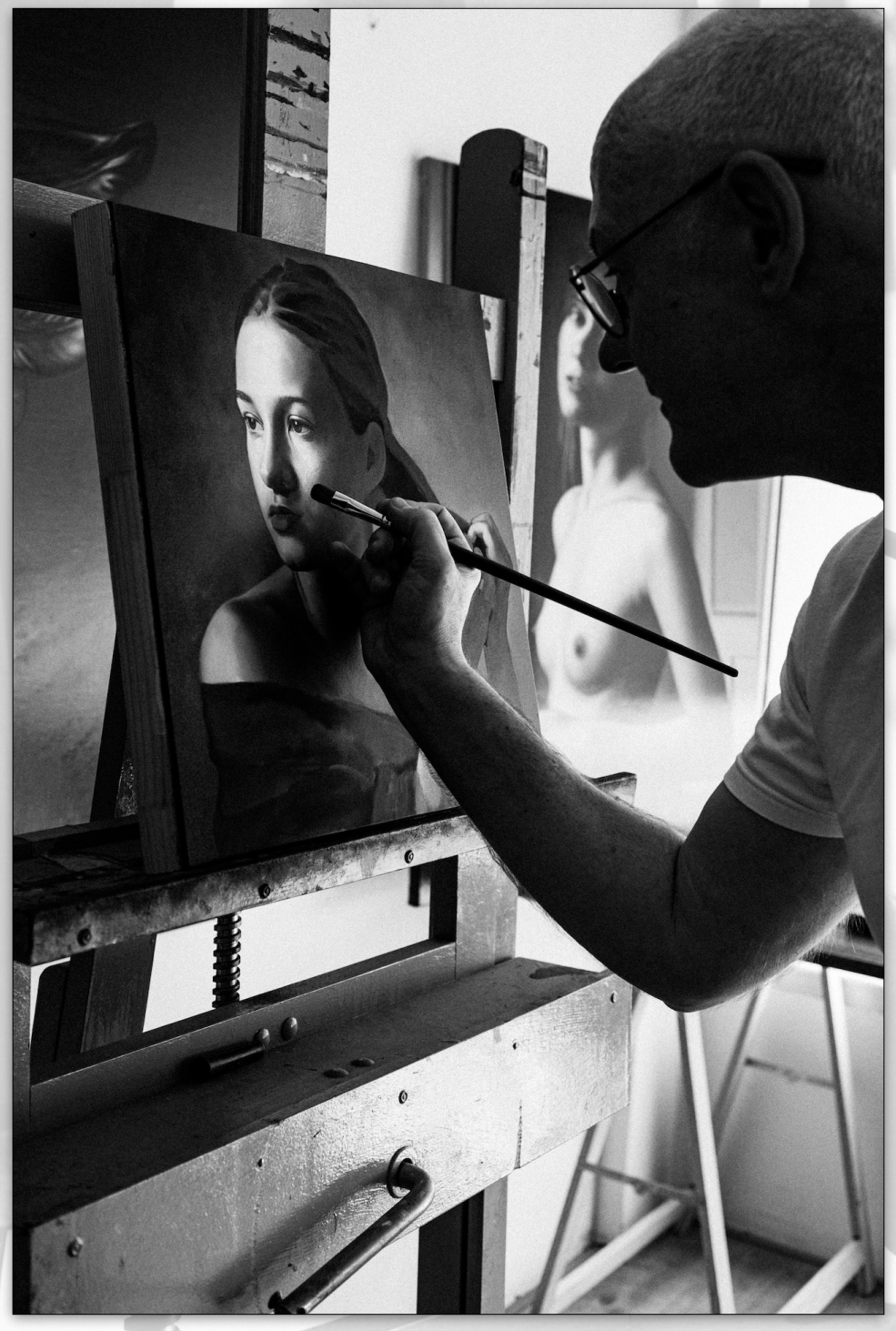

HECTOR DIAZ
Javier Arizabalo
25 Portraits

Javier Arizabalo

25 Portraits



Javier Arizabalo

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Javier Arizabalo

The art of Portraits

The art of Portraits

Portraiture is a theme with origins dating back to ancient Egypt some 5,000 years ago, where it served to honor and immortalize important figures like the pharaohs. Greek and Roman cultures also valued portraiture, with the Greeks creating realistic busts and the Romans employing it to represent political leaders and historical figures.

