

# Collection 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

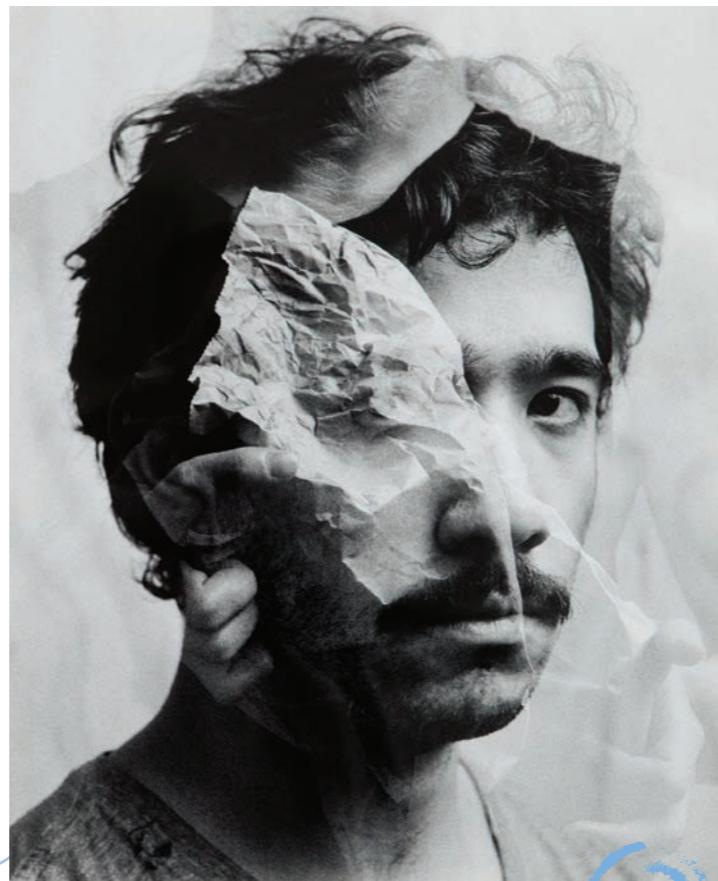


Look at all of the different and interesting ways people have posed for a portrait. What can it tell you about a person? Are they relaxed or serious?

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  
Geelong 3220  
T 03 5229 3645

**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](http://www.geelonggallery.org.au)