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Goldwater



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# JOHN KIRTHIAN COURT

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PAINTER • SCULPTOR • PORTRAITIST

BY  
FRANK GETLEIN

1/13/01

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Lee -

These are letters  
regarding the  
portrait project  
which can be  
filed or discarded  
as appropriate

Eugenie

**JOEL R. PLATT**  
Attorney-at-Law  
9333 Milwaukee Avenue  
Niles, Illinois 60714

October 4, 2000

Millie Alston  
The White House  
Room 214, East Wing  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Ms. Alston,

Betsy Ebeling suggested that I send this to you.

I am an old friend and high school classmate of Hillary and a long time supporter of the President and Hillary. One of our other high school classmates asked me to send the White House the enclosed information about professional portrait artist Richard Halstead for consideration of Richard Halstead to paint a portrait of the President or Hillary.

Richard Halstead lives in Evanston, Illinois. As you can see by the enclosed photographs, he is an excellent artist. In addition, he is a minority and suffers from a disability; he has an arthritic condition causing his hands to be disfigured and have functional limitations. With this disability, it is truly amazing that he can paint as well as he does.

Would you be so kind as to direct this letter and the enclosures to the proper persons at White House for consideration. Thank you in advance. My best regards to Hillary and the President.

Please call me at (847) 581 8351 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joel R. Platt', with a stylized, flowing script.

Joel R. Platt

# H A L S T E A D

September 16, 2000

Mr. Joel Platt  
9333 Milwaukee Rd.  
Niles, IL 60714

Dear Mr. Platt:

I'm back in business again. Thanks for your patience.

There are two photographs of portrait paintings enclosed, with smaller photographs attached that were taken directly from the subjects. My objective is always to portray more of a person's character than a photograph can provide, but this should attest to basic ability at getting a likeness.

I'm also enclosing photographs of historical portraits that I did for Blue Cross Blue Shield in 1985. They include Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses Grant, Carl Sandburg, and Jean Baptiste Point DuSable. DuSable was drawn from written descriptions and the others, especially Lincoln, were done with a certain amount of interpretive artistic license.

I'm very grateful for your interest and for your offer to introduce my work to others.

Very sincerely,



Richard Halstead

# H A L S T E A D

## RICHARD STEWART HALSTEAD

Richard Halstead studied at Purdue University and The Chicago Academy of Art, but attributes most of his knowledge and expertise in the arts to his studies in the museums of Europe and the United States.

Mr. Halstead taught at the Ontario College of Art in Toronto and at the American Academy of Art in Chicago before devoting himself to portrait painting.

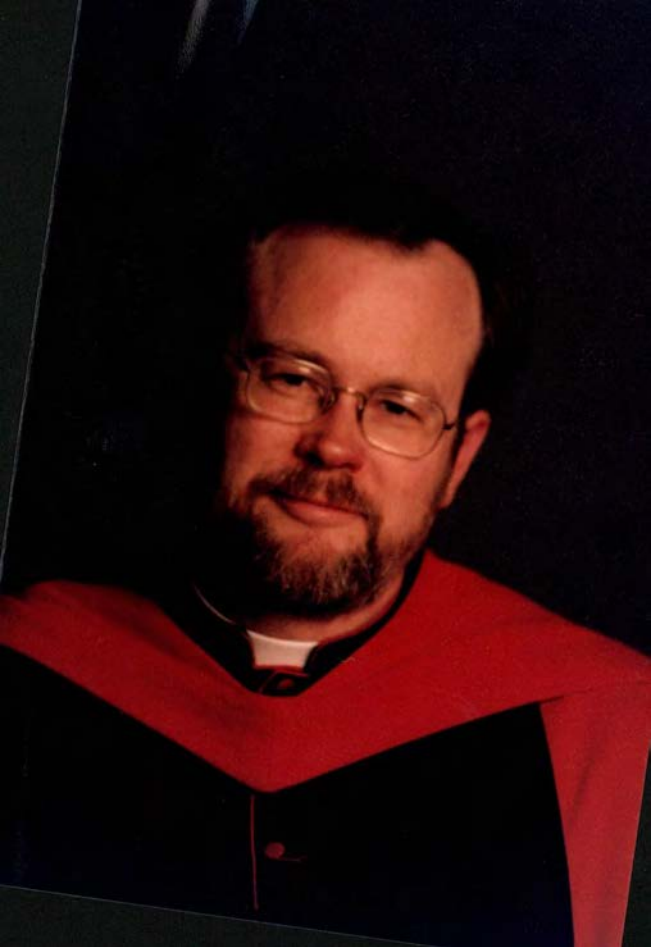
His work has been shown at the Portrait Institute in New York, the US Capitol, the Washington Society of Portrait Artists, Northwestern University, Oil Painters of America annual exhibits, the State of Illinois Building, the Montreal Museum of Art Artists' Gallery, the Ontario Gallery of Art, the Ontario Society of Artists, and at the Prince Arthur Gallery.

Works by Halstead can be found in the following collections: The National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, Yale University, University of Melbourne (Australia), University of Toronto, Dartmouth College, Blue Cross Blue Shield, The American Academy of Art, The Saddle and Sirlon Club in Louisville, Kentucky, and Seabury Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

Mr. Halstead has painted numerous portraits. These include: Justin Stanley, President, American Bar Association; Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago; Marshall Field V, President, Field Enterprises and Chairman of the Art Institute of Chicago; John Baird, President, Baird and Warner; the Reverend Mark Sisk, Episcopal Bishop of New York; Royce Abbey, President, Rotary International; Dr. Ronald Nelson, Head of Animal Science, Michigan State University; John Foster, President, Joseph T. Ryerson & Son Inc./Inland Steel; Arthur Erickson, Gold Medal Recipient, American Institute of Architecture; Archibald McClure, Senior Vice President, Quaker Oats; Dr. Harrie Van der Stappen, Chairman Art History Department, University of Chicago; Loraine Morton, Mayor, Evanston, Illinois; Jack Ragsdale, Chairman, the International Livestock Exposition, Wade Harrison II, President, Harrison Steel; and Myron Ratcliff, Chairman, Boulevard Bank.

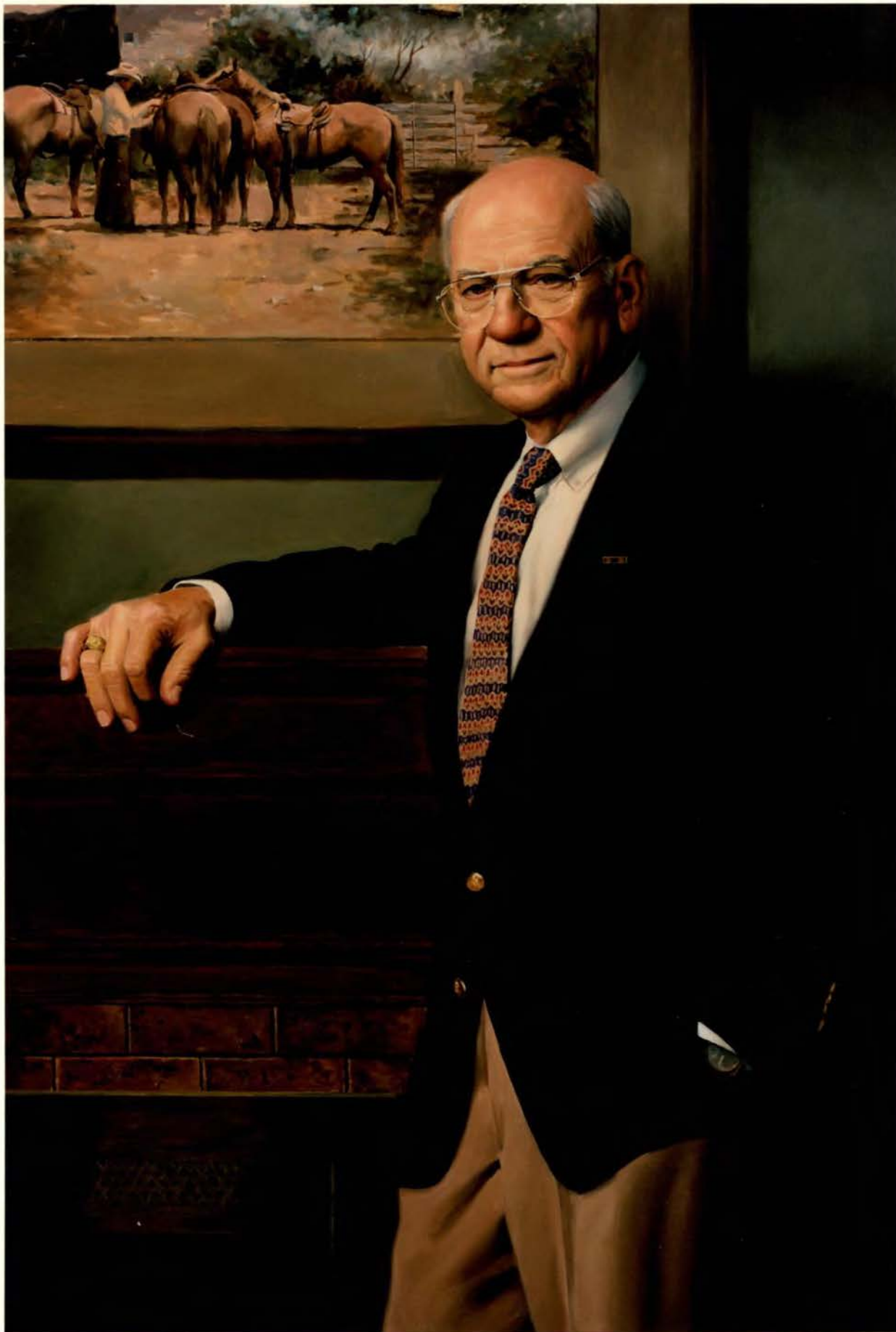
Mr. Halstead is currently painting the portrait of Dr. Joseph Beering, President of Purdue University.

