

Artist	Frida Kahlo
Title	Self portrait on the borderline
Date	1932
Medium	Oil on canvas
Scale	28 cm x 34 cm
Scope	Identity
Style	Naive Art
Patron	/
Location	Maria Rodriguez de Reoyo Collection, New York City, NY, US
Function	To convey two identities



Critical text quote: "I am not sick. I am broken. But I am happy to be alive as long as I can paint." – Frida Kahlo

Influence from technological factors: On the USA side there are four pipes with Ford written on them. This is because at the time the car assembly line is a new invention and Ford is at the for front.

Influence from political factors: In the 1920s Frida held a Communist philosophy and did not agree with Capitalism. Frida believed that industry was part of Capitalism.

Formal features	
Composition	Frida is in the centre of the composition on a boundary stone inscribed with "Carmen Rivera painted her portrait in 1932." Mexico is on her right and the USA on her left. Mexico is characterised by its agricultural culture and USA by its industry
Colour or texture	Frida wears a bright pink dress which stands out against the background. On the left the colours are more warm, earthy and natural which is symbolic of Mexico. Then on the right the colours are more cold and stark which shows the USA as less inviting
Light & tone	There is no visible light source but shadow can be seen. It is most notable on the four machines on the left which contributes to her portrayal of the USA
Space & depth or relief	There is no single horizon line as Mexico and the USA do not completely match up. USA is crowded whereas a Mexico has space to grow and expand
Line or brushwork	Paint is applied delicately and lines are only harsh on the USA side

Stylistic comment and artistic influence: Frida was influenced from events in her life. In this portrait she is portraying how she is torn between her life in the USA and her home country Mexico. However the flag in her hand shows where she belongs, Mexico.