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British artist **Dave Turner** specializes in painting traditional oil portraits using fine-art techniques of the Old Masters. Working in the USA for the last 30 years, Turner has developed a method and style of portraiture that satisfies his clients with realism, characterization, and lasting value. For more information, please send e-mail or call the artist at his North Carolina studio.



Daphne Ladines
20" x 16"
Oil on canvas (detail)



Hugh Thomas Stubbs
24" x 18"
Oil on canvas (detail)

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Why have a portrait painted?

Commissioning an oil portrait is a unique way to recognize achievement, celebrate success, or treasure a remembrance. Turner's paintings are crafted to show character and interest.

Why oil on canvas?

The depth and luminosity of oil painting in general—and flesh tones in particular—cannot be matched in any other medium. With the traditional academic techniques that Turner uses, an oil painting can last beyond a lifetime; it can be preserved as a precious heirloom and as a work of fine art.

How much does an oil portrait cost?

It depends on the size of the portrait, the amount of detail in the work, and other factors. For a custom work of fine art and lasting value, you will find that commission rates of *Portraits by Turner* are both reasonable and competitive.

What's involved in commissioning a portrait?

Portrait painting is a creative process that requires careful planning and consultation between the artist and the client commissioning the portrait. During initial consultation the size and basic composition of the work are discussed. Key elements, such as lighting, background, location, and expression, are carefully considered. The artist makes preliminary sketches and takes reference photographs. All this is done in a relaxed, informal atmosphere, either at your home or business, or at the artist's studio.

To commission a portrait, do I need to contact an agent?

No, that is not necessary. Turner prefers to work directly with his portrait clients, rather than use an artist's agent. For international clients, however, an agent may be needed for handling transaction documents. Please contact the artist for details.



Shaala
14" x 11"
Oil on canvas (detail)



Joelene
36" x 24"
Oil on canvas (detail)



R. W. Bartlett, M.D.
36" x 24"
Oil on canvas (detail)

Can I commission a portrait from out of state?

Turner is available to travel nationwide for the initial consultation and sitting. He will return to his studio to complete the portrait. The process for long-distance clients is similar to the portrait process for local clients. Terms are 50% to start, with the remaining 50% due after you approve a photo of the finished portrait. The portrait will be shipped pre-paid by ground carrier. If you prefer, you may accept the extra charges of overnight and/or insured delivery.

How long will I have to sit?

Although painting from life has advantages, clients generally prefer not to spend many hours in several sessions sitting for a portrait. For this reason, after a short initial sitting, the actual painting of the canvas is done in the artist's studio using the preliminary sketches and selected reference photographs. Head-and-shoulder portraits usually are completed within a couple of months; larger and more detailed works take longer. If necessary, minor adjustments can be made in a final sitting before the portrait is framed.

Who handles the framing?

The finished work can be delivered framed and ready to hang. Or you can choose to have the portrait framed yourself. At the artist's studio frame catalogues and samples are available in a variety of traditional and contemporary styles to suit the overall mood of the portrait in its final setting.

Can I commission a portrait from overseas?

Although Turner paints all portraits in his home studio, he travels internationally and is available world wide for the initial consultation and sitting. The finished canvas is shipped prepaid and ready for framing. A local agent represents the artist and processes all necessary customs documents and fees. For further details, please contact the artist by e-mail.

To see a portfolio of Dave Turner's paintings, visit the artist's web site at portraitsbyturner.com. At this site you can view original portrait and non-portrait works by the artist, as well as reproductions of master portraits that Turner has produced, such as the one shown here (after John Singer Sargent).

You are invited to visit Turner's studio where you can see some of the artist's paintings and observe his working methods. For an appointment, or for a free consultation on commissioning a fine-art portrait, please call the artist at 919.367.8204.