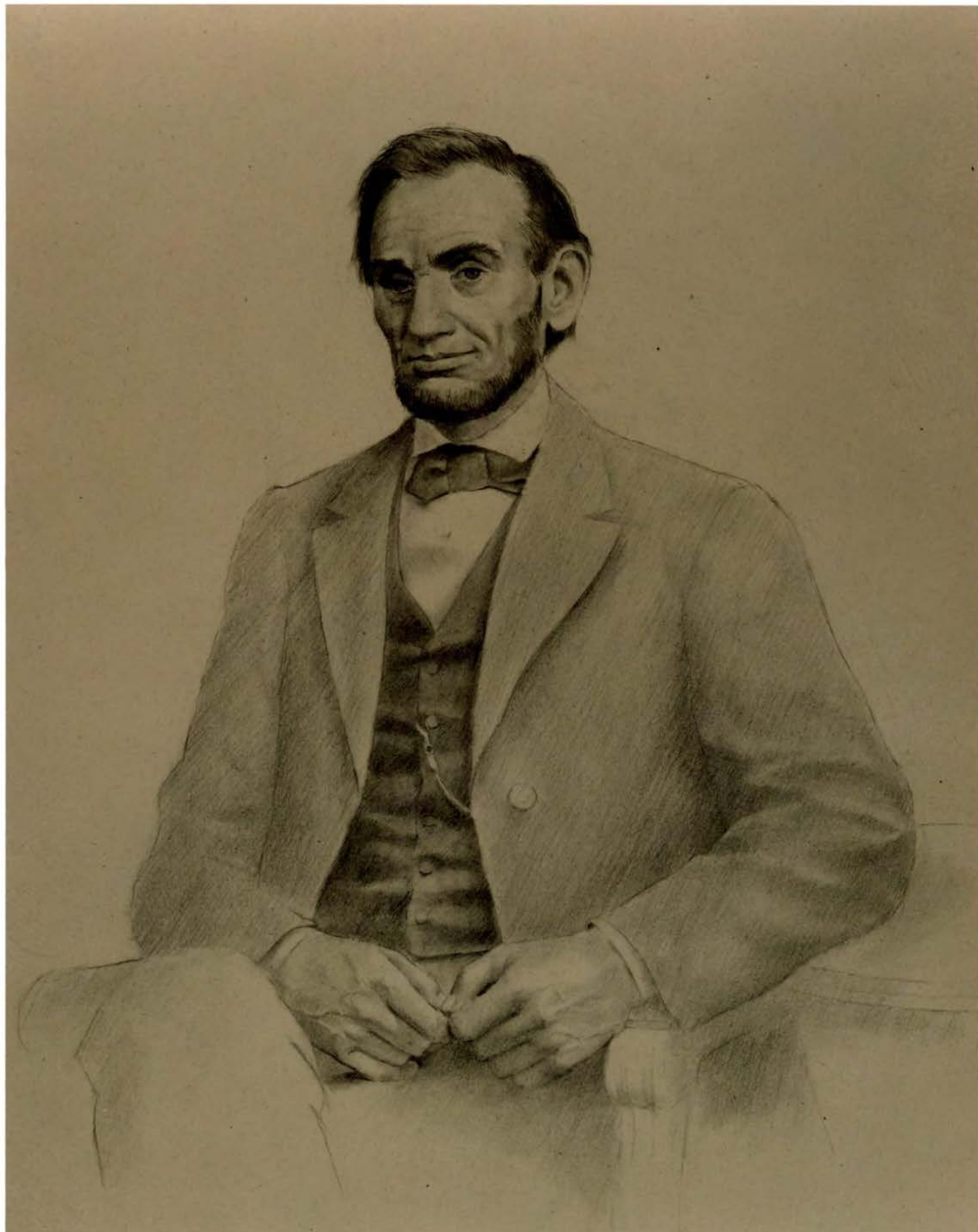
References and further information are available upon request.

