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Fact Sheet National Portrait Gallery Commissions

The Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery has commissioned more than 35 portraits of living sitters by contemporary artists since its first commissioned a portrait of a U.S. President in 1994. These commissions have spanned traditional media, such as painting and works on paper, to newer forms, including performance, time-based media and a large-scale, site-specific installation.

Portraits

- George H.W. Bush by Ronald Sherr (1994–95)
- Bill Clinton by Nelson Shanks (2005)
- Hillary Rodham Clinton by Ginny Stanford (2006)
- George W. Bush by Robert Anderson (2008)
- Laura Bush by Aleksander Titovets (2008)
- Eunice Kennedy Shriver by David Lenz (2009)
- Alice Waters by Dave Woody (2010)
- Bill and Melinda Gates by Jon Friedman (2010)
- Colin Powell by Ronald Sherr (2012)
- Sergey Brin and Larry Page by R. Luke DuBois (2013)
- Esperanza Spalding by Bo Gehring (2014)
- Ben Carson by Jerry Spagnoli (2014)
- Maya Ying Lin by Karin Sander (2014)
- Lawrence M. Small by Max Hirshfield (2015)
- Rudolfo Anaya by Gaspar Enriquez (2016)
- Norman Francis by Simmie Knox (2016)
- G. Wayne Clough by Ronald Sherr (2016)
- Michelle Obama by Amy Sherald (2018)
- Barack Obama by Kehinde Wiley (2018)
- Frances Arnold by Katy Grannan (2018)
- Julie Packard by Hope Gangloff (2019)
- Indra Nooyi by Jon Friedman (2019)
- Jeffrey P. Bezos by Robert McCurdy (2019)

- Walter Alvarez by Carmen Lomas Garza (2019)
- Ann Elizabeth Dunwoody, Michelle J. Howard and Janet C. Wolfenbarger by An-My Lê (2019, printed 2021)
- José Andrés by Kadir Nelson (2022)
- Ava DuVernay by Kenturah Davis (2022)
- Anthony S. Fauci, M.D. by Hugo Crosthwaite (2022)
- Serena Williams by Toyin Ojih Odutola (2022)
- Venus Williams by Robert Pruitt (2022)
- Rabbi Sally Priesand by Joan Roth (2022)
- David J. Skorton by Rose Frantzen (2023)
- Oprah Winfrey by Shawn Michael Warren (2023)

Large-Scale Installation

“Out of Many, One” by Jorge Rodríguez-Gerada—Oct. 4-31, 2014

In 2014, the Portrait Gallery commissioned a temporary, grand landscape portrait by Cuban American artist Jorge Rodríguez-Gerada for the National Mall. The 6-acre installation titled “Out of Many, One,” the English translation of E pluribus unum, incorporated approximately 2,000 tons of sand, 800 tons of soil, 10,000 wooden pegs and 8 miles of string into a figurative portrait that provided an interactive walk-through experience for visitors. It was viewable from the newly reopened Washington Monument and from space satellites. For the composition, Rodríguez-Gerada used dozens of images of people photographed in Washington, D.C., to create a composite portrait. “Out of Many, One” by Rodríguez-Gerada was presented by the National Portrait Gallery in partnership with the Trust for the National Mall and the National Park Service.

National Portrait Gallery

The Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery tells the multifaceted story of the United States through the individuals who have shaped American culture. Spanning the visual arts, performing arts and new media, the Portrait Gallery portrays poets and presidents, visionaries and villains, actors and activists, whose lives tell the nation’s story.

The National Portrait Gallery is located at Eighth and G streets N.W., Washington, D.C. Smithsonian Information: (202) 633-1000. Connect with the museum at npg.si.edu, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

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