After a decline in the Middle Ages, portraiture strongly re-emerged during the Renaissance (14th and 15th centuries), marking a shift towards individualism, realism, and emotional depth. Artists like Leonardo da Vinci and Raphael sought to capture the personality of their models, with iconic works such as the Mona Lisa.

The Baroque and Rococo periods saw an evolution towards greater emotional intensity and grandeur, with artists like Rembrandt and Caravaggio using chiaroscuro to bring their portraits to life.

The 18th and 19th centuries continued to emphasize personal expression, and the invention of photography in the 19th century revolutionized the genre, offering a quick and "accurate" representation. However, far from becoming obsolete, painted portraiture persisted, pushing artists to explore deeper layers of the human psyche and to enrich it with new formal styles.

Most of the works shown below are typically commissions, mediating creativity through client requirements. Nevertheless, if something can unite them, it is by showcasing the characteristics of what is known as realism, hyperrealism, or contemporary realism.
We can find a pattern in almost all these paintings, such as meticulousness, a certain photographic appearance, neutral or blurred backgrounds, and logically, the gaze towards the viewer, so that they recognize the vitality and reality of the portrayed, as a way of their permanence in time.
These works, predominantly oil on canvas, usually have their brushstrokes completely subjected to the interplay of light and chiaroscuro, to show the subtlety of tonal variation, highlighting the volumetric aspect of the portrayed.

Portraits of young people and those of older individuals have little in common regarding skin characteristics, but their treatments are clearly differentiated, allowing us to delve into the emotions of the represented. This is what the endeavor is about: presenting and bringing people to life, showing them in tenderness as well as sadness, tranquility, or anguish, making the observer empathize.

–**Javier Arizabalo**

Javier Arizabalo

Girls Portraits



Girl, Jan. 2025, Oil on Canvas, 130 x 81 cm, “Girls” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Susana, Nov. 2023, Oil on Canvas, 22 x 22 cm, “Girls” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Anna, Feb. 2015, Oil on Canvas, 116 x 116 cm, "*Women*" Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Lara, Feb. 2013, Oil on Canvas, 46 x 33 cm, “Girls” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Veronique, Aug. 2012, Oil on Canvas, 81 x 60 cm, “Girls” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Arantza, Sept. 2010, Oil on Canvas, 73 x 60 cm, “Girls” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

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Women Portraits



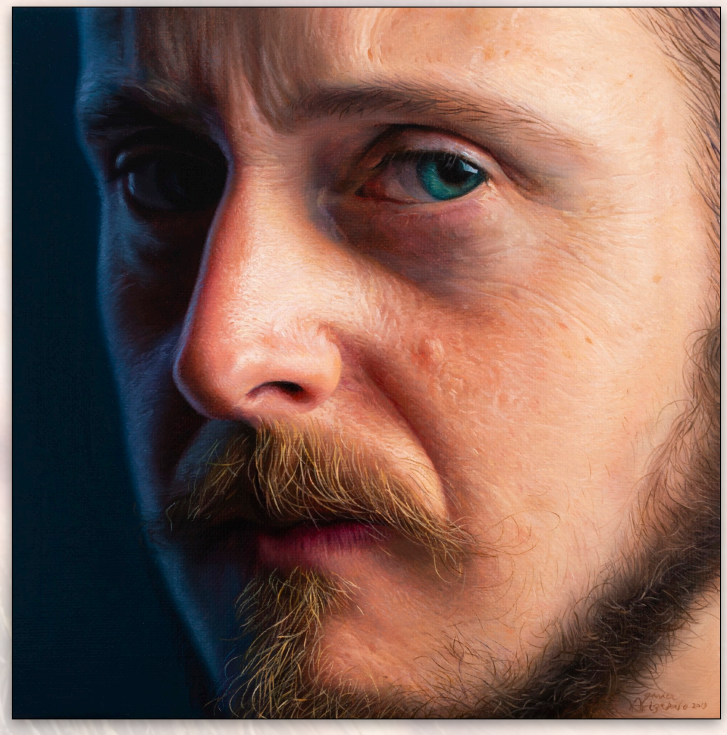
Isabel, Aug. 2019, Oil on Canvas, 46 x 33 cm, “Women” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Sylvi, Jul. 2009, Oil on Canvas, 65 x 116 cm, “Women” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

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Boys Portraits



Manci, Aug. 2019, Oil on Canvas, 20 x 20 cm, “Boys” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