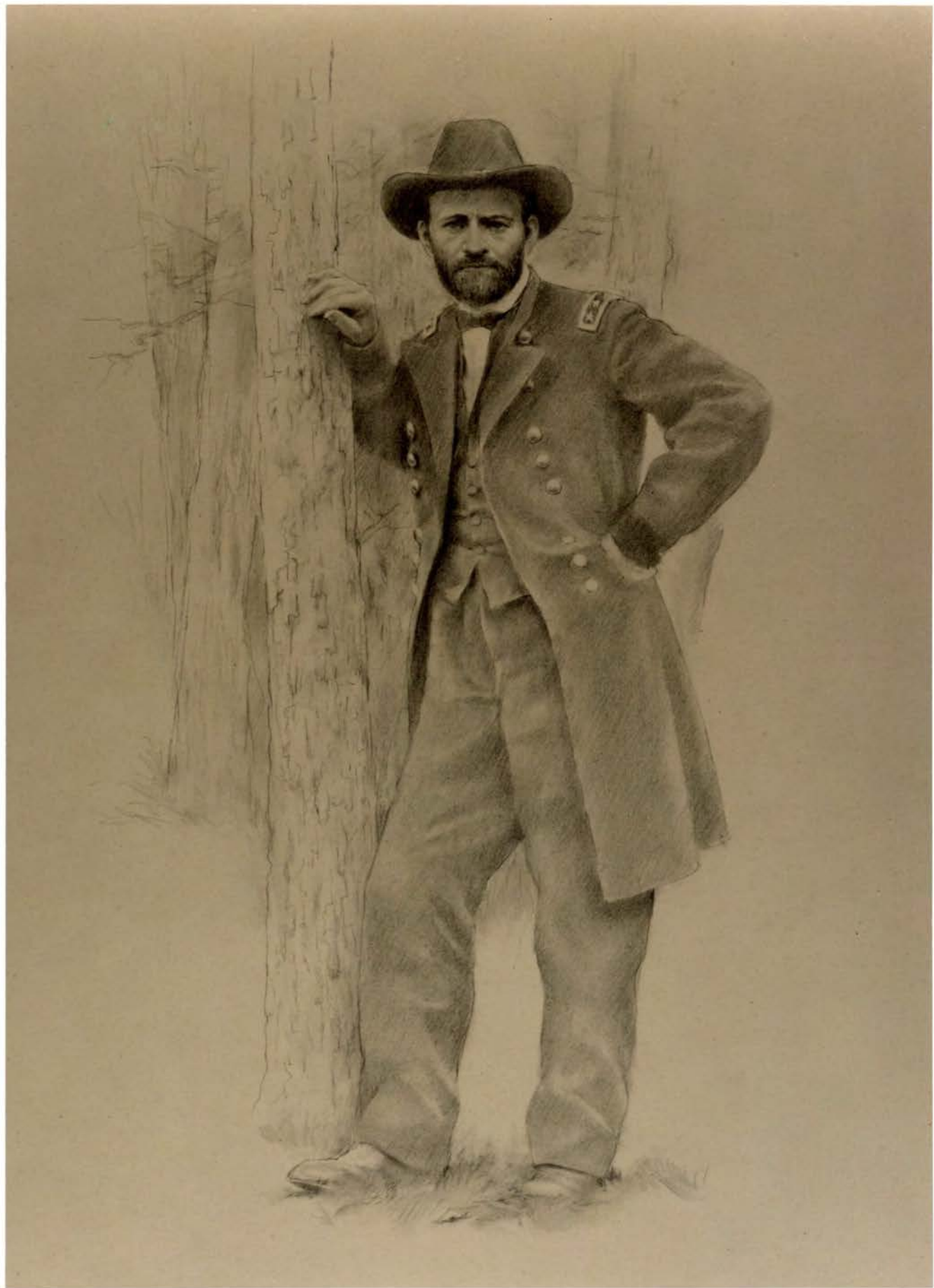


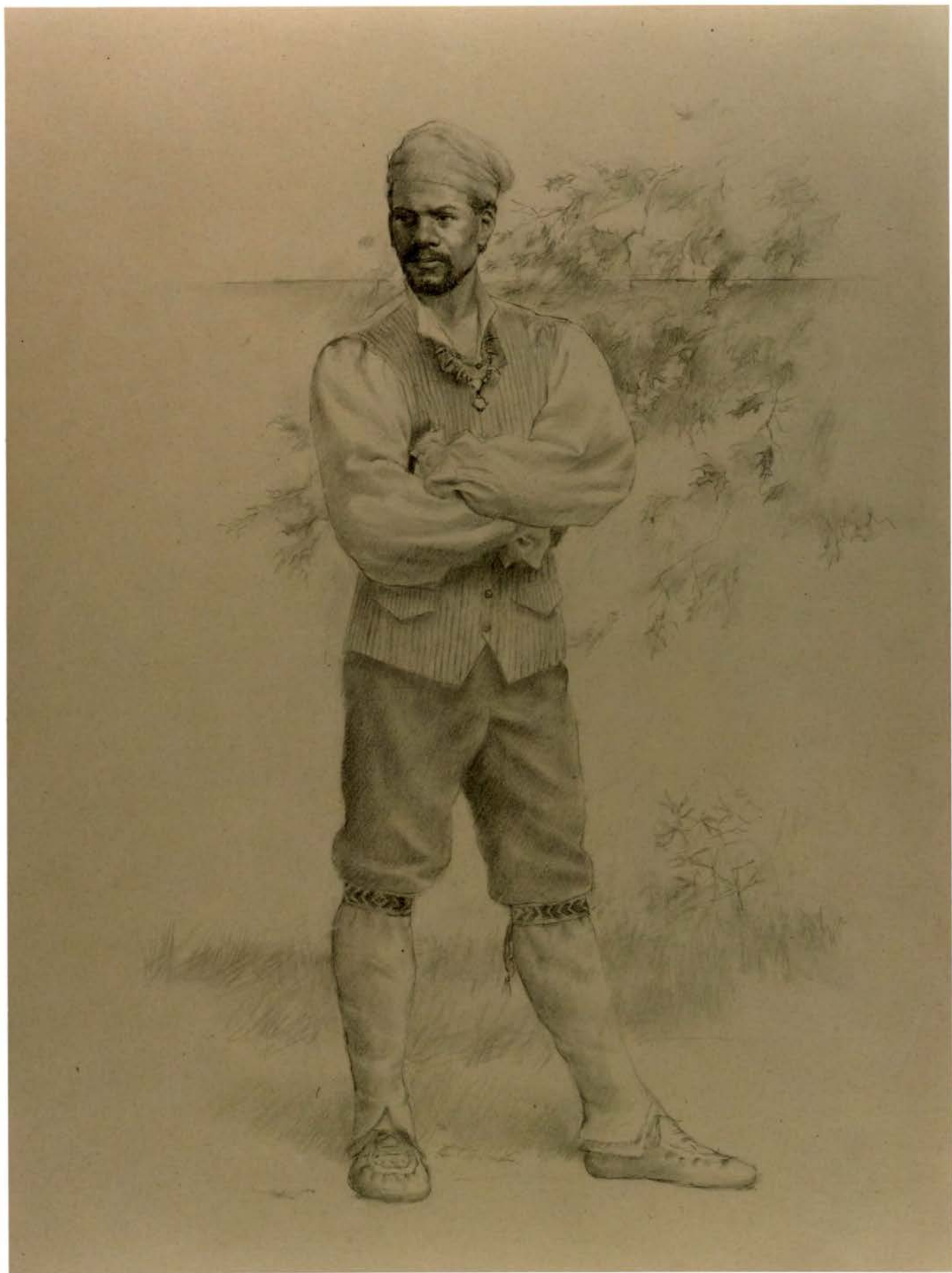


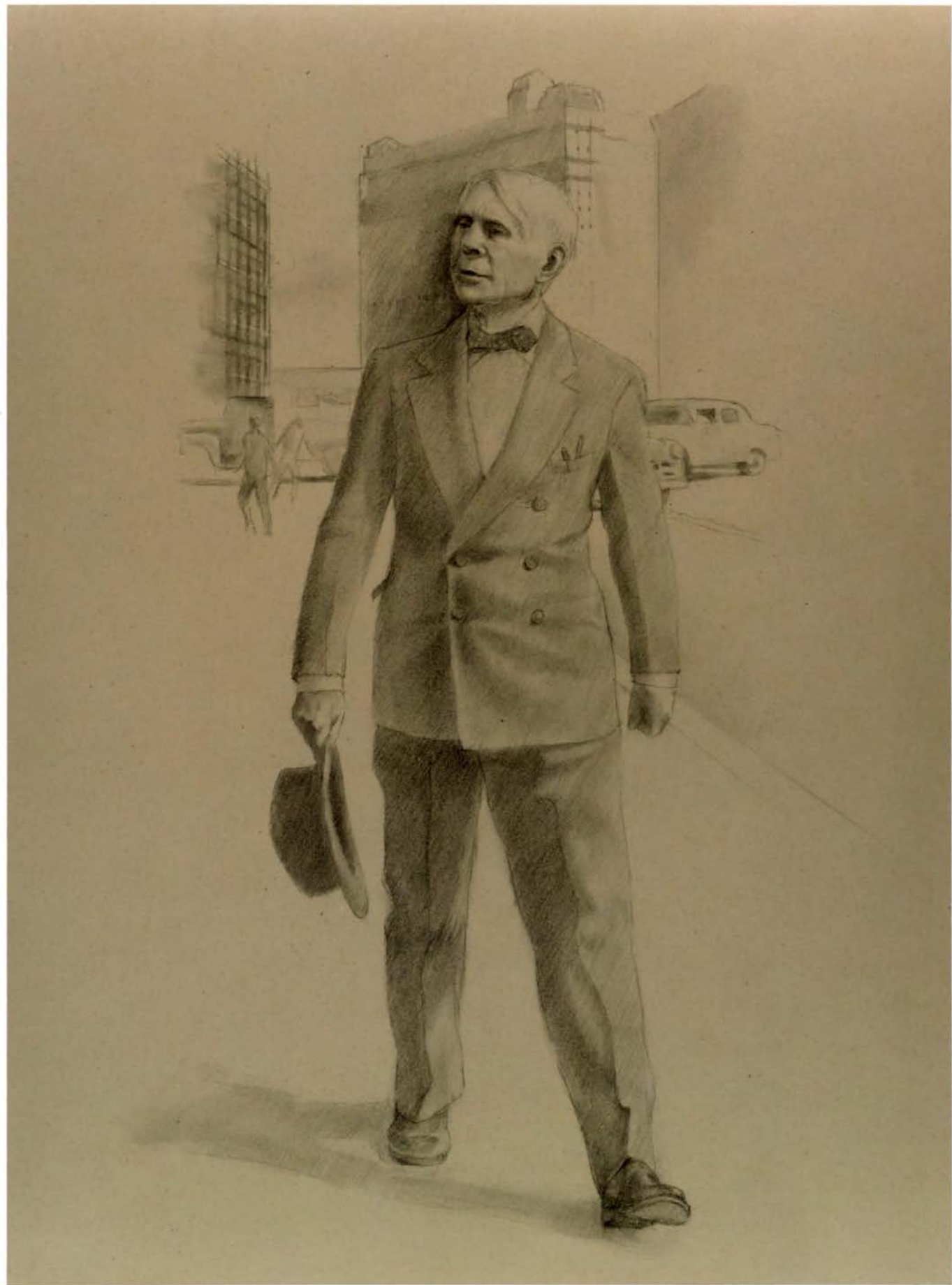












MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mary Morrison

nh

1 FL/WW

cc: [signature] ✓ 11/6  
[signature]

