

A Portrait In Progress



Here is a sample of some of the supplies I use in completing an oil portrait.

Step 1.



I begin by first completing a line drawing of my subject, working from photographs provided by the client.

Step 2.



After completing the drawing and calculating the size and dimensions of the portrait, I build the canvas.

Step 3 and 4.



Next the stretched canvas is covered in several layers of gesso making it able to be painted on in oil, and finally I apply a dark layer of oil paint mixed with linseed oil as I prefer to work on a toned surface.

Step 5.



When transferring the drawing to canvas I usually prefer to use a projector in order to attain the best possible likeness of the subject as possible. I also paint dark to light, so I begin by painting in the darkest darks.

Step 6.



Next begins the painting process. I like to work various parts of the canvas, slowly bringing the painting into focus.

Step 7.



At this stage in the painting when I am close to completion I like to invite the client into the studio to make sure it meets their approval. Also I encourage suggestions for minor last minute changes to ensure a correct likeness.



A detail of the painting near completion.



The completed portrait,



...and my photographic reference.