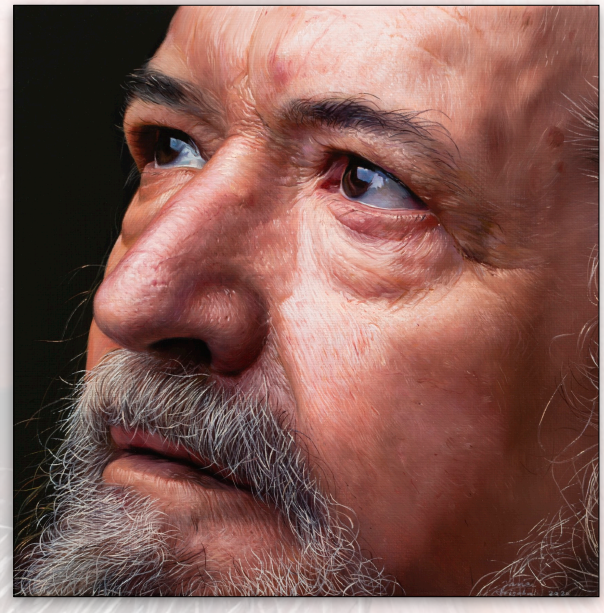
Max Cencic, Feb. 2012, Oil on Canvas, 40 x 40 cm, “Boys” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

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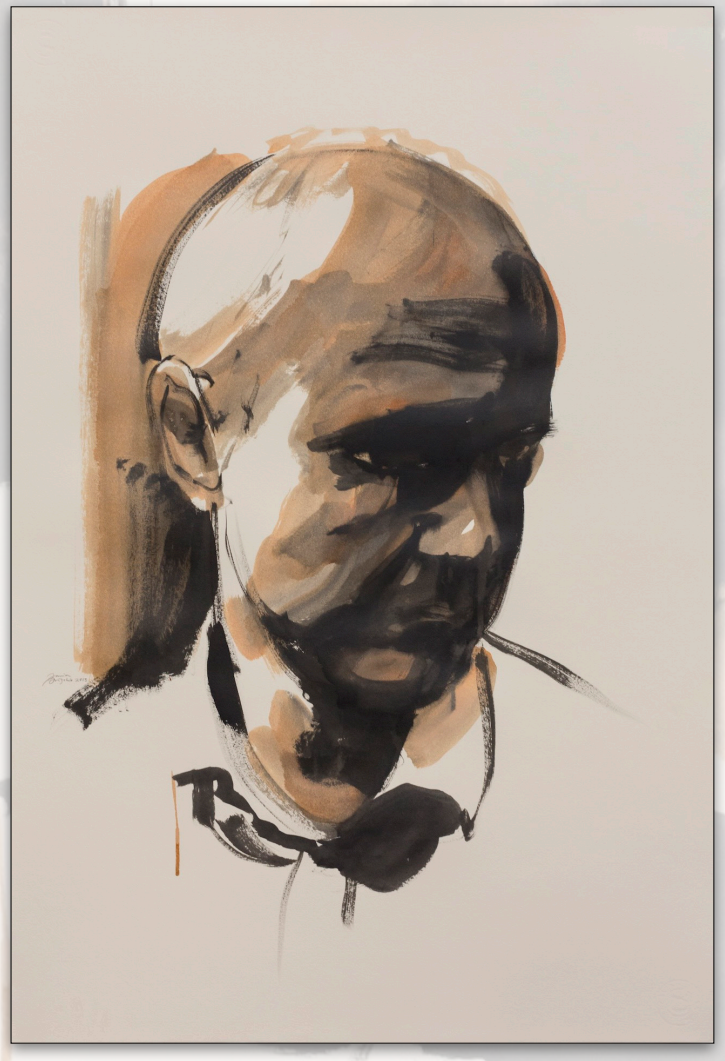
Men Portraits



Txema, Oct. 2021, Oil on Canvas, 92 x 65 cm, “Men” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