FROM:

Laura Efurd  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
Deputy Director of Public Liaison  
OEOB 122, x62617

DATE:

- 
- |                                                                  |                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for President's signature | <input type="checkbox"/> For your comments               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for Director's signature  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For your information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for my signature          | <input type="checkbox"/> For your support                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For your signature                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Please return call              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reply directly – copy to me             | <input type="checkbox"/> Please file                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Your Consideration                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Need more information           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Process Photo Request                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Set up meeting on this          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Call me on this                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling Request              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For your action                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Process special letter          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For your approval                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Set up tour                     |
- 

Comments:



SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST  
CHURCH

North American Division

August 24, 2000

Ms. Maureen Shea, Associate Director  
Office of Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington D.C. 20500

Youth Ministries

12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, Maryland  
20904-6600 USA  
Telephone (301) 680-6434  
Fax (301) 680-6464

Dear Maureen,

I am submitting to you the name of Mr. Ro H. Kim. Mr. Kim is a Master Artist who paints portraits for many in Hollywood as well as leaders around the world. He once painted a portrait of President Clinton with Sox the cat. As a result, Mr. Kim received a letter from the President and a picture signed by the President and First Lady. I believe he may have even been invited to an event where he saw the President in person.

I would recommend Mr Kim to be considered for a Presidential portrait artist as the President moves to plan his future with a library and other opportunities for portraiture. I would further recommend Mr. Kim for an event that includes a photo op with the President. He is a loyal Democrat that has prayed for the President every day of his tenure in office. He is a Presbyterian Christian and believes the Lord has been with the President in special ways.

Mr. Kim was honored by the President of Korea and was commissioned for a portrait there. If there are any questions, I include his information: Ro H. Kim 1176 Glendale Galleria, Glendale, CA 91210, (818)242-4242.

Thank you for this consideration Maureen.

Your friend,

Jose Vicente Rojas, D.D.  
Director of Youth and Volunteer Ministries

(818) 242 4242

RO H. KIM  
ARTIST

## *Ro's* GALLERY

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**The White House  
Presidential Scheduling**

**TO:**

*Janis Kearney*

**DATE:**

*11/4*

**FROM:**

Carrie Street  
184 OEOB/456-5487

**# ATTACHED:**

☐ Please advise on  
how to respond

☐ For your information

☒ For your action

☐ As you requested

☐ Please call me regarding  
the attached

☐ Please prepare  
response per  
instructions below

☐ For your approval

☐ For Surrogate  
Consideration

☐ Please prepare  
Scheduling  
Proposal

**COMMENTS:**

*Please return to me if this is not something  
you handle. Request to paint official  
portrait.*

*Thanks,  
Carrie*

**CC:**

50-R  
Scheduling

5252641



*Herbert E. Abrams*

Heartwood - 178 Kent Road  
Warren, Connecticut 06754  
Tel: 860 868-2726 Fax: 860 868-2526

October 26, 2000

President Bill Clinton  
The White House  
Washington, DC

Mr. President:

My family and I were honored to meet you and Mrs. Clinton on the occasion of the unveiling of my portraits of President and Mrs. Bush. Our group photos are proud reminders of your kind hospitality, and our grandchildren fondly remember Mrs. Clinton's thoughtfulness when she brought Socks down to play with them.

*encl.*

I admire your many outstanding achievements as President and would like to be considered to paint your White House portraits. Enclosed are additional examples of my work.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 4, 2000

Cindy Sexton Lewis  
9 Gerrish Drive  
Durham, New Hampshire 03824

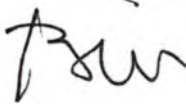
Dear Cindy:

Thank you for your letter and for the beautiful holiday card. I also love the one you did for Governor Shaheen.

I appreciate your interest in painting my official portrait and hope you will continue to be in touch with my staff about that possibility. I would love to see more examples of your work.

Happy New Year to you and your family.

Sincerely,



Return original  
incoming to Eugenie  
for portrait project file -

*Cindy Sexton Lewis*

*Artist  
Portraits*

*Durham, NH*

*(603) 868-1308*



*Hear Mr President & Family  
God bless us one and all  
Cindy Lewis & Family*

EB

Mrs. President

I thought you  
would enjoy  
this card  
for many  
seasons...

I did the  
illustration  
and it's  
our Gov's  
card.

Carol



Season's Greetings

Peace

Joy

Hope

EB  
Mrs. President

I thought you  
would enjoy  
this card  
for many  
seasons ...  
I did the  
illustration  
and it's  
our Gov's  
card.

Cindy

Best Wishes For A  
Happy Holiday Season  
From Our Family To Yours

The Shaheen Family  
Bill, Jeanne, Molly, Ryan, Craig, Stefany, Ellen, & Stacey



Peace

Joy

Hope

9 Gerrish Drive  
Durham, NH 03824  
December 28, 1999

President William J. Clinton  
The White House  
Washington, DC

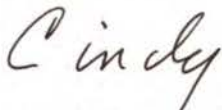
Dear Mr. President,

Happy New Year to you and your family! I am still busying about with my annual elaborate Christmas card project. Enclosed is my card for you. I am also enclosing a mixed-media collage card of the NH State House that I did for Governor Jeanne Shaheen. You must have received one of these under less personal cover.

I spoke to Ann McCoy about my interest in doing your official portrait. I hope "the committee" hasn't decided yet! Please consider me as a possible candidate for the project. Ann said that, to her knowledge, there are to be three separate portraits: one for the White House, one for your library and one for the National Portrait Gallery. I hope there is room for a competent, unknown. I am sure that I would do a wonderful job. I have scrutinized the paintings of past presidents and first ladies hanging in the White House and in the Portrait Gallery, and I have also already painted you a few times. Ann asked if I would be sending a portfolio. I am thinking of whipping up a painting of you from a 5 minute photo shoot I had with you about 4 years ago as an example of my style of painting. I have been rummaging through the photos I have of you to work from. I will send along a small painting unless I hear from you telling me that the decision has already been made.

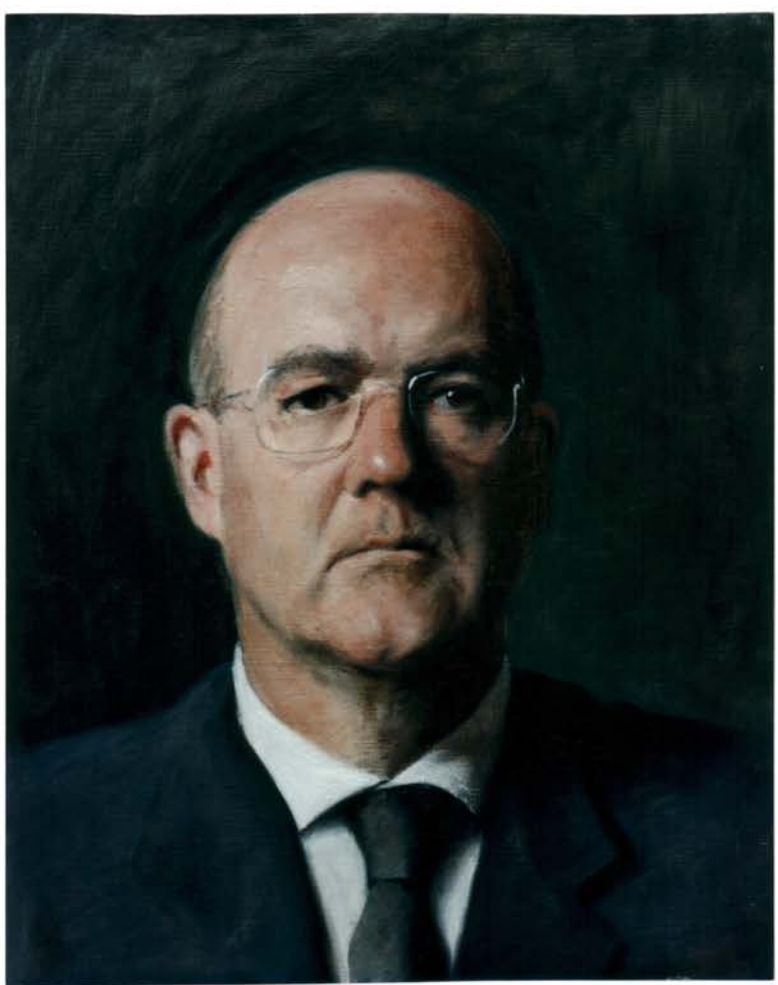
Additionally, thank you for your warm invitation to the White House. I hope that John and I will be able to visit in the coming year.

