

THE Art OF BEING Seen

Renaissance Man

JOSEPH SWANEK BRINGS
RENAISSANCE-INSPIRED
PORTRAITURE TO MUSKOKA.

Self Portrait, Oil on Canvas, 29.5" x 47".



In an era of fleeting digital images and AI-generated visuals, traditional portraiture is experiencing a rebirth—one that celebrates authenticity, depth, and human connection.

Joseph Swanek brings this timeless art form to life, capturing not just appearances but the essence of his subjects.

“Renaissance portraiture is an intimate cultural experience that transcends generations. When I paint a portrait, I strive to capture what makes someone unique.”

His artistry goes beyond realism, weaving gesture, lighting, and gaze into powerful storytelling. Each painting invites the viewer into a personal and lasting connection with its subject.

Throughout history, commissioned portraits have served as heirlooms—honouring loved ones, commemorating milestones, and expressing individuality in a personable artistic way.

ABOVE LEFT: *Girl with the Golden Earring*, Oil on Canvas.

CENTRE: *Portrait of Father Mike*, Oil on Canvas.

ABOVE RIGHT: *Portrait of Heliana*, Oil on Canvas.

RIGHT: Charcoal sketches of *Emily* drawn by Joseph at the age of 17.



FEATURE | JOSEPH SWANEK



BELOW: Veronica and Richard sitting for sight-size portrait studies at Charles Cecil Studios, Florence, Italy.



Today, commissioned portraits remain a luxurious and meaningful investment, particularly in a cherished space like the family cottage, where memories are made and shared for generations.

A classically trained painter, Swanek honed his craft at the Ontario College of Art, the University of Guelph, and Queen's University, before refining his skills in Florence, Italy. He studied full-time at the prestigious Angel Academy of Art and part-time at the Charles Cecil Studios, both located in Florence. Inspired by Renaissance masters, his work embraces the techniques that bring emotion, individuality, and sophistication to every portrait.

This summer, Swanek's work will be on display and available for purchase at the Bala Bay Inn, where you can experience his work firsthand. **H**



Joseph painting in watercolour
at Vernazza, Cinque Terre



JS Joseph Swanek
PORTRAIT ARTIST

WWW.JOSEPHSWANEK.COM

If you are interested in commissioning a portrait of yourself or a loved one, or if you're looking to discuss the possibility of having Joseph paint a house portrait of your home or cottage, Joseph can be contacted at: (647) 313.0292 or by email at: josephswanek@gmail.com