morphing self-portrait

Materials needed:
Paper, colored pencils, markers or paint, mirror or photo of yourself, glue (optional) and string (optional)

Objective:
The student will create a portrait, half of themselves and the other half of Dalí.

How to do it:
Grades 6-12:
1. Study yourself in a mirror or in a photo of yourself and then study the Dali photo included on the next page. Notice the shapes, lines, and shading.
2. Using your image as reference, lightly sketch half of your face.
3. Using the photo of Dalí as reference, lightly sketch the opposite side of his face next to yours.
4. Refine and fill in your sketches with color and shading. As an option, use color on your side of the portrait and use grayscale on Dalí’s side of the portrait.
5. Experiment with blending both sides together as if one is morphing into the other.
6. (Optional) Glue black string to Dalí’s half of the portrait to create a Dalí-esque mustache.
7. Paint or color the background in a surreal style and incorporate dream like symbols. Add any other details or enhancements and sign your name!

How this art relates to Dalí:
Dalí painted his self-portrait throughout his artistic career. Sometimes he represented himself as a melting face called a ‘soft self-portrait.’ Surrealists like Dalí enjoyed transforming familiar subjects to create dreamlike imagery.