All the best,



Cindy Sexton Lewis





John Dalessio  
16 Via Las Encinas  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924  
(831) 659-7046

John Podesta  
Chief of Staff  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

March 27, 2000

Dear John:

Some time ago, I wrote to you concerning my son, Marc. I requested that Marc be considered when President Clinton selected an artist to paint his official portrait. For your convenience, I've attached a copy of that letter.

This note is to bring you up to date on Marc's career. In April, Stanley Jaffe's new movie, I Dreamed of Africa, starring Kim Basinger, will premier in New York. Marc's African landscapes will be the featured décor for the opening celebration at the Tavern on the Green. Marc also has been profiled in an Italian art magazine, and we anticipate that Marc soon will be the subject of a Vogue Magazine article.

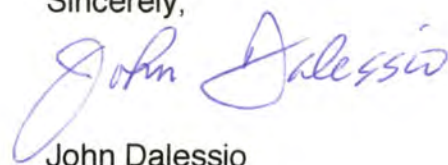
A selection of Marc's landscapes can be viewed on the Internet at <http://ritratto.com/campgnac/>. His portraits can be accessed from this site through its Ritratto portal. His paintings also can be seen at <http://www.grenninggallery.com/>. I've also taken the liberty of enclosing a few photos of his work.

Art critics who have viewed Marc's portraits believe that he compares favorably with any portraitist alive. I would consider it a great personal favor if his work could be shown to President Clinton, for his consideration.

Rita and I will be in Italy for April. Marc can be contacted through the web sites or by telephone at 01139 39918 37272 or 011 39055 540098.

Thanks in advance for taking the time to review this request.

Sincerely,

  
John Dalessio

eb  
NANCY H.  
I mentioned  
this  
to you.  
His work  
is interesting.  
John

John Dalessio  
16 Via Las Encinas  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924  
(831) 659-7046

John Podesta  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear John:

I write to you on three assumptions: that you remember me (with favor) from the McCarthy campaign days, that you have time to read your mail, and that you might do me the mildest of favors.

My eldest son, Marc, 26, is a painter of portraits and a master teacher of art in Florence, Italy. The enclosed color copies retrieved from the internet ([www.ritratto.com](http://www.ritratto.com)) are examples of his work. Unfortunately, the color copies are twice removed from the original works, are two dimensional, and cannot convey the play of light achieved by the old masters' technique of mounded, hand ground paint. (This technique is the reason that the eyes follow you about the room in museum quality portraits. The paint lasts a thousand years.)

Sometime in the next two years, President Clinton will have to think about having his official portrait painted. My request is that Marc's work be submitted to the President for his review and consideration. I don't want, and Marc would not want, any lobbying on his behalf. If his work is worthy of consideration, Marc could bring finished samples of his work to Washington for consideration. If his work is not to the President's taste, so be it.

Obviously, I'm proud of the kid. I, and many others, think he is one of the best portraitists alive. He's also an interesting person - a good party animal who graduated Phi Beta Kappa in three years from the UC system. I suspect that the President might enjoy his time with this bright worldly-wise young artist.

Please pass on my regards to Tony, and other ex-McCarthy campaigners with whom you might be in contact. And congratulations on your most successful career.

Sincerely,

John Dalessio

JOHN DALESSIO  
16 VIA LAS ENCINAS  
CARMEL VALLEY, CA 93924



PHOTOS  
DO NOT BEND

PERSONAL

JOHN PODESTA  
CHIEF OF STAFF  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500



SHEILA JACKSON LEE  
18TH DISTRICT, TEXAS



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

FEB 10 2006

Dear Mr. President  
This young man  
really wants to do  
a portrait of you. I hope  
you will consider. Thank!  
Shub Jacob

W. Eugene  
70  
Good into  
to Eugene

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

Ms. Betty Currie  
For  
President William Jefferson Clinton  
Please give to the President

January 7, 2000

Dear Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee,

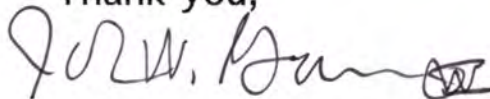
This letter is inform of my request to do U. S. President Bill Clinton's Presidential portrait.

I am requesting to have two days to do a 2 to 3 hour painting study of President Clinton at the White House. It is an event that would become historical for an African - American artist. As an artist, I am representing St. Agnes Baptist Church. The portrait would be a gift from the church to the President. I am an art teacher at the DeBakey School of Health Profession.

Met Life Insurance Co. will sponsor my travel to the White House. Also, the local news reporters in Houston, Texas are interested in reporting this historical event. I have painted Mayor Lee Brown's portrait and Bishop T. D. Jakes' portrait. I am currently preparing to paint Dr. Micheal DeBakey, a famous heart cardiologist in the Houston area.

I truly appreciate your sincere help in assisting me in achieving this historical event.

Thank you,



John W. Gaines IV

Artist and Educator

Hm. 281 485-2332

WK. 713 741-2410

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 14, 1998

John W. Gaines, IV  
4603 Northfork  
Pearland, Texas 77584

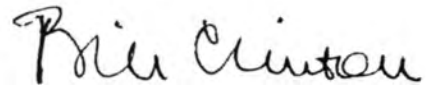
Dear John:

Thanks so much for your letter and kind words of support.

I was glad to know of your interest in painting my Presidential portrait and will make sure your request is seen by the appropriate staff person. I appreciate all that you wrote -- and remember meeting you in 1994.

Thank you again for writing, and best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bill Clinton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Sincerely,".





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Company CONGRESSWOMAN SHELIA J LEE

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City HOUSTON State TX ZIP 77002

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**3 To**  
Recipient's Name Mrs. Betty Currie Phone (802) 456-1414

Company The White House / Personal Executive Asst.

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City Washington State DC ZIP 20500

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'EB' with a long, sweeping underline.

August 16, 2000

Eugenie

One of the Secret Service Agents delivered the attached brochure to me. According to the artist – he did a portrait of POTUS when he was governor – or perhaps sent him is brochure????

I am passing on to you for your records/information.

Thanks – Betty



Cc - N Hernreich (with attachment)



# Oil Portrait Artist *Philip Colgan*



## Portrait Painting: The Artist's Viewpoint and Methods

"A successful portrait combines not just an accurate likeness but the individual gestures and elements that reveal one's unique personality and style. I employ oil painting techniques associated with some of the Old Masters, which allows light to pass through the colors. This creates a radiant quality in which flesh tones appear to glow from within. The warmth and sensitivity achieved is more life-like than that of other mediums or styles. The real challenge is to capture that one ideal look which compliments and describes an individual at their very best."



Philip Colgan can be reached at  
717.632.2252  
Hanover, Pennsylvania

# Portraits in Oils

## *Philip Colgan*



Philip Colgan's proclivity for art has been present throughout his life. Accuracy in achieving a good likeness culminated in a first portrait commission at age 12. Born and raised in a family noted for it's artistic and musical talents, he attended the York Academy of Arts, and refined his painting skills through a comprehensive study of the Old Masters in western Europe.

Opening his first studio in 1982 in his hometown area of Hanover, Pa., he began teaching art classes, doing restoration work, publishing his own fine art works in reproductions and accepting portrait commissions. His works have been shown in many national competitions and exhibited in galleries coast to coast in the U.S. and Canada. Some of Colgan's figurative, landscape, still life and other subjects, are represented by the S.R. Brennen Galleries with locations in Scottsdale, AZ., Palm Desert, CA., and Carmel, CA. Paintings may also be seen at the artist's studio in Hanover, Pennsylvania.

### Some distinguished awards of mention:

- In 1996, one of Colgan's works was chosen for a special exhibit at the Arnot Museum in Elmira, New York.
- Work selected for display at the Grand National Exhibition of the American Artists Professional League, The Salmagundi Club in New York.
- Dr. Olga Visos, curator of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Gardens, Washington, D.C., chose one of Colgan's works as a finalist in a National Juried Show.
- Entered the National Portrait Competition, The Portrait Institute, New York City.
- In 1997, Juror Dr. Daniel Rosenfeld, Director of the Museum in American Art, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, granted Colgan the award for realism in a national competition, Harrisburg, Pa.
- Colgan is listed in Who's Who in American Art, Architecture and Design.

