

Collection portrait trail



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Getting started

Welcome to Geelong Gallery's *Collection portrait trail* where you can engage with the different portraits in the permanent collection. After viewing the portraits, create your own self-portrait in *The Studio* located in the Learn space.

Note to adults: The *Collection portrait trail* is recommended for children 5 to 8 years old. Children must be supervised at all times in the Gallery. The following questions are a starting point for a conversation with your own children or children accompanying you.

Strike a pose

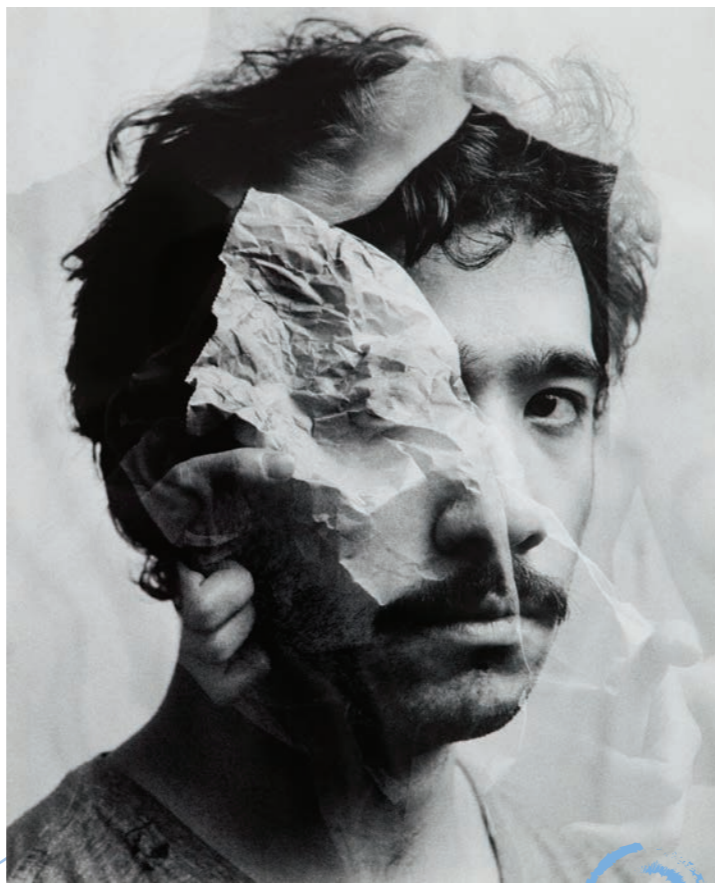


Look at all of the different and interesting ways people have posed for a portrait. What can it tell you about a person? Are they relaxed or serious?

Find the painting titled *Mrs Margaret McArthur of Meningoort*. What kind of pose and expression does Margaret have? Why do you think she is posing like that?

How would you pose for a portrait?

Portraits today



Before the invention of photography, portraits could only be painted or drawn by an artist. Today we are more likely to use a camera to take someone's portrait or a "Selfie". Can you spot the portrait that isn't a painting in the collection?

What else can a portrait tell you about a person? Can a portrait tell you a story about a person's life, their mood, behaviour, or inner thoughts?

Is there a story you would like to tell people about yourself?

Fashion



Look at the different clothing and accessories people are wearing in their portrait. What clues do they give us about the personality of the sitter?

Spot the portrait of Betty Paterson, painted by her sister, the artist, Esther Paterson. What does Betty's outfit tell us about her personality and the times that she lived?



What clues can clothing and accessories also give us about a person's nationality or cultural background?

What items of clothing would you choose to wear for a portrait? What do they tell us about you?

Family



Portraits can also be of groups of people. Before photography, painted family portraits were the only visual record people had of their families. Who would you include in your family or group portrait?

Who are you?



Can you find an example of a self-portrait in the collection? What clues does the artist give you about their personality or art practice?

Draw your own self-portrait. Be inspired by the portraits in the Gallery and create your own self-portrait in *The Studio*.

1
Robert Dowling
Mrs Margaret McArthur of Meningoort 1856-57
oil on canvas
Geelong Gallery
Purchased with the generous assistance of the Trustees of the Howard Hitchcock Bequest, and with additional support from the Friends of the Geelong Gallery, 2001

2
David Rosetzky
Composite portrait 4 2015
silver gelatin print; edition 2/6
Geelong Gallery
Purchased with funds generously provided by Geelong Contemporary, 2017
Reproduced courtesy of the artist

3
Esther Paterson
Portrait of Betty Paterson 1939
oil on canvas
Geelong Gallery
HP Douglass Bequest Fund, 1939

4
K Koiama
Japanese lady early 1900s
oil on composition board
Geelong Gallery
Bequest of Oswald Gibson, 1932

5
Marshall Claxton
Portrait of Mrs Hugh Chambers and her daughter Hester 1853
oil on canvas
Geelong Gallery
Gift of EV Gayer, 1965

6
Ernest Buckmaster
Self portrait 1940
oil on canvas
Geelong Gallery
Purchased 1941



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COVER

Marshall Claxton

*Portrait of Mrs Hugh Chambers
and her daughter Hester (detail) 1853*
oil on canvas
Geelong Gallery
Gift of EV Gayer, 1965

Geelong Gallery

55 Little Malop Street
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**Free entry
unless otherwise stated**

Open daily 10am – 5pm
Closed Christmas Eve,
Christmas Day, Boxing Day,
New Year's Day and Good Friday



Register online for the Gallery's
newsletter and follow us on
social media to keep up to date.

www.geelonggallery.org.au