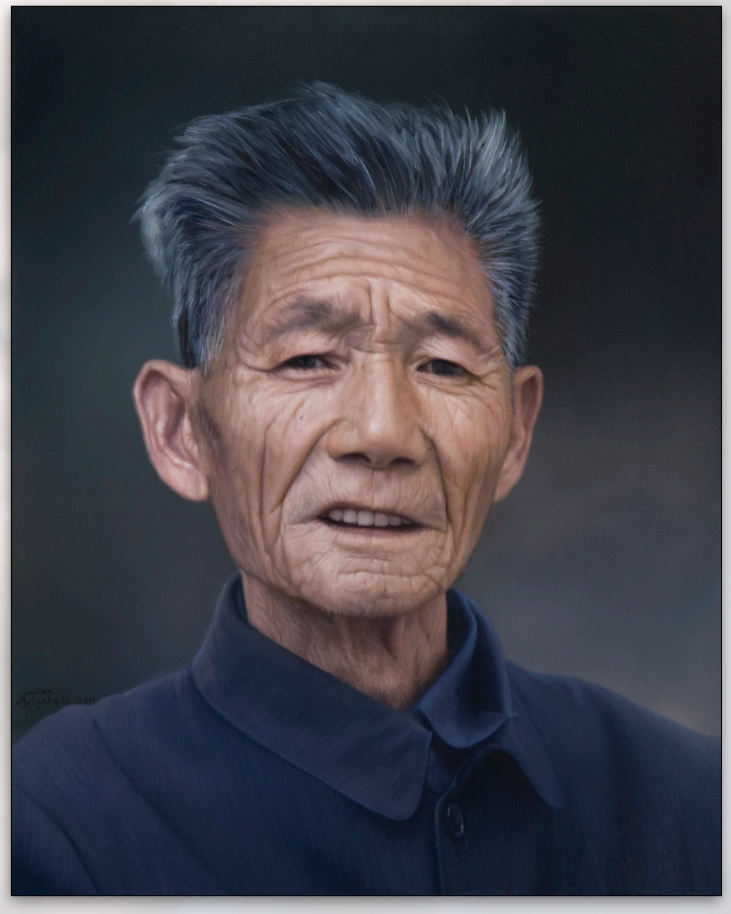
Guillermo, Feb. 2020, Oil on Canvas, 22 x 22 cm, “Men” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



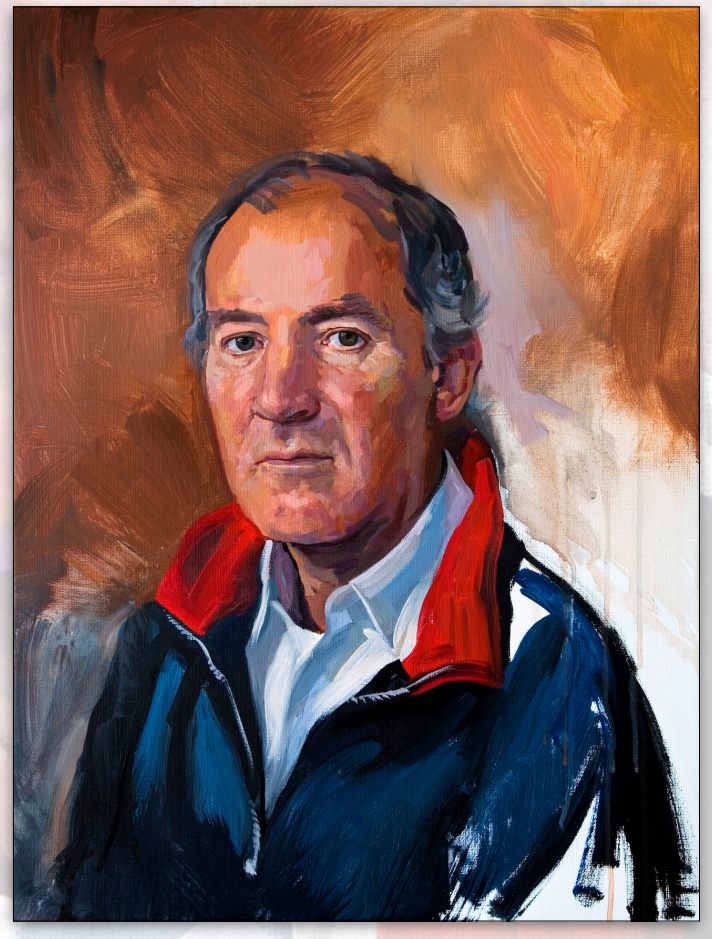
Self-portrait, Nov. 2013, Acrylic and Ink on Paper, 112 x 73 cm, “Men” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



