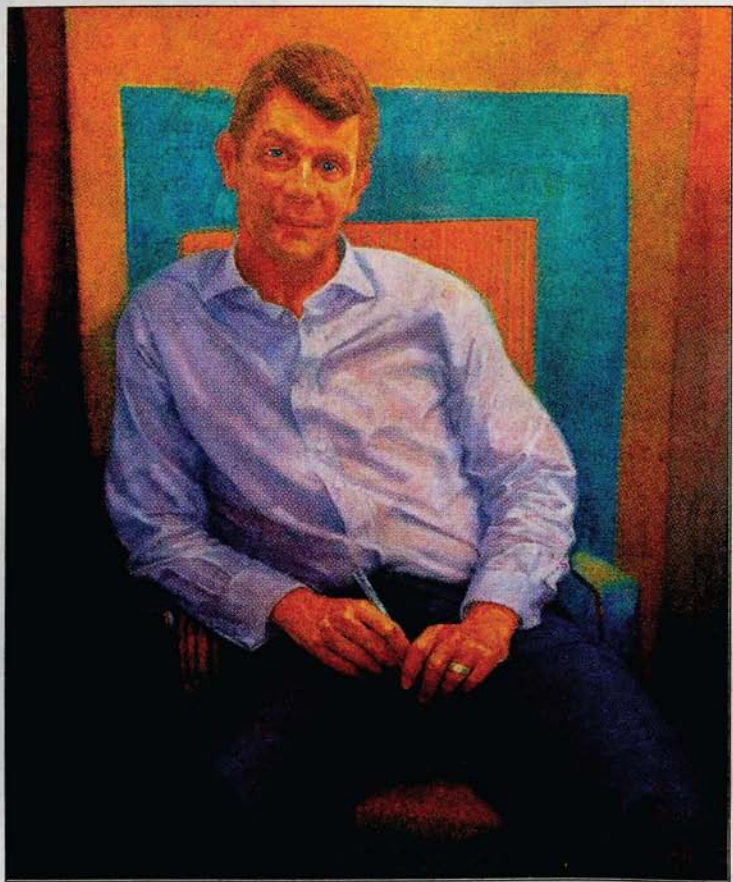


‘Bob’s done a great job. It’s unfortunate the subject matter is me’

The good oil on Mike



Beacon Hill artist Bob Baird's painting of his namesake, MP Mike.

Rod Bennett

WE see them all the time . . . politicians love having their pictures taken.

But now Portrait Artists Australia has put them on canvas for longer-lasting public appreciation.

But Manly State Liberal MP Mike Baird is not so sure his likeness is in the interest of the wider public.

His portrait has been painted by Beacon Hill artist and jazz musician Bob Baird (no relation).

“Let’s be clear I think Bob has done a great job, it’s just that it’s unfortunate the subject matter is me,” the MP said, self-effacingly.

Portrait Artists latest exhibition opens tonight in Macquarie St and is called *Parliament Objects*. It depicts our polities with objects of significance to their lives - a pen for Mr Baird and piano for Ms Judge.

“I’m not sure who’s pool room it will end up in,” Mr Baird said.

“There’s a likeness and I’m thankful but ultimately it’s embarrassing to see yourself on canvas.

“I think Bob’s done a terrific job with the material he had to work with!”

The peninsula is also represented in the mix by Seaforth painter Kathryn Longhurst, who painted the Minister for Fair Trading and Citizenship Virginia Judge.

Commenting on the relatively racey



Minister for Fair Trading and Citizenship Virginia Judge.

image of Ms Judge, Mr Baird said: “I’m glad Bobby’s in my corner. I don’t think Manly is ready to see what she (Ms Longhurst) would have done to me.”

The exhibition runs until the end of this month.

Tonight’s opening is 6-8pm in the Fountain Court, Parliament House.



Which portrait would you hang on your wall?

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