### Procedure

While long sittings are not required, it is very helpful if the artist has some time to get acquainted with the client. This gives the artist and client a clear understanding of what style and quality are being sought after in the details of the portrait. This may take place at the client's location or at the artist's studio. A series of photographs will be taken as studies for the oil portrait. Professional lighting equipment can be used in addition to natural light, depending on circumstances. The selected photos will be enlarged and reviewed with the client for approval. If necessary, more photographs will be taken. Posthumous portraits may be done if good quality photos are available. Using another figure to model for better rendition of torso or hands is also a possibility in this case.



The stature of an executive portrait enhances the image of success in the corporate offices of today's business world, just as the portrait of a loved one in the home adds interest and warmth to any setting. Prices for portraits vary in accordance with size, style and location, if travel is required. The artist will be pleased to discuss all aspects of the portrait and assist with framing as well.

**Client Satisfaction is Guaranteed.**

Corporate & Official Portraits    Children & Family Portraits

Philip Colgan can be reached at

**717.632.2252**

Hanover, Pennsylvania

August 16, 2000



Eugenie

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Corporate & Official Portraits    Children & Family Portraits

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**717.632.2252**

Hanover, Pennsylvania

The Studio of Philip Colgan  
20 S. Railroad Street  
Hanover, PA 17331

*President Clinton*

John Dalessio  
16 Via Las Encinas  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924  
(831) 659-7046

*Eugene*  
*Don*  
*note from nh*  
VCC  
September 5, 2000

Ms. Nancy Hernreich  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: President Clinton's Portrait

Dear Ms. Hernreich:

I have been in contact with John Podesta (see letters attached) concerning the possibility of my son, Marc Dalessio, being commissioned to paint the President's portrait. I have sent John several photographs and color reproductions as examples of Marc's work.

Enclosed with this letter are a set of photo reprints of, I hope, better quality than those previously sent to the White House. I've also enclosed a few of Marc's landscapes, and one photo of him at work in his studio.

Thank you for taking the time to review the enclosed photographs, and for considering Marc for this important commission.

Sincerely,

*John Dalessio*

John Dalessio



CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT  
THE WHITE HOUSE

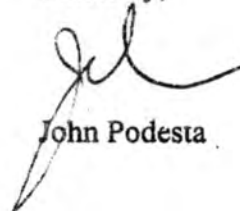
July 5, 2000

Mr. John Dalessio  
16 Via Las Encinas  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

Dear John:

Thank you for sending me information a few months ago about your son, Marc, and his art career. My staff and I are now starting to think about the President's portrait. I have added your son's name to the list of potential artists and will keep in touch as the process moves forward. Thanks again.

Sincerely,



John Podesta

Wancy Hernandez is heading  
up this process. I've  
given her Marc's background.  
She will be following up with  
the President. Hope all  
is well

John Dalessio  
16 Via Las Encinas  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924  
(831) 659-7046

John Podesta  
Chief of Staff  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

March 27, 2000

Dear John:

Some time ago, I wrote to you concerning my son, Marc. I requested that Marc be considered when President Clinton selected an artist to paint his official portrait. For your convenience, I've attached a copy of that letter.

This note is to bring you up to date on Marc's career. In April, Stanley Jaffe's new movie, I Dreamed of Africa, starring Kim Basinger, will premier in New York. Marc's African landscapes will be the featured décor for the opening celebration at the Tavern on the Green. Marc also has been profiled in an Italian art magazine, and we anticipate that Marc soon will be the subject of a Vogue Magazine article.

A selection of Marc's landscapes can be viewed on the Internet at <http://ritratto.com/campgnac/>. His portraits can be accessed from this site through its [Ritratto](#) portal. His paintings also can be seen at <http://www.grenninggallery.com/>. I've also taken the liberty of enclosing a few photos of his work.

Art critics who have viewed Marc's portraits believe that he compares favorably with any portraitist alive. I would consider it a great personal favor if his work could be shown to President Clinton, for his consideration.

Rita and I will be in Italy for April. Marc can be contacted through the web sites or by telephone at 01139 39918 37272 or 011 39055 540098.

Thanks in advance for taking the time to review this request.

Sincerely,

John Dalessio

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## PREMIUM PHOTO PROCESSING

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| 4" x 10" (P)<br>Panoramic |        |      |
| Enlargements              | Neg. # | Qty. |
| 5" x 7"                   |        |      |
| 8" x 10"<br>If Available  |        |      |
| 8" x 12"<br>If Available  |        |      |
| Greeting Cards            |        |      |

PHOTOCOPY  
PRESERVATION

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## **Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker**

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This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

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Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

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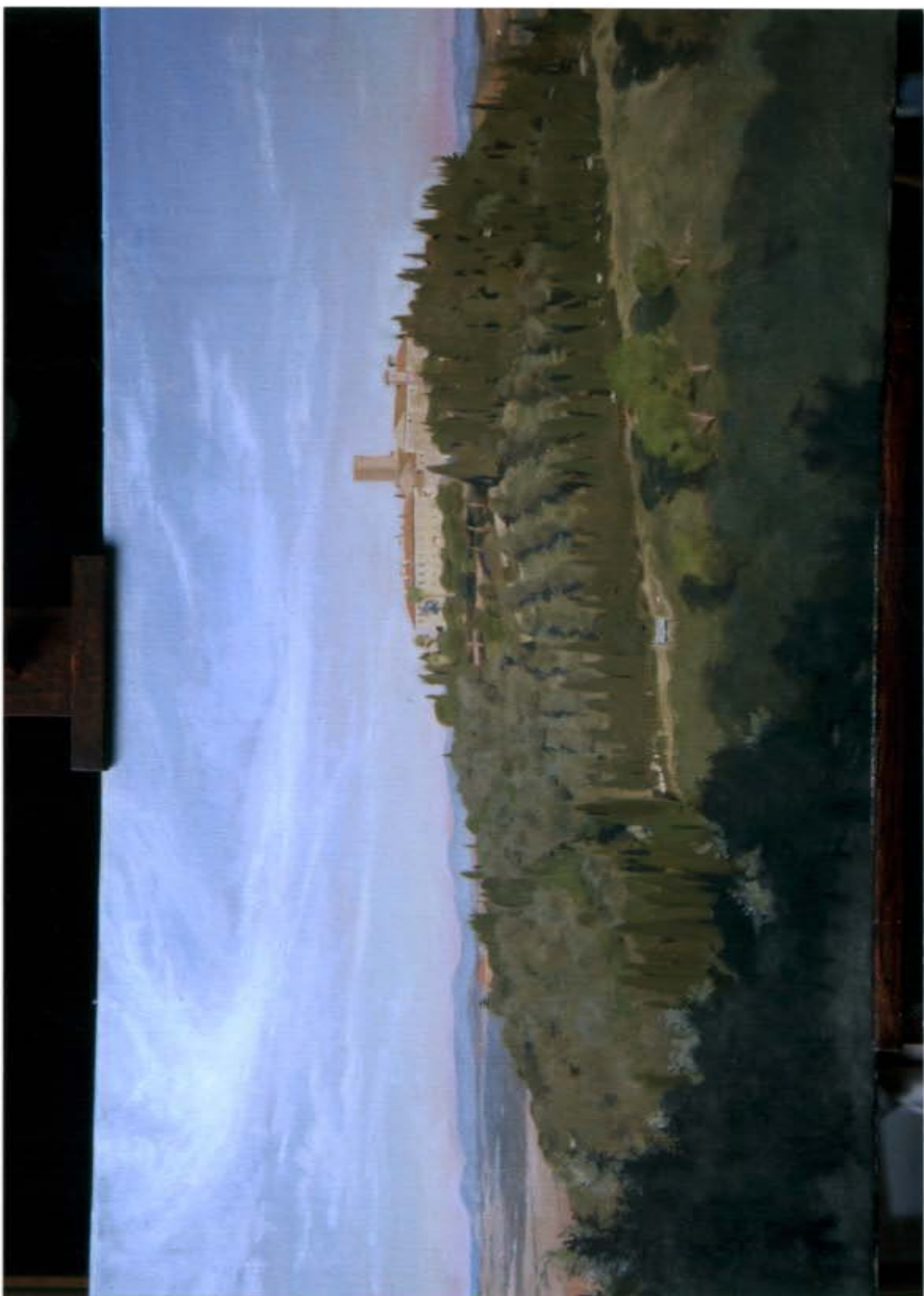
Portraits by John Dalessio

