



CAPTURING BARRY HUMPHRIES PORTRAIT ARTIST JULES SEVELSON

The portrait of Barry Humphries by Jules Sevelson hangs in the foyer of The Hughenden. A colourful Australian identity, John Barry Humphries, AO CBE (born 17 February 1934) is an iconic comedian, satirist, artist, and author. A well-known Sydney personality, Humphries first joined Sydney's renowned Philip Street Revue Theatre and has performed to audiences all around the world.

Sevelson's portrait catches the complexity and humour of Barry Humphries: split between his satiric role as Dame Edna Everidge and Humphries the man.

Jules Sevelson seeks to depict both the external and internal life within his portraits. "The human figure has always fascinated me: in capturing its rhythms, shapes and colour. Capturing the soul and personality of the sitter is the greatest challenge for me. I find the infinite variety of proportions, expressions, body language endless and never dull."

His paintings include prominent Australians such as singer Kate Ceberano, NSW Treasurer The Right Honorable Michael Costa, author Duncan Ball, children's author Moya Simons, boxer Kostya Tsyu, author Nam Le and Andrew Havas, who founded Courage to Care.

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When asked what he wanted to express in his portrait of Kate Ceberano, he said "to capture Kate as a singer and entertainer rather than just a portrait". He found the portrait of Michael Costa challenging as he sought to balance his human, emotional side with his authoritative role as Treasurer. He most enjoyed the portrait of Moya Simons with her wide eyes and imagination engaging her audience of children.

In the painting of Tory Gervay, that also hangs in the hotel's foyer, Sevelson delicately details her favourite dress revealing her fragility, innocence, yet underlying sophistication. This is in contrast to the powerful, raw portrait of Kostya Tsyu with his boxing glove raised and the red tones.

Jules is a committee member of Portrait Artists Australia, exhibiting regularly at exhibition venues such as Parliament House, Sydney, Parliament House, Canberra and the Art House Hotel, Sydney. His work is in collections in the USA and Australia.

www.julessevelson.com

