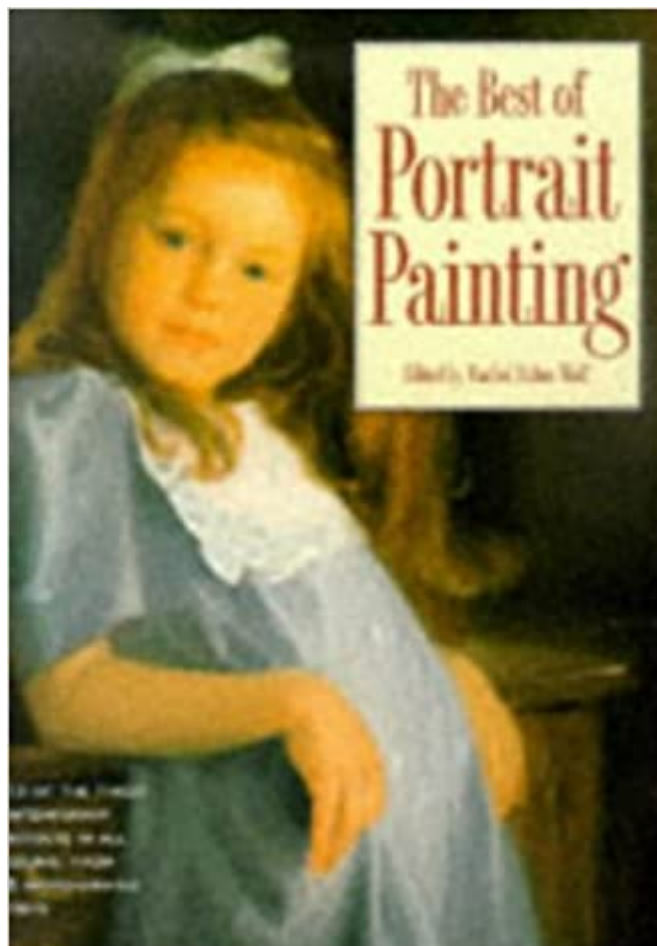


The book was found

# The Best Of Portrait Painting



## Synopsis

If the artists in this book have one thing in common, it is their ability to capture the elusive human spirit with their respective mediums - oil, watercolor, pastel, colored pencil, gouache and acrylic. By their example, you'll discover ways to: convey personality with expression or attitude, enhance your subject with color, communicate a certain mood or emotion, portray meaning with symbolism, use light to define your subject, describe your subject with a pose or gesture, tell a story with setting or props, and "set the stage" with design and composition. You'll also get insight on using photos, working from life, composing a multiple subject portrait and more.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #685,560 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #149 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Painting > Oil Painting](#)

## Customer Reviews

Wolf, a prolific editor of art instruction books, may be a bit too prolific. This volume amasses more than 120 portraits from 96 artists, working in all media. With only a paragraph of text for each portrait, there is no depth to the material. Its value is limited to that of a portfolio of visual styles. Wolf did the same thing, with no better effect, in *The Best of Wildlife Art* (LJ 7/97). Roberta Carter Clark covered portraits in several media more successfully in her *How To Paint Living Portraits* (North Light, 1990). Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Classic portrait book...love it.

I felt that some of the portraits were not up to the quality that Rachael Wolf usually selects in some of her books. There was a lot of oil painting examples and I would have liked to see some more colored pencil, watercolor, and pastel examples.

I bought this book for inspiration and ideas. It has a wide variety of portraits in various mediums. I felt it was a good art investment.

My other review was too harsh. I'm afraid I initially expected a book geared to painters of portraits rather than viewers of portraits. I've since had an opportunity to spend some time with the book and it wears well. Sorry painters and editor.

The book is a disappointment. The paintings are well reproduced, but for the most part they are undistinguished, pedestrian pictures by new and [one hopes] developing artists. Not master of the genre is represented. No Kinstler, no Sanden, no David Green, no Gordon Wetmore, no Jack Beal, nobody. Sorry, there are better coffee tables books available. No John Singer Sargeants here.

I really enjoyed the book, especially the portrait on page 132, since it is me in the painting. It brought me a lot of happiness to see my portrait in this magnificent book. Special thanks to the artist, my very good friend Tom Joyce. I hope you read this message so you will know that you are very special and talented person...love, Cristina

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