March 27, 2000

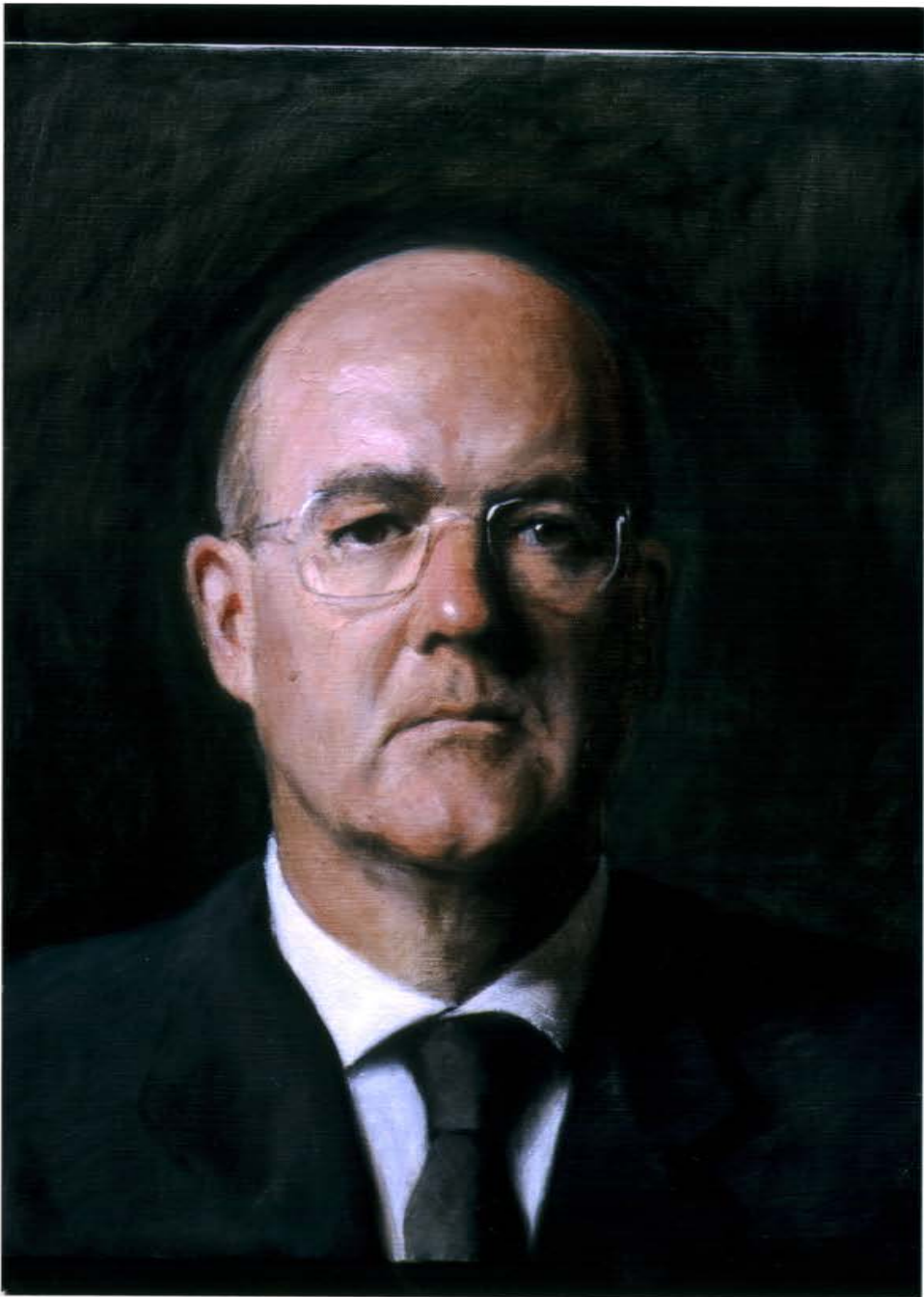
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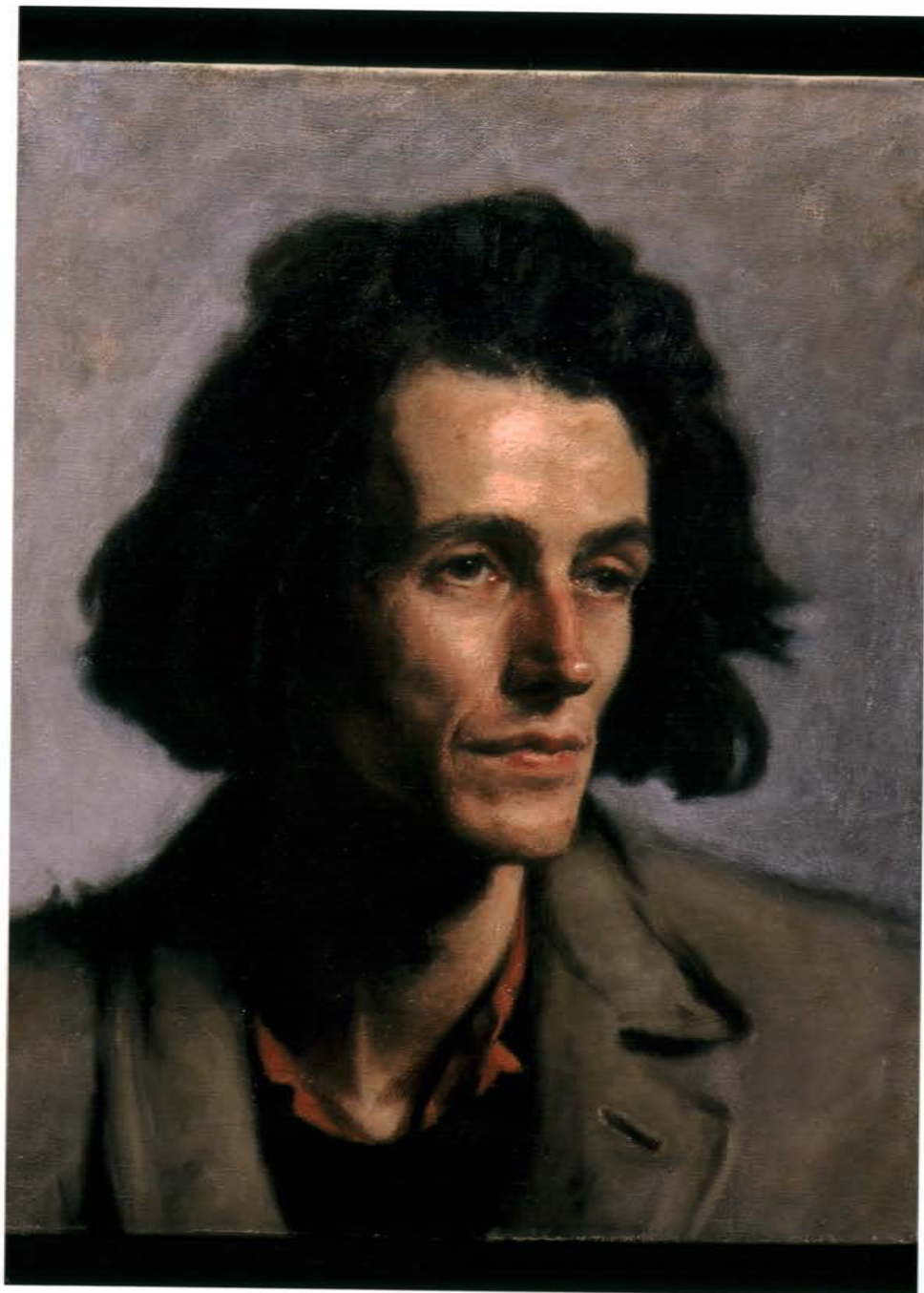
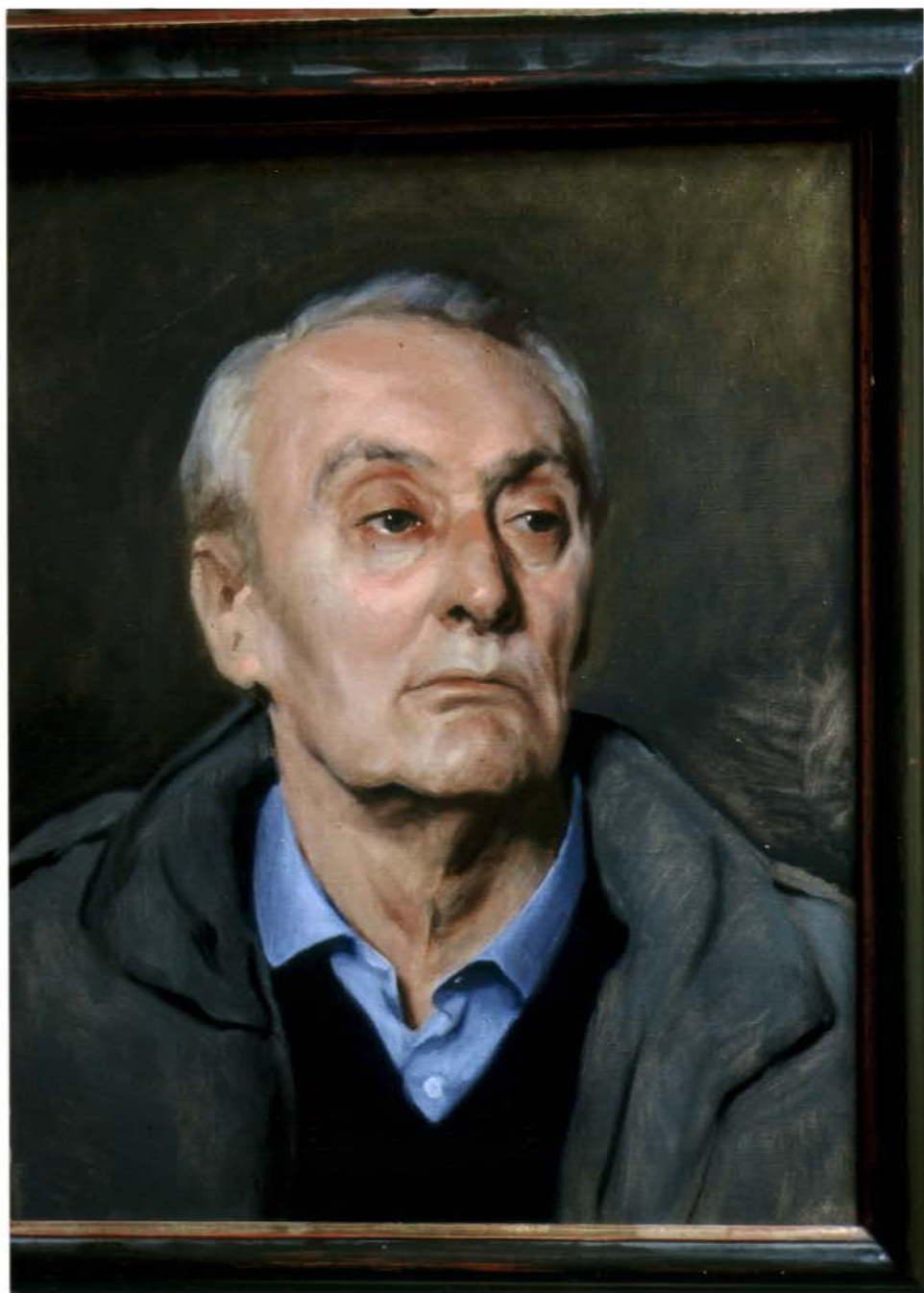
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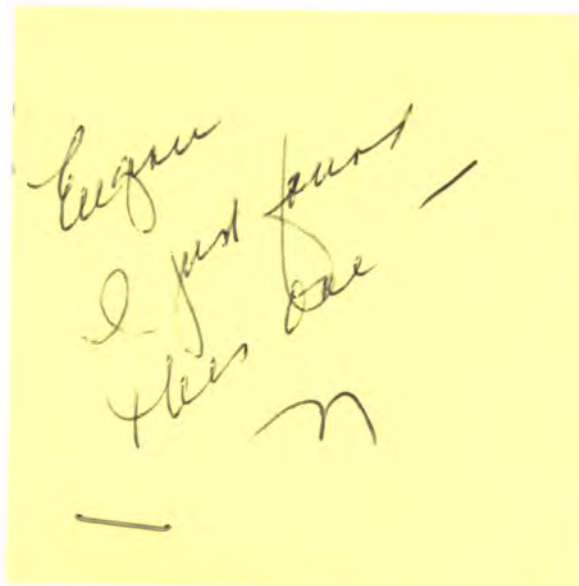