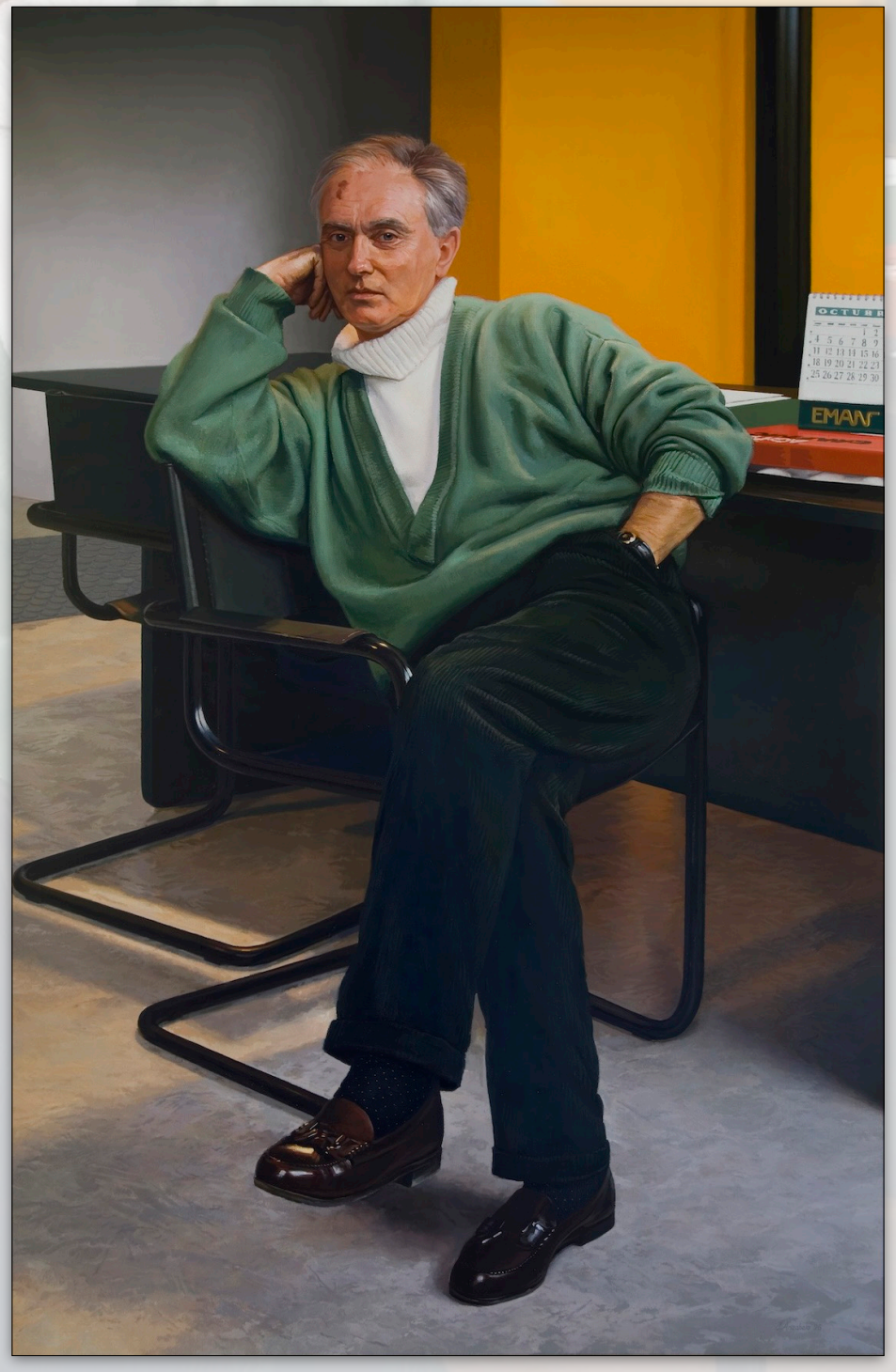
Berasategui, Jan. 2013, Oil on Canvas, 46 x 65 cm, “Men” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Old Chinese Man, Nov. 2011, Oil on Canvas, 41 x 33 cm, “Men” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Diego, Apr. 2006, Oil on Canvas, 61 x 46 cm, “Men” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



