "But it only has pencil sketches!" I protested, "Shouldn't we use pictures of real people?" "Forget photographs. You need to actually read the book. Have you?" he asked, "You must READ it, every page. This is the best facial reference for the sculptor that I have ever found." I followed his advice, and he's right. Faigin is an extremely talented sketch artist and his drawings will teach you a lot, but the accompanying text is really what makes this book work. He's carefully catalogued what each of the muscle groups in the face is doing throughout the expression of an emotion, and the sketches simply show what he's talking about. The text explains WHY we recognize certain muscle positions as a particular expression, and helps us understand the relationships of muscles, tissue and skin when the face moves. Faigin starts with how facial muscles portray key emotions, then moves to comparisons of different muscle groups in subtler positions. For sculptors, it probably helps to have a 3D model of the facial muscles (in addition to a mirror) handy while reading this book. But it's such a rich store of information that you'll learn plenty without them.

I saw this book some years ago and finally broke down and ordered a copy March 2011. It seems to me that the printing quality has gone down. The tonal range of the b&w reproductions is really murky. Like they took a copy of a copy and printed it on really cheap paper. It's still a useful book

and you can try to get better reproductions of the the famous art work elsewhere. If your in a used bookstore and run across the old hardbound earlier edition, get it instead. Whoever was in charge of quality control needs a kick in the butt. September 2011 - I just wanted to add that in spite of the above criticisms this is a valuable addition my art book library. No one book seems to do it all.

I've had this book for about a year and just purchased another one for a friend. We both sculpt and paint and it's impossible to always have a model on hand to get accurate portrayals of expressions. Faigin is amazing. This book is the definitive book on expressions - I gave all my other books on the subject to Goodwill. Highly recommend. He also has a great class on Craftsy.

When drawing or painting people, getting the facial expression right is very important. This book mentions that the old masters were masters of facial expression. Well, this book will help you get the facial expressions on your people right. For example, there's such a thing as a 'real' and 'fake' smile, and the artist has to decide which one they want to use for their painting or drawing. It would never do to draw a fake smile by mistake when the artist wants a real smile. Fear, disgust, surprise, and many other emotions are discussed in detail as well, with drawings and photos showing exactly which facial muscles are involved in producing each emotion.

Awesome book for reference in drawing. Thank you. the good part of this book os that it shows different muscle parts and they are drawn. in pencil that allows the viewer better .....ability or . ...knowledge on how to use different poses of the face herself/ himself. i draw for enjoyment but have successfully exhibited in the past. i also like the different facial expressions shown.

good reference book

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