

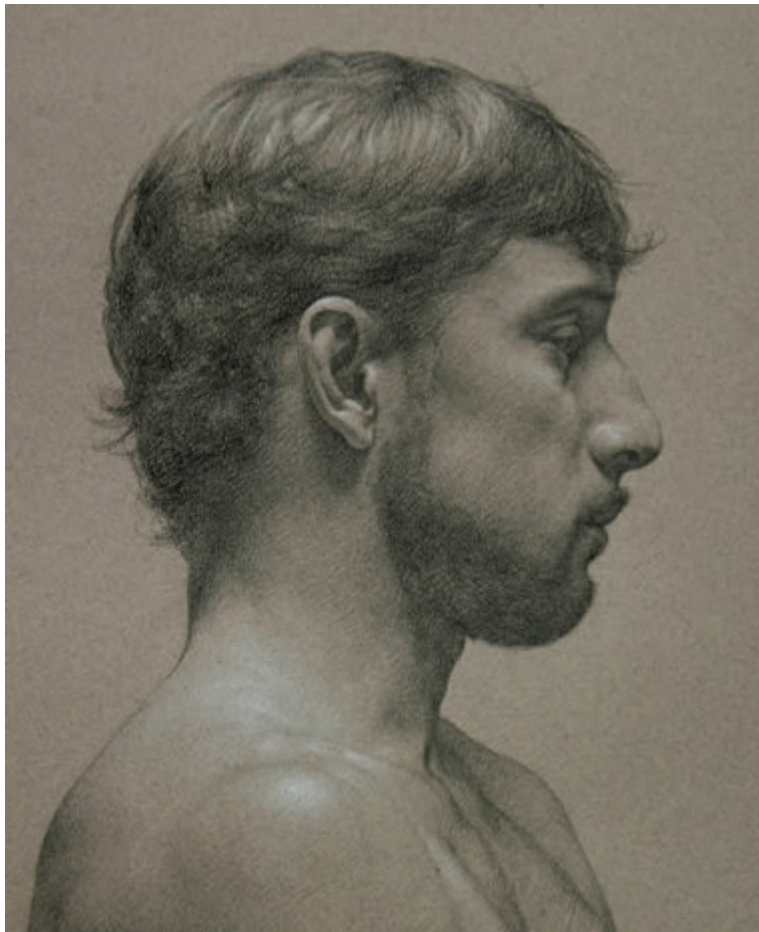


## Jersey City artists create instructional DVD with portrait artist who inspires them

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By **Summer Dawn Hortillosa / The Jersey Journal**



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**The Jersey Journal**

"Oscar Mendoza" by Anthony Ryder is an example of the artist's skill, which is highlighted in "Drawing the Portrait," a DVD produced and directed by Jersey City artists Marco Cutrone and Vincent Zambrano.

**Jersey City artist inspired by living art legend Anthony Ryder** gallery  
(7 photos)

Behind every great artist is another great artist - or several - who served as an inspiration.

For Jersey City native Marco Cutrone, 45, one of his inspirations is a man he called a "living Rembrandt" - Anthony Ryder, the founder of the Ryder Studio in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

"Tony Ryder is internationally renowned and is the foremost portrait painter of our time," said Cutrone. "It's amazing what he can do with the pencil and paint brush."

Cutrone - along with Jersey City director and fellow artist Vincent Zambrano - worked with Ryder to create an instructional DVD, "Drawing the Portrait with Anthony Ryder: A Complete Course."

"To learn and better yourself as an artist, you have to get someone better than yourself," he said. "You have to go with someone you admire, respect and know is better than you."

They began working with Ryder six years ago and finally completed the film in September 2011. After watching and observing the artist, Cutrone said he learned some new techniques, like "The Envelope."

"It's a way of breaking down a shape. You find the five points instrumental in mapping out the subject on paper. With constant refinement of your pencil line - changing the direction it goes in, shortening or lengthening, you can build on

it," said the current Denville resident.

While Ryder is always ready to teach others how to improve their art skills, he said he has much to learn himself.

"I look at the work of the great masters and they're amazing," said Ryder. "They're like Michael Jordan. There's a lot of people that make it to the major leagues, but they're not Babe Ruth, Michael Jordan or one of those guys.

"In my own way, I'm still trying to go forward and improve and grow," he said.

He said he hopes to inspire others to embrace traditional art, which he said has been recently out of favor with the art world.

"I hope people will feel empowered to study this kind of work," said Ryder. "(My mission is) bringing back to the general consciousness the beauty of this kind of work, the enjoyment of it, love of it and the joy that's in there."

For more information on "Drawing the Portrait with Anthony Ryder: A Complete Course," visit

**[DrawingthePortrait.com](http://DrawingthePortrait.com).**

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