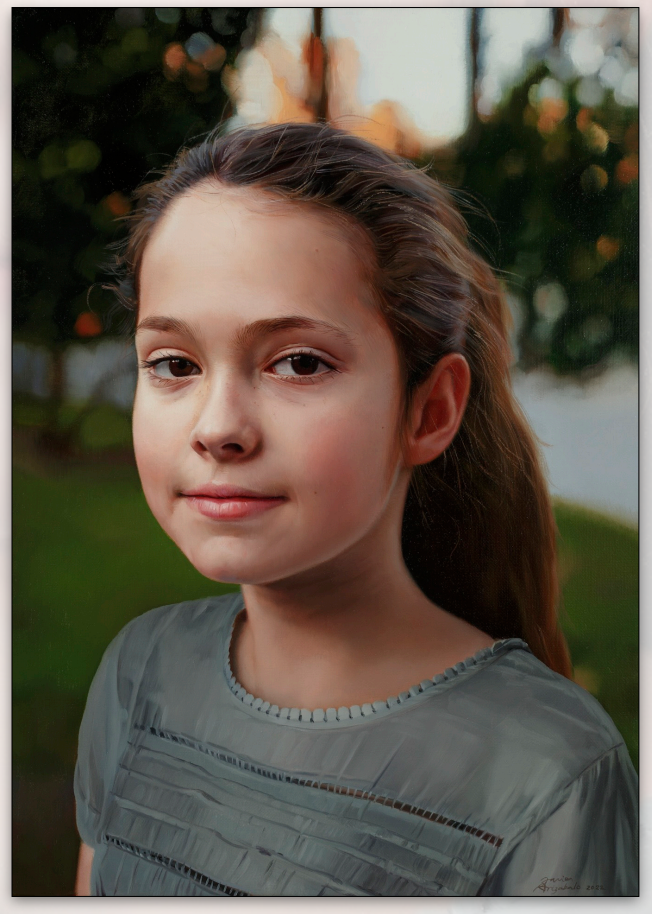
Agustín, Jun. 1996, Oil on Canvas, 146 x 97 cm, “Men” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

Javier Arizabalo

Children Portraits



Ane, Mar 2024, Oil on Canvas, 46 x 33 cm, “Children” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Name, May 2022, Oil on Canvas, 46 x 33 cm, “Children” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Nerea, Sept. 2019, Oil on Canvas, 46 x 46 cm “Nerea” Sessions, “Children” Series © Javier Arizabalo



Two girls, Feb. 2015, Oil on Canvas, 71 x 54 cm, “Children” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

Javier Arizabalo

Couple Portraits



Panos and his wife, Apr. 2023, Oil on Canvas, 100 x 81 cm, “Couple” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo



Juan Carlos and Pilar, Jun. 2000, Oil on Canvas, 91 x 73 cm, “Couple” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

Javier Arizabalo

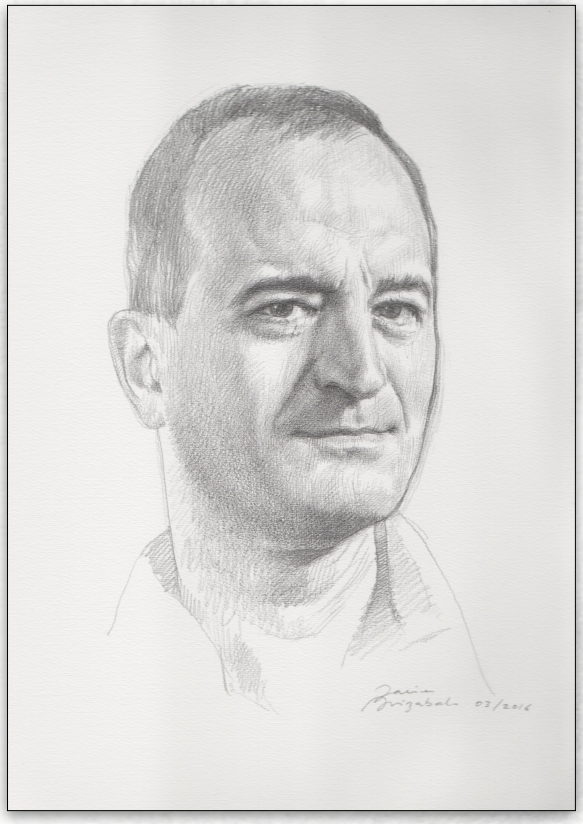
Family Portraits



Trashorras Family, May 2017, Oil on Canvas, 92 x 73 cm, “Family” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

Javier Arizabalo

Drawings Portraits



Josemi, May 2016, Graphite on Paper, 42 x 29,7 cm, “Drawing” Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

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Artwork Credits:

Cover: ***Agustín***, Jun. 1996, Oil on Canvas, 146 x 97 cm
"Men" Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

Back Cover: ***Self-portrait***, Nov. 2013, Acrylic and Ink on Paper, 112 x 73 cm
"Men" Portraits © Javier Arizabalo

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