

## UC BERKELEY PRESENTATION

The gaze turned on these self-portraits was the “clinical gaze” of future physicians

What emerged was a mixture of compassion, fear, efforts at objectivity

First reaction was that paintings were not by the same artist

Self-portraiture is a representation of the self – an interpretation of the self; since they represent a moment in time, they also bring up questions of mortality; they are also a form of storytelling

Then, raised the question: What is happening to this person?

Dissolution of the person who was; wife saw it initially as a method of trying to understand what was happening, then an expression of sadness and fear

Technical skill deteriorates, yet there is a flair of color, before that too fades away

Is the urge toward creativity part of personhood?

Is the self a stable entity? For example, should the self “now” be able to make life and death decisions for the “self” in the future?

What is the self? Memories, but also relational

Relational implies not only how the patient with Alzheimer’s acts, but also how the other acts

What are the risks for the other? – 1) dehumanization 2) pt as object 3) an I-It, not an I-Thou relationship