My wife and I are going to be in the Washington D.C. area for four days, starting this Friday, April 30th. I only mention this on the very remote chance that someone at the White House would on such short notice want to get in touch with me for further information or to set up a meeting.

Hyatt Regency  
at Reston Town Center  
Reston, Virginia  
(703) 709-1234

Fri. April 30-Mon May 3

Thomas Nash  
Nash Studio



**Donna and Thomas Nash  
Nash Studio**

4120 Edinburgh Trail Roswell GA 30075 (770) 998-8711

Nancy Hernreich  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
1st Floor West Wing  
Washington, D.C. 20500

April 29, 1999

Dear Ms. Hernreich,

I am a professional portrait painter. I am hoping that a decision has not yet been made regarding the selection of an artist to paint President Clinton's official portrait. If this is the case, I would be sincerely interested in having my work considered.

In the enclosed packet of information you will find a photo of one of my most recent paintings, the official portrait of Governor Zell Miller for the state of Georgia. I wish the President could see the original, because the print doesn't do it justice. As in many of my portraits, there are several elements that may not be understood by the casual observer but are meaningful and add interest to the work. The tie Governor Miller is wearing is the same one he wore when he gave the keynote address at the Democratic convention in New York in 1992. This painting was very well received at a large ceremony in the Georgia Capitol building just before he left office. It was especially important to me that Zell and Shirley Miller were both pleased with it.

Another of the paintings I have included in the portfolio is that of Mr. J. Mack Robinson. This is one of the paintings that Governor Miller saw that first made him aware of my work. I am very proud of the fact that my subjects invariably are pleased with my portraits and often commission additional ones. To date I have painted Mr. Robinson three times and am currently working on a fourth, as requested by another institution.

As you can see, my work can vary greatly depending on the client and their wishes and interests. Other photos enclosed show me with various sitters (we call them sitters even when they stand). You will also see some evidence of the numerous preparatory sketches I make in arriving at the concept and design of the painting.

The President and First Lady will undoubtedly be shown the work of other fine artists who wish to paint the President's portrait. I would like to assure them of several things should they see fit to intrust me with this job. Although I am always busy and am not currently accepting any commissions that have to be completed during 1999, I would have absolutely no problem guaranteeing the completion of a portrait of President Clinton well before he leaves office, if that is desired.

1. CC Capricorn  
of packet ✓ 5/3  
2. mm sketch  
better - say it  
will be  
file -

Although I have a wonderful studio in Georgia, logistics should not be a concern. I paint portraits for clients in many different states. My wife assists me with all non painting aspects of the project such as photography and we enjoy going wherever we must and doing whatever it takes to create wonderful paintings.

Without boring you with too much detail about my procedure for creating a portrait, let me just say that my approach is very much a collaborative one. I might make several sketches and consult with both the President and the First Lady on a few occasions over a period of time before proceeding with the full canvas.

I have given some thought to how I might portray President Clinton, but I would be very interested in hearing his ideas. By all accounts, both friends and political adversaries alike say that in person he has a special personal appeal and charm that is often difficult to describe. I work very hard to create a sense of my subject's "presence" in each portrait and would consider it a failure if I didn't capture this aspect of the President in my painting. I'm getting way ahead of myself, but I am almost certain that I would pose him standing up. He stands during the State of the Union speech and he stands during press conferences. He often crosses his arms, even when seated. He did that recently on T.V. when he sat down to talk to some school children about the tragedy in Colorado. The Shikler painting of John Kennedy has folded arms too, but President Clinton does it often enough naturally that no one would accuse us of copying that painting.

While I have never painted a President of the United States, many of my adult subjects are also very busy people. I understand that I would have to be flexible and be available when the President's schedule permitted. I also can be discreet. Some of my most elaborate portraits were painted as surprises for someone else. As proud as I would be to be awarded the commission, I could keep it under my hat until after the unveiling, if asked.

I am well aware of the constant, important issues that demand the President's time and attention. Obviously right now is an especially critical time for our country. I would appreciate it if you could see to it that the President and First Lady see this portfolio when the time is appropriate.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Thomas V. Nash

cc: John Podesta  
Zell Miller  
Keith Mason