

# Pencil Portraits by Valda Robison

## Information Sheet

### Size and framing:

The image area of the drawing for one or two subjects is within an area 10"x14". The drawing is mounted behind a 3" wide white matte and will fit in a 16"x20" ready-made frame. Of course, more subjects will necessitate a larger portrait area. Size and number of subjects will be discussed when the client contacts the artist.

### Materials:

All drawings are done in graphite pencil on 100% cotton, heavyweight acid-free art paper. When the portrait is finished it is given a light spray of fixative to help reduce smudging.

### Cost: (a cost breakdown is in the OrderForm/Contract)

The cost of a basic one-subject portrait is \$175. Any additional subjects in one portrait will cost add \$85 for each subject. Extra details above the basic portrait require more time to draw and, therefore, additional cost will be added. A house portrait costs \$210. Please see the Order Form/Contract for all fees and shipping costs.

---

## Photo References

The artist draws the portrait from one or more photographs (non-professional snapshots) that are provided by the client. The photos should be in focus and, in order for the face details to be clear enough to draw accurately, the area of the face in the photo needs to be at least 3" in height. Digital images are acceptable as long as they are sharp and clear, and the quality is at least 144 dpi.

The artist will use the utmost care while in possession of your photos. However, unforeseen things do happen, and things do get lost or damaged in the mail. So, if you do not have the negative, it would be prudent to have a copy of the photo made and submit a copy.

**\*\* Please Note \*\* Photos taken by professional photographers are copyrighted.**

**Studio photos are copyrighted by the photographer. In order for the artist to draw a portrait from a copyrighted photo, a written release must accompany the portrait order form. If the subject is not a family member, a written model release must accompany the portrait order.**

---

## Tips for taking photos:

- Use a tripod if you have one, or set the camera on a stationary object (bookcase, back of a chair, etc.) to keep it steady so that the picture will be in good focus.
- Try several poses to find one that is interesting and shows the subject's personality.
- White clothing can cause over-exposure, washing out facial features. Clothing that is neither very dark nor very light is best.
- Side lighting is best (morning or afternoon sun, or from a sunny window). Do not have the subject face directly into the sun and do not use a flash, as this washes out details.
- Avoid taking pictures of the subject in speckled shade such as under a tree. This confuses the shadows that indicate facial features.
- If more than one subject is to be in the pencil portrait, it is not necessary that each be in the same snapshot; however, the light source does need to be coming from the same direction in each photo.
- House photos: An angled shot is more interesting than a flat facade. In any case, the sun should be at an angle if possible for there to be good shadows. If the sun is straight up, there is little shadowing and, therefore, a less than desirable drawing will result.

---

(continued)

---

### **Background:**

The subject and background do not have to be in the same snapshot. The artist can combine them in the drawing. Backgrounds can be the family home or yard, one's alma mater, objects in a room - whatever is meaningful.

---

## **To Commission a Portrait by Valda Robison**

### First, contact the artist

Please contact Valda (see below) to discuss the portrait you wish to commission.

### Second, mail Order Form/Contract and photo(s) to artist

When you are ready to order the portrait, mail the signed Pencil Portrait Order Form\*, which is the portrait contract, your reference photo(s), and the deposit\*. When the artist receives these items your portrait will be scheduled. Allow up to four weeks for completion of the portrait.

\*deposit of \$75 for one subject and \$50 for each additional subject (check or money order)

You will be sent a proof copy of the finished portrait, and an invoice for the balance due. When final payment is received by the artist your Portrait and your photo(s) will be mailed to you.

### **Copies of your portrait.**

Reproductions of your portrait (full size or smaller) may be purchased directly from Valda Robison for one year after the portrait is completed.

To contact Valda Robison

#### Phone or email:

(913) 341-1195 (Overland Park, Kansas)  
vrpaints@valdastudio.com

#### Mailing address:

Please contact the artist for a mailing address.

\* You may download both this information sheet and the Pencil Portrait Order Form directly from the website. However, if you wish, printed materials can be mailed to you or attached to an email message in PDF format.

*Valda Robison*

Fine Art in Pencil Pen and Brush

**www.ValdaStudio.com**