

Below are some guidelines to help choose or take a reference photo for a custom portrait. If you have reference photo's in mind, but are not sure if they would work well for a portrait, please email christie@ctmaceyart.com and I would be happy to give you my professional guidance.

For clients living in the Atlanta, GA area, I offer in home consultations with professional photography for an additional cost.

Lighting

Soft natural lighting is ideal. If you are taking a photograph, indirect natural light, such as next to a window works well.

Pose

Soft relaxed facial expressions. Subject facing forward or slightly angled in a 3/4 pose. Subject in complete view in the photo, no cropping of subjects head.

CLOTHING

Consider clothing that is timeless yet unique. Special details add interest to a portrait. Patterns, color, textures such as lace or ruffles, vintage hats or hair bows are all good choices.

QUALITY

The quality of the photo is important. A good quality image that is in focus, and clearly shows the subject and details is best!

Custom Portraits

A guide to choosing a reference photo