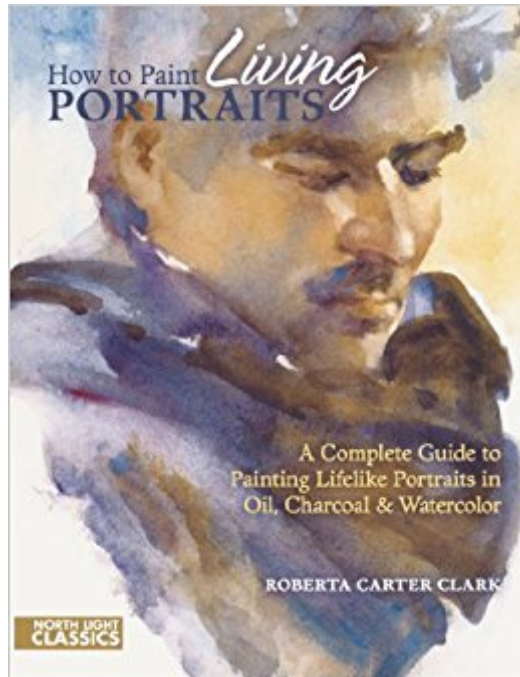




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# How To Paint Living Portraits (North Light Classics)



## Synopsis

Master artist Roberta Carter Clark shares secrets for infusing portraits with life. Since its original publication, this best-selling book has earned a loyal following among students of portraiture. Back in print by popular demand, *How to Paint Living Portraits* has been updated to help today's artists discover the joys of this time-honored tradition. Hands-on instruction covers a range of ages and ethnicities, offering a practical approach to creating successful, spirited portraits in charcoal, oils and watercolor. Includes 23 exercises for capturing recognizable likenesses, feature by feature. Offers instruction on painting the figure, hands and clothing. Addresses common stumbling blocks of skin tones and hair colors. Illustrates simple and complex lighting set-ups for achieving multiple moods and effects. Features 5 step-by-step portrait demonstrations in charcoal, oil and watercolor. Clark brings fifty years of experience to this book, from technical expertise on color and composition to practical considerations of working with a live model. One of the most comprehensive guides ever written on the subject, it's a valuable reference for any skill level.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Both these books approach one of the most difficult of artistic challenges--the accurate depiction of the human form. *Bodyworks* is a compact manual for seeing and drawing the figure. Its strong point is that it does not treat each muscle or limb in isolation but in clear relationship to the entire figure. Well illustrated but with limited text, the book concentrates on form, omitting the consideration of color. Still, despite its assets, *Bodyworks* is not an essential purchase, particularly for libraries.

owning George B. Bridgman's classic series on figure drawing (Dover Publications, 1932-1974). *How To Paint Living Portraits* is an innovative approach to the subject. The emphasis here is not merely on the realistic portrayal of the figure but on the finer problem of creating portraits that look like their models. Step-by-step demonstrations consider the proportions of the head; such individual features as eyes, nose, mouth, etc.; the body; and the clothing and lighting of the figure. More comprehensive than similar books, this one covers working in charcoal, oil, and watercolors, with an especially good treatment of color. Appropriate for all levels of expertise, *How To Paint Living Portraits* is highly recommended.- Daniel J. Lombardo, Jones Lib., Inc., Amherst, Mass. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Roberta Carter Clark has juried both state and national exhibitions and taught portrait and figure painting workshops across the U.S. Her paintings have received awards at national exhibitions, including The American Watercolor Society, Allied Artists, Midwest Watercolor Society and the Adirondacks National Exhibition of American Watercolors, and her commissioned portraits are in the collections of hundreds private, corporate and public collections throughout the U.S. and England.

Roberta Carter Clark is a wonderful artist. I have the original printing of this book but I decided I wanted the most up to date. I was not disappointed when I gazed through it. I met her a couple of times for portrait demos and was very impressed with her knowledge and talent. This book shows all of that and more. Probably one of the best books on Portraits.

Excellent primer on this subject. It offers a wealth of information on proportions, clothing, lighting, and color related to painting portraits. Ms. Clark also includes invaluable exercises for drawing various parts of the head. And she gives step by step instructions on creating portraits in charcoal, watercolor and oil.

This book has 151 pages of text, 83 of which are about drawing, not painting. I understand that to paint, you must be able to draw, to pose and light your subject, etc., but the book title does not give a hint of how much space is devoted to actual use of charcoal, oil, and watercolor. However, I gave it a high rating because the 83 pages of preliminary instruction is outstanding. So, while I would have liked more space allocated to painting, I will still refer to the book when painting or drawing the figure or portraits.

How to Paint Living Portraits is a very thorough book on the subject of painting. I especially liked the portion dealing with preliminary drawing of the individual features of the face and body. Also the author captured my attention concerning the subject of lighting, color and the method of painting a more life-like subject. I recommend this book to all truly seeking to paint a more life-like portrait.

Attention to techniques and detail from drawing portraits to using different mediums A great find especially for artists starting out...

Superb teacher. I taught high school art for 30 years and my students did some excellent portrait work but I wish I had this book as her nuance and specificity of detail and insight is so helpful.

This book is excellent for oil painters but is not informative for watercolor which was what I was most interested in learning. The cover of it is deceiving, and was the reason why I purchased it.

lovely book and so informative. Rose

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