

john schwatschke

John SCHWATSCHKE is an Irish-born (Dublin, 1943) portrait painter of Austro-Irish parents. His original ambition was to be a concert pianist and composer, and he gave three piano recitals of classical works and his own compositions in Waterford, Vevey and Tours. However, his friendship with the Irish President de Valera (whom he painted as Chancellor of the National University) after leaving school, led to the President persuading him to "do one thing and do it well", which he thought should be art. Schwatschke took this advice and continued to record his works meticulously.

Since 1996, his caricature works have become very popular on the Irish and London fine art markets.

In his formal academic portraiture the artist has been patronised by President de Valera of Ireland, Ingrid Bergman, Cyril Cusack, Noel Purcell, Prince Philip (the 1979 portrait), Archbishops Simms and McAdoo of Dublin, Robert Mitchum, Lunia Czechowska (Modigliani's model) and many others in Europe and USA.

To date the artist has produced 2,200 paintings and bronze sculptures, all of which are recorded in the archives of Le Musée Schwatschke